

Shropshire Council
 Legal and Democratic Services
 Shirehall
 Abbey Foregate
 Shrewsbury
 SY2 6ND
 Date: Wednesday, 21 February 2024

Committee: Council

Date: Thursday, 29 February 2024

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Council Chamber, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND

You are requested to attend the above meeting. The Agenda is attached

Members of the Council – a briefing note will be circulated by e-mail prior to the meeting with important housekeeping details and arrangements for the meeting.

Members of the Public – If you wish to attend the meeting, please e-mail democracy@shropshire.gov.uk to check whether a seat will be available for you.

Please click [here](#) to view the livestream of the meeting on the date and time stated on the agenda

The recording of the event will also be made available shortly after the meeting on the Shropshire Council Youtube Channel [Here](#)

Tim Collard
 Assistant Director - Legal and Governance

Vince Hunt (Chairman)	Rachel Connolly	Kirstie Hurst-Knight
Brian Williams (Vice Chairman)	Gerald Dakin	Mike Isherwood
Lezley Picton (Leader)	Rosemary Dartnall	Mark Jones
Ian Nellins (Deputy Leader)	Steve Davenport	Simon Jones
Roy Aldcroft	Mary Davies	Duncan Kerr
Jeff Anderson	Julian Dean	Heather Kidd
Caroline Bagnall	Geoff Elner	Christian Lea
Nicholas Bardsley	David Evans	Hilary Luff
Joyce Barrow	Julia Evans	Nigel Lumby
Bernie Bentick	Roger Evans	Robert Macey
Thomas Biggins	Paul Gill	David Minnery
Ed Bird	Rob Gittins	Dan Morris
Andy Boddington	Nat Green	Pamela Moseley
Peter Broomhall	Kate Halliday	Alan Mosley
Julia Buckley	Simon Harris	Cecilia Motley
Garry Burchett	Nigel Hartin	Peggy Mullock
Gwilym Butler	Nick Hignett	Kevin Pardy
Dean Carroll	Ruth Houghton	Vivienne Parry
Steve Charmley	Richard Huffer	Tony Parsons
Ted Clarke	Tracey Huffer	John Price

Ed Potter
Chris Schofield
Andrew Sherrington
Colin Taylor
Dan Thomas

Robert Tindall
Edward Towers
Kevin Turley
David Vasmer
Alex Wagner

Claire Wild
Mark Williams
Rob Wilson
Paul Wynn

Your Committee Officer is:

Tim Ward Committee Officer

Tel: 01743 257713

Email: tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members are reminded that they must declare their disclosable pecuniary interests and other registrable or non-registrable interests in any matter being considered at the meeting as set out in Appendix B of the Members' Code of Conduct and consider if they should leave the room prior to the item being considered. Further advice can be sought from the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.

3 Minutes (Pages 1 - 20)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 December 2023

4 Announcements

To receive such communications as the Chairman, Leader and Head of Paid Service may desire to lay before the Council.

5 Public Questions

To receive any questions from the public, notice of which has been given in accordance with Procedure Rule 14. Deadline for notification is 5.00 pm on Friday 23 February 2024

6 Financial Strategy 2024/25 - 2028/29 - Final (including Capital Strategy and Council Tax Resolution) (Pages 21 - 306)

Report of the Executive Director, Resources is attached

Contact: James Walton. Tel. 01743 258915

7 Fees and Charges 2024/25 (Pages 307 - 376)

Report of the Executive Director, Resources is attached

Contact: James Walton. Tel. 01743 258915

8 Treasury Strategy 2024/25 (Pages 377 - 426)

Report of the Executive Director, Resources is attached

Contact: James Walton. Tel. 01743 258915

9 Shrewsbury North West Relief Road – Funding Delegation (Pages 427 - 438)

Report of the Executive Director of Place is attached

Contact Mark Barrow Tel: 01743258919

10 Appointment to Committees

Northern Planning Committee

Councillor Ed Potter to be appointed as a substitute member of the Northern Planning Committee

Southern Planning Committee

Councillor Roy Aldcroft to be appointed as a substitute member of the Southern Planning Committee

Councillor David Vasmer to replace Councillor Mark Williams as a substitute member of the Southern Planning Committee

Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Alan Moseley to replace Councillor Ted Clarke as a substitute member of the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Heather Kidd to replace Councillor Bernie Bentick as a substitute member of the People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Jeff Anderson to be appointed a substitute member of the Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Audit Committee

Councillor Andrew Sherrington to replace Councillor Mark Williams as a substitute member of the Audit Committee

11 Motions

The following motions have been received in accordance with Procedure Rule 16:

a **Motion received from Councillor Tony Parsons and supported by the Labour Group Social Care Costs**

This Council notes:

In October 2023, Skills for Care estimated that there were 1000 vacancies in the adult social care workforce in Shropshire (a vacancy rate of 8%)¹. However, in a survey of its care provider members the average staff turnover rate over the last 12 months reported by respondents was 19%, and nearly a quarter (23%) of respondents stated that they are employing less staff than this time last year, with nearly a third (31%) of domiciliary care providers stating that they now employ less staff than a year ago.

For much of the past 12 months our local hospitals in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin have continued to face the challenge of trying to discharge people back into the community made all the more difficult by the lack of available care. As was the case a

year ago, this is not due to a lack of care providers, but their inability to recruit and retain staff as a result of the low wages they can afford to pay their staff due in part to the low fee rates payable by local authorities.

This is compounded by significant operational cost pressures over the last 12 months. Inflation as measured by CPI rose by 3.9% in the 12 months to November 2023, but for the period April-September 2023 was significantly higher, ranging from 6.7%-8.7%.

The National Living Wage (NLW) is due to increase by 9.8%, from £10.42 to £11.44 per hour, from 1 April 2024 and whilst this is a positive move for care workers will directly impact on care providers' staff costs. Put simply, if local authority fee rates do not at least cover the increase in NLW this will represent a real terms cut in fee rates. In addition to staff costs, care providers have continued to face significant financial challenges over the last 12 months relating to staff recruitment, energy/utility costs, PPE and other operating costs including insurance, IT and staff travel.

This Council believes:

Both Shropshire Council and Telford & Wrekin Council have been awarded additional funding by central Government, through the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), under the Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund for investment in adult social care in 2023/24. Shropshire Council have been allocated an additional £2,119,773.

DHSC has stated that "local authorities can choose to use the funding to:

- increase fee rates paid to adult social care providers, particularly as we continue to prepare for the implementation of charging reform.
- increase adult social care workforce capacity and retention.
- reduce adult social care waiting times."

Currently this authority has advised that the funding has been invested in building capacity in the local adult social care sector but not increased the fee rates from those they had already agreed for 2023/24 and announced in March 2023.

Most local care providers have grave concerns regarding their financial viability and the sustainability of their business in continuing with local authority-funded care going forward without a significant increase in local authority fee rates from April 2024.

Only 19% of respondents to the survey of care provider members conducted by Partners in Care in October 2023 feel that current local authority fee rates cover their actual weekly operating costs. More than half (54%) of all providers who responded confirmed that they have reduced the amount of local authority funded placements/packages they accept in the past 12 months, with 56% of all respondents also expecting to further reduce the amount of council funded care they provide in the next 12 months if fee rates remain the same in 2024/25.

This Council commits:

To ring-fence the additional £2,119,773 funding secured from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), under the Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund for investment in adult social care in 2023/24.

To commit these funds directly as per the criteria, to increase fee rates paid to adult social care providers, particularly as we continue to prepare for the implementation of charging reform."

b **Motion received from Councillor Alan Mosley and supported by the Labour Group Consultation on Car Parking Increases**

This council notes:

The decision by Shropshire Council cabinet this January to raise £2m income through increasing car parking charges seeks to introduce increases of 33% at St. Julian Friars, 50% at Frankwell, 67% at Abbey Foregate and zero at Raven Meadows. This appears to penalise those who park outside of loop, whilst rewarding those who drive into the centre.

The cabinet proposals also seek to increase charges in the evening until 8pm and introduce them on Sundays and Bank Holidays

The scale of the increases has also sparked a considerable number of objections and concerns raised by the public, residents, workers, businesses and visitors.

Recent surveys and submissions by Shrewsbury BID provide evidence that there is considerable concern about the adverse impact on businesses of all types.

There has been a lack of any meaningful engagement with businesses or the wider public on the rationale and potential impact of the changes.

The proposals as they currently stand could undermine the Shropshire Plan:- “We'll develop Shropshire as a vibrant destination that attracts people to live in, work in, learn in and visit. We'll deliver excellent connectivity and infrastructure, and increasing access to social contact, employment, education, services and leisure opportunities. We will communicate clearly and transparently about what Shropshire Council delivers, signposting to the right places for services and support, and listen to what communities say about their place and what they need.”

This council believes:

1. The proposed hikes, ranging from 29% to 67%, could have a profound and serious impact on our Town's economy and attraction without any other mitigating improvements to town centre access, for example public transport, park and ride, highways infrastructure, active travel. Hence, the new charges pose a significant risk to the Shrewsbury town centre economy and its on-going post- Covid recovery
2. The swingeing increases for Abbey Foregate and Frankwell will have a particularly serious impact on those commuting to work, especially those on low income, where they have no affordable or convenient alternatives.
3. The changes are contrary to proposals within the movement strategy aimed at encouraging parking outside of the river loop.
4. Changes to Sunday and early evening charges could have a particularly seriously impact on the those employed in the night-time, hospitality and cultural economy and on visitors and residents in the town.
5. Many could be deterred from using designated car parks and will seek on-street parking around the town centre, much to the detriment of local residents.

This Council:

1. Recognises the need for a new Parking Strategy to be developed and for a review of the role, structure and staff in the Parking Services operation. This needs to be completed and with full public consultation, before such significant proposals are introduced.
2. So the parking increases need to be paused until such consultation has gathered feedback from those affected, and demonstrated mitigation.

12 Questions from Members (Pages 439 - 440)

To receive any questions from Members, notice of which has been given in accordance with Procedure Rule 15.2.

13 Exclusion of Press and Public

To resolve that, in accordance with the provisions of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and Paragraph 10.4 [3] of the Council's Access to Information Rules, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items

14 Exempt Minutes (Pages 441 - 444)

To approve as a correct record the exempt minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 December 2023

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Committee and Date

Council

COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2023

In the Council Chamber, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND

10.00 am - 2.05 pm

Responsible Officer: Tim Ward

Email: tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01743 257713

Present

Councillors Vince Hunt and Lezley Picton (Leader), Brian Williams (Vice Chairman), Ian Nellins (Deputy Leader), Roy Aldcroft, Jeff Anderson, Caroline Bagnall, Nicholas Bardsley, Joyce Barrow, Bernie Bentick, Thomas Biggins, Ed Bird, Andy Boddington, Peter Broomhall, Julia Buckley, Gwilym Butler, Dean Carroll, Steve Charmley, Ted Clarke, Rachel Connolly, Gerald Dakin, Rosemary Dartnall, Steve Davenport, Mary Davies, Julian Dean, Geoff Elner, David Evans, Julia Evans, Roger Evans, Rob Gittins, Nat Green, Kate Halliday, Simon Harris, Nigel Hartin, Nick Hignett, Ruth Houghton, Richard Huffer, Tracey Huffer, Kirstie Hurst-Knight, Mark Jones, Simon Jones, Duncan Kerr, Heather Kidd, Christian Lea, Hilary Luff, Nigel Lumby, Robert Macey, David Minnery, Dan Morris, Pamela Moseley, Alan Mosley, Peggy Mullock, Kevin Pardy, Vivienne Parry, Tony Parsons, John Price, Ed Potter, Chris Schofield, Andrew Sherrington, Colin Taylor, Dan Thomas, Edward Towers, Kevin Turley, David Vasmer, Alex Wagner, Claire Wild, Mark Williams, Rob Wilson and Paul Wynn

54 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Garry Burchett, Mike Isherwood, Paul Gill, Cecilia Motley and Robert Tindall.

55 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members were reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

56 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2023, as circulated with the agenda papers, be approved and signed as a correct record.

57 Announcements

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Colin Taylor to his first meeting following his election as the councillor for the Alveley and Claverley Division

Chairman's Engagements

The Chairman referred Members to the list of official engagements carried out by himself and the Vice Chairman since the last meeting of the Council on 21 September 2023, which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

58 Public Questions

The Chairman advised that public questions had been received from Michael Hinds, Ruth Cranley, and Chris Naylor. A copy of the questions and the responses provided are attached to the signed minutes and available from the web page for the meeting.

[Agenda for Council on Thursday, 14th December, 2023, 10.00 am — Shropshire Council](#)

59 Report of Returning Officer - Alveley and Claverley

It was proposed by the Chairman, Councillor Vince Hunt, and seconded by the Vice Chairman Councillor Brian Williams that the report of the Returning Officer, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received, and agreed.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted and approved.

60 Setting the Council Tax Taxbase for 2024/25

It was proposed by the Councillor Gwilym Butler, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities and seconded by Councillor Lezley Picton, Leader and Portfolio Holder for Policy and Strategy, Improvement and Communications that the report of the Executive Director of Resources, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

On being put to a recorded vote with 68 Members voting for, none against and no abstentions as follows:

FOR:

Councillors Aldcroft, Anderson, Bagnall, Bardsley, Barrow, Bentick, Biggins, Bird, Boddington, Broomhall, Buckley, Butler, Carroll, Charmley, Clarke, Connolly, Dakin, Dartnall, Davies, Dean, Elnor, D Evans, J Evans, R Evans, Gittins, Green, Halliday, Harris, Hartin, Hignett, Houghton, R Huffer, T Huffer, Hunt, Hurst-Knight, M Jones, S Jones, Kerr, Kidd, Lea, Luff, Lumby, Macey, Minnery, Morris, Moseley, Mosley, Mullock, Nellins, Pardy, Parry, Parsons, Picton, Potter, Price, Schofield, Sherrington,

Taylor, Thomas, Towers, Turley, Vasmer, Wagner, Wild, B Williams, M Williams, Wilson and Wynn

It was **RESOLVED:**

That Council

1. approve, in accordance with the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 the revised discretionary power to levy a Council Tax premium of 100% in relation to dwellings which have been unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for more than one year (but less than five years) i.e. reduce the minimum period for the implementation of the premium for long term empty premises from two years to one year and the resulting inclusion of 798.32 Band D equivalents in the taxbase calculation. This includes an additional 456.55 Band D equivalents as a result of the amendment to reduce the minimum period to one year and 341.77 Band D equivalents in relation to the existing policy for dwellings which have been unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for more than two years (but less than five years).
2. approve, in accordance with the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 the revised discretionary power to levy a Council Tax premium of 100% in respect of second homes from 1 April 2025.
3. To approve the publication of a notice regarding the new discretionary Council Tax policy awarded in respect of unoccupied and substantially unfurnished dwellings and second homes within 21 days of the determination
4. approve, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by Shropshire Council as it's Council Tax taxbase for the year 2024/25, as detailed in Appendix A, totalling 119,191.17 Band D equivalents.
5. note the changes to the Council's localised Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme in 2024/25. The scheme is attached at Appendix B.
6. note the Council Tax Support Scheme amendments detailed in Appendix B have no impact on the taxbase determination.
7. note the exclusion of 8,237.19 Band D equivalents from the taxbase calculation as a result of localised Council Tax Support.
8. note continuation of the discretionary Council Tax discount policy of 0% in respect of second homes (other than those that retain a 50% discount through regulation as a result of job related protection) and note the inclusion of 759.79 Band D equivalents in the Council Tax taxbase calculation as a result of this discount policy.
9. note continuation of the discretionary Council Tax discount policy to not award a discount in respect of vacant dwellings undergoing major repair, i.e. former Class A exempt properties.

10. note continuation of the discretionary Council Tax discount policy in respect of vacant dwellings, i.e. former Class C exempt properties, of 100% for one month i.e. effectively reinstating the exemption and the resulting exclusion of 132.23 band D equivalents from the taxbase calculation.
11. note continuation of the “six week rule” in respect of vacant dwellings, i.e. former Class C exempt properties.
12. note continuation of the discretionary Council Tax discount policy to levy a Council Tax premium of 200% in relation to dwellings which have been unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for more than five years (but less than ten years) and the resulting inclusion of an additional 215.33 Band D equivalents in the taxbase calculation.
13. note continuation of the discretionary Council Tax discount policy to levy a Council Tax premium of 300% in relation to dwellings which have been unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for more than ten years and the resulting inclusion of an additional 188.01 Band D equivalents in the taxbase calculation.
14. approve a collection rate for the year 2024/25 of 98.5%.

61 **Annual Treasury Report 2022/23**

It was proposed by the Councillor Gwilym Butler, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities and seconded by Councillor Lezley Picton, Leader and Portfolio Holder for Policy and Strategy, Improvement and Communications that the report of the Executive Director of Resources, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED:**

That Council

1. Approve the actual 2022/23 prudential and treasury indicators in the report
2. Note the annual treasury management report for 2022/23

62 **Treasury Strategy 2023/24 - Mid Year Review**

It was proposed by the Councillor Gwilym Butler, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities and seconded by Councillor Brian Williams that the report of the Executive Director of Resources, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed

It was unanimously **RESOLVED:**

That Members agree the Treasury Strategy activity as set out in the report.

63 Statement of Licensing Policy 2024 to 2029

It was proposed by the Councillor Chris Schofield, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services and seconded by Councillor Roy Aldcroft that the report of the Executive Director of Place, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed

It was unanimously **RESOLVED:**

That the Council adopts the proposed statement of licensing policy ('the policy'), as set out in Appendix A, to take effect from 1 April 2024 and instructs the Transactional Management and Licensing Manager to publish and advertise the policy in accordance with the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.

64 Polling District, Polling Place and Polling Station Review 2023

It was proposed by the Councillor Gwilym Butler, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities and seconded by Councillor Hilary Luff that the report of the Executive Director of Place, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED:**

1. That Council approve the following arrangements, in order for them to be implemented on or by 2 January 2024.

DIVISION	PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS
Polling District Reference: LAB Claverley	Delegated authority be given to the Electoral Registration Officer, in consultation with the local member, Councillor Taylor, to agree a replacement polling place for LAB Claverley.
Polling District Reference: LBA Bishops Castle LBB Colebatch LBE Lydham LBF Mainstone	SpArC Leisure Centre replace Bishop's Castle Public Hall as the designated polling place for LBA Bishops Castle, LBB Colebatch, LBE Lydham and LBF Mainstone, until such time as building works have concluded at Bishop's Castle Public Hall.
Polling District Reference: LCE Bridgnorth (Morfe Ward) (part of)	St Mary's Bluebird CE Primary School replace St James Hall as the designated polling place for LCE Bridgnorth (Morfe Ward) (part of). LCE Bridgnorth (Morfe Ward) (part of)

	be reduced to a single station.
Polling District Reference: LHB Church Stretton (North Ward) LHC Church Stretton (South Ward) LHD Church Stretton (Little Stretton Ward)	Church Stretton United Reformed Church Hall replace Silvester Horne Institute as the designated polling place for LHB Church Stretton (North Ward), LHC Church Stretton (South Ward) and LHD Church Stretton (Little Stretton Ward).
Polling District Reference: LRD Rudge LRH Worfield (Hobbins Wood) LRI Worfield (North Ward)	Worfield Cricket Pavilion replace Worfield Village Hall as the designated polling place for LRD Rudge, LRH Worfield (Hobbins Ward) and LRI Worfield (North Ward).
Polling District Reference: NLC Gobowen (part of)	Gobowen Church and Gobowen Church Hall site be designated as the polling place for NLC Gobowen (part of).
Polling District Reference: NGD Oswestry (Carreg Llwyd Ward)	Holy Trinity CE Primary Academy (Main Hall) replace Hope Church Oswestry as the designated polling place for NGD Oswestry (Carreg Llwyd Ward).re
Polling District Reference: NQC Wem Rural (Roden Ward) NQD Wem (East Ward) (part of) NDE Wem (East Ward) (part of) NQF Wem (West Ward) (part of) NQG Wem (West Ward) (part of)	That delegated authority be given to the Electoral Registration Officer, in consultation with local members, Councillor Broomhall and Councillor Towers, to agree a replacement polling place for NQC Wem Rural (Roden Ward), NQD Wem (East Ward) (part of), NDE Wem (East Ward) (part of), NQF Wem (West Ward) (part of) and NQG Wem (West Ward) (part of).
Polling District Reference: SJB Shrewsbury (Harlescott Ward) (part of)	Riversway Elim Church (Severn Room) replace Mount Pleasant Primary School – Studio as the designated polling place for SJB Shrewsbury (Harlescott Ward) (part of).

2. That delegated authority be given to the Electoral Registration Officer to find a suitable alternative, in conjunction with local members, should any polling stations not be available for a particular election.

65 Annual report - People Overview Committee

The Chair of the People Overview Committee, Councillor Peggy Mullock, presented the annual report of the Committee for 2022-23. She outlined the work that had been carried out by the Committee and thanked members of the committee and officers for all their work. She then took questions.

Councillor Moseley commented that she sat on the pupil disciplinary panel at a school where she was a governor and that previously when considering pupil

exclusions, there had either been a member of the local authority inclusion team present, or if not present, they had submitted a report, but that this no longer happened. Cllr Mullock agreed to look into this with the portfolio holder and report back to Councillor Moseley, copying in all members.

Members noted the contents of the report.

66 Annual Report - Communities Overview Committee

Councillor Robert Macey former chair of the Communities Overview Committee presented the annual report of the Communities Overview Committee for 2022-23. He outlined the work that had been carried out by the Committee and thanked members of the committee and officers for all their work. He then took questions.

Members noted the contents of the report.

67 Community Governance Review

It was proposed by the Councillor Gwilym Butler, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities and seconded by Councillor Nick Bardsley that the report of the Assistant Director – Legal and Governance, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

Several members expressed disappointment that a wider review was not being carried out but recognised that current timescales did not allow for this.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED:**

That the Terms of Reference for the following Community Governance reviews set out in appendices 1 to 5 be approved for consultation:

- a. Albrighton/Donington
- b. Baschurch/Pimhill(Bomere Heath and District)
- c. Ludlow/Ludford
- d. Market Drayton/Adderley
- e. Shrewsbury

68 Adoption of Pontesbury Neighbourhood Plan

It was proposed by the Councillor Chris Schofield, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulatory Services and seconded by Councillor Nick Hignett that the report of the Executive Director of Place, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED:**

That Shropshire Council, as the Local Planning Authority 'makes' i.e. adopts the Pontesbury Neighbourhood Development Plan (as set out in Appendix 1) and brings it into force with immediate effect as part of the Development Plan for Shropshire.

69 Local Government Act 1972, Section 101 Formal Application to Upgrade Footpaths and add a Section of Bridleway in The Parish of Woore and Parish of Buerton in Cheshire East - Delegation To Cheshire East Council to Investigate and Determine This Cross-border Claim

It was proposed by the Councillor Robert Macey, Portfolio Holder for Culture and Digital and seconded by Councillor Roy Aldcroft that the report of the Executive Director of Place, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed

It was unanimously **RESOLVED:**

That Shropshire Council delegates the function of determining the formal application to upgrade footpaths and add a bridleway in the Parish of Woore in Shropshire and Buerton in Cheshire, to Cheshire East Council, as the claimed routes link with each other.

70 Constitution of Committees and the Allocation of Seats to Political Groups

It was proposed by the Chairman, Councillor Vince Hunt, and seconded by the Vice Chairman Councillor Brian Williams that the report of the Assistant Director – Legal and Governance, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received, and agreed.

On being put to a recorded vote with 37 Members voting for, 27 against and 5 abstentions as follows:

FOR:

Councillors Aldcroft, Anderson, Bardsley, Barrow, Biggins, Bird, Broomhall, Butler, Carroll, Charmley, Dakin, Davenport, Elnor, D Evans, Gittins, Harris, Hignett, Hunt, Hurst-Knight, M. Jones, S Jones, Lea, Luff, Lumby, Macey, Morris, Mullock, Nellins, Picton, Potter, Price, Schofield, Thomas, Turley, Wild, B Williams and Wynn.

AGAINST:

Councillors Bagnall, Bentick, Boddington, Buckley, Clarke, Connolly, Dartnall, Davies, R Evans, Green, Halliday, Hartin, Houghton, R Huffer, T Huffer, Kidd, Moseley, Mosley, Pardy, Parry, Parsons, Sherrington, Taylor, Vasmer, Wagner, M Williams and Wilson

ABSTENTION:

Councillors Dean, J Evans, Kerr, Minnery, and Towers

It was **RESOLVED:**

That the Council confirms the revised allocation of seats to each of the political groups for the remainder of the 2023/24 municipal year as a consequence of the change in group membership as follows:

- a) That the composition and revised allocation of seats on its committees and other bodies as detailed in the report be approved.
- b) That the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group provides notification of which of its members will be appointed as a member of the Standards Committee.

71 **Appointments to Committees**

It was proposed by the Chairman Councillor Vince Hunt and seconded by the Vice Chairman Councillor Brian Williams that the following amendments to committee membership be agreed.

Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Robert Tindall to replace Councillor Kevin Turley as a member of the Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Andrew Sherrington to replace Councillor Rob Wilson as a substitute member of the Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Housing Supervisory Board

Councillor Roger Evans to replace Councillor Heather Kidd as a member of the Housing Supervisory Board

Councillor David Vasmer to replace Councillor Bernie Bentick as a substitute member of the Housing Supervisory Board

Northern Planning Committee

Councillor Roger Evans to be appointed a member of the Northern Planning Committee

Councillor Nigel Hartin to be appointed a substitute member of the Northern Planning Committee

Councillor Nick Hignett to be appointed a substitute member of the Northern Planning Committee

Councillor David Evans to be appointed a substitute member of the Northern Planning Committee

Councillor Mary Davies to be appointed a substitute member of the Northern Planning Committee

Southern Planning Committee

Councillor Joyce Barrow to be appointed a substitute member of the Southern Planning Committee

RESOLVED:

That the following changes in committee membership be agreed

Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Robert Tindall to replace Councillor Kevin Turley as a member of the Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Andrew Sherrington to replace Councillor Rob Wilson as a substitute member of the Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Housing Supervisory Board

Councillor Roger Evans to replace Councillor Heather Kidd as a member of the Housing Supervisory Board

Councillor David Vasmer to replace Councillor Bernie Bentick as a substitute member of the Housing Supervisory Board

Northern Planning Committee

Councillor Roger Evans to be appointed a member of the Northern Planning Committee

Councillor Nigel Hartin to be appointed a substitute member of the Northern Planning Committee

Councillor Nick Hignett to be appointed a substitute member of the Northern Planning Committee

Councillor David Evans to be appointed a substitute member of the Northern Planning Committee

Councillor Mary Davies to be appointed a substitute member of the Northern Planning Committee

Southern Planning Committee

Councillor Joyce Barrow to be appointed a substitute member of the Southern Planning Committee

72 **Motions**

The following motion was received from Councillor Duncan Kerr and supported by the Green Group

Waste Minimisation Strategy

On the 15th July 2021 we presented a motion to this Council calling on the authority to adopt a waste minimisation strategy by Dec 2021. This motion recognised that despite declaring a climate emergency Shropshire Council has the unenviable record of collecting more household waste per household than any other mainland authority in England. The consequences is higher carbon emissions and costs falling on our residents.

Even though the Council had a waste minimisation strategy in 2011 this motion was opposed by the Conservative controlling group who argued that it might result in charging for green waste and that the Government might be removing the powers of Local Authorities to do this. Recently the Government has made it clear that their fears were unfounded.

In the meantime, the Cabinet has received a report from a Scrutiny Committee recommending that a waste minimisation strategy be developed but not producing any timetable.

As a result of this lost opportunity for action our recycling performance has dropped by 2.7% from 2018/9 to 2021/2 relegating us out of the top 50 authorities for recycling; and our total waste arisings have increased by 7%. We are heading rapidly in the wrong direction.

It's time to take some action on a service that the Council has direct control over and is an important contributor to the climate change which is already affecting Shropshire. This motion therefore commits the Council to have a Waste Minimisation Strategy approved by June 2024

This was seconded by Councillor Julian Dean

By way of alterations Councillor Kerr proposed that the final paragraph be amended to read:

It's time to take some action on a service that the Council has direct control over and is an important contributor to the climate change which is already affecting Shropshire. This motion therefore commits the Council to have a Waste Minimisation Strategy approved by 1 September 2024

On taking a vote the amended motion was unanimously supported

The following motion was received from Councillor Mark Williams and supported by the Liberal Democrat Group

Limit Post-16 Student Transport Costs.

With the imminent closure of the Bridgnorth 6th Form, the Post-16 students in my ward will now be disadvantaged by having to travel much further for their compulsory Post-16 education. The significant problem that this causes my and many other rural

wards is that these students will have to purchase at least two bus passes to get to their chosen college.

Using my ward, Highley, as an example; almost every student will need to purchase an annual Diamond Bus Pass costing £800 to get to Bridgnorth and then either a college specific pass at around £600 or an Arriva annual bus pass at £715 to get to their chosen college.

Our current system is forcing the parents and carers of our children to find around £1500 per year to send them to school. This is clearly unfair, if you live within the reach of a single bus service like Arriva which covers most of the county, then you will pay no more than £715 for your annual bus pass, if, like us, you have to use multiple services you have to pay far more.

The Department for education Post-16 transport and travel support to education and training Statutory guidance for local authorities clearly states the Council's responsibilities:

- That those who are vulnerable to becoming not in education, employment or training should be offered any transport support that is necessary to enable them to participate.
- That young people in rural areas should not be worse off financially because they may need to travel further to access education and training provision than their peers in urban areas
- That they ensure that any contribution is affordable for learners and their parents.
- That they ensure that there are arrangements in place to support those families on low income.

Also, to aid transparency, it is good practice for local authorities to set out the average cost per young person of post-16 transport in their area before any are subsidies deducted.

Section 509AB(3)(b)(c)&(d) of the Education Act 1996

I couldn't find this information anywhere in the Council's transport policy

This policy will promote fairness and inclusivity by ensuring that all students, regardless of their economic backgrounds or location, have equal access to education without an unfair financial burden of excessive transportation costs.

Therefore, I propose

- 1) that the total annual cost of a Post-16 student's transport, when using school buses and public transport, shall not exceed the expense of a single annual Arriva student bus pass within Shropshire;

- 2) where a student's total transport costs exceeds this amount, Shropshire Council will issue an Annual Student Transport Pass on payment of the value an Arriva student bus pass;
- 3) that the Annual Students Transport Pass will enable the holder to use all relevant public transport to get to and from their chosen place of education within the approved list of education providers.

This was seconded by Councillor Andrew Sherrington

By way of alteration Councillor M Williams proposed that the final paragraph of the motion be amended to read:

Therefore, I propose that a Task & Finish Group be urgently formed to look at this problem and come forward with a proposal to the next council meeting that will promote fairness and inclusivity by ensuring that all students, regardless of their economic backgrounds or location, have equal access to education without an unfair financial burden of excessive transportation costs.

As a guide to the new Task & Finish Group we propose

- 1) that Section 509AB(3)(b)(c) &(d) of the Education Act 1996 be looked at and its requirement be incorporated into any recommendations.
- 2) that the total annual cost of a Post-16 student's transport, when using school buses and public transport, shall not exceed the expense of a single annual Arriva student bus pass within Shropshire.
- 3) where a student's total transport costs exceeds this amount, Shropshire Council will issue an Annual Student Transport Pass on payment of the value an Arriva student bus pass;
- 4) that the Annual Students Transport Pass will enable the holder to use all relevant public transport to get to and from their chosen place of education within the approved list of education providers.

On taking a vote the amended motion was unanimously supported

The following motion was received from Councillor Ruth Houghton and supported by the Liberal Democrat Group

Affordable Housing

Affordable housing is often difficult to develop in many areas of the County. The reasons for this are as follows:

- Limited land availability
- Length of time to reach the development stage and now
- Increasing construction costs.

Shropshire is experiencing a significant shortage of affordable Housing which impacts on our local communities. With this in mind we propose the following :

This Council agrees to develop a strategic policy in conjunction with Housing providers that will help to:

- maintain and improve existing social housing stock across the County
- ensure that existing stock is retained and not subject to disposal
- Upgrade the existing housing social housing stock to an EPC rating of C or above

This was seconded by Councillor Heather Kidd

On taking a vote, with 31 votes for and 36 votes against the motion was not supported.

The following motion was received from Councillor Rob Wilson and supported by the Liberal Democrat Group

Improving Shropshire's Footways

This council notes that:

1. Every journey includes walking or wheeling, therefore good quality, accessible footways are essential.
2. Every councillor is aware of footways in their division of footways that are of poor quality, and are not accessible by all users, often because of overhanging vegetation, a lack of sufficient cleaning, or outstanding repairs.
3. The "highway" is 'hedge to hedge', therefore the highway includes the carriageway, footways and any cycleways.
4. The Council has a duty under the Highways Act 1980 to ensure that the highway is not obstructed. Even small overgrowths can be hazardous particularly to blind and visually impaired people who often use property boundaries as a guide, or when a footway is narrow. It is also a requirement that anything overhanging a footway must be at least 2.3m above the footway, cycleway, verge and 5.3m above the road surface
5. It is an offence under the Highways Act 1980 to allow trees, hedges, shrubs and so on to obstruct the highway.
6. Councils can, after an initial informal request, serve a 21 Day Notice on the occupier of a property, to cut back the offending vegetation. If the occupier does not comply with the Notice, Councils may carry out the work themselves and recover costs in doing so from the occupier, through the courts if necessary. ([H Hedge hazards web 18.pdf \(westberks.gov.uk\)](#)).

This council further notes that:

7. Shropshire Council is making an £59m capital investment in improving the quality of Shropshire's highways.

8. A number of Council's, for example Oxfordshire, have formally moved from "Predict and Provide" to "Decide and Provide" ([UK county pivots to 'decide and provide' transport planning - Cities Today \(cities-today.com\)](#)).

The council resolves:

1. To recognise the importance of high quality, accessible footways in all our communities, both rural and urban
2. To request that a report is brought to Cabinet within 3 months explaining how our existing footways will be cleared and cleaned to a higher standard, including (but not limited to):
 - a. A review of the cleaning regime for footways
 - b. A review of the process for cutting back Shropshire council owned hedging and other vegetation
 - c. A review of the process for cutting back privately owned hedging and other vegetation
3. To include in the report to cabinet details of how the £59m capital investment is being divided between carriageways, footways and cycleways, and to comment on this point in any future reports to Council, Cabinet and Scrutiny Committees.
4. Ensure that LTP4 is based on the principle of "decide and provide" rather than "predict and provide".

This was seconded by Councillor Heather Kidd

On being put to a recorded vote with 32 Members voting for, 36 against and 1 abstentions as follows:

FOR:

Councillors Bagnall, Bentick, Boddington, Buckley, Clarke, Connolly, Dartnall, Davies, Dean, J Evans, R Evans, Green, Halliday, Hartin, Houghton, R Huffer, T Huffer, Kerr, Kidd, Moseley, Mosley, Pardy, Parry, Parsons, Sherrington, Taylor, Towers, Turley, Vasmer, Wagner, M Williams and Wilson

AGAINST:

Councillors Aldcroft, Anderson, Bardsley, Barrow, Biggins, Bird, Broomhall, Butler, Carroll, Charmley, Dakin, Davenport, Elner, D Evans, Gittins, Harris, Hignett, Hunt, Hurst-Knight, M. Jones, S Jones, Lea, Luff, Lumby, Macey, Morris, Mullock, Nellins, Picton, Potter, Price, Schofield, Thomas, Wild, B Williams and Wynn

ABSTENTION:

Councillor Minnery

The motion was not supported

The following motion was received from Councillor Roger Evans and supported by the Liberal Democrat Group

Free School Meals

School budgets are being squeezed in many ways. Family income is also being squeezed.

Wage rises, heating costs and travel to school events all cost more. Parents who are not able to pay for breakfast clubs and after school clubs are now being faced with not being able to work if the school can't afford to support them. This applies to many where both parents are working on low wages especially with high rents and energy costs. Help is available from other sources in certain areas.

One area where help can be given is in the supply of free school meals.

The benefits of introducing free school meals have long been proven. Children who eat healthy, free school meals have lower obesity rates, better academic performance and behaviour and improved lifetime productivity. However, the numbers eligible for free school meals is reducing and is noted in many schools.

The income levels at which claims can be made has not been increased since 2018. In Shropshire Children in KS2 and higher at present cease to be entitled to a universal free school meal.

From KS2 onwards in Shropshire, pupils are only entitled to a free school meal if.

If you're on universal credit then the household earnings threshold is £7400
If you work and claim other benefits like child tax credits or working tax credits, then the threshold is £16190.

The trigger level for wages is so low - household income must be below £22,700/annum.

As of 2023, the UK national minimum wage for workers aged 23 and over is £10.42 per hour, which equates to around £21,630 per year if working full-time hours.

From April 1st, 2024, the UK national minimum wage for workers over 23 will rise to £11.44.

There is still, in many people's minds a stigma attached to claiming these, the school does not hear much from parents who miss out when applying.

For every child who is entitled to a free school meal the school they attend get extra income.

The Primary School gets £1,455 and Secondary School an extra £1035.

In England, every child in Key Stage 1 is automatically eligible for a free school meal, but the school loses out by not getting the extra income if the parent does not also fill in a claim form asking their child to also be registered as being eligible for a free school meal. If registered, as detailed above, the school would receive an extra £1,455.00.

In the majority of England, the universal free school meal ceases from when the child enters Key Stage 2, Other areas in the UK adopt different rules and many extend this to later years.

We on Shropshire Council note the above and the extra benefit for both the child and the school when they are able to eat a healthy midday meal.

The Council asks both the Leader and the Chief Executive to.

- Write to all our MPs and the Department of Education urging them to bring the offer of the universal free meal in England to both KS1 and KS2 pupils.
- To increase the income eligibility level so it is at least equivalent to the national minimum wage for workers over the age of 23.
- Task officers of Shropshire Council to initiate and promote a publicity campaign urging those eligible to fill in and submit a free school meal claim as soon as possible and so enable the children's chosen school will receive the additional income that is on offer from government.

This was seconded by Councillor Mark Williams

By way of alteration Councillor R Evans proposed that the final paragraph of the motion be amended to read: -

We on Shropshire Council note the above and the extra benefit for both the child and the school when they can eat a healthy midday meal.

The Council asks both the Leader and the Chief Executive to write to all our MPs and the Department of Education urging them to:-

- bring the offer of the universal free meal in England to both KS1 and KS2 pupils.
- increase the income eligibility level so it is at least equivalent to the national minimum wage for workers over the age of 23.
- Ask the Department of Education to work with the DWP to commence automatic enrolment of children entitled to free school meals when the appropriate benefit trigger applies.

And to arrange a Shropshire Council publicity campaign urging those eligible to fill in and submit a free school meal claim as soon as possible and so enable the children's chosen school to receive the additional income that is on offer from government.

On taking a vote the amended motion was unanimously supported.

73 Questions from Members

The Chairman advised that the following questions had been received in accordance with Procedure Rule 15. A copy of the report containing the detailed questions and their formal response is attached to the signed minutes.

Received from Councillor Duncan Kerr in relation to domestic abuse as a factor in child protection plans. Councillor Kerr thanked the Portfolio Holder for the comprehensive response and did not have a supplementary question

Received from Councillor Ruth Houghton in relation to environmental issues in the River Clun. By way of supplementary question Councillor Houghton asked in light of the response how will the Council meet the housing needs of the people in the Clun valley? The Portfolio Holder stated that work was ongoing to address the problems and that he would update Members when the work had progressed

Received from Councillor Julian Dean in relation to resources for supporting safer streets. By way of supplementary question Councillor Dean asked whether there were further opportunities to bring more of the work "in house". The Portfolio Holder stated that there were always opportunities to look at bringing more of the work "in house"

74 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with the provisions of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and Paragraph 10.4 [3] of the Council's Access to Information Rules, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items

75 Exempt Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2023, as circulated with the agenda papers, be approved and signed as a correct record.

76 Housing Supervisory Board: CDL Shareholder Report

It was proposed by Councillor Vince Hunt, Chair of the Housing Supervisory Board and seconded by Councillor Dean Carroll, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Assets, that the exempt report of the Executive Director of Place, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received, and agreed.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED**

That the recommendation in the report be agreed

77 Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme: Housing First

It was proposed by Councillor Dean Carroll, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Assets, and seconded by Councillor Mark Jones, Portfolio Holder for Growth and Regeneration that the exempt report of the Executive Director of Place, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received, and agreed.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED**

That the recommendation in the report be agreed

78 Shirehall Disposal and Decommissioning Strategy

It was proposed by Councillor Dean Carroll, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Assets, and seconded by Councillor Ian Nellins, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Climate Change, Environment And Transport that the exempt report of the Executive Director of Place, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received, and agreed.

It was **RESOLVED**

That the recommendation in the report be agreed

Signed (Chairman)

Date:

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	Committee and Date Council 29 th February 2024	Item
		Public



Financial Strategy 2024/25 - 2028/29 - Final (including Capital Strategy and Council Tax Resolution)

Responsible Officer:	James Walton		
email:	james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	Tel:	01743 258915
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder):	Cllr Gwilym Butler, Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities		

1. Synopsis

This report sets out the 2024/25 budget plans for Shropshire Council; proposals including £56m spending reductions and £6m demand reduction measures. Despite the pressures in delivering Council services, we continue to work towards a wider plan and vision for Shropshire.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1. The Council has delivered a level of spending reductions through 2023/24 which is entirely unprecedented, £41m at the time of writing, which exceeds anything previously achieved. Further, much of this has been achieved working closely with our delivery partner (PwC) and without significant impact on the services received by residents focussing instead on review of service delivery. The absence of significant communication and policy change approved by Members attests to this.
- 2.2. The level of savings targeted in 2023/24 was identified as part of a BBC survey as one of the most stretching in the country. Our plans to achieve this focused on

improvements to efficiency and impact, minimising the impact on services and staff.

- 2.3. The 2023/24 financial year, however, was challenging in terms of the inflationary pressures encountered and the significant increase in social care demand experienced from January/February 2023 onwards. Inflationary pressures in September 2022 were at a significant high (CPI was 10.1%). The September baseline is a common position from which the inflator for the coming year contracts is set. The impact of CPI being 10% in September 2022 was therefore experienced in significant cost increases experienced in 2023/24. Social care demand also continued to be a major pressure. Amongst older adults and working age adults, many were suffering the direct and indirect consequences of COVID with significantly higher care needs than had been encountered in the pre-COVID period.
- 2.4. It was anticipated that proposals delivered in 2023/24 would put the Council on a stable financial footing over the medium term. The dual challenges of increasing inflation and rising demand for social care (in common with all upper-tier councils) have prevented us achieving that in full, something we have consistently and unambiguously reported through the year. We have planned extensively for the necessary changes in 2024/25, ensuring full alignment of all budgets with our objectives and resources. We have continued to take opportunities to transform services to be more efficient, and to review our 'current operating models' in the context of a more unified 'target operating model' or TOM. We have also developed broader approaches to demand management, enabling us to better meet the challenges of demand increases.
- 2.5. Despite the challenges encountered through the year, the objectives and overarching vision of The Shropshire Plan remain a clear guide to the priorities for the 2024/25 budget and the MTFs period following to 2028/29. The challenges are, however, more severe than previously anticipated, and our response must be necessarily robust.
- 2.6. Given the national political climate, there is no clear national policy for local government funding to be changed in the coming years. That will be subject to the outcome of an imminent general election and, even then, may take some time to be realised (if at all). So, we must plan based on what we know, what residents indicate as their preferences, and within the resources we know we have available.
- 2.7. The successive and iterative MTFs updates in October and December 2023 were unambiguous in the expected need for substantial spending reductions to be achieved in 2024/25 and the reasons for this. The budget consultation which closed on 28 January 2024 secured an unprecedented level of responses from residents and other interested parties. These responses broadly confirmed the approaches proposed by the Cabinet and Councillors, including the need to increase Council Tax, preferred options for more and less protected services and other mitigations for our cost pressures. Our budget proposals for 2024/25, difficult as they may be, are therefore directed and aligned as far as possible both with political direction and local resident preferences.
- 2.8. This report sets out the budget proposals for 2024/25, themselves reflecting the service delivery plans for the year from a financial perspective. Robust delivery

plans will provide greater assurance in achievement of the proposals, as will continued engagement of our delivery partner PwC over the medium term. The proposals build upon the significant improvements made during the last year, in our wider governance, transparency and accountability and set the Council on a sustainable path for the future.

3. Recommendations

3.1. It is recommended that members:

In respect of council tax:

- i. approve a 4.99% Council tax rise (a 2.99% increase to Council Tax and a 2% increase to Adult Social Care Precept) resulting in a basic amount of council tax for a Band D property of £1,720.80 in the billing authority’s area, calculated in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (section 42b).
- ii. in accordance with the provisions of Section 40 (2) of the 1992 Act, approve the amount of Council Tax calculated for each category of dwelling in the billing authority’s area to be as follows:

Property Band	2024/25 Charge £
A	1,147.20
B	1,338.40
C	1,529.60
D	1,720.80
E	2,103.20
F	2,485.60
G	2,868.00
H	3,441.60

- iii. approve a total precept of £205,104,165.
- iv. approve the formal council tax resolution as set out in Appendix 4 to determine the levels of Council Tax for Shropshire Council for 2024/25.

In respect of the revenue budget:

- v. approve the 2024/25 gross budget of £709.472m outlined in the Budget Book at Appendix 3.
- vi. note the key changes to the MTFs as outlined in Appendix 1 since the December update of the MTFs and the advice relating to those changes, in particular:
 - the public consultation and related findings
 - the Alternative Budget process and findings
 - the Financial Settlement and implications for the Council
 - the Collection Fund outturn and the impact on next year
 - the latest budget forecast for the current year and the resulting likely impact on reserves in this year and next (also included in the MTFs assumptions)
 - Inclusion of the Equality, Social Inclusion and Health Impact Assessment (ESIHA)

- vii. note the alignment of this report with other reports on this agenda, including the Fees and Charges proposals, and the proposed Treasury Strategy.
- viii. note the revised funding gap for the years 2025/26 to 2028/29.

In respect of the reserves position:

- ix. note the Statement of the Chief Financial Officer on the Robustness of Estimates and Adequacy of Reserves as set out in Sections 6.1 – 6.3 of the MTFS at Appendix 1.
- x. approve the recommended level of general fund balances to support the 2024/25 revenue budget of £49.682m, noting that the projected balance is presently significantly below this for 2024/25.
- xi. note the projected recommended level of general reserves for the following four years at £47.463m in 2025/26, £45.539m in 2026/27, £45.874m in 2027/28 and £46.934m in 2028/29.

In respect of the capital programme and strategy:

- xii. note the continued use of the Policy for Flexibility around the use of Capital Receipts as detailed in section 8.1 of the MTFS at Appendix 1.
- xiii. agree the adoption of the Capital Strategy 2023/24 – 2028/29 attached as Appendix 2.
- xiv. note the prioritised capital schemes identified at Appendix 2 section 8 including the need to identify and confirm funding sources for these schemes.
- xv. agree the Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 2 section 6 and Annex B to the Capital Strategy.

In respect of the Pay and Rewards Policy:

- xvi. agree the Pay and Rewards Policy for all Council staff for 2024/25 as set out in Appendix 5.

In relation to the delivery partner:

- xvii. approve a delegation to the CFO in consultation with the Portfolio Holder - Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities to enable specific work to be commissioned from PwC in line with the conditions set out in paragraph 4.8.

4. Report

Proposed spending reductions

- 4.1. The spending reductions set out in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (Appendix 1) to this report are summarised below. Overall, there are £62m of proposed measures.

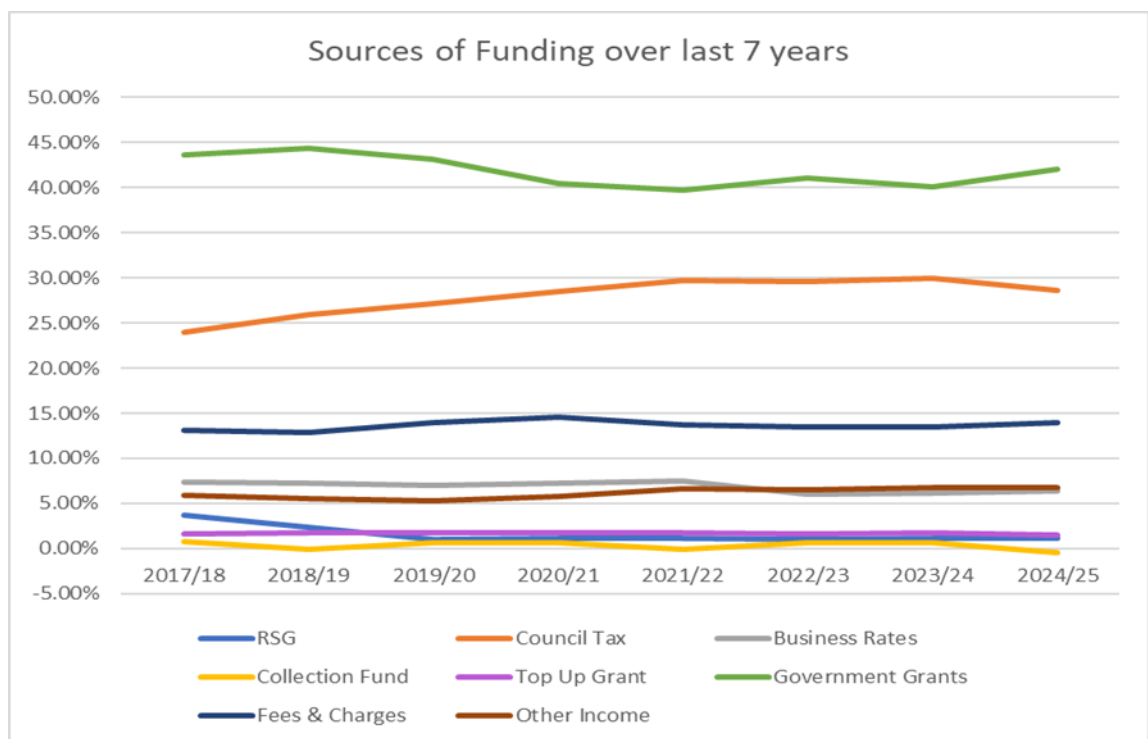
Category of Saving	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
Reduce Cost			

Category of Saving	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
Health & Wellbeing	1,253,600	-930,000	0
People	5,698,000	250,000	0
Place	6,157,765	1,958,863	112,050
Resources	3,423,000	2,800,000	0
Council wide	22,977,600	0	0
Total Reduce Cost Savings	39,509,965	4,078,863	112,050
Target Operating Model			
Health & Wellbeing	15,000	15,000	0
People	610,000	0	0
Place	100,000	2,000,000	0
Resources	0	120,000	0
Council wide	0	0	0
Total Target Operating Model Savings	725,000	2,135,000	0
Manage Demand			
Health & Wellbeing	200,000	-200,000	0
People	6,273,636	630,000	110,000
Place	300,000	0	0
Resources	0	0	0
Council wide	0	0	0
Total Manage Demand Savings	6,773,636	430,000	110,000
Charge More			
Health & Wellbeing	0	0	0
People	0	0	0
Place	20,000	0	0
Resources	0	0	0
Council wide	2,000,000	0	0
Total Charge More Savings	2,020,000	0	0
New Income			
Health & Wellbeing	0	0	0
People	3,800,000	0	0
Place	4,892,720	1,622,000	20,000
Resources	0	0	0
Council wide	0	0	0
Total New Income Savings	8,692,720	1,622,000	20,000
Stop/Cease Services			
Health & Wellbeing	0	0	0
People	1,600,000	400,000	-400,000
Place	3,128,650	3,047,010	50,000
Resources	0	0	0
Council wide	30,000	0	0
Total Stop/Cease Services Savings	4,758,650	3,447,010	-350,000
Total Savings Proposals	62,479,971	11,712,873	-107,950

4.2. The need to make these changes is driven by the following factors:

- Low/no change to funding levels in real terms of the last 7 years, despite rebalancing between funding sources. (This is illustrated in the ‘Sources of Funding’ chart.)
- Increased population, particularly amongst older adults
- Increasing demand for services such as
 - o children needing support or protection, and
 - o adults with learning difficulties or autism;
 - o older adults who often have care needs more complex than in the pre-COVID period
 - o demand for Temporary Accommodation and housing support
 - o cost of living support
 - o the challenge of delivering services across a large rural area with a sparse population

4.3. This means that the demand for services remains unaligned to, but now significantly outstrips, the resources available to the council within the current operating model. The proposals are therefore to reduce the overall size and scope of the council, and to secure efficiency and transformational improvements to continue to provide services to the greatest extent possible within the available resources.



4.4. The local government financial settlement for 2024/25 includes increased funding of 7.5%, as illustrated in the table below. However, of this, it is assumed that 5% comes via Council Tax increases and 1% from the increase in the council taxbase. The social care grant was increased between the provisional and the final settlement, in response to concerns over the level of social care funding.

Core Spending Power by component (£m)	2023/24	2024/25
Revenue Support Grant	2,729	3,024
Baseline Funding Levels	12,943	13,538
Under indexation	2,205	2,581
Council tax	33,984	36,071
Improved Better Care Fund	2,140	2,140
Social Care Grant	3,852	5,044
Discharge Fund	300	500
Market Sustainability Improvement Fund	562	1,050
New Homes Bonus	291	291
Rural Services Delivery Grant	95	110
Rolled in grants	480	-
Funding Guarantee	133	269
Services Grant	483	87
TOTAL	60,197	64,705

4.5. The local impact of the settlement is set out in detail in the attached MTFs, and summarised in the table below. Resources and expenditure include spending reduction plans, which are presented in more detail in the MTFs itself. The table shows that even after the planned spending reductions in 2024/25, there will remain gaps between estimated income and expenditure in all later years.

Funding Gap	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £	2028/29 £
Resources (incl savings plans)	709,472,377	701,440,571	713,053,136	724,701,655	736,702,628
Expenditure (incl savings plans)	761,650,104	767,618,070	792,499,140	814,767,190	836,743,019
Gap in year	52,177,726	66,177,499	79,446,004	90,065,535	100,040,391
One off Grants & Reserves:					
Improved Better Care Funding	-9,896,143	-10,618,624	-10,996,201	-11,385,105	-11,785,676
New Homes Bonus - One Off	-59,790	0	0		
Rural Services Delivery grant	-7,757,314	-7,757,314	-7,757,314	-7,757,314	-7,757,314
Social Care Grant - One Off	-28,009,870	-28,850,166	-29,715,671	-30,607,141	-31,525,355
Market Sustainability and Fair Cost Fund	-6,097,977	0	0	0	0
Services Grant	-356,632	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ONE OFF FUNDING	-52,177,726	-47,226,104	-48,469,186	-49,749,560	-51,068,345
Remaining Gap/(Surplus) to be Funded	0	18,951,395	30,976,818	40,315,976	48,972,046
Increase in Funding Gap per Year	0	18,951,395	12,025,423	9,339,157	8,656,071

4.6. The programme of work with our delivery partner PwC, as previously agreed by Council, continues and is defined in terms of specific project proposals within an overall agreement. The specifics of the overall programme are being aligned to the 2024/25 budget proposals set out in this report, so the programme is not yet fully defined. PwC continue to provide additional technical and project delivery capacity, expertise across the local government sector, and experience of similar

engagements elsewhere all of which helps the Council to secure a way through the coming challenges.

4.7. In outline, a programme of work is emerging which may lead to further contract costs with our delivery partner PwC. Against this, cashable benefits would be required to exceed this value. Such work would form part of the routine reporting to Cabinet on the financial performance of the authority. The proposed framework for this is described below and in Appendix 1 (section 4).

- All engagement with PwC is initially discussed and agreed between the Executive Management Team and Cabinet.
- The cost of any specific engagement with PwC is capped below the value of the direct and recurring financial benefit delivered within 12 months of engagement (for example, a proposal to deliver £1m saving every year, so £20m over 20 years, will be capped at investment of less than £1m in year 1)
- Given the scale of the savings plan for 2024/25 (i.e. £62m) the overall level of investment with PwC will be further capped to a proportion of the £62m target. It is proposed that this cap is set at 10% of the benefit (therefore capped at £6.2m) to balance flexibility and control.

4.8. To maximise the pace of delivery and to support the delivery of a balanced budget position in 2024/25, a formal delegation is recommended to be made such that the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holder – Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities can engage PwC on specific programmes of work within the framework set out above.

Reserves

4.9. For several years across the COVID period and thereafter it was possible to secure Council services in the face of increasing demand through the use and application of the additional resources provided by government during the pandemic. Those sources of funding have now ceased, but several factors attributable to the pandemic continue to affect the care needs of both older adults and families & children.

4.10. Initially, the Council has taken the approach of continuing to support service delivery using reserves, which has enabled a range of improvements in efficiency. This can be achieved in several ways but always entails a risk – that one-off resources are applied to ongoing operational pressures.

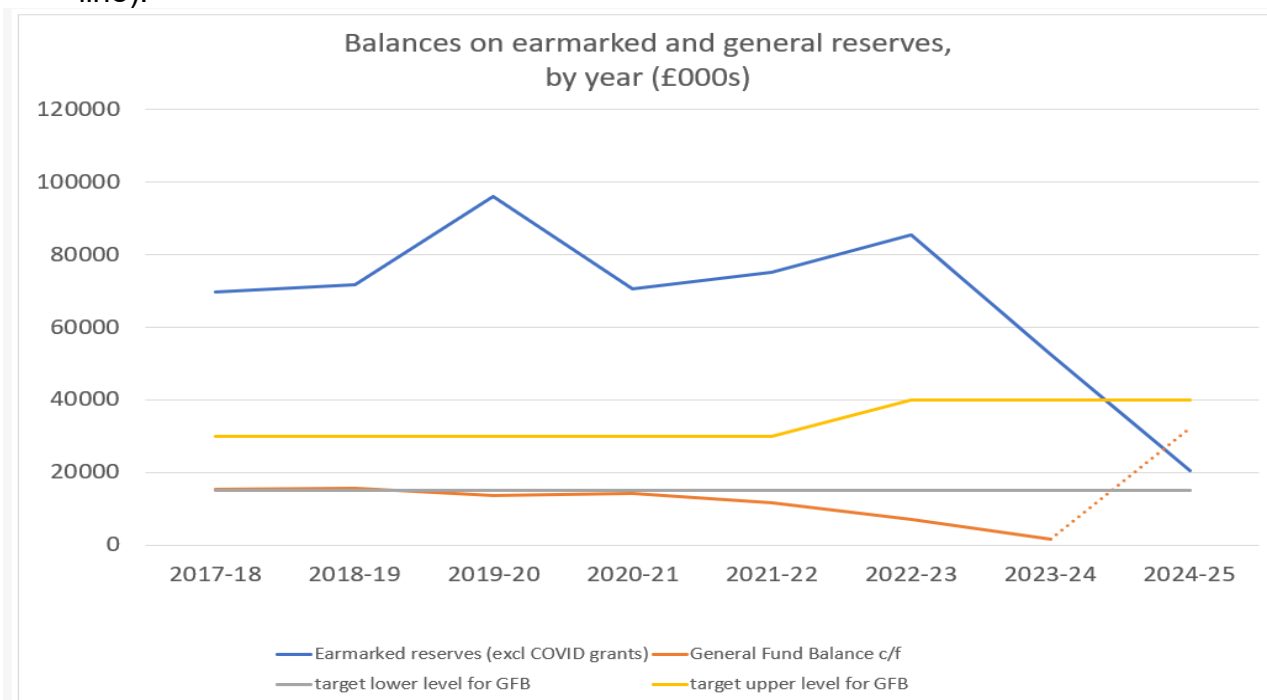
4.11. Despite the significant progress made in repositioning budgets during 2023/24, and the delivery of an unprecedented level of savings (£41m) within the year it remains necessary, in the face of ongoing demand pressures, to require that services continue to seek greater levels of efficiency, but also now go further and reduce services in a number of areas (set out in more detail in section 11 of the MTFs (attached appendix 1).

4.12. This is made more urgent as the level of overall reserves has been reduced at an accelerating pace, and so the spending reductions in 2024/25 must both reduce service delivery to more sustainable levels of cost, but at the same time set aside funds to replenish reserves. This has been planned for within successive MTFs reports approved by Council.

4.13. The level of reserves is a key indicator of the overall financial health of the Council. The level of reserves in recent years is shown in the chart below. It shows that:

- Earmarked reserves (which also include an average of £8m-£10m of balances held by Schools under delegation) have fallen from around £80m to the current position of £20m in 2024/25.
- Unearmarked reserves (the General Fund Balance (GFB) should be retained above a lower level of c£15m, and up to an upper level c£40m (in the earlier part of the period, generally higher balances meant that this could be held at a lower level)
- Currently, it is anticipated that the GFB could fall below £5m at 31 March 2024. The attached MTFs proposals include budgeted contributions which will take the overall balance to at least £32m from 1 April 2024. This is closer to target levels. Assessed risks are set out in the attached MTFs as £47m gross, summarised as below. Provision at £30m is based on the probability of risks materialising as being 60%. (Ideally, provision would therefore be at c £47m.)
 - o Under delivery of spending reductions – risk @ £22m
 - o Interventions by regulators – risk @ 3 x £5m or £15m
 - o Other base budget pressures – risk @ £10m
- Provision for the potential costs of staff redundancies, which can be significant, is intended to be met from capital receipts (which are permitted to be used for this purpose) and are therefore excluded from the calculation of risk for the general fund balance.

4.14. The chart below shows the planned contribution to reserves in 2024/25 (dotted line).



5. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

5.1. The finances of the Council are complex and volatile. To manage financial risk requires a consistent and robust approach from Members, partners and officers

alike. The MTFS identifies and manages a range of risks as set out in the attached appendix.

5.2. Cabinet should be aware that the attached MTFS and budget report include some measures which are already covered within delegations to officers and as such can be implemented without further member or public involvement, reducing risks associated with deployment. Other proposals require policy decisions and so, in the proper manner, will be brought back to Members in the appropriate forum for decision, and may also require public consultation and/or relevant impact assessments. Appropriate advice will be sought in the implementation of both efficiency and policy measures to ensure that the requirements of the constitution are complied with.

5.3. Risk table

<i>Risk</i>	<i>Mitigation</i>
Spending reduction plans are not implemented sufficiently quickly to ensure a balanced budget position is held through the year	Spending reduction plans to be in place in all key areas ahead of 1 April 2024. Engagement of delivery partner PwC to provide capacity and capability in delivery. Monthly monitoring to ensure that all budget pressures (i.e. delivery of savings, anticipated pressures and any overspend at all) are flagged and managed, either locally or corporately. Increased visibility of pay and 3 rd party spending, with peer check and challenge and accountability to Members.
Unanticipated pressures outside budget assumptions emerge	Section 25 Assurance around robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves. Retention, and where possible increase, of the uncommitted General Fund Balance as a 'fund of last resort'. Application of any reserves only if all other solutions have been exhausted.
Adequacy of capital receipts to fund redundancy and restructuring costs	Planning in place by 1 April to ensure sufficient pipeline of capital receipts to be secured (£30m-£40m); overprogramming of capital receipts pipeline to mitigate delays in delivery.
Inconsistencies in planning arising from a condensed planning period (Jan-Feb, not Sept-Dec).	Overprogramming; enhanced spending visibility; wider ownership of spending reduction proposals, engagement of PwC to support governance processes.

6. Financial Implications

6.1. The MTFS sets out the financial implications for the local authority over the medium term. These include:

- a) Spending reductions of £56m (recurrent) and demand mitigations of £6m (ongoing)
- b) Financial implications of resizing the organisation, where this involves staff severance packages in line with Council policy, will need funding to be accounted for within delivery programmes.

- c) Where funding reductions and/or resizing of the workforce will impact on service delivery and performance measures and engagement of the delivery partner
- d) An assessment of the adequacy of reserves based on a risk assessment of the local authority's wider financial envelope, delivery plan and in-year monitoring.
- e) Capital expenditure on the approved programme of £385m (incl HRA – appendix 2 of the MTFs, table 6.1)
- f) Proposed capital expenditure on the priority capital schemes outside the approved programme is estimated as a further £239m, although those figures can only be estimates at this time (appendix 2 of the MTFs, table 8.1). Values for the NWRR are not yet clear, and will not be until the application proceeds to full Dept for Transport business case. However, it is possible to estimate costs under different scenarios, and these are included in MTFs appendix 2 section 8.

7. Climate Change Appraisal

- 7.1. Climate action and carbon reduction are integral to all aspects of the Shropshire Plan:

Healthy People – Extreme weather associated with the climate crisis can adversely affect vulnerable residents and service users disproportionately. This could drive significant future growth in the demand for social care services as well as impacting on the physical and mental health and wellbeing of staff.

Healthy Economy – The recent energy crisis illustrates potential impacts on the Shropshire economy from the climate crisis. There are, however, significant opportunities for growth and skilled employment in new technologies, renewable energy and the rural economy.

Healthy Environment – The climate crisis has very serious implications for biodiversity and food production. As a large rural area, however, Shropshire is also in an excellent position to take positive action to help mitigate these effects.

Healthy Organisation – Extreme weather associated with the climate crisis could disrupt delivery of Council services through damage to physical infrastructure such as roads and power infrastructure, and through impacts on staff health and wellbeing. Demand for services and service delivery costs such as highway maintenance are likely to increase.

- 7.2. In taking the steps towards financial sustainability to enable delivery of The Shropshire Plan within a reduced financial envelope, it is important that decisions consider information about future costs and risks, where possible, through an approach which explicitly considers lifetime carbon impacts and future climate vulnerability. The future costs of addressing climate change impacts are expected to exceed that of the investment needed to reduce carbon emissions and improve climate resilience, but this may not be affordable within the immediate financial envelope without external investment.
- 7.3. Some of the proposed service changes to deliver financial sustainability may also reduce carbon emissions and improve climate resilience. Moving towards a zero-carbon supply chain has the potential to reduce costs, other studies suggesting this could be in the region of 5%. Similarly, many carbon reduction and climate resilience projects and measures also have the potential to generate revenue savings and generate 'green' economic growth in the Shropshire economy.

8. Background

- 8.1. As shown by the extensive media attention in recent months, Local Government is facing ongoing and growing financial challenges. Several Councils have either issued a s114 report or warned that they might have to do so soon. The costs of delivering adult social care have risen due to inflation and more complex cases; the costs of children's social care have increased as the care market has become more expensive; the costs of Home to School Transport have gone up; and the costs of meeting housing needs, especially for homelessness and temporary accommodation, have also grown across the country.
- 8.2. Shropshire Council is also affected by these pressures. As shown in the current financial year, Shropshire is experiencing an overspend that cannot be fully mitigated. This overspend is mainly caused by the cost pressure mentioned above, similar to the national cost pressures on all upper-tier Councils. The difference for Shropshire is that the Council has much lower reserves than other comparable Councils. The overspend will reduce the general fund level below the minimum level set and the main goal for the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2023/24. Difficult and unpalatable decisions will need to be taken to achieve financial resilience in the medium term for the Council, to prevent a s114 notice from being issued and to ensure that there are enough levels of general fund reserves to allow more financial sustainability to deliver The Shropshire Plan.
- 8.3. In this context, the MTFS sets out the financial challenges and opportunities for Shropshire Council over the next four years. It identifies the key drivers of expenditure and income, the funding gaps and pressures, the strategic priorities and objectives, and the proposed actions and solutions to achieve a balanced budget and a sustainable financial position. The MTFS also considers the risks and uncertainties that may affect the Council's financial planning and performance, such as the underlying financial implications of residual macro changes such as Covid-19, Brexit, climate change, and legislative changes. The MTFS is based on a set of assumptions and projections that are regularly reviewed and updated to reflect the changing environment and circumstances. The MTFS is not a fixed document, but a dynamic and flexible tool that enables the Council to monitor, review, and adjust its financial plans in response to internal and external factors.
- 8.4. The MTFS is informed by the wider local government picture, which reflects the sufficiency of funding available to councils across the country. The final local government settlement, incorporating the recent announcement of £600m additional funding for local government have both been considered and make little difference to the plans set out in December, which themselves have continued to evolve. Due to the underlying pressures in demand across social care, inflation and wider implications of the cost of living crisis, the council's financial position has worsened, and these announcements have done nothing to reverse this. As a result, the Council's financial outlook for 2024/25 is bleak and difficult decisions need to be taken to ensure the council remains within an incredibly tight financial envelope. No element of service delivery will remain untouched as a complete remodelling of the interventions the Council can afford to make is undertaken to ensure, as far as possible, the priorities and strategic objectives as set out in the Shropshire Plan are delivered to the greatest extent possible.

9. Additional Information

9.1. The attached MTFS includes details on:-

- a) Public budget consultation results
- b) The 'S25 declaration' made by the CFO relating to the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the reserves
- c) Outcomes of the 2024/25 alternative budget process (submission of alternative budgets by the opposition groups)
- d) Delivery of spending reductions and associated risk management

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

[Financial Strategy 2024/25 - 2028/29 - Cabinet, 18th October 2023](#)

[Financial Strategy 2024/25 - 2028/29 - Cabinet, 13 December 2023](#)

Local Member: All

Appendices

Appendix 1: Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/25 – 2028/29

Appendix 2: Capital Strategy 2023/24 – 2028/29

Appendix 3: Draft Revenue and Capital Budget 2024/25 (Budget Book)

Appendix 4: Council Tax Resolution 2024/25

Appendix 5: Pay Reward Policy 2024/25

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MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2024/25 – 2028/29

February 2024



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1. Foreword and Introduction



Foreword

The business of local government has seldom been more challenging.

We exist as an organisation to deliver needed and valued services to our local residents. Our annual budget sets out how we intend to achieve that, putting financial values to our operational plans. The budget sometimes feels very ‘inward’ looking – but that is not the case: our budget is firmly focussed on service delivery – how we can deliver the best possible services and outcomes for our residents. That we open this process out transparently to public scrutiny is therefore right and proper – we never forystatorget our core purpose, which is to meet the needs of local people.

As an organisation, this Council has delivered a level of spending reductions through 2023/24 which is entirely unprecedented - £41m at the time of writing. An extraordinary achievement, and testament to a great deal of hard work by all concerned.

We had believed that this work would put us on a stable financial footing. However, the challenges of increasing inflation and rising demand for social care (common to all councils) have prevented us achieving that in full, something we have consistently and unambiguously reported through the year.

It would be a surprise if we brought forward a budget and MTFs which focused on investment, expansion, and growth – we simply do not have the resources available to do that. Our focus is instead on remaining true to our plans and on ensuring we continue to meet residents’ needs in the best way we can. In doing so, we continue to be guided by the vision set out 2 years ago in The Shropshire Plan. We are committed to providing the best possible services for residents and visitors within the resources made available to us by Government. We are clear in our conviction that local government officers guided by the policy decisions of local councillors provide the best way to identify and meet local needs.

The budget for 2024/25 includes many unpalatable actions – many proposals we do not want to implement, but which we must do if we are to avoid a financial crisis. This council will endure, and we will position ourselves – councillors and officers alike - to secure the best future for our residents that we possibly can, a future characterised by being efficient, sustainable, and modern in all our operations. Despite the challenges we face, we are proud to bring forward a budget which plans for that better future.

We extend our deep gratitude to councillors and staff who continue to work hard for the benefit of local residents, and who have worked together to prepare this financial strategy.



Lezley Picton
Leader of the Council



Andy Begley
Chief Executive

Introduction

This financial strategy ensures that the Council's finances are aligned to the delivery of the objectives of The Shropshire Plan through the coming years and presents a clear route which – if followed carefully – will secure a much-improved financial position in future years. Our first priority is to focus on the strategic objective to 'Align our Resources' and to do this we must deliver a balanced budget, the foundation for a healthy organisation.

Management of local government has never been more challenging than it is at present.

Councillors and officers have worked intensively to prepare a budget which, while unpalatable, is deliverable. Our thanks to them all.

We have stretched financial management to its limits to protect frontline services for residents. Funding for local government as a whole has been increased by 7.5% into 2024/25 (including 6% of council tax increases). However, the significant headwinds we are experiencing from inflation and demand for social care continue to challenge the capacity and resource of the council. We will continue to prioritise transformation, operational efficiency, and meeting needs at the earlier opportunity (demand management). We must also plan to reduce supply chain spending (and our carbon footprint within this) and our overall staffing levels if we are to be confident in being able to deliver a balanced budget.

In common with all other councils, we have a legal duty to deliver 'best value'. This means that we must take every opportunity to secure value for taxpayer money – reducing costs, improving operational efficiency, and delivering the best outcomes that we can. This MTF5 sets out how we plan to secure best value at the same time as supporting the delivery of all other powers and duties placed upon local government.



Gwilym Butler
Cabinet Member for Finance,
Corporate Resources &
Communities



James Walton
Executive Director of Resources,
S151 Officer

2. Outlook for the Council



2.1 Context – The Shropshire Plan

On 12th May 2022, the Council approved the Shropshire Plan which sets out its vision and key priorities for the coming years. This document has shaped where the Council prioritises its activities and remove or reduce work where this does not directly support the objectives of the plan. This Financial Strategy is fully aligned to The Shropshire Plan to ensure that the Council resources are deployed to only those areas of priority. The Plan remains under review to ensure its ongoing relevance, but the Plan objectives remain unchanged since 2022, albeit the current financial pressures may mean that some objectives can no longer be achieved as rapidly as had been hoped.

The Shropshire Plan (see link here: [The Shropshire Plan 2022-2025 | Shropshire Council](#)) is informed by the following key objectives which sit at the heart of everything the Council does:

- Healthy people,
- Healthy economy,
- Healthy environment, and a
- Healthy organisation.

Figure 1: Priorities within the Shropshire Plan



Alongside the Shropshire Plan, the Workforce Strategy sets out the key values of 'Getting It Right' (GiR) which is our overarching approach for the long term future of Shropshire.

The Workforce Strategy also contains a leadership programme for the 10% of staff who are central to the leadership and performance of the whole Council. This leadership programme is called 'Getting Leadership Right' (GLR). Over 200 staff took part in the first phase of GLR, including the Chief Executive, the Executive Directors, and the Assistant Directors. A further 100 staff are engaged on the second phase.

Many participants have already spoken positively of their experiences of this programme, which is important – the values of GiR and the learning from GLR will be vital in being able to secure the MTFs objectives: They will enable significant service transformation and cultural change across the Council. And the programme itself is delivered by an external specialist company (able to provide independent challenge and support), themselves proud to be based in Shropshire and to be working with the Council.



Figure 2: Getting It Right – core values agreed by staff

2.2 Financial Outlook – National and Local

The financial outlook for the Council is exceptionally challenged. Many Councillors and Officers have commented that the current challenges are the most severe in living memory. In this context, it is more, not less, important to have a clear plan and a clear outlook for the Council's finances. This will ensure clear alignment of resources to objectives and help plan activity across the coming years.

The challenges faced by the Council, in common with other councils, focus on the financial pressures arising from inflation (both pay and price) and demand for social care support (including, but not limited to, older and working age adults, children and younger adults, those in need of housing support and temporary accommodation).

The fundamental challenge is that the level of funding available is determined by Government and is lower than is likely to be required to maintain services in 2024/25 at the same level as they were provided in 2023/24. This position has been evidenced in detailed modelling by the Local Government Association, and recently submitted to the Levelling up, Homes and Communities Select Committee, who published a report on 'Financial distress in Local Authorities' on 1 February 2024.¹

2.2.1 Settlement 2024/25

The financial settlement for local government as a whole was confirmed in early February 2024, ahead of the 2024/25 financial year. This is summarised below. This shows a £4.5bn or 7.5% overall increase in the funds available to local government from 2023/24 to 2024/25.

Of this, there is a 6.1% increase in the anticipated level of Council Tax receipts available to councils (so, Government is expecting that local councillors all agree to the maximum permitted increase in council tax, including a 2.99% maximum increase in the basic rate and a 2% increase on the amount for the Social Care Precept, with the addition of an estimated 1.1% increase in the council tax base across England). Council Tax receipts will therefore rise from £34bn to £36bn.

The increase in the remaining funding, provided through Government, is from £26.2bn in 2023/24 to £28.6bn in 2024/25. The amount available from Government was increased by £0.6bn between the provisional settlement (published in December) and the final settlement (published in February). This funding related to social care and is included in the table below as part of the social care grant. The summary table shows that the local to national share of local government funding has remained consistent from 2023/24 to 2024/25, with 56% of local government funding coming from local Council Tax and 44% coming through Government grants (including the mechanisms around the Settlement Funding Assessment, which contain amounts for retained Business rates, the top-up/tariff provisions, and therefore baseline funding).

The increase in funding from 2023/24 to 2024/25 was set out in the provisional settlement as £2bn from Council Tax increases (local funding) and £1.8bn from

¹ [Financial distress in local authorities \(parliament.uk\)](https://www.parliament.uk/publications/2024/01/financial-distress-in-local-authorities/)

Government funding. The level of government funding was increased at the final settlement by the £0.6bn of social care funding mentioned above.

£m	2023/24	local/ national share	2024/25	local/ national share	% change	growth
Total	60,197	100%	64,705	100%	7.5%	4,508
Council Tax funding	33,984	56%	36,071	56%	6.1%	2,087
Other	26,213	44%	28,034	44%	6.9%	1,821
Social care additional			600		NA	600

Figure 3 - national funding for local government (source: DLUHC)

Core Spending Power by component (£m)	2023/24	2024/25
Revenue Support Grant	2,729	3,024
Baseline Funding Levels	12,943	13,538
Under indexation	2,205	2,581
Council tax	33,984	36,071
Improved Better Care Fund	2,140	2,140
Social Care Grant	3,852	5,044
Discharge Fund	300	500
Market Sustainability Improvement Fund	562	1,050
New Homes Bonus	291	291
Rural Services Delivery Grant	95	110
Rolled in grants	480	-
Funding Guarantee	133	269
Services Grant	483	87
TOTAL	60,197	64,705

Figure 4 - confirmed overall settlement for local government in 2024/25 (source: DLUHC)

Additionally, DLUHC has set out an expectation that local government will provide 'Productivity Plans' by July 2024. These should be published on the Council website, and include statements and evidence on how the Council is maximising its productivity. This will include, but is not limited to:

- Service transformation
- Use of technology and data to support better service design and delivery
- Reducing 'wasteful' spend²

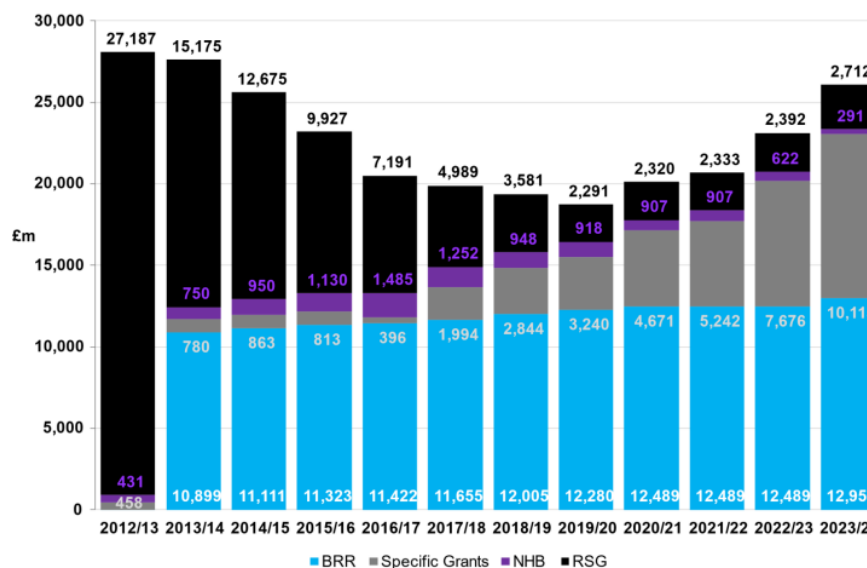
² DLUHC indicate that this might include use of consultants, and staff Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity training programmes. It does not include work on integration and civic pride, and counter extremism.

In Shropshire, the budget proposals set out in this report and elsewhere in the budget papers include extensive references to transformation activity (which will maximise the ability of the Council to deliver necessary services for local residents), increased use of technology and data to inform service planning, and enhanced visibility for supply chain and third party spending enabling a greater level of ‘check and challenge’ around planned spending.

2.2.2 Local Government Funding since 2012

For Local Government the last decade has seen a major change in how it is funded. Cuts to central government funding has resulted in local government as a sector, reducing spend in local public services by 17% (or 23% per person). The sector has become increasingly reliant on local taxes for revenue, as national policy on local government funding has sought to localise funding sources around council tax and business rates revenue, and to reduce the level of support provided through government grants (and the challenges around redistribution these present). Council tax now makes up over half of the Core Spending Power of local authorities compared to just over a third in 2009/10.

Funding 2012/13 to 2023/24



- Funding reduced from £28.1bn in 2012/13 to £18.7bn in 2019/20, a 33% cut.
- Rises since 2019/20, the largest 2022/23 to 2023/24 of £2.9bn reduces overall cut to 7%.

8

Figure 5 - Local Government Funding (cash terms) since 2012 - source: Local Government Futures, 2023.

In terms of expenditure, local government spends an increasing percentage of all service budgets on social care, and proportions available for other service budgets such as transport, cultural and leisure services and planning have reduced. This had led to an increased reliance on charges for services (fees and charges³) to support aspects of ‘place-based’ services, as well as some areas of social care.

As in previous years, this funding has been allocated on a ‘one-off’ basis – indeed, this is now the sixth successive settlement which has been primarily for one year only and largely

³ See also the fees and charges proposals for 2023/24.

'rolled-over' many of the funding streams from one year to the next. The local government sector as a whole continues to lobby government for greater forward-intelligence into likely funding levels, to ensure that we can provide better stability and value for money in our services.

Along with a trend towards 'rolling-over' funding lines, more detailed review and revision of funding distribution (promised previously as part of the 'Fair Funding Review', later the 'needs and resources' review) has been pushed into the future. This is not now anticipated to begin within the current parliament. The latest announcements have indicated that, from 2025, the government will begin a review of the process of allocating funds (rather than funding sufficiency).

2.2.3 Balance of funding

Figure 6 below demonstrates that the proportion of national funding within the Core Spending Power has decreased from 51% to 44% over a nine year period with increased reliance now on local authorities to raise funding locally instead by raising council tax. However this also shows that since 2022/23 the Government is starting to increase the proportion of national funding provided.

The detailed analysis of funding within Core Spending Power is detailed in Figure 7 below which shows that the Revenue Support Grant has reduced significantly. It also demonstrates the introduction of social care funding by the government over the last seven years to its greatest level in 2023/24, but this in no way compensates for the loss in Revenue Support Grant that has been experienced alongside increased demand for these services over the six year period. Instead local authorities have increased council tax in an attempt to bridge the funding gap.

Figure 6: Balance of Funding – National Picture

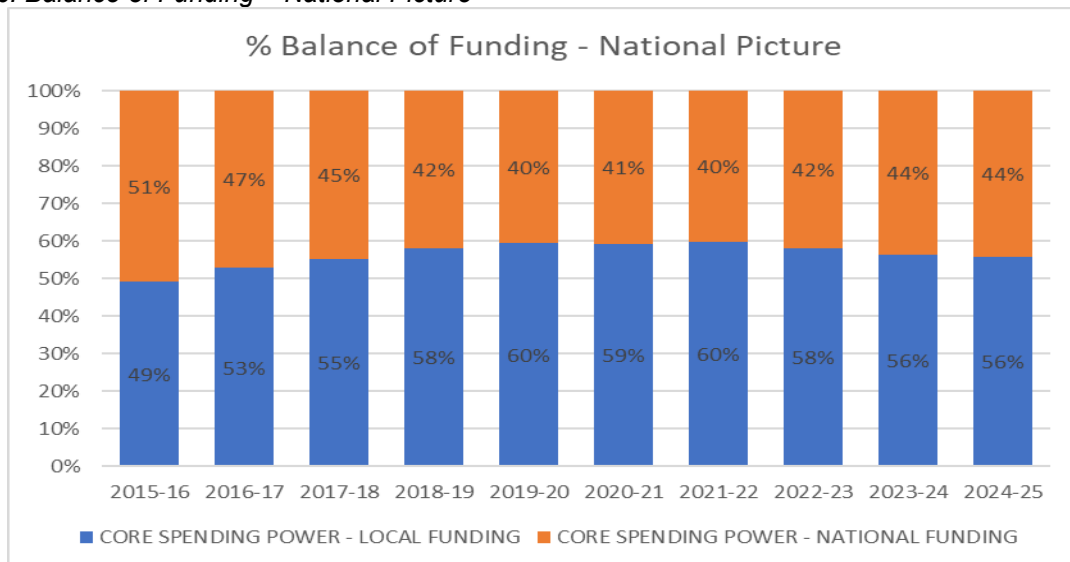
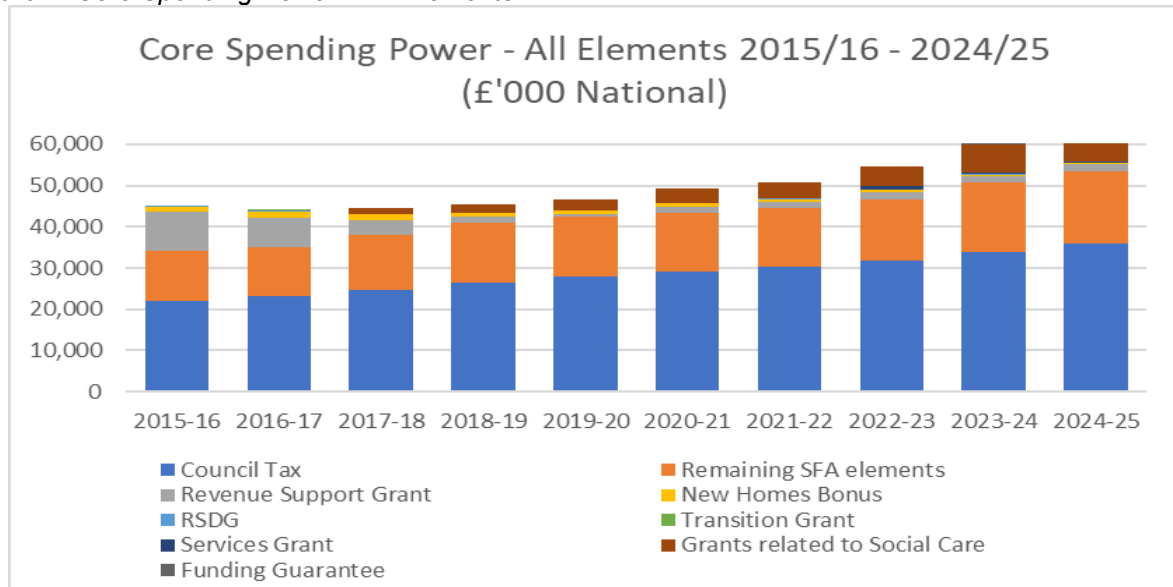


Figure 7: Core Spending Power – All Elements

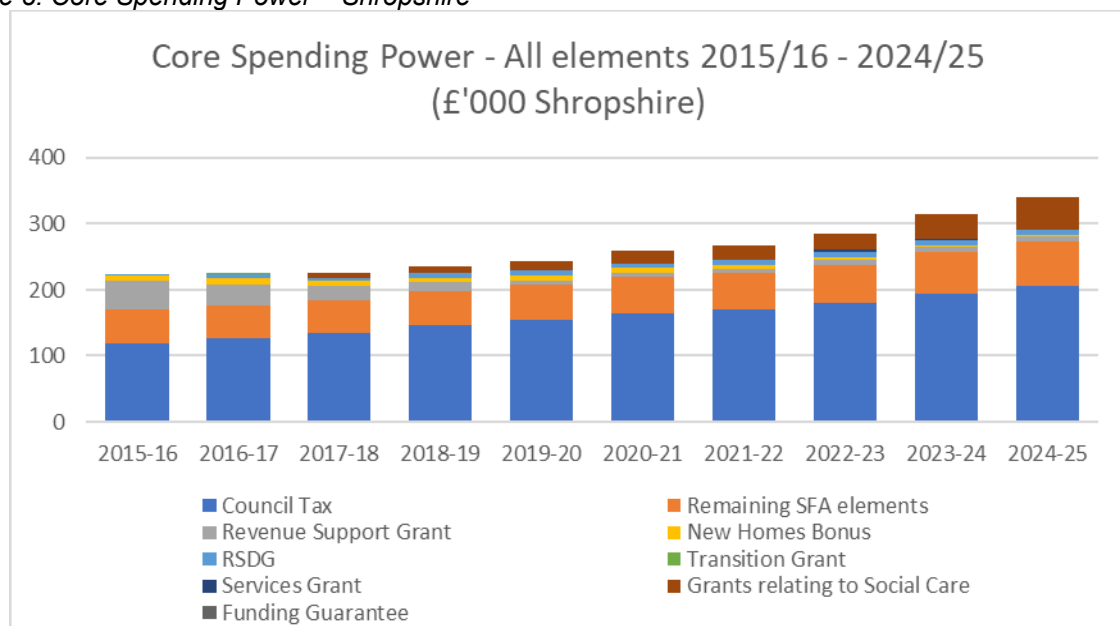


2.2.4 Local Context

Over the last nine years, Shropshire Council's core spending power has changed from £222.5m to £340.2m. The difference between the CSP value and the value of the net budget used by the council is primarily specific government grants, which are attributable to specific service areas.

As shown in Figure 8 below, core spending power has increased marginally by an average of just over 6% per year over the nine year period and the constitution of the funding for the Council has altered significantly over this period. Revenue Support Grant has reduced by 82% over the nine year period and removed £35.8m from the Council's resources. The Government has instead started to introduce specific Social Care Grants, to assist with the increased demand for these services, however the Council has also had to raise council tax to the maximum level over this period to help fund these increases.

Figure 8: Core Spending Power – Shropshire



As the graphs below demonstrate, Shropshire Council has had to increase the proportion of local funding compared to national funding provided by the government which has consistently decreased. In comparison with the national picture, the figures demonstrate that Shropshire has always had a lower proportion of national funding to the overall national average, and as a result, in 2024/25 we are still having to place a greater reliance on generating resources locally than the national average. We are currently supporting more people aged 65 and over which accounts for one of the drivers for demand in adult social care, in particular relating to Dementia. However, due to the complexity of needs within the 18 – 64 group they account for half of the spend in Adult Social Care.

Shropshire Council has always had a greater proportion of older people than the national average, but as shown in Figure 9 below, whilst the proportion of people over 65 is steadily increasing nationally, the increase in Shropshire is increasing by a larger proportion. This continually builds additional pressure into the budget although in order to try to address this demographic pressure the Council are taking a number of preventative measures to try to reduce demand for longer term care.

In recent years, the Council has experienced growth pressure both in Adult Social Care costs and Children’s Social Care too, which is again a common picture being experienced by upper tier local authorities. Since 2017/18, the proportion of social care budgets has increased from 58% to 74% of the Council’s net budget, an additional £76m. This also demonstrates that the budgets for other services across the Council have had to contract accordingly to enable the Council to remain within its funding envelope.

Figure 9: Balance of Funding - Shropshire

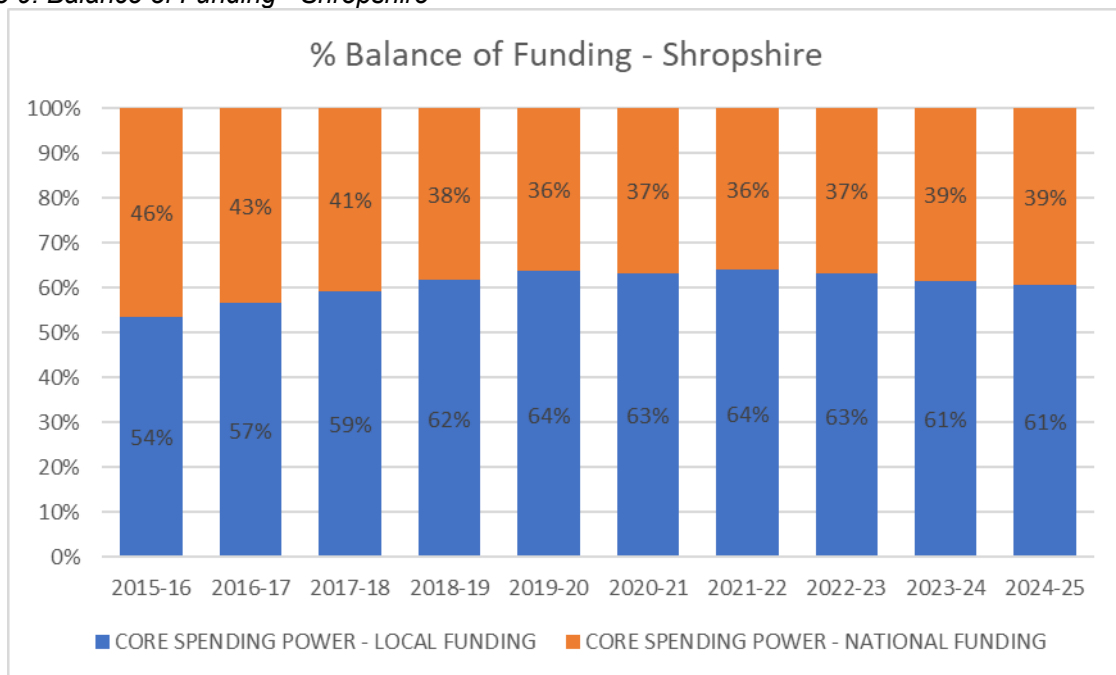


Figure 10: Comparison of Changes in Older People (Shropshire v Nationally)

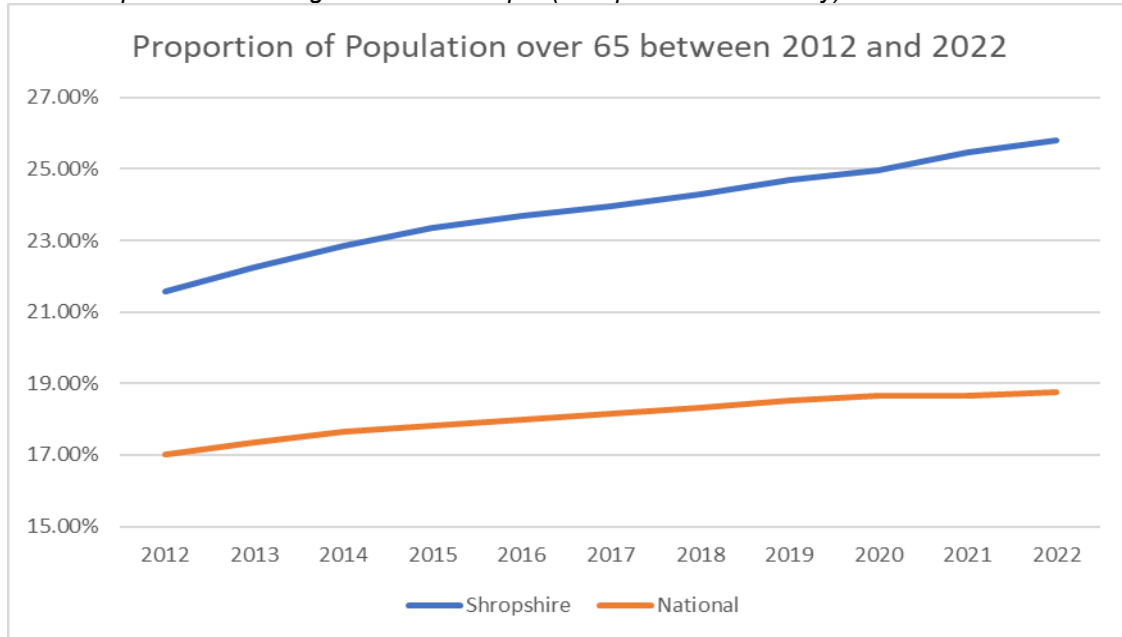
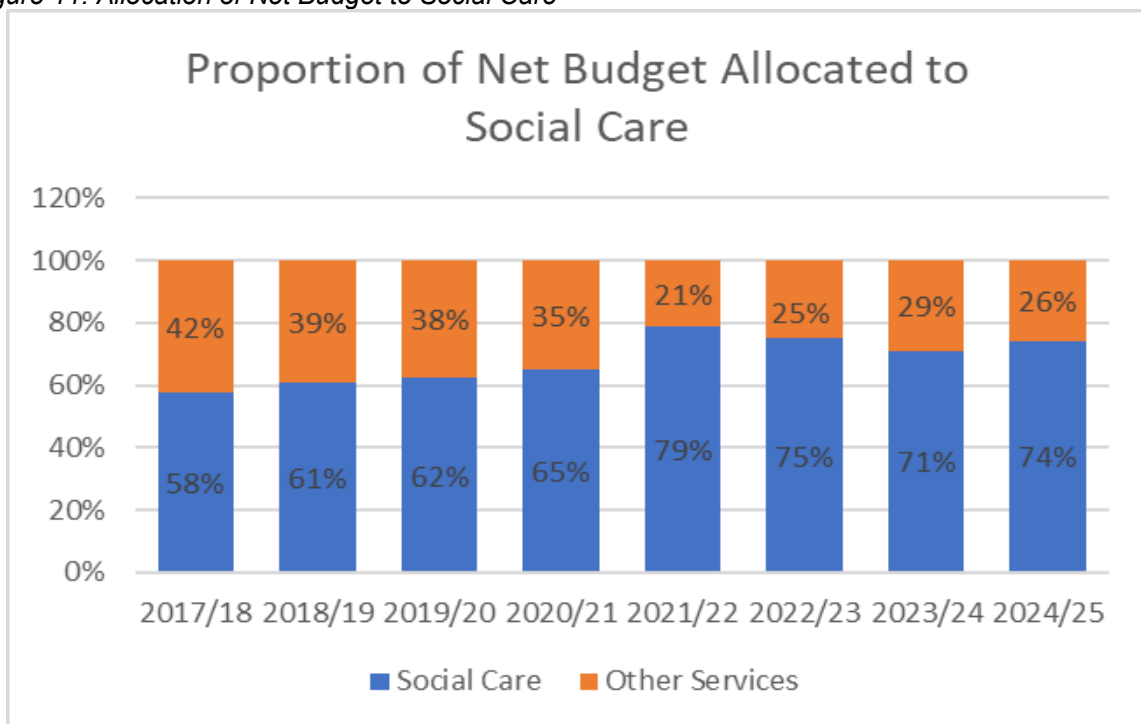


Figure 11: Allocation of Net Budget to Social Care



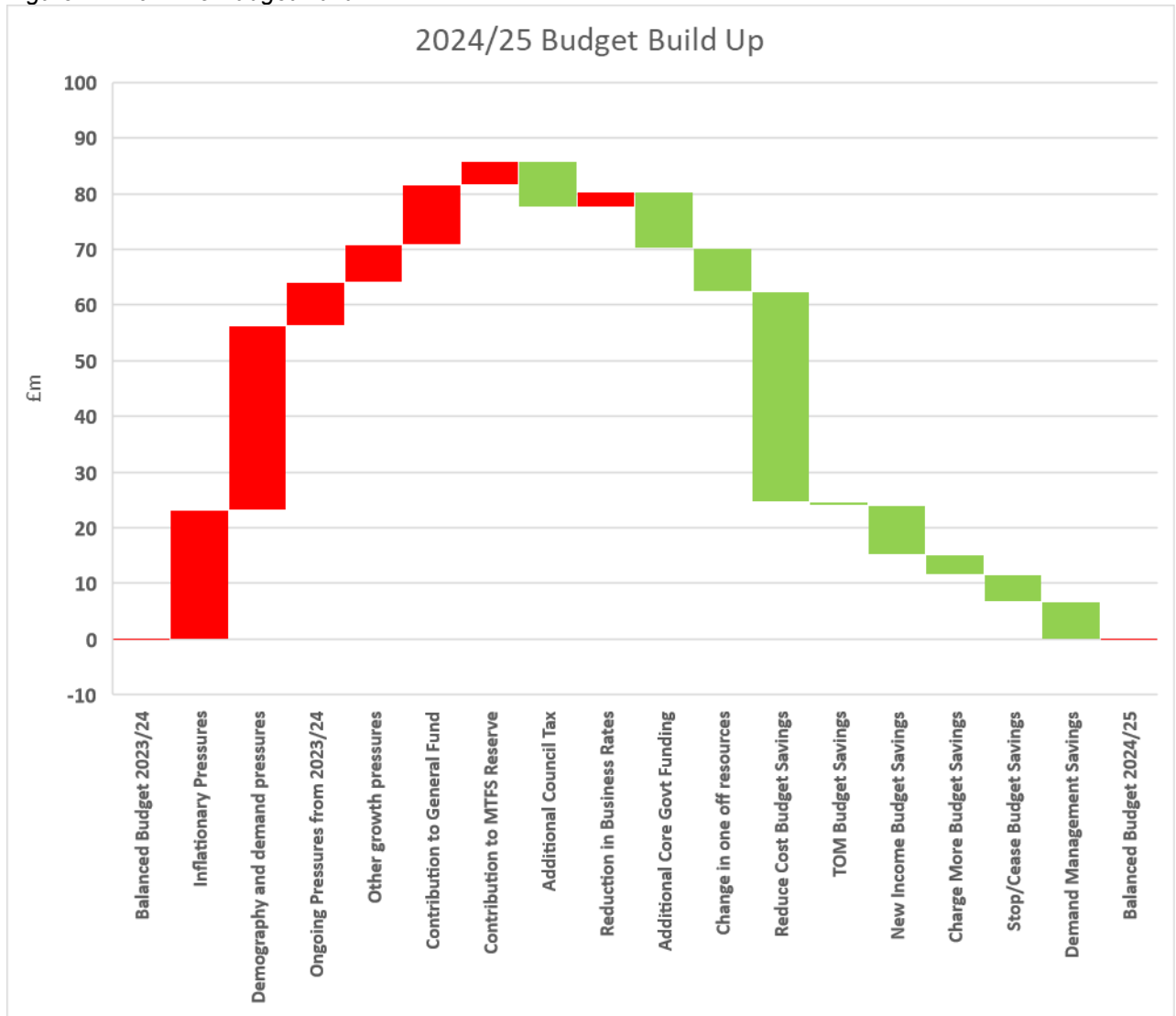
N.B. The Net Budget for 2021/22 and 2022/23 reduced due to the Collection Fund Deficit which has arisen due to reliefs given to businesses during the Coronavirus pandemic. This therefore impacted on the proportion of new budget allocated to Social Care in these years.

The pressure on costs within Social Care over the last 8 years, in addition to resulting legacy costs arising following the pandemic, has put significant pressure on the Council's budget over and above additional funding for Social Care provided by the Government. As a result, the Council has had to balance the budget using the Financial Strategy Reserve, COVID government funding, and general reserves.

2.2.5 The financial settlement for 2024/25

With the country awaiting the imminent general election, the announcements of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Autumn Statement 2023 and the Financial settlement for Local Government for 2024/25 have been clear that the increased level of funding going into next year is 7.5%, but of this 6% is expected to come from Council Tax increases (as set out above).

Figure 12: 2024/25 Budget Build



The impact of different factors on the 2024/25 budget is set out in Figure 12 above. This shows that the key pressures being experienced by the Council are attributable to the impact of inflation and the demand for social care services. Responses to mitigate those pressures are shown in the green blocks and include spending (cost) reductions in supply chain and staffing, new income sources, extending existing income sources, and demand management.

2.3 Summary Financial Position for Shropshire

The approach to planning our budget for 2024/25 has been guided by several key principles, which were set out in the December 2023 update to the MTFs. These were

- Prioritising transformation and efficiency interventions, to maximise the value for money being secured from the available resources.
- Then considering the scope to raise additional income in different service areas.
- Last, to consider how spending can be reduced both within the Council's supply chain and within its staffing base.

The resulting proposals to address the budget gap, as set out in the chart above. These combine £56m of spending reduction proposals and £13m of demand management proposals.

Figure 13: MTFs Position 2024/25 – 2028/29

Funding Gap	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £	2028/29 £
Resources (incl savings plans)	709,472,377	701,440,571	713,053,136	724,701,655	736,702,628
Expenditure (incl savings plans)	761,650,104	767,618,070	792,499,140	814,767,190	836,743,019
Gap in year	52,177,726	66,177,499	79,446,004	90,065,535	100,040,391
One off Grants & Reserves:					
Improved Better Care Funding	-9,896,143	-10,618,624	-10,996,201	-11,385,105	-11,785,676
New Homes Bonus - One Off	-59,790	0	0	0	0
Rural Services Delivery grant	-7,757,314	-7,757,314	-7,757,314	-7,757,314	-7,757,314
Social Care Grant - One Off	-28,009,870	-28,850,166	-29,715,671	-30,607,141	-31,525,355
Market Sustainability and Fair Cost Fund	-6,097,977	0	0	0	0
Services Grant	-356,632	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ONE OFF FUNDING	-52,177,726	-47,226,104	-48,469,186	-49,749,560	-51,068,345
Remaining Gap/(Surplus) to be Funded	0	18,951,395	30,976,818	40,315,976	48,972,046
Increase in Funding Gap per Year	0	18,951,395	12,025,423	9,339,157	8,656,071

3. Revenue Resources 2024/25 – 2028/29



3.1 Revenue resources

Revenue resources for local councils comprise the following items, collectively referred to as 'core spending power':

- council tax
- the 'settlement funding assessment' which includes
 - retained business rates,
 - a 'tariff' or 'top up' calculated by the relationship of the business rates receipts to a target level of overall funding⁴
 - revenue support grant
 - grants providing local compensation for the impact of national policies – for example, small business rates relief
- government grants – usually separated into 'social care' and 'other'

3.2 Council Tax

The basic rate

The council is primarily supported by council tax receipts of c£200m each year.

In December 2023, the Council approved the Council Tax Taxbase for 2024/25 which calculates the number of Band D equivalent properties to levy Council tax on. For 2024/25, the Council Tax Taxbase is 119,191 Band D equivalents which was an increase of 0.92% from the 2023/24 level.

The Council is responsible for determining the level of Council Tax to be precepted each year, however the Government does state that there are specific referendum principles that will apply to local authorities to try and deter Council's from raising Council tax levels significantly. In the Autumn Statement 2022, the Government announced an increase in the threshold levels from 2% to 3% for 2023/24 and 2024/25. If the Council was to set a Council tax level greater than the 3% threshold, they would be required to hold a referendum in their local area to determine whether the taxpayers believe the increase to be excessive.

For 2024/25 Shropshire Council is proposing a 2.99% increase to Council Tax. This generates an additional £5.8m for the Council.

The Council is a 'billing' authority, collects the Council Tax for several 'precepting authorities' as well as itself - Shropshire & Wrekin Fire Authority, West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner and for the Parish and Town Councils in Shropshire. Therefore, the Council Tax Resolution that Full Council are required to approve in February of each year will detail all of these elements in agreeing the Council Tax Band levels to be charged in each Parish or Town Council area.

The social care precept

Since 2016/17, the Government has allowed councils that provide social care to increase their share of Council tax by charging an additional adult social care precept to help fund

⁴ so, very high NDR receipts lead to a 'tariff' being levied, while a level of receipts below the target will lead to a 'top-up'; Shropshire receives a top-up

growing pressures within this essential service area. The Government stipulate that budgets for Adult Social Care must increase by at least the amount that the Adult Social Care Precept generates, allowing for levels of efficiency savings which could be expected within such service areas.

The Government stipulates as part of the Local Government Finance Settlement the percentage increase that is permitted for the Adult Social Care Precept before a referendum of the local electorate is required. For 2024/25 the Government permitted that local authorities could set an Adult Social Care precept up to a maximum of 2%. **Therefore for 2024/25 the Council is proposing a 2% total Adult Social Care Precept.**

The additional 2% Social Care Precept generates an additional £3.9m for 2024/25, and this takes the total funding generated through the Social Care Precept since its introduction in 2016/17 is £28.064m.

Collection rates and the Collection Fund

As the Council collects Council tax from taxpayers, it is required by statute to administer Council Tax within a separate account which is known as the Collection Fund. Each year the Council will pay into the Collection Fund all council tax receipts it receives from taxpayers less any discounts or exemptions that are due, and then receives the budgeted precept from the Collection Fund.

When setting the Council Tax taxbase the Council assumes a percentage collection rate for Council tax as it is not always possible to collect 100% of income for a number of reasons. For 2024/25, the MTFs has assumed a 98.5% collection rate. This is the same collection rate that was assumed in 2023/24, and is broadly in line with sector averages. Performance against this measure is actively monitored, and, if possible, the assumed rate will be increased in future years.

If the Council manages to overachieve this collection rate, or new houses are built over and above the budgeted increase in the taxbase, then the Collection Fund generates a surplus in the year. Clearly, there is an opposite effect if Council Tax is overestimated.

Each year a calculation is performed to establish what the anticipated Collection Fund surplus or deficit is and this is then distributed to the main precepting bodies in the following financial year i.e. Shropshire Council, Shropshire & Wrekin Fire Authority and West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner. The collection rate only assumes the collection of current year debts, but action can be taken by the Council to recover any uncollected debts from previous years which would deliver a surplus in the collection fund.

For 2023/24, the estimated Council Tax collection fund deficit is £1.016m and Shropshire Council's proportion of this is £0.835m. This deficit will therefore be offset against the total funding for the 2024/25 budget. This deficit comprises an in year estimated deficit of £0.322m resulting from a reduced collection rate, in addition to a deficit of £0.513m from 2022/23 Council Tax Collection Fund where the surplus generated in year was lower than originally estimated.

Council Tax – overall

The total proposed increase in Council tax is therefore 4.99% for 2024/25 (2.99% for Council Tax, 2% for Adult Social Care Precept) and this generates the following Council tax precept for a Band D:

2023/24 total at Band D	£1,639.01
Core Council Tax Increase (2.99% of 2023/24 total)	£49.01
Adult Social Care Precept (2% of 2023/24 total)	£32.78
2024/25 proposed total at Band D	£1,720.80

Figure 14: Proposed Band D council tax rate

When this Band D figure is applied to the Shropshire Council Tax taxbase, this generates anticipated council tax receipts of £205,104,165.

For future years of the MTFs, assumptions have been made that Council tax increases will reduce to 1.99% for Council Tax and 1% for Adult Social Care for 2025/26 onwards assuming that this is the maximum permitted by the Government (this is subject to the decision each year at Full Council).

3.3 Business Rates

Business rates are collected from local businesses by Shropshire Council and are distributed to the parties detailed below in the following proportions:

Shropshire Council	49%
Shropshire & Wrekin Fire Authority	1%
Central Government	50%

Figure 15: shares of business rates collected

The rateable value of business properties is established by the Valuation Office and this determines the level of business rates to be paid.

As the Council collects Business Rates from local businesses, it is required by statute to administer Business Rates within a separate account which is known as the Collection Fund. Each year the Council will pay into the Collection Fund all business rate receipts it receives from taxpayers less any valuation appeals that reduce the level of income due, and then receives the budgeted precept from the Collection Fund. The Council will again benefit in year from any new businesses coming into the county during the year and changes to rateable values that may take place and so in this situation may generate a surplus in the Collection Fund. Alternatively, if businesses leave during the year, then or we must write off more bad debts than anticipated, we may have a deficit for the year.

Each year a calculation is performed to establish what the anticipated Collection Fund surplus or deficit will be, and this is then distributed to the main precepting bodies in the following financial year i.e. Shropshire Council, Shropshire & Wrekin Fire Authority and Central Government.

For 2023/24, the estimated Business Rate collection fund deficit is £5.269m and Shropshire Council's proportion of this is £2.777m. This deficit has arisen due to an increase in the appeals provision in 2022/23 and 2023/24 for appeals raised against the 2023 rating list. This again has had to be offset against the total funding for the 2024/25 budget.

The Council also benefits from the collection of business rates from renewable energy projects such as solar and wind farms and anaerobic digesters in Shropshire. The rates collected from these are allowed to be retained fully by Shropshire Council and therefore are not distributed via the percentage listed above for standard business rates. In 2023/24 the Council is collecting £1.380m from these schemes and the estimated value for 2024/25 is £1.540m. A baseline estimate of £1m has been assumed for future years.

The Government also pays over a top up grant to the Council in respect of Business Rates. This represents the difference between the Council's business rates baseline (which is the amount that is expected to be collected through the local share of business rates) and its baseline funding level (which the government determines through its funding formulae for Local Government). The total of top up grants is neutral across the whole of the sector and some authorities must pay a tariff rather than receive a top up grant. For 2024/25 Shropshire Council is receiving a top up grant of £10.925m.

3.4 Core Grant Funding

The Government provides several Core Funding grants which form part of the Council's Local Government Funding Settlement each year. These grants make up part of the Core Spending Power calculation that the Government uses as a measure of the resources that local authorities have to fund service delivery.

In the Final Local Government Funding Settlement for 2024/25, the Government has indicated which of these grants will continue for 2024/25 to assist with financial planning. Longer term assumptions over the 5 year period of the Medium Term Financial Strategy are that these grants in quantum will continue at similar levels even if the specific grants listed below do not continue in their current format.

For 2024/25 the following core grants will be received:

Figure 16: Shropshire Council – Core Grants (2024/25)

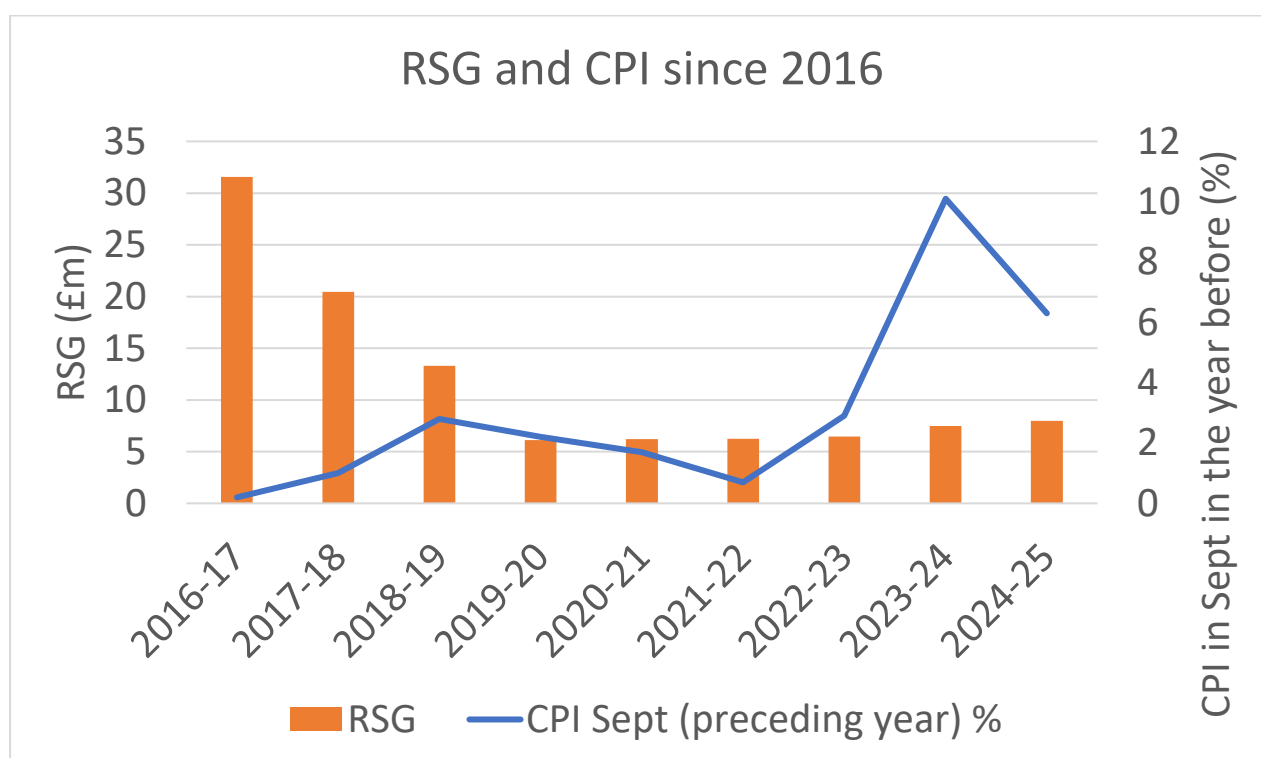
Shropshire Council - Core Grants (2024/25):	£
Revenue Support Grant	7,973,988
Improved Better Care Fund	11,863,403
New Homes Bonus	1,807,300
Rural Services Delivery Grant	8,982,153
Social Care Grant	28,009,870
Market Sustainability and Fair Cost Fund	6,097,977
Discharge Fund	2,772,051
Services Grant	356,632
TOTAL CORE FUNDING	67,863,374

Revenue Support Grant (RSG)

There has been no change in distribution for the Revenue Support Grant in 2024/25. Instead, the government has inflated the 2023/24 grant level in line with the Consumer Price Index as at September 2023.

As can be demonstrated from Figure 17 below, the level of Revenue Support grant received reduced significantly (£25.45m) between 2016/17 and 2019/20 as a result of the austerity programme, however since that period levels have been relatively stable and only inflationary increases applied. Due to the high inflation rates within the economy in 2022/23 and 2023/24, this has resulted in a larger uplift in 2023/24 and 2024/25 than in the previous 3 years.

Figure 17: Shropshire Council - Revenue Support Grant



Improved Better Care Fund (IBCF)

The Improved Better Care Fund was introduced in the 2015 Spending Review and can be spent on 3 purposes:

- Meeting adult social care needs
- Reducing pressures on the NHS, including supporting more people to be discharged from hospital when they are ready
- Ensuring that the local social care provider market is supported.

The Government announced that for 2024/25 the grant distribution would be the same as in previous years and the quantum would remain the same as in 2023/24.

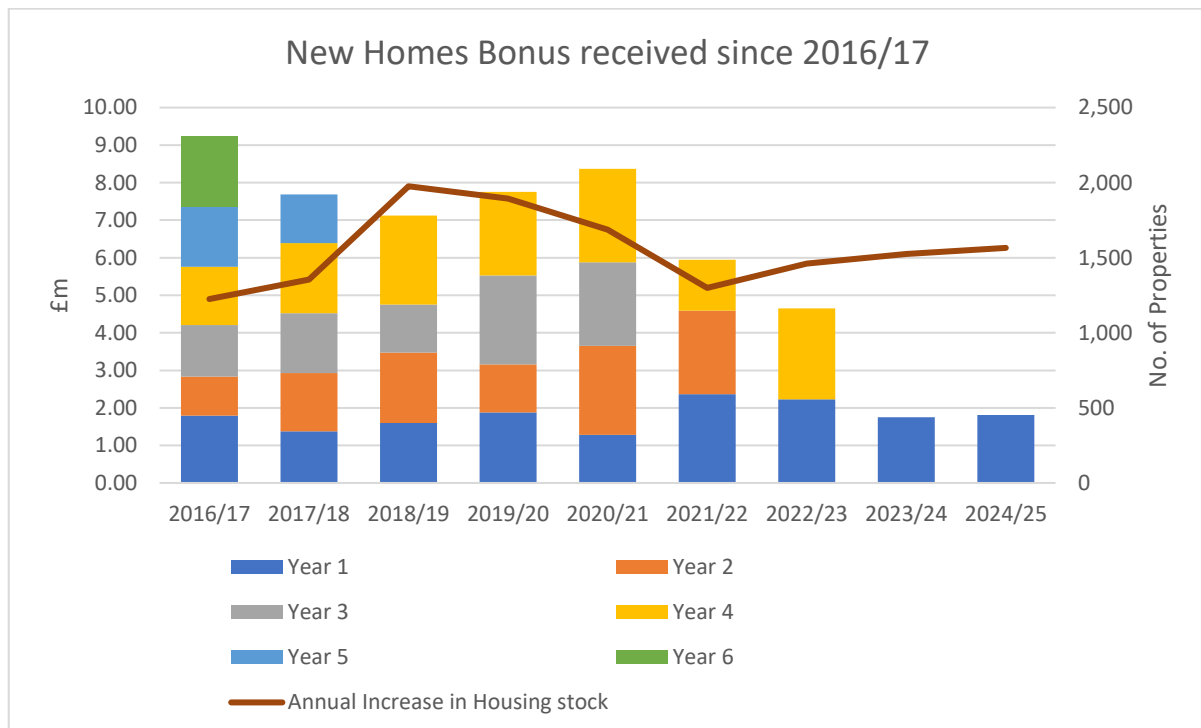
New Homes Bonus (NHB)

This was introduced by the Coalition Government with the aim of encouraging local authorities to grant planning permissions for the building of new houses in return for additional revenue. Under the scheme, the Government initially matched the Council Tax raised on each new home built or long term empty homes brought back into use for a period of 6 years. In 2017/18 the Government reduced this funding to 5 years, and then subsequently to 4 years from 2018/19 to 2020/21. 2021/22 was due to be the scheme’s “final year” however due to the delay in the introduction of the fair funding review, the government has continued to calculate and pay one-year allocations of New Homes Bonus, however these payments no longer attract legacy payments on the allocations.

Shropshire Council has generally received good levels of New Homes Bonus due to the levels of housing development in Shropshire over several years and as demonstrated from the graph below, the level paid each year has increased due to the volume of new houses being built in the area.

A contribution of £5m of the total New Homes Bonus had previously been assumed within the Council’s base budget. This has gradually been reduced as the New Homes Bonus Allocation is reduced and only £1.748m remains. As it is anticipated New Homes Bonus will no longer be paid in 2025/26, growth has been built in for 2025/26 to offset the shortfall. As the allocation for 2024/25 is £1.807m the additional £0.059m can be used in 2024/25 to offset the funding gap.

Figure 18: Shropshire Council - New Homes Bonus



Rural Services Delivery Grant (RSDG)

The Rural Services Delivery Grant had previously been incorporated within the Revenue Support Grant to recognise the additional costs of delivering services in sparsely populated

areas. In 2016/17 this funding was presented as a standalone grant in order that any proposed uplifts in the funding would not be affected by the new allocation model for revenue support grant. The grant is allocated based on sparsity rather than other measures of rurality and Shropshire Council has received an allocation of grant ever since this was introduced.

In the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement, the Government had announced that the allocations of Rural Services Delivery Grant would be cash flat from the levels paid in the previous year. Following consultation on the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement, however, the Government announced a further £15m would be distributed through this grant. Therefore, the total value of Rural Services Delivery Grant received for 2024/25 is £8.982m. It is anticipated that this grant will no longer be paid in its current form in future years as the Fair Funding Review aims to include sparsity as one of the main cost drivers to determine how funding is distributed.

Social Care Grant

In the Spending Round for 2020, the Government announced once again that the Government would provide an additional £1 billion towards the costs of adult and children's social care. This funding would then be in addition to existing social care grants that have been paid in 2020/21 and in addition to the Adult Social Care Precept.

Allocations of this funding have been determined predominantly according to the adult social care Relative Needs Assessment, and the Government have not prescribed how much should be used towards Adult Social Care or Children's Social Care.

In 2024/25 the Government announced a further £0.6bn would be built into the Social Care Grant. For Shropshire Council this resulted in an increase in the Social Care Grant of £2.9m to a total of £28m.

Social care: Market Sustainability and Improvement Funding

The Government provided funding in 2022/23 relating to the Fair Cost of Care and is planning again to provide £162m to continue the progress that local authorities and providers have made on fair cost of care exercises. The final settlement for 24/25 funding for Councils included a further £500m for adult social care to enable local authorities to make some improvements to adult social care such as addressing discharge delays, social care waiting times, low fee rates, workforce pressures and to promote technological innovation in the sector. This equated to £2.9m for Shropshire. For Shropshire Council, overall MSIF funding of £6.1m has been announced for 2024/25.

Discharge Funding

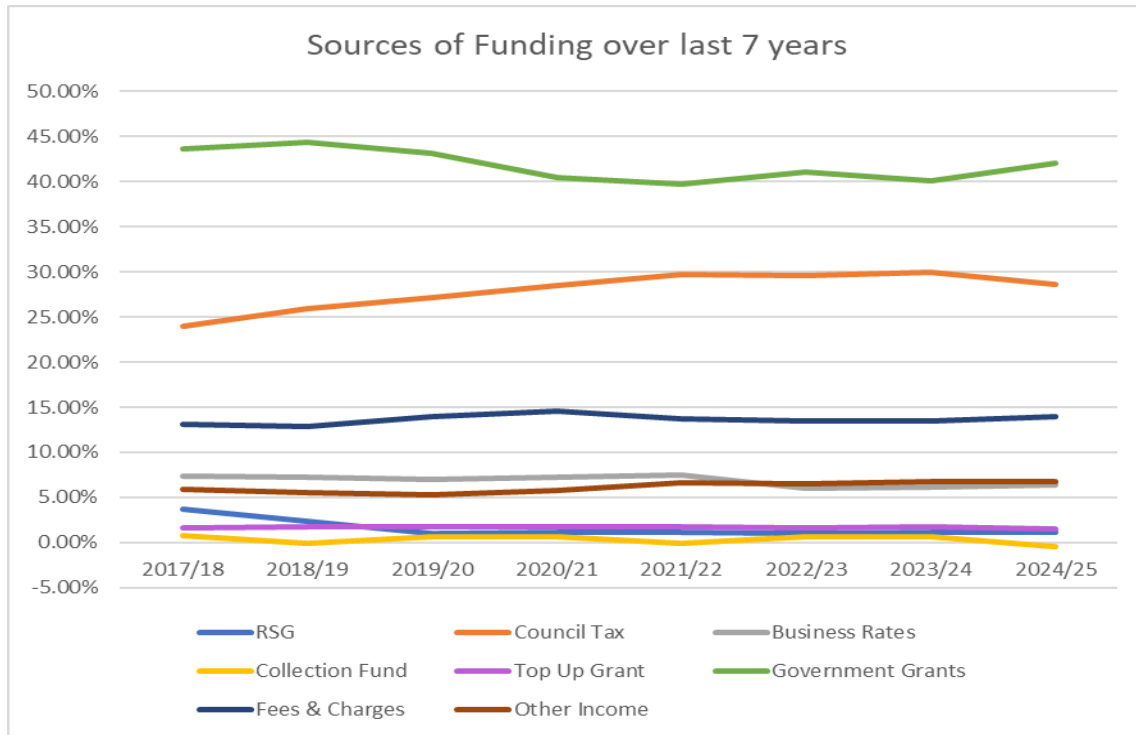
The Autumn Statement for 2022 announced funding for 2023/24 to ensure that those people requiring social care following a stay in hospital, can be discharged as soon as possible to assist with freeing up hospital beds. In 2024/25 Shropshire Council has received £2.8m towards this.

Services Grant

In 2022/23 the Government has provided a one off Services Grant to recognise the costs incurred by councils in providing vital frontline services. The amount allocated via the

Services Grant reduced in 2022/23 and then even further for 2024/25. For Shropshire Council this has provided an additional £0.357m and there no conditions or reporting on where this has been spent.

Figure 19: Sources of Funding for Shropshire Council (since 2017/18)



3.5 Non-Core Government Funding

The Government provides a number of non-core government grants towards the costs of services. These are generally in relation to specific services and so will have specific conditions attached to them, however there may be some grants paid over that are without specific ringfences against them.

The total budgeted non-core government grants for 2024/25 is £240.957m and the breakdown of grants for 2024/25 and the movement from 2023/24 are detailed below.

Figure 20: 2024/25 Non-Core Government Grants and movement from 2023/24

Non-Core Government Grant	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	Increase/ (Decrease) £
Dedicated Schools Grant	111,552,850	128,081,530	16,528,680
Local Reform & Community Voices Grant	199,730	199,730	0
Quality in Community Services - Private Finance Initiative	1,522,650	1,522,650	0
Waste - Private Finance Initiative	3,185,610	3,185,610	0
Housing Benefit Administration Subsidy	643,515	642,967	-548
Public Health Grant	12,775,141	13,496,100	720,959
Susstance Misuse	54,000	54,000	0
Extended Rights to Free Transport / General Duty to Promote Sustainable Travel	384,900	430,100	45,200
Pupil Premium Grant	4,011,060	4,436,850	425,790
Mandatory Rent Allowances: Subsidy	38,000,000	38,000,000	0
Rent Rebates: Subsidy	7,902,380	7,902,380	0
Bus Services Operator Grant (BSOG)	512,450	512,450	0
Tackling Troubled Families	669,500	0	-669,500
Supporting Families Programme	0	1,011,900	1,011,900
Business Rates Retention Scheme - Section 31 Grants	21,521,302	23,625,263	2,103,961
Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)	764,850	2,986,540	2,221,690
Single Fraud Investigation Service	1,113	1,014	-99
Welfare Reform New Burdens	66,090	57,295	-8,795
Social Care In Prisons	47,940	47,940	0
War Pensions Disregard	117,210	117,210	0
Adoption Support Fund (ASF)	256,670	256,670	0
Bikeability	150,000	160,000	10,000
Assessed & Supported Year in Employment (ASYE)	38,000	28,000	-10,000
Staying Put	92,950	92,950	0
Parks & Sites	30,000	30,000	0
MHCLG Rough Sleepers Initiative	372,670	377,331	4,661
VEP	65,100	6,678	-58,422
Universal Credit	39,300	21,004	-18,296
Extending Personal Adviser support to age 25: new burdens assessment	48,090	48,090	0
KS2 Modernisation	14,660	14,660	0
Homelessness Prevention Grant	720,421	753,546	33,125
AONB Core Grant	228,109	228,110	1
DEFRA - Farming in Protected Landscapes	784,526	1,504,952	720,426
DEFRA - Trees outside Woods	48,060	53,800	5,740
Historic England - Offa's Dyke Project	50,000	40,350	-9,650
MHCLG - Domestic Abuse Duty Capacity Building Fund	591,760	602,920	11,160
DLUHC - Homes for Ukraine Scheme Local Authority Tariff Payment	1,500,000	1,640,780	140,780
Reducing Parental Conflict Grant	18,730	0	-18,730
National Lottery Heritage Fund - Shropshire Hills Young Ranger	50,960	0	-50,960
UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) - Admin grant	47,560	160,260	112,700
UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) - Project grant	0	5,502,160	5,502,160
DEFRA - Woodland Creation Accelerator Fund	0	50,020	50,020
OHI&D - Drug Strategy	0	609,644	609,644
OHI&D - Inpatient Detoxification	0	42,767	42,767
DfT Bus Service Improvement Plus Funding	0	1,490,492	1,490,492
DfE - Holiday Activities and Food Programme	0	714,300	714,300
HB Accruacy Initiative	0	26,600	26,600
Arts Council - National Portfolio Organisations	0	188,999	188,999
Total Non Core Government Grants	209,079,857	240,956,612	31,876,755

The value paid in these grants is determined each individual year therefore it is not possible to predict with any accuracy the future grant levels for these. The Council sets ringfenced expenditure budgets to match these non-core government grants, therefore any reduction in funding experienced will be matched by an equivalent reduction in the expenditure that the grant relates to.

Dedicated Schools Grant

The Dedicated Schools Grant is the biggest non-core government grant that the Council receives. Most of this grant will be passported through to fund maintained schools to manage their budgets however in recent years there has been a national issue with increasing budgetary pressures within the High Needs Block of the grant. In 2023/24 the Council is anticipating a deficit in the Dedicated Schools Grant in relation to the increased costs of Independent Special School Placements.

For 2024/25 the Dedicated Schools Grant has increased to £128.1m, largely due to the expansion of duties to provide Free Early Years education to a younger range of children commencing from April 2024, and is broken down into the following main blocks:

Dedicated Schools Grant	£m
Early Years Block DSG	28.991
High Needs Block DSG after Recoupment	34.895
Central Schools Services Block DSG	2.212
Schools Block (Maintained Schools)	61.983
	128.081

Figure 21: Shropshire Council – Dedicated Schools Grant

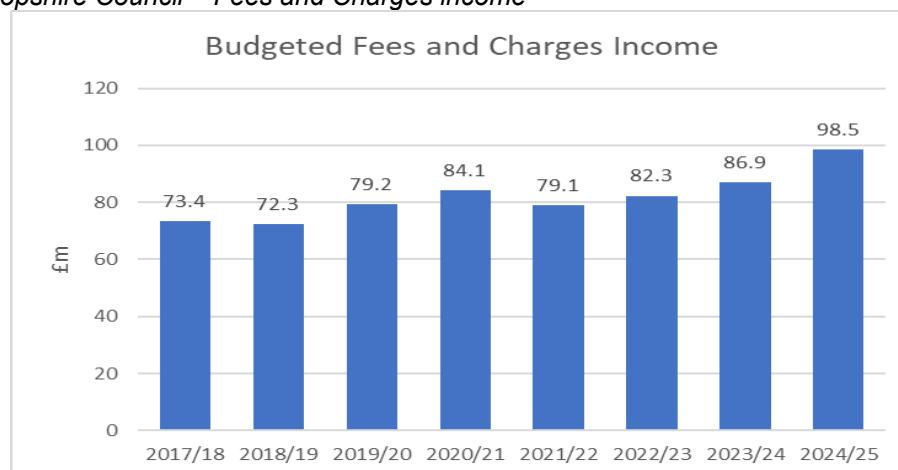
Public Health Grant

The Public Health Grant is a ringfenced grant to be used for public health functions. The Government has published the Public Health grant allocations for 2024/25 in February; the grant for Shropshire Council has increased by 2.1% overall to £13.496m but with inflationary pressures including staff costs such as Agenda for Change pay award growth and population pressures, there has been a year on year 27% real-terms per person cut in the value of the grant between the initial allocations for 2015/16 and 2024/25.

3.6 Fees and Charges

The Council also generates income to fund services by charging for services that it provides. This has increased over the last seven years and has become an important and an increased proportion of the council's total income as demonstrated in the charts below. Fees and Charges are recommended to be approved as part of a detailed report also on this agenda.

Figure 22: Shropshire Council – Fees and Charges income



*NB: c£4m Shire Services Shropshire Schools income reclassified as internal income rather than Fees & Charges for 2021/22

The Council has the power to charge for some services under various pieces of legislation. The Local Government Act 2003 provides clarity over charging powers and is clear that a local authority can charge for discretionary services on the basis of recovering the full costs of providing the service but that it should not make a profit year on year. The same Act also covers local authority's power to trade whereby a profit/surplus can be made if trading is carried out through a company.

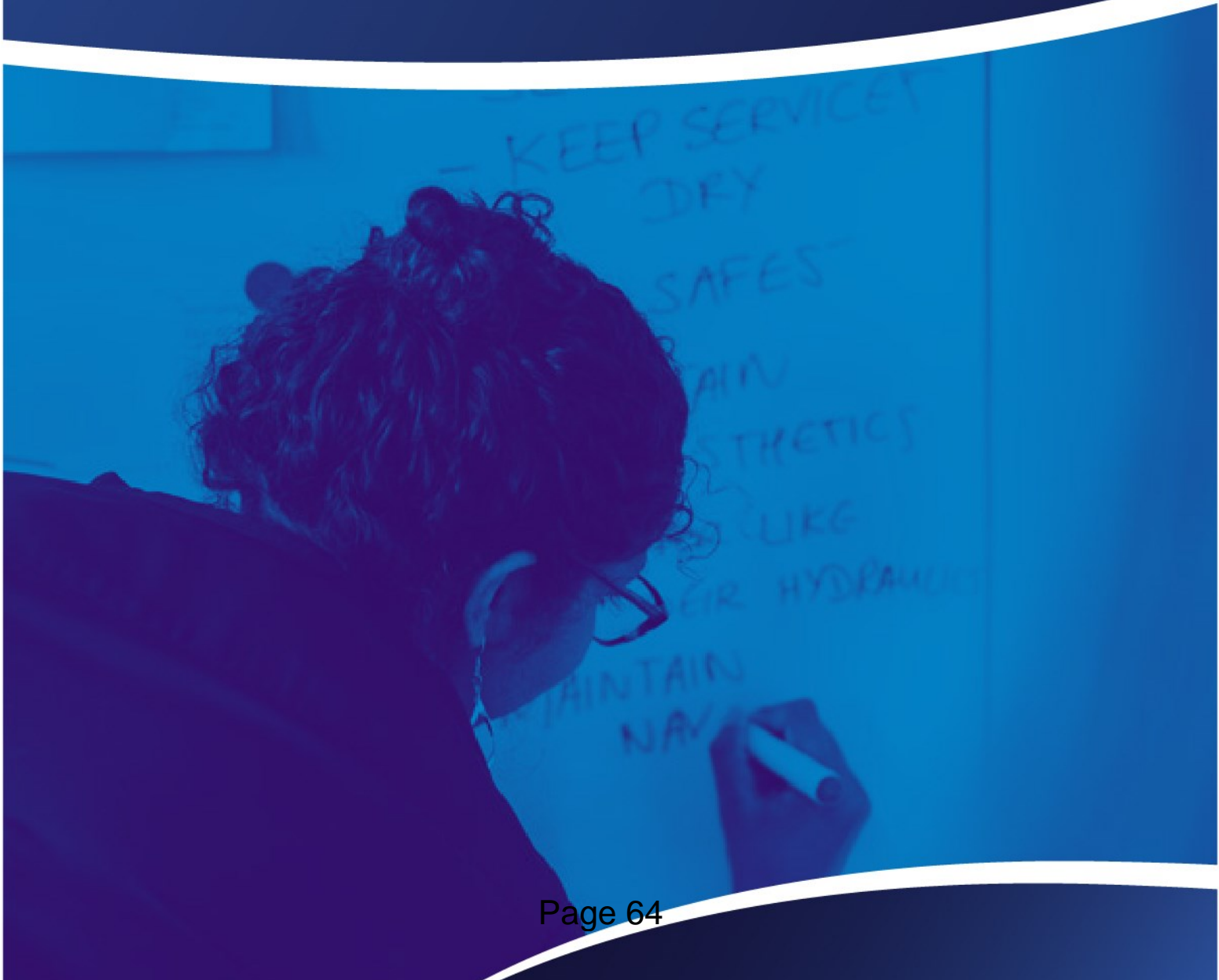
A significant proportion of the total income achieved through fees and charges is based on statutory income, where the Government prescribe the level of fees to be charged. The remainder is achieved through discretionary fees and other income and Full Council approve the fees and charges to be applied for the coming financial year each February. For 2024/25 the total budgeted income from fees and charges is £98.5m.

3.7 Total Resources

Resources	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £	2028/29 £
Council Tax	205,104,165	213,771,382	222,805,076	232,219,979	242,033,786
Business Rates:					
Business Rates Collected	39,766,081	40,458,919	48,502,796	49,351,899	50,217,921
Business Rates - Energy Renewable Schemes	1,540,262	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Top Up Grant	10,924,574	10,924,574	10,924,574	10,924,574	10,924,574
RSG	7,973,988	8,213,207	8,377,471	8,545,021	8,715,921
Collection Fund:					
Council Tax	-834,556	0	0	0	0
Business Rates	-2,777,295	0	0	0	0
NET BUDGET	261,697,219	274,368,082	291,609,917	302,041,472	312,892,202
Grants included in Core Funding:					
Improved Better Care Fund	11,863,403	12,219,305	12,585,884	12,963,461	13,352,365
New Homes Bonus	1,807,300	0	0	0	0
Rural Services Delivery Grant	8,982,153	8,982,153	8,982,153	8,982,153	8,982,153
Social Care Support Grant	28,009,870	28,850,166	29,715,671	30,607,141	31,525,355
Market Sustainability and Improvement Funding	6,097,977	0	0	0	0
Discharge Funding	2,772,051	0	0	0	0
Services Grant	356,632	0	0	0	0
CORE FUNDING	321,586,605	324,419,707	342,893,625	354,594,227	366,752,075
Local Income					
Fees and charges (including income savings deliverable from prior years)	98,525,470	98,525,470	98,525,470	98,525,470	98,525,470
Other Grants and contributions	36,829,400	36,829,400	36,829,400	36,829,400	36,829,400
Specific Grants (excluding Core Funding Grants above)	240,956,612	230,091,704	223,230,351	223,178,268	223,021,393
Internal Recharges	11,574,290	11,574,290	11,574,290	11,574,290	11,574,290
TOTAL FUNDING	709,472,377	701,440,571	713,053,136	724,701,655	736,702,628

Figure 23: Total Resources 2024/25 – 2028/29

4. Expenditure Plans 2024/25 – 2028/29



4.1 Profile of Council's Expenditure

The Council's net revenue budget in 2024/25 is £261.697m.

As the number of older people in Shropshire increases, and the complexity of care needs increase, the proportion of the Council's budget that is spent on adult social care grows. As outlined earlier in the strategy, the proportion of spend on social care is a significant proportion of the budget, with Children's Social Care costs increasing as well.

Although these services represent a significant part of the Council's net budget, there are several Universal Services that all Council taxpayers receive which include services such as Waste Collection and Disposal, Highways, Buses and Community Transport and Community Safety.

The Council delivers a range of services for the population of Shropshire and to demonstrate the profile of expenditure across these services, a Council Tax receipt has been produced which shows how an average Band D council tax is allocated to fund the range of services provided for 2024/25.



2024/25 Council Tax Receipt

£

** UNIVERSAL SERVICES **	
* Buses and Sustainable Transport	46.51
* Highways and Environmental Maintenance	88.31
* Leisure and Outdoor Spaces	20.97
* Libraries	19.15
* Registrars, Coroners, Bereavement Services, Trading Standards, Licensing, Regulatory Services and Public Health	6.09
* Theatre, Arts, Museums and Archives	6.97
* Waste and Recycling Collections	220.67
** ADULT SERVICES **	
* Adult Social Care	821.41
* Housing, Housing Benefits and Welfare	34.99
** CHILDREN'S SERVICES **	
* Children and Families Early Help Services and Youth Services	15.47
* Children's Social Care	374.94
* Education, Schools and Home to School Transport	93.94
** ECONOMIC GROWTH **	
* Broadband - Rural Rollout	0.83
* Economic Growth	6.71
* Planning	6.44
** LOCAL GOVERNMENT RUNNING COSTS **	
* Organisational & Democratic Costs of the Council	110.08
* Financing Costs - Debt Repayment and Interest Payments	125.59

 ** VOUCHER **

** INCOME AND OTHER FUNDING TO SUPPLEMENT	
* Car Parking Income (Net of Costs)	-31.91
* Net Use of Non Ring-Fenced Grants	-246.36

TOTAL TO PAY	1,720.80

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4.2 Inflation

The Council is subject to inflationary pressure like any other organisation or individual and therefore needs to build in inflationary cost increases to expenditure each year within the budget. The war in Ukraine put significant pressure on the country's economy with energy, fuel and food prices all increasing to push inflation levels to the highest in 40 years. As a result, there was a significant increase in all items of expenditure during 2022/23 and 2023/24, with the Bank of England increasing interest rates to try and bring the level of inflation down for the country. During the latter half of 2023/24 inflation has started to drop, but not down to levels experienced prior to the Ukraine war, and so all expenditure is still increasing at a higher rate than previously anticipated over the course of the MTFS.

The Council employs approximately 4,900 full time equivalent members of staff and so inflationary increases in pay is one of the key elements of inflation to be included. Most staff pay is linked to the National Joint Council rates, or if not this body, then other recognised pay bodies, and so the inflationary pay award is negotiated nationally, which the Council then implements. As a result of increases in the national minimum wage during 2023/24 and recognising the cost of living pressures, the pay award for 2023/24 was marginally higher than the budget provision. This was funded from in year savings in 2023/24, however the legacy impact of the £1,925 pay award for all scale points in the pay structure needs to be built into the budget for 2024/25. It is anticipated that there will need to be a further significant uplift for pay across all pay scales due to further planned rises in the national minimum wage. The Council has assumed a £1,800 increase for 2024/25 and then has reverted to a 3% uplift for future years. As a result of these proposed increases, pay inflation is £10.4m for 2024/25 (including the unbudgeted cost for 2023/24).

As the Council's pay costs increases, the apprenticeship levy that the Authority is required to pay also increases. Growth of £0.027m has been included to reflect the revised cost that the Council can expect to incur in relation to the levy in 2024/25.

The Council pays out a significant proportion of funds to various organisations, for example to Adult Social Care Providers, the Council's Waste Collection and Disposal Contractor or the Highways Maintenance contractor. These contracts will generally have inflation built into them. Most of these contracts have inflation rates linked to RPI or CPI and so as national levels of inflation have remained reasonably high, accordingly the level of contract inflation has increased significantly. For perspective, contract inflation is generally included for approximately £2-3m, however for 2024/25 we are funding contract inflation of £11.9m.

In addition, the council has also been subject to price increases in energy prices which have also been significantly impacted through the invasion of Ukraine. This has resulted in an average level of inflation for Corporate Landlord related costs of 9% with the total cost of corporate landlord inflation is £11.927m.

4.3 Demographic Pressures

Over several years, the main budgetary pressure that the Council has faced has been due to demographic increases and specifically growth in numbers of service users within Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care.

Whilst the age profile of the population still shows a growing trend of people living longer, and hence potentially creating increased demand, particularly for Adult Social Care, in 2023/24 the Council has taken several steps to try to actively manage this demand for services. Despite this, demand for Adult Social Care has increased significantly and has resulted in growing budget pressures in 2023/24.

Also, within Children's Social Care the Council is implementing its Stepping Stones project which aims to reduce the spend on high cost placements and address the issues of children coming into care, again to prevent care placements being required. The growth in numbers of children requiring Children's Social Care and increase in residential placements for some children needing this resource due to lack of available foster placements, however, is again presenting the Council with a budgetary pressure in 2023//24 and beyond.

As a result, the Council needs to provide for these budgetary increases in 2023/24 in addition to predicted further growth in numbers in 2024/25. Both services again have several projects and plans to try and control demand management and reduce pressure on these services over the course of 2024/25.

There are other demographic growth areas that remain for 2024/25, mainly in relation to an increase in households in the area resulting in increased waste collection costs.

Total demographic pressures for 2024/25 are estimated to be £29.070m.

4.4 Service Specific and Local Generated Pressures

In addition to inflation and demographic growth, during the budget setting process several other growth items will be identified as necessary expenditure either due to budgetary pressures identified in the 2023/24 financial year, that are anticipated to be ongoing, or to provide for investment budgets that will help transform services to deliver budgetary savings in the future.

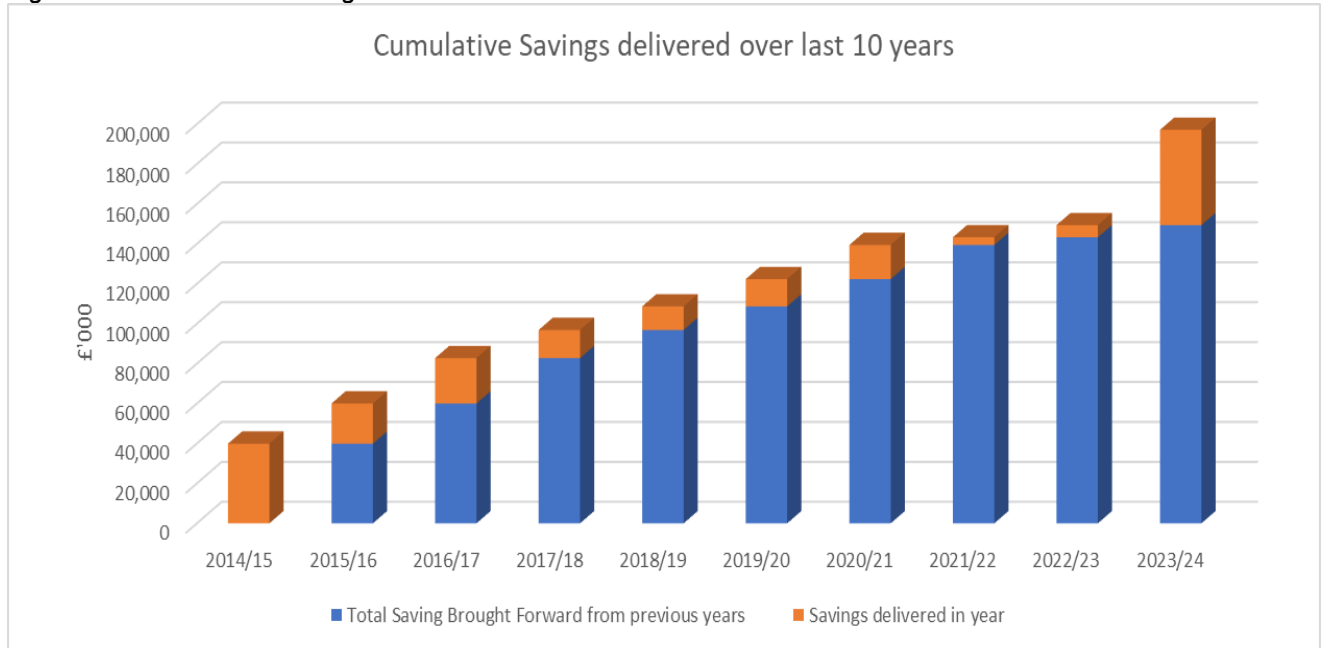
Within the Service Specific Pressures section of the budget build up and these consist of £3.539m of growth relating to unachieved savings in 2023/24, £2.262m additional growth for specific invest to save projects in Children's Social Care whereby the investment should drive out further cost savings in care packages, where the bulk of the cost pressure is experienced. There are further growth items of £2.061m across other services in the Council which relate to ongoing budgetary pressures in 2023/24. across the rest of the Council.

Within the Local Generated Pressures section of the budget build up is growth required to reflect changes in specific grants as detailed in the Resources section which have a corresponding change to expenditure. Also within Local Generated Pressures there are planned contributions to reserves over the course of the financial strategy. Further detail on the need to increase our reserves can be found in Section 6 of this document.

4.5 Savings Plans

The Council has delivered savings consistently each year. Figure 24 shows the level of savings delivered over the last 10 years, which is just under £200m.

Figure 24: Cumulative Savings Delivered



During 2023/24 it has been identified that £3.539m of savings previously agreed, were no longer deliverable and so these have been removed from 2024/25.

It was also identified that the 2023/24 spending reduction relating to EFF44 - Review PFI contract costs to secure greater efficiency (£4.286m) had not been delivered on a recurrent basis in 2023/24. However, work has been progressing to secure ongoing savings within the Waste Service that could be used towards this spending reduction. The service have now identified the following proposals that will deliver this saving:

Table 1: Replacement savings 2023/24

Directorate	Service Area	Saving Proposal	Saving £'000
Place	Commercial Services	As per the PFI contract - Increased share from the sale of energy and recyclates	2,000
Place	Commercial Services	Review and negotiate key supplier contracts including the Waste PFI contract to secure cost reductions	2,000
Place	Commercial Services	Reduce from five to three Household Recycling Centres – Anticipated to deliver £0.300m therefore £0.014m included within 2024/25 savings Proposals	286
Total Replacement Savings			4,286

As a result of the inflationary cost pressures continuing into 2024/25, and the demand pressures in Social Care as a result of increased number of care packages, an exercise has taken place to identify further savings to close the funding gap.

For 2024/25 total gross savings of £62.480m have been identified. The savings identified fit into 6 main categories:

- Reducing cost of existing services;

- Savings delivered through a new Target Operating Model – which transforms how we operate our services;
- Savings delivered through managing demand levels for our services;
- Charging more for existing services we provide;
- Generating new income for services that we have not previously charged for;
- Stopping or ceasing some services or activities.

A breakdown of the savings to be delivered is included in Table 2 below and Figure 45 in section 11.

Table 2: Total Savings for 2024/25 – 2026/27

Category of Saving	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
Reduce Cost			
Health & Wellbeing	1,253,600	-930,000	0
People	5,698,000	250,000	0
Place	6,157,765	1,958,863	112,050
Resources	3,423,000	2,800,000	0
Council wide	22,977,600	0	0
Total Reduce Cost Savings	39,509,965	4,078,863	112,050
Target Operating Model			
Health & Wellbeing	15,000	15,000	0
People	610,000	0	0
Place	100,000	2,000,000	0
Resources	0	120,000	0
Council wide	0	0	0
Total Target Operating Model Savings	725,000	2,135,000	0
Manage Demand			
Health & Wellbeing	200,000	-200,000	0
People	6,273,636	630,000	110,000
Place	300,000	0	0
Resources	0	0	0
Council wide	0	0	0
Total Manage Demand Savings	6,773,636	430,000	110,000
Charge More			
Health & Wellbeing	0	0	0
People	0	0	0
Place	20,000	0	0
Resources	0	0	0
Council wide	2,000,000	0	0
Total Charge More Savings	2,020,000	0	0
New Income			
Health & Wellbeing	0	0	0
People	3,800,000	0	0
Place	4,892,720	1,622,000	20,000
Resources	0	0	0
Council wide	0	0	0
Total New Income Savings	8,692,720	1,622,000	20,000

Category of Saving	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
Stop/Cease Services			
Health & Wellbeing	0	0	0
People	1,600,000	400,000	-400,000
Place	3,128,650	3,047,010	50,000
Resources	0	0	0
Council wide	30,000	0	0
Total Stop/Cease Services Savings	4,758,650	3,447,010	-350,000
Total Savings Proposals	62,479,971	11,712,873	-107,950

During 2023/34, PwC have been engaged by the Council as a delivery partner, providing additional capacity and sector-wide insight into delivery of local authority services. The benefits are already apparent in contributions such as improved programme co-ordination and enhanced benefits realisation, together with insights from other councils' approaches.

As part of the budget for 2024/25 it is intended to continue to work with PwC in a similar way. Work is delivered through an overarching agreement, with separate discussion and agreement of specific proposals and deliverables.

The programme of work is being structured in terms of each specific proposal and the overall agreement being based on all investment being at least matched by the cashable benefits arising. The specifics of the programme are being aligned to the 2024/25 budget proposals set out in this report, but the programme as a whole is not yet defined. To ensure appropriate flexibility within a clearly defined framework the following approach is proposed:

- All engagement with the delivery partner is discussed and agreed between the Executive Management Team and Cabinet.
- The cost of any specific engagement with PwC is capped *below* the value of the direct and recurring financial benefit delivered within 12 months of engagement (for example, a proposal to deliver £1m saving every year, so £20m over 20 years, will be capped at investment of less than £1m in year 1)
- Given the scale of the savings plan for 2024/25 (i.e. £62m) the overall level of investment with PwC will be further capped to a proportion of the £62m target. It is recommended that this cap is set at 10% of the benefit (therefore capped at £6.2m) to balance flexibility and control.

To maximise the pace of delivery and to support the delivery of a balanced budget position in 2024/25a formal delegation is recommended to be made to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holder – Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities to agree with PwC that specific programmes of work can be engaged upon without further Councillor decisions being required, providing that the framework set out above (net cash benefits to be secured, within a £6.2m framework, with clear formal reporting on benefits realisation to Cabinet).

4.6 Total Expenditure

Expenditure	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £	2028/29 £
Original Gross Budget Requirement	690,271,309	761,650,104	767,618,070	792,499,140	814,767,190
Inflationary Growth :					
Pay	10,452,858	4,499,091	4,634,064	4,773,086	4,916,278
Apprenticeship Levy	27,370	14,930	15,380	15,840	16,320
Pensions	0	0	0	0	0
Corporate Landlord inflation	690,857	200,706	205,724	210,867	216,139
Contract inflation	11,926,779	3,070,051	3,146,819	3,229,345	3,299,049
Demography & Demand	33,082,045	15,428,710	16,340,680	17,321,950	18,377,800
Service Specific Pressures:					
Revenue Growth arising from capital programme	168,000	-400,000	-500,000		
Ongoing Budget Pressures	7,862,078				
Local Generated Pressures:					
Elections		700,000	-700,000		
Specific Grants Changes between years	36,560,767	-21,434,159	1,262,254	1,216,963	1,150,243
Ongoing reduction in New Homes Bonus (pressure)		1,747,510			
Estimated Cost of Investment - <i>Approved</i>	2,032,000	3,104,000	4,452,000		
Adjustment to Gross budget offset by Income changes	16,089,901				
Contribution to General Fund	10,716,110	0	-20,583,800	-5,000,000	
Contribution to Development Reserve - Transformation			-1,000,000		
MTFS reserve (savings slippage/optimism bias)	4,250,000	10,750,000	-7,500,000	-7,500,000	
Capital Investment/Transformation Fund			20,000,000	6,000,000	-6,000,000
Climate Change/Energy Efficiency Fund			5,000,000	2,000,000	
Savings					
<i>TOM Budget Savings</i>	-725,000	-2,135,000			
<i>Reduce Cost Budget Savings</i>	-37,809,965	-4,078,863	-112,050		
<i>Manage Demand Budget Savings</i>	-6,773,636	-430,000	-110,000		
<i>New Income Budget Savings</i>	-8,692,720	-1,622,000	-20,000		
<i>Charge More Budget Savings</i>	-3,720,000				
<i>Stop/Cease Budget Savings</i>	-4,758,650	-3,447,010	350,000		
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	761,650,104	767,618,070	792,499,140	814,767,190	836,743,019

Figure 25: Total Expenditure 2024/25 – 2028/29

5. Long Term Outlook



5.1 Long Term Risks and Mitigations for a Sustainable Budget

The aim of the Council is to achieve the priorities as set out in the Shropshire Plan and in doing so ensure that the budget needed to deliver this is on a sustainable footing in the medium and long term. There is a significant degree of uncertainty, arising from both internal and external factors, which could have a significant impact on the key assumptions made within the financial strategy over the longer term. The environments within which the Council operates are complex and highly sensitive to a range of variables and it is therefore important that risks, that could have a material effect on the financial position of the Council, are identified and understood in terms of the potential impact (positive or negative) and the likelihood of occurrence. It is therefore important that adequate mechanisms are in place to identify and manage risks in order to support the achievement of financial stability.

Key risks are highlighted as part of the Council's Strategic Risk Register and reported on regularly to Cabinet, with considered mitigations in place. This includes two key strategic risks on the financial position of the organisation:

- Inability to contain overall committed expenditure within the current available resources within this financial year;
- Inability to set a balanced budget for a given year within the MTFS.

Specific risks or factors that can influence the Council's long term financial position include:

Ability to deliver planned savings and efficiencies – The current MTFS sets out the largest single savings programme in the council's history. This follows a year where the next largest savings programme has been successfully delivered. Clearly, this entails significant risks. Plans are currently being put in place to ensure that there is an efficient and targeted approach to managing risks around delivery.

Demographics – Shropshire is a rural authority with a population of 327,178. In the next 20 years it is anticipated that there will be a growth in population of 48,600 (15%), with the bulk of this increase being in the over 65 age category. This suggests an even greater emphasis will be on Adult Social Care for the Council, and so it is imperative that the Council invests in preventative and demand management measures as soon as possible to reduce the impact that this growth in population could have on Social Care budgets into the future.

Environmental – Flooding within Shropshire is becoming a regular occurrence over the last few years and other meteorological changes starting to occur more frequently highlights the need to address climate change. Whilst governments are discussing national targets for reducing carbon emissions, it is necessary for all organisations to look at how they can change behaviour to reduce the impact of climate change. Shropshire Council has set out its vision to become carbon net-neutral by 2030 and to help support other organisations and residents in Shropshire to also achieve this for 2030. In the meantime, the Council will need to consider preparing for further potential climate emergencies such as flooding episodes in contingency funds.

Economic – The impact that a change in the economy can have on an organisation was most evident in 2022. World events can impact economies significantly despite the best efforts of governments and financial institutions to retain control and take necessary measures. Following the war in Ukraine, inflation and Interest rates increased significantly

and the government and the Bank of England is now trying to put measures in place to reduce inflation and grow the economy to reverse the impacts of this. However, this is not a quick process, and despite progress being made the economy is still experiencing higher levels of inflation than previously expected 2 years on from the war. In terms of the local economy within Shropshire, over the last five years the region has a higher economic activity rate than the West Midlands region and for Great Britain. There has been a steady growth in business enterprises in Shropshire over the last five years and with the top three sectors being agriculture, forestry & fishing (21.2%), professional, scientific and technical (12.9%) and Construction (11.5%).

Political – Nationally, any change in political party governing the country can have a significant impact on spending priorities or new burdens from legislative changes which impact on services provided by local authorities. A general election is due to take place before January 2025 and so a change in direction nationally could occur within the next twelve months. Also at a local level and regional, changes resulting from local elections may also influence direction of the Council. The next set of local elections for Shropshire are in May 2025.

These areas of risk and potential change will be under regular review to consider how the Council needs to adapt or change its plans to address any specific concerns that may impact on the delivery of a sustainable budget for the Council.

6. Financial Stability



6.1 General Fund Balance

Background

The Council holds a number of reserves in order to provide funds either for a specific planned purpose, or to provide a contingency fund in case of any financial issues arising in year.

The General Fund Balance is the reserve held by the Council for general purposes, i.e. against which there are no specific commitments. That said it is prudent and sensible for these sums to be treated as a contingency to protect the Council's financial standing should there be any unplanned liabilities arising in the year.

On an annual basis the Council considers the level of reserves held, including the General Fund Balance, to assess whether they are adequate. There are two main approaches for deciding the optimum level of the general balances. One method is to set an arbitrary percentage of expenditure, however this generally has little reflection of the potential contingencies that the Council may need to draw on. An alternative, preferable, method is an approach based on a risk assessment of the budget.

The Council uses the risk assessment approach in calculating the proposed level of General Fund Balance to hold. This approach considers strategic, operational and financial risks that the authority is facing. This includes, for example, changes in external funding or the council's ability to deliver savings; the effectiveness of budget monitoring to identify variances from spending plans and trigger timely remedial action; the availability of other funds to cover costs – for example, from an insurance policy, or from the government under the Bellwin Scheme for emergency financial assistance; and the extent to which contingency is built into individual departmental budgets and the council's overall budget.

A framework has been developed to identify areas of risk with an appropriate budget amount, an assessed level of risk (high, medium and low) and a percentage factor which will vary according to the level of risk. This process produces a value from which a risk assessed optimum level of general balance can be created.

There are six main areas that the General Fund Balance is required to cover and the individual risks within these areas have been considered.

- Treatment of inflation and interest rates
- Level and timing of capital receipts
- Treatment of demand led pressures
- Treatment of efficiency savings/productivity gains
- Availability of reserves, government grants and other funds to deal with major contingencies and the adequacy of provisions
- General Financial Climate

It is essential in setting a balanced budget that the Council has money available in the event of unexpected spending pressures. The "balances" need to reflect spending experience and risks to which the Council is exposed.

Current position

The financial monitoring reports have provided members with an updated projection on the General Fund during the course of the year. The most recent monitoring report presented to Cabinet (Q3) forecast an overspend for 2023/24 of £14.533m.

This position has been regularly reviewed during the course of the year, and pressures specifically within Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care highlighted. As a result, specific management action has been taken to consider a number of demand management plans that it is intended will reduce the pressure in this year. It is acknowledged however that these plans cannot be delivered immediately and so it was agreed that a contribution from the General Fund would be made in 2023/24 directly in relation to the demand management pressures to provide the necessary time for the demand management implementation plans to be delivered. Any other action that can be taken to reduce the residual overspend for 2023/24 will be taken in the last quarter of the year.

The current balance on the General Fund is £16.1m, as shown below. This will be further impacted by the revenue outturn position.

2023/24 General Fund Transactions	£'000
General Fund Balance as at 1 April 2023	7,093
Budgeted Contribution to the General Fund	19,868
	26,961
Release of Earmarked Reserves into the General Fund	9,700
Funding of Demand Management Pressures	(20,500)
Projected Balance as at 31 March 2024 (subject to outturn)	16,161

Table 3: Projected General Fund Balance for 2023/24

2024/25 budgeted contribution to the General Fund

The overspend for 2023/24 reduces the General Fund Balance to an unsustainable level. This position would leave the Council with no substantial reserves on which to fall back on should any emergency occur. However, it is already known that there are likely pressures as follows:

- **Spending reductions @ £22m.** Spending reductions are seldom achieved at 100% within the year in any council. In this Council, the trend in delivery in recent years has averaged 65% of the total, albeit this was increased substantially in 2023/24 to 77% (to date). Unachieved savings can therefore be estimated as likely to be in the range of 23% to 35%. The overall spending reductions set out in section 11 of this report amount to £62.4m. This means that the risk of underdelivery, based on previous experience, will be between £14.5m and £21.8m. Therefore, it is prudent to ensure that the General Fund Balance is at least sufficient to cover a risk of up to £22m based on the substantial spending reductions being planned, and the previous track record of delivery.
- **Regulatory reviews and interventions @ £15m.** The Council is already aware of the need to support improved outcomes in Children's Social Care, highlighted in the recent Ofsted letter. The Council is also aware that there are increasingly robust reviews being introduced by CQC, and DfF in relation to SEND provision. It is probable that at least some of these reviews may recommend additional investment in services to

ensure all standards are met. It is not known what such costs may amount to. This provision assumes £5m per review.

- **Other unforeseen base budget pressures @ £10m.** The CFO undertakes a detailed review of the budget estimates each year as part of the s25 'robustness of the estimates' report made annually to Council as part of the budget report. Based on the experiences of previous years, it is prudent to estimate the level of a potential overspend (not arising from underdelivery of savings or external intervention) as being c £10m.

On this basis, potential gross risks of £47m are to be covered by the General Fund Balance. The proposed contribution of £30.6m will take the overall balance on hand as at 1 April to £32.2m. This is 66% of the estimated gross risk, and assumes a 66% likelihood of those risks transpiring.

Therefore as part of the 2024/25 budget, it is planned that £30.6m is contributed into the General Fund Balance.

Table 4: Budgeted Level of General Fund Balance

	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000
Balance Brought Forward	1,628	32,211	62,794	72,794	77,794
Budgeted Contribution to General Fund	30,583	30,583	10,000	5,000	5,000
Budgeted Balance as at 1 April	32,211	62,794	72,794	77,794	82,794

Even though the Council will be making a significant contribution to the General Fund over the course of the MTFs period, there remains a significant risk surrounding the delivery of the savings plans, especially in 2024/25 given that this is the largest savings target that the Council has had to deliver. Therefore in Table 5 below the Council has modelled the impact on the General Fund with the inclusion of a risk assessed use of reserves for the potential effect that non delivery or delayed implementation of savings proposals.. The calculated figure is based on previous experience of delivery of savings targets at the Council.

Table 5: Projected Level of General Fund Balance

	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000
Budgeted Balance as at 1 April	32,211	62,794	72,794	77,794	82,794
Potential Commitments based on risk assessment of delivery of savings (in year)	(21,750)	(15,375)	(5,000)	-	-
Cumulative commitments based on risk assessment of delivery of savings (2024/25 – 2028/29)		(21,750)	(37,125)	(42,125)	(42,125)
Projected level of General Fund Balance	10,461	25,669	30,669	35,669	40,669

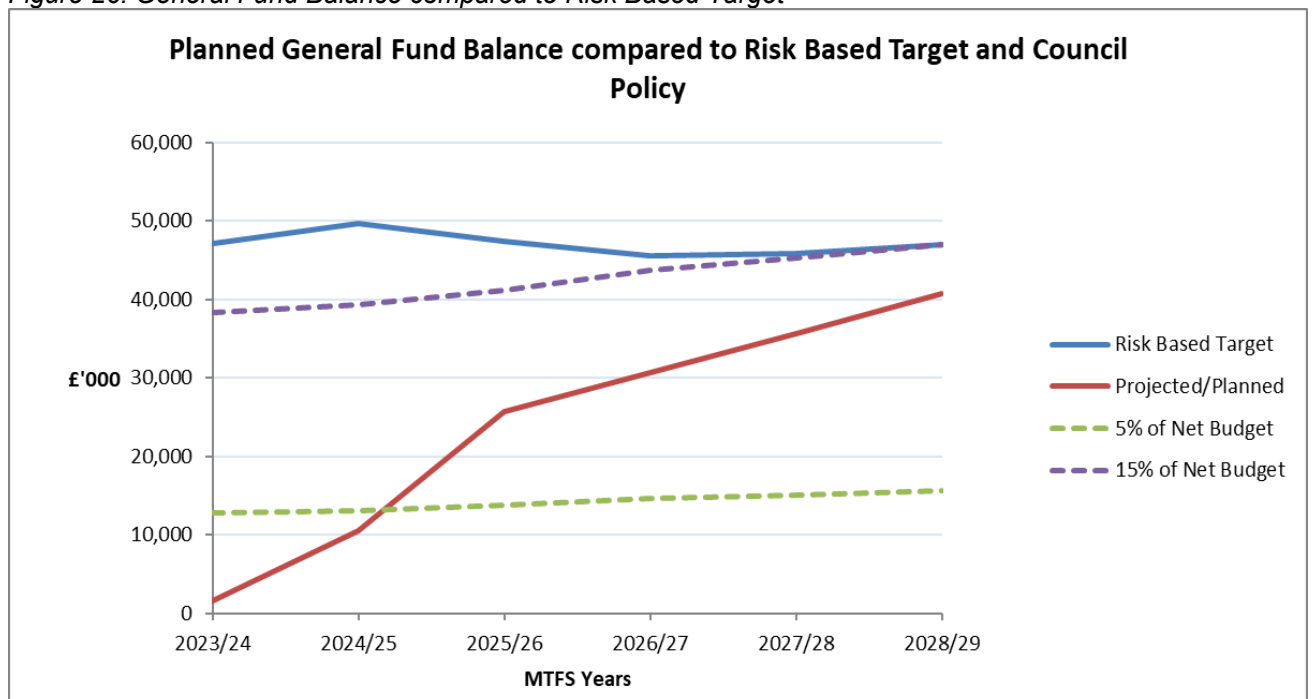
This leaves the General Fund Balance remaining at an unsustainable level in the short term and so it is imperative that the contribution to the General Fund Balance remains in future years to bring the balance back to a reasonable level. Table 6 and Figure 26 demonstrate that if the General Fund Balance is used to fund any shortfall in delivery of savings, as highlighted in Table 5, this will leave the General Fund significantly below the risk assessed

level and so there is a need to improve the General Fund Balance over the course of the financial strategy.

Table 6: Comparison of Risk Based Calculation to Budgeted and Projected General Fund

	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000
Risk assessed level of General Fund Balance (upper)	49,682	47,463	45,539	45,874	46,934
Budgeted level of General Fund Balance	32,211	62,794	72,794	77,794	82,794
Variance (Shortfall)/Surplus	(17,471)	15,331	27,255	31,820	35,860
Risk assessed level of General Fund Balance (upper)	49,682	47,463	45,539	45,874	46,934
Projected level of General Fund Balance as per Financial Strategy	10,461	25,669	30,669	35,669	40,669
Variance (Shortfall)/Surplus	(39,221)	(21,794)	(14,870)	(10,205)	(6,265)

Figure 26: General Fund Balance compared to Risk Based Target



The risk-based calculation for the General Fund Balance over the course of the 5 year Financial Strategy is detailed below.

Calculation of Risk Assessed General Fund Balance

2023/24					2024/25			2025/26			2026/27			2027/28			2028/29		
Budget/ Value	Risk Level	Risk Assessed General Fund	Budget Assumption	Area of Risk	Budget/ Value	Risk Level	Risk Assessed General Fund	Budget/ Value	Risk Level	Risk Assessed General Fund	Budget/ Value	Risk Level	Risk Assessed General Fund	Budget/ Value	Risk Level	Risk Assessed General Fund	Budget/ Value	Risk Level	Risk Assessed General Fund
£000		£000			£000		£000	£000		£000	£000		£000	£000		£000	£000		£000
Treatment of inflation and interest rates																			
232,475	0.50%	1,162	Inflation	Salaries	214,009	0.50%	1,070	195,176	0.50%	976	191,919	0.50%	960	188,717	0.50%	944	185,567	0.50%	928
28,067	2.45%	688		Premises	25,837	2.45%	634	23,564	2.45%	578	23,170	2.45%	568	22,784	2.45%	559	22,404	2.45%	549
20,729	0.79%	164		Transport	19,082	0.79%	151	17,403	0.79%	138	17,112	0.79%	136	16,827	0.79%	134	16,546	0.79%	131
82,278	0.50%	411		Supplies & Services	75,743	0.20%	151	69,077	0.20%	138	67,925	0.20%	136	66,791	0.20%	134	65,677	0.20%	131
276,632	0.50%	1,383		Third Party Payments	254,658	0.20%	509	232,247	0.20%	464	228,372	0.20%	457	224,561	0.20%	449	220,814	0.20%	442
99,947	0.50%	500		Transfer Payments	92,008	0.20%	184	83,911	0.20%	168	82,511	0.20%	165	81,134	0.20%	162	79,780	0.20%	160
90,285	0.00%	0		Pension triennial valuation unaffordable	92,994	0.50%	465	95,784	0.50%	479	98,657	0.50%	493	101,617	0.50%	508	103,649	0.50%	518
		4,309		Total Inflation			3,165			2,941			2,915			2,889			2,859
224,868	0.00%	0	Interest rates	Existing Borrowing	224,268	0.00%	0	223,768	0.00%	0	223,768	0.00%	0	223,768	0.00%	0	223,768	0.00%	0
0	0.00%	0		New Borrowing	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0
5,500	1.00%	55		PWLB	600	1.00%	6	500	1.00%	5	0	1.00%	0	0	1.00%	0	0	1.00%	0
58,970	0.50%	295		Investment	58,970	1.00%	590	58,970	1.00%	590	58,970	1.00%	590	58,970	1.00%	590	58,970	1.00%	590
		350		Total Interest Rates			596			595			590			590			590
Level and timing of capital receipts																			
-12,966	0.00%	0	Capital Receipts	Land Sales	18,906	1.38%	261	43,164	1.38%	596	44,699	1.38%	617	0	1.38%	0	0	1.38%	0
4,018	1.38%	55		Required for new Powers to use for Revenue	1,500	1.38%	21	0	1.38%	0	0	1.38%	0	0	1.38%	0	0	1.38%	0
		55		Total Capital Receipts			282			596			617			0			0
Treatment of demand led pressures																			
112,788	12.70%	14,325	Demand Led	Adult Social Care	121,710	12.70%	15,458	127,319	12.70%	16,170	130,991	12.70%	16,637	134,756	12.70%	17,115	138,615	12.70%	17,605
31,524	27.14%	8,556	Pressures	Childrens Social Care	34,438	27.14%	9,347	37,351	27.14%	10,138	40,264	27.14%	10,929	43,178	27.14%	11,720	46,091	27.14%	12,510
		22,881		Total Demand Led Pressures			24,805			26,308			27,566			28,834			30,115
Treatment of planned efficiency savings/productivity gains																			
51,294	22.56%	11,571	Efficiency Savings	23/24 non achievement of savings															
				24/25 non achievement of savings	62,479	20.30%	12,685												
				25/26 non achievement of savings				11,713	20.30%	2,378									
				25/26 remaining funding gap to be identified				18,951	20.30%	3,848									
				26/27 non achievement of savings							-108	20.30%	-22						
				26/27 remaining funding gap to be identified							12,025	20.30%	2,441						
				27/28 non achievement of savings										0	20.30%	0			
				27/28 remaining funding gap to be identified										9,339	20.30%	1,896			
				28/29 non achievement of savings													0	16.92%	0
				28/29 remaining funding gap to be identified													8,656	16.92%	1,465
		11,571		Total Efficiency Savings			12,685			6,226			2,420			1,896			1,465

2023/24			Budget Assumption		Area of Risk		2024/25			2025/26			2026/27			2027/28			2028/29		
Budget/ Value £000	Risk Level	Risk Assessed General Fund £000					Budget/ Value £000	Risk Level	Risk Assessed General Fund £000	Budget/ Value £000	Risk Level	Risk Assessed General Fund £000	Budget/ Value £000	Risk Level	Risk Assessed General Fund £000	Budget/ Value £000	Risk Level	Risk Assessed General Fund £000	Budget/ Value £000	Risk Level	Risk Assessed General Fund £000
Availability of reserves, government grants and other funds to deal with																					
3,706	5.00%	185	Insurance and	Provision			3,706	5.00%	185	3,706	5.00%	185	3,706	5.00%	185	3,706	5.00%	185	3,706	5.00%	185
3,636	5.00%	182	Emergency Planning	Reserve			3,636	5.00%	182	3,636	5.00%	182	3,636	5.00%	182	3,636	5.00%	182	3,636	5.00%	182
500	Quantum	500		ICT Disaster			500	Quantum	500	500	Quantum	500	500	Quantum	500	500	Quantum	500	500	Quantum	500
500	Quantum	500		Other Incident			500	Quantum	500	500	Quantum	500	500	Quantum	500	500	Quantum	500	500	Quantum	500
512	Quantum	512		Bellwin			523	Quantum	523	549	Quantum	549	583	Quantum	583	604	Quantum	604	626	Quantum	626
2,074	10.00%	207		Severe Weather			2,130	10.00%	213	2,188	10.00%	219	2,247	10.00%	225	2,307	10.00%	231	2,370	10.00%	237
2,086			Total Insurance and Emergency Planning		2,104			2,135			2,175			2,202			2,230				
49,908	0.00%	0	Other Government Settlement Changes			59,889	0.00%	0	50,052	5.00%	2,503	51,284	5.00%	2,564	52,553	5.00%	2,628	53,860	5.00%	2,693	
50,010	1.00%	500	Housing Benefits			50,010	1.00%	500	50,010	1.00%	500	50,010	1.00%	500	50,010	1.00%	500	50,010	1.00%	500	
2,378	5.00%	119	DSG pressures - Academisation			2,212	5.00%	111	2,212	5.00%	111	2,212	5.00%	111	2,212	5.00%	111	2,212	5.00%	111	
573	25.00%	143	Academy School transfer leaving deficit			573	25.00%	143	573	25.00%	143	573	25.00%	143	573	25.00%	143	573	25.00%	143	
762			Total Funding Changes		754			3,257			3,318			3,382			3,447				
General Financial Climate																					
13,434	5.00%	672	General Financial	Debt Collection			13,434	5.00%	672	13,434	5.00%	672	13,434	5.00%	672	13,434	5.00%	672	13,434	5.00%	672
193,577	0.50%	968	Climate	Council Tax - General risk			205,104	0.50%	1,026	213,771	0.50%	1,069	222,805	0.50%	1,114	232,220	0.50%	1,161	242,034	0.50%	1,210
39,424	5.00%	1,971		Business Rates - General risk			41,306	5.00%	2,065	41,459	5.00%	2,073	49,503	5.00%	2,475	50,352	5.00%	2,518	51,218	5.00%	2,561
44,164	0.50%	221		Discretionary Income			44,164	0.50%	221	44,164	0.50%	221	44,164	0.50%	221	44,164	0.50%	221	44,164	0.50%	221
3,832			Total General Financial Climate		3,983			4,034			4,482			4,571			4,664				
255,914	0.50%	1,280	Additional Budget Pressures			261,697	0.50%	1,308	274,368	0.50%	1,372	291,610	0.50%	1,458	302,041	0.50%	1,510	312,892	0.50%	1,564	
47,127			TOTAL RISK ASSESSED GENERAL FUND		49,682			47,463			45,539			45,874			46,934				

Figure 27: Risk Based Calculation of General Fund

The benchmark position for Shropshire Council is set out below in the CIPFA resilience index. Based on the latest data (the outturn for 2022/23) it shows

- Very high risk for reserves, including rate of use, overall level relative to net budget, and change in reserves over time
- High risk for the cost of borrowing versus net budget, but moderate risk in terms of overall borrowing
- Moderate proportion of the budget allocated to social care
- Moderate to high levels of fees and charges
- Moderate Council Tax requirement



Figure 28: CIPFA Resilience Index

Level of reserves is further analysed as follows, comparing Shropshire Council with our nearest statistical neighbours:

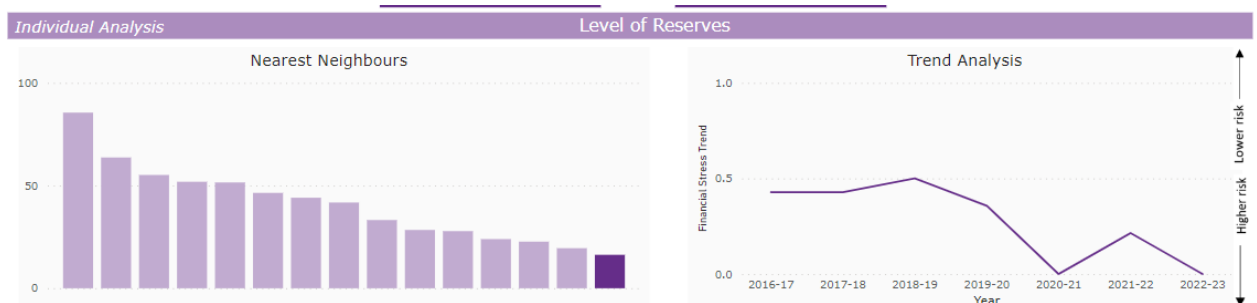


Figure 29: CIPFA Resilience Index Level of Reserves compared to Nearest Neighbours

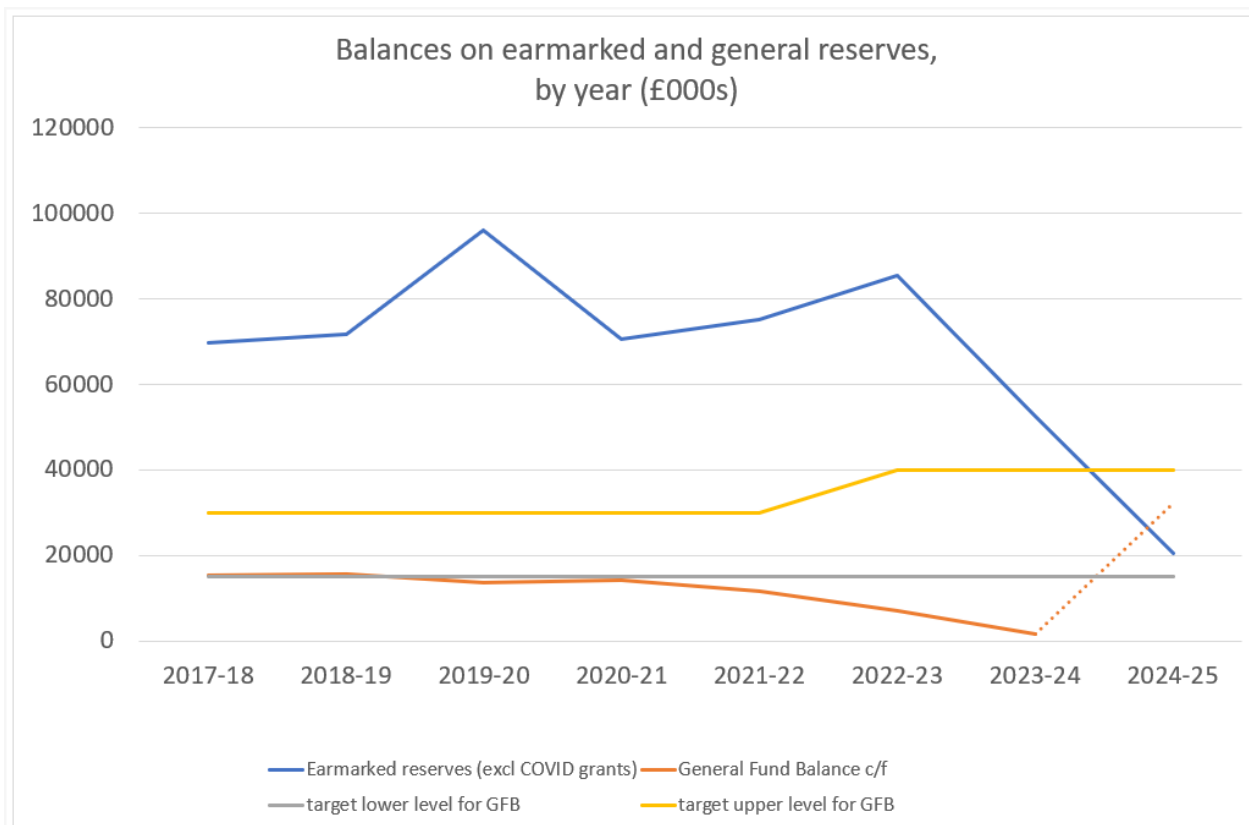


Figure 30: Balances on Earmarked and General Reserves since 2017/18

General advice on reserves levels has been included in the review undertaken by the Council’s independent external auditor (Grant Thornton) covering recent ‘public interest reports’ published for councils that have entered a situation of financial crisis. GT recommend that council reserves should be between 5% and 10% of net spending: *This, we believe, is the absolute and fundamental lesson from the PIRs issued in the last few months. Maintaining sound reserves is absolutely vital and a key indicator of sound financial governance. It should be at the heart of all medium-term financial plans. In our view, general fund reserves (including earmarked general fund reserves) should be a minimum of 5% of net spending and arguably should be somewhere between 5 and 10%.⁵ ... flexed upwards to consider the macro-economic and local risks the council faces.⁶*

If net spending is considered as ‘core spending power’, then the target level of general fund reserves for this Council in 2024/25 is between £13m (at 5%) and £26m (at 10%). However, local funding pressures indicate that the council would be well advised to be targeting an ongoing general fund reserve position of at least £30m, with an outlook to ‘flex upwards’ beyond that through the medium term.

This MTFS include such a strategy within its estimates for the medium term but the pressure on reserves in the short term is acute, and increases overall financial risk as a result.

⁵ [Lessons from recent Public Interest Reports | Grant Thornton](#), page 5

⁶ *Ibid*, page 14.

Research undertaken by CIPFA show that generally upper tier councils hold a general fund balance of approximately 10% of the net revenue budget. Shropshire Council is projected to hold a balance of £1.628m at the end of 2023/24 which represents 0.64% of the Net Revenue Budget. Using the CIPFA research and the Grant Thornton review of Public Interest Reports as a basis for agreeing a benchmark to evaluate the level of General Fund Balance held, it is considered appropriate that the balance held should be somewhere between 5% and 15% of their net revenue budget. If this benchmark was implemented, it would be necessary for the General Fund Balance to be between £13.085m and £39.255m in 2024/25. This can be seen as a blunt tool for calculating an appropriate balance to hold but does give a standard to compare to when considering if the risk calculated approach used by this Council is appropriate. As the graph above shows, in 2024/25, when the Council is embarking on an ambitious £69m savings plan, the risk assessed level is over the higher end of the spectrum. However, if the Council can deliver the saving planned in 2024/25, the risk assessed level will reduce in future years to just below the higher end of the spectrum. This would suggest that the current methodology used to calculate an appropriate general fund balance to hold is appropriate.

6.2 Earmarked Reserves

A review of the earmarked balances held by the Council has been performed to establish the purpose of the reserves and the likely timescale that these reserves will be utilised.

Earmarked reserves are created to meet known or predicted requirements in the future. There are 5 main categories of earmarked reserves that the Council holds:

- Sums set aside for major schemes, such as capital developments, or to fund major reorganisations
- Insurance Reserves
- Reserves of trading and business units
- Reserves retained for service departmental use
- School Balances

The Council held balances of £52.579m in earmarked reserves at 31 March 2023 which includes schools budget balances of £10.487m. During the course of 2023/24 it is anticipated that a net £20.381m will be allocated from earmarked reserves to fund commitments in 2023/24. This includes the release of £9.7m from a range of earmarked reserves that have been transferred into the General Fund Balance during the course of 2023/24. A full breakdown of the earmarked reserves is detailed below including the purpose of each reserve.

Figure 31: Breakdown of Earmarked Reserves

Reserves	Purpose of Balance	2023/24		
		Balance Brought Forward	Anticipated movement	Balance Carried Forward
		(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)
Sums set aside for major schemes, such as capital developments, or to fund major reorganisation				
Revenue Commitments for Future Capital Expenditure	Comprises of underspends against budgeted revenue contributions available for capital schemes. The underspends have arisen due to slippage in capital schemes or because other funding streams were utilised during the year so as to maximise time limited grants.	3,815	18	3,834
Development Reserve	Required to fund development projects or training that will deliver efficiency savings.	8,862	-3,873	4,989
Invest to save Reserve	Required to fund invest to save projects in order to deliver the service transformation programme.	2,070	-986	1,083
		14,747	-4,842	9,906
Insurance Reserves				
Fire Liability	Required to meet the cost of excesses on all council properties.	2,216	-1,495	722
Motor Insurance	An internally operated self-insurance reserve to meet costs not covered by the Council's Motor Insurance Policy.	1,420	-1,000	420
		3,636	-2,495	1,141

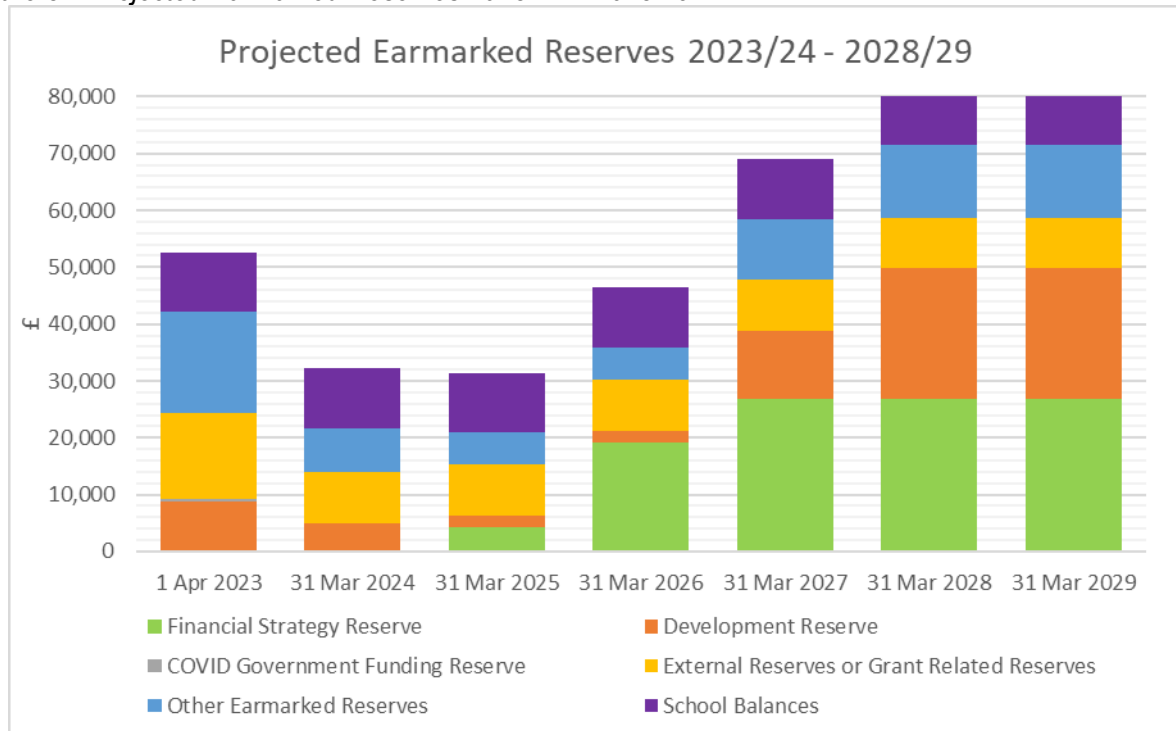
Reserves	Purpose of Balance	2023/24		
		Balance Brought Forward	Anticipated movement	Balance Carried Forward
		(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)
Reserves of trading and business units				
Shire Catering and Cleaning Efficiency	Built up from trading surpluses to invest in new initiatives, to meet exceptional unbudgeted costs or cover any trading deficits.	0	0	0
		0	0	0
Reserves retained for service departmental use				
Building Control	Required to manage the position regarding building control charges.	424	-51	374
Care Act & IBCF Reserve	Required to fund the costs of implementing the Care Act requirements within the Council. This will be committed to the costs of one off posts required to implement the changes and training costs for staff within Adult Services. Plus unspent IBCF monies required to fund the IBCF programme in future years.	1,968	-1,399	569
Economic Development Workshops Major Maintenance	Established to meet the costs of major maintenance of Economic Development Workshops.	149	0	149
External Fund Reserve	Reserves held where the Council is the administering body for trust funds or partnership working.	2,698	-345	2,353
Financial Strategy Reserve	Established specifically to provide one off funding for savings proposals in the Financial Strategy	0	0	0
COVID Government Funding Reserve	Established to hold funds advanced by Government to respond to the COVID 19 pandemic which require to be applied in future years	391	-391	0
Savings Management - Highways	Established specifically to provide one off funding for highways savings proposals in the Financial Strategy	0	0	0
Highways Development & Innovation Fund	Set aside funds for pump priming the Development and Innovation programme.	1,500	0	1,500
New Homes Bonus	Established from unapplied New Homes Bonus Grant balances.	1,177	-744	432
Public Health Reserve	This reserve includes balances committed to specific public health projects.	4,323	-4,086	238
Repairs & Maintenance Reserve	Set aside for known repairs and maintenance required to Council owned properties.	333	-254	80
Resources Efficiency	Established for investment in new developments, particularly information technology, that service area would not be expected to meet from their internal service level agreements for support services.	1,217	-790	427
Revenue Commitments from Unringfenced Revenue Grants	Established from unapplied unringfenced Grant balances. Commitments have been made against these balances in 2023/24	4,328	-1,756	2,572
Severe Weather	Required to meet unbudgeted costs arising from the damage caused by severe weather. The policy of the Council is to budget for an average year's expenditure in the revenue accounts and transfer any underspend to the reserve or fund any overspend from the reserve.	3,009	-2,995	14
TMO Vehicle Replacement	Set up to meet the costs of replacement vehicles by the Integrated Transport Unit.	67	-30	37
		21,583	-12,840	8,743
School Balances				
Balances held by schools under a scheme of delegation	Schools' balances have to be ringfenced for use by schools and schools have the right to spend those balances at their discretion.	10,487	0	10,487
Schools Building Maintenance Insurance	The schools building maintenance insurance scheme is a service provided by Property Services for schools. In return for an annual sum all structural repairs and maintenance responsibilities previously identified as the "authority's responsibility" are carried out at no additional charge to the school.	2,126	-204	1,921
		12,612	-204	12,408
Total Reserves		52,579	-20,381	32,197

The Finance Strategy assumes that in 2024/25 onwards, funding will be directed to reinstating a Financial Strategy Reserve to help smooth delivery of the Financial Strategy and to provide more resilience to the General Fund Balance.

A projection of the level of earmarked reserves that will be held over the next 5 years of the financial strategy is demonstrated in the graph below and shows the planned increase

from 2024/25 onwards. It also intended in the later years of the finance strategy to build up a capital/transformation fund to provide funding for any new initiatives that would help to keep the revenue budget on a sustainable footing and invest in a climate change/energy efficiency fund to provide resilience for the climate emergencies such as flooding which are becoming a regular occurrence in Shropshire.

Figure 32: Projected Earmarked Reserves 2023/24 – 2028/29



6.3 Robustness of Estimates

Each year council considers a Statement of the Robustness of Estimates.

Budget estimates are estimates of spending and income made at a point in time. This statement about the robustness of estimates cannot give a guaranteed assurance about the budget, but in an objective and systematic manner gives members reasonable assurances that the budget has been based on the best available information and assumptions.

In order to meet the requirements for the robustness of estimates a number of key processes were put into place, including:

- Review of expenditure and resources for the entire council for next five years to identify the underlying viability of the council's resource envelope when compared to cost.
- Review of existing budgets and focus on key risk areas as part of the budget setting and budget monitoring process. For example, our key risk areas in terms of budget size and volatility are Adult Services and Children's Social Care. These areas have been subject to demand pressures within 2023/24 and so detailed modelling on number of clients and cost variations have been created to understand fully where the underlying cost pressure is arising from. This data has then been used within growth modelling to consider future costs for these areas over the course of the Medium term Financial Strategy.
- Identification of the in-year and the full year impact of any variations compared to budget. This ensures that the underlying budget and any pressure can always be separately identified and arrangements to manage pressures (for example by the use of one-off resources) is undertaken in an open and transparent mechanism, approved by Cabinet.
- The Financial Strategy and Budget Monitoring Reports are updated and reported to Cabinet on a regular basis throughout the year. In this period of unprecedented uncertainty in terms of Local Government funding and spending pressures, the latest position is always reported transparently even though this position can change significantly from one reporting period to the next.
- Separation of roles within the Finance Team in setting budget control totals, identifying budget requirement and inputting into the Finance System which is subject to review by Internal Audit as part of the Council's Internal Audit Plan.
- Review by Finance Staff with Service Managers to understand the achievability, deliverability and timescales for all proposed service redesign.

Notwithstanding these arrangements, which are designed to test the budget throughout its various stages of development, considerable reliance is placed on Senior Managers having proper arrangements in place to identify issues, project demand data, performance information and to consider value for money and efficiency. Financial tools and reports have been developed during 2023/24 to provide budget holders with the most accurate financial data in order to inform their decisions, enhance their understanding of the budget position and improve budget projections.

Robustness of Revenue Estimates

The 2024/25 budget process continues to progress in improving the Council's budget preparation, with the inclusion of a detailed growth model and the process of medium term forecasting due to information and trend data drawn from the monitoring of the budget and associated systems, reported as a minimum to Cabinet on a quarterly basis.

As part of developing the 2024/25 budget, The Council has undertaken significant savings identification work, and all available options have been identified, the implications of these savings with the main driver being whether this aligns to the Shropshire Plan outcomes. Cabinet Members have been updated throughout this process and have had the opportunity to review the options considered, and these are reflected in the proposed budget.

The development of the 5 year financial strategy is based on the assumption that services need to be delivered and funded through an appropriate level of resources over the next five years and this is demonstrated in the resources and expenditure projections given in Table 7 below. This includes assumptions around savings to be delivered as part of the Financial Strategy.

Table 7: Gross Resources and Expenditure Projections

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Projected Resources	645,741	709,472	701,441	713,053	724,702	736,703
Current Projected Expenditure	645,741	709,472	720,392	744,030	765,018	785,675
Funding Gap	0	0	18,951	30,977	40,316	48,972
Year on Year Gap		0	18,951	12,026	9,339	8,656

Savings proposals have been identified for 2024/25 through to 2026/27. The savings identified relate to six categories, Reducing Cost, Target Operating Model, Demand Management, New Income, Charge More and Stop/Cease Services. All senior management have been involved in a challenge process to identify the proposed savings. Some of the savings values, whilst achievable, are ambitious and so progress against these proposals will be monitored carefully to consider the impact on the budget strategy. The specific factors taken into account in developing the draft budget are detailed below in Figure 33.

Robustness of Budget Management and Savings Delivery

Considering the magnitude of the spending reductions being targeted in the coming year, and recognising the recent history of the council in terms of savings delivery, additional measures will continue to give increased support to service managers to deliver planned savings and contain spending within budgeted levels. These measures include

- Enhanced in-year monitoring; monthly reviews, including both year-to-date and forecast expenditure
- Savings trackers highlighting the delivery plan for the saving and monitoring progress against this
- Increased visibility of activity data and trend analysis
- Scope for rapid intervention to address any significant deviation from spending plans as these are identified.

The approaches summarised above will ensure that the budget is given the best chance of success. These measures have been discussed and agreed with Cabinet and the Senior Leadership Team. The measures are an important part of the assurances regarding the robustness of the revenue estimates and the confidence of the Section 151 Officer that the Council can contain its spending within the available funding.

Robustness of Capital Budget

The agreed programme is fully funded within a three-year timescale however this is heavily dependent on the Council generating significant levels of capital receipts. Projects have been costed at current year prices but may be subject to tender processes after inclusion in the programme which may lead to a variance in the final cost. In some areas, the design brief may not be finalised, again giving rise to potential price variance.

The risk of the Council being unable to fund variations outside of the programme is minimal mainly due to the phasing of projects. If necessary, the Council can choose to freeze parts of the programme throughout the year to ensure spend is kept within the agreed budget.

There are two main risks associated with the Capital Programme.

- Firstly, the ability to deliver the capital programme within the agreed timescales. Slippage from 2023/24 is fully funded over the Financial Strategy period but this in itself will increase pressure on the Council to deliver the anticipated 2024/25 programme.
- Secondly, the draft three-year programme includes projects funded from anticipated capital receipts. This is in addition to transformation projects also being funded from capital receipts, and so there is an increased need for delivery of capital receipts. In the current climate these receipts may be lower than anticipated or may not materialise in the expected timeframe which will have to be managed through a robust monitoring process.

The capital programme will be actively managed and reprofiled during the course of the financial year to reflect scheme delivery timescales and revisions to funding agreements for projects. At the end of the year, however, slippage within the programme normally occurs which had not previously been anticipated. This will be due to delays in delivery of schemes and the net of underspends and overspends against specific projects. As shown in Table 8 below, in 2022/23 there was slippage of £10.747 which represents 9.7% of the revised capital programme. Action has already been taken during the course of 2023/24 to reprofile budgets to future years to reflect latest data on project delivery.

Table 8: Three Year Capital Position (£000's)

	2022/23 Outturn	2023/24 Latest Projection	2024/25 Latest Estimate
Capital Programme	125,314	114,719	147,351
Reprofile Budgets	(14,202)	1,449	0
Revised Capital Programme	111,112	116,168	147,351
Slippage	(10,747)	-	-
Actual Capital Programme	100,365	116,168	147,351

The capital programme includes a target for capital receipts to be delivered to ensure the programme is fully funded and removing the necessity for prudential borrowing to be undertaken to meet a funding gap. This target generally decreases during the course of the year to reflect the reprofiled budget, however the full capital receipt target will still be required to fully fund the capital programme.

Over the last 3 years (2021/22 to 2023/24) the level of capital receipts has been sufficient for a balance of capital receipts to be carried forward to offset any requirement for funding in the next financial year. This has been managed by natural slippage in the programme which has enabled other sources of funding to be used initially. In 2024/25 the level of capital receipts required is £32.7432m and a shortfall of £18.906m currently exists within receipt projections. There are currently £28.937m of further assets being considered for disposal which would address this shortfall if progressed. Whilst every effort will be made to bring this level of resources into the Council, should there be a delay in the delivery schedule of capital receipts it is anticipated that this will again be controlled through natural and potentially managed slippage in the capital programme. If this cannot be managed through natural and managed slippage, this will result in prudential borrowing being undertaken for the shortfall which would then generate an additional pressure on the revenue budget.

Figure 33: Analysis of Budget Assumptions and Financial Risks, including the Council's Financial Management Arrangements and Appropriate Mitigation

Budget Assumption	Explanation of Risk	Financial Standing and Management and Mitigating Action
1. The treatment of inflation	<p>There are two key issues in relation to inflation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There may be some items of expenditure – fuel or energy costs for example - where any estimate of inflation is a 'best guess'. The risk assessment considers the average level of inflation experienced over a 5 year period and so reflects the higher levels of inflation that may seem to be unreasonable to include in a budget, but might come to pass. • Information is less accurate for years 2 onwards; the risk assessment covers the higher range. <p>It is difficult to predict the direction that the wider economy will take and thus the level of inflation required. As has been seen over the last 2 years the level of inflation is significantly higher than had been anticipated.</p>	<p>Pay – £1,800 per scale point has been provided in the 2024/25 budget whilst the outcome of pay negotiations are awaited. Funding has also been provided for increments due to be awarded for 2024/25 based on existing staffing levels.</p> <p>Pension contribution rates are at the rate of 17.2% for 2024/25 following the 2023 valuation on the Pension Fund.</p> <p>Price inflation has been provided on contractually or quasi-contractually committed budgets at the rate stated in the relevant agreement.</p>
2. Interest rates on borrowing and investment	This issue here is similar to those in 1 above, but for a specific area.	Interest receivable budgets have been set based on 5% interest receivable. These range from investments for 12 months

Budget Assumption	Explanation of Risk	Financial Standing and Management and Mitigating Action
	<p>The Council's policy of generating capital receipts to prevent new borrowing, and allowing existing borrowing to mature has resulted in a reduction in available cash balances to invest. However since inflation spiked in the economy, the Bank of England has increased the interest rates to try and manage the inflation levels. This has resulted in better returns on cash balances, but unfortunately this has come at a time when cash balances are low.</p> <p>The Council's borrowing has been undertaken at fixed rates of interest and so the level of interest payable is not considered as a risk to variable rates. However if borrowing should be required, there is a potential risk that any new borrowing may not be secured at similar interest rates to those currently budgeted for.</p>	<p>gaining 5.5% to money market funds achieving rates of 5.25%.</p> <p>The average interest rate of the total debt portfolio (excluding HRA) is calculated at 4.9% for 2023/24 and this is used for all borrowing costs.</p> <p>NB: PWLB have recently increased all new borrowing rates so for 2023/24 the range is currently between 5% (short term) and 5.3% (long term). Borrowing for investment properties primarily for yield is now prohibited from the PWLB.</p>
<p>3. Estimates of the level and timing of capital receipts.</p>	<p>The Council has developed an asset management strategy and has a policy of reducing borrowing costs around the capital programme where possible. Therefore, the capital programme is dependent on the delivery of capital receipts. The planned receipts estimated to the Council are made more difficult due to reducing market values and problems for potential procurers in obtaining finance.</p>	<p>Capital receipts are monitored monthly in the capital monitoring report and are RAG rated in terms of their anticipated delivery against target.</p> <p>Given the need to increase the level of capital receipts generated due to the use of capital receipts for transformation activities in line with the Flexibility on the use of Capital Receipts, the Council is performing a review of assets for consideration of future disposal. This is being discussed regularly with the Senior Leadership Team, to maximise opportunities for sales of assets.</p>
<p>4. The treatment of demand led pressures</p>	<p>There are long standing areas of risk due to volatility, where we budget for demographic changes in future years, but might find the actual is at the higher end resulting in a shortfall, particularly in the short term.</p> <p>Two areas specifically affected by demography are adult social care and children's social care, where we have seen significant budget pressures due to increasing numbers of Children becoming looked after and clients receiving care packages.</p>	<p>Managers review their base budgets including demand led pressures. Services are expected to put forward management and policy actions to manage the additional demand within the relevant legislation either within the relevant budget or reprioritising within their Service budgets. If this is not possible and under-spending management action or policy actions in other Services are not sufficient to cover the additional demand, then reserves may have to be used to address the additional expenditure temporarily.</p> <p>Such an eventuality has been considered in future years' budgets and it is assumed that general fund reserves are restored to an appropriate prudent level over the course of the Financial Strategy.</p> <p>Given that there have been significant budgetary pressures in social care budgets, there has been action to consider a number</p>

Budget Assumption	Explanation of Risk	Financial Standing and Management and Mitigating Action
		<p>of demand management measures to mitigate the growth that is being experienced in care costs. Whilst this has been identified in 2023/24, it is unlikely that this will be delivered until 2024/25 and therefore demand management savings have been identified and built into the 2024/25 to mitigate the demographic growth that has been identified.</p> <p>The 2024/25 budget has been based upon specific demand levels identified during budget monitoring in 2022/23 and six months of 2023/24 and projections made by Heads of Service of demand levels in future years. A growth model for both Children's social care and Adults social care is relied upon for setting these budgets.</p> <p>Measures are also being put into place to give increased support to service managers, specifically within adult social care and children's social care to contain spending within budgeted levels. These measures include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced in-year monitoring; monthly reviews, including both year-to-date and forecast expenditure • Increased visibility of activity data and trend analysis • Scope for rapid intervention to address any significant deviation from spending plans as these are identified.
<p>5. The treatment of efficiency savings</p>	<p>The budget includes improvement programmes that will deliver savings; the risk is that they may be delivered at a slower rate.</p> <p>The total savings identified for 2024/25 are £69.2m which will have risks involved in terms of delivery, and also from delays in delivery. The savings, whilst achievable are ambitious and this should be reflected in the risk factor applied.</p>	<p>All Managers have a responsibility to ensure the efficient delivery of services and when efficiency savings are proposed that those savings are both realistic in terms of the level of savings and timing.</p> <p>Delivery plans for savings are being compiled prior to the 2024/25 financial year and will be carefully monitored during the course of the year.</p> <p>Should the level and timing of such savings vary due to unforeseen events and under-spending, management action or policy actions within the relevant Service Area and corporately will be implemented where appropriate. Alternatively the General Fund Balance will be utilised as a temporary funding mechanism until the full savings are achieved.</p> <p>If the funding gap remains unresolved by future savings plans the council will need to consider making further efficiencies.</p>

Budget Assumption	Explanation of Risk	Financial Standing and Management and Mitigating Action
<p>6. The financial risks inherent in any significant new funding partnerships, major outsourcing deals or major capital developments</p>	<p>The Council may decide to establish separate delivery vehicles in order to improve service delivery in the future. Full business cases are required for any services being considered for transfer to an alternative service vehicle.</p>	<p>The sharing of risk is in accordance with the principle of the risks being borne by the party best placed to manage that risk. Inherent risks include any guarantee or variation of service throughput (service volumes). If risks materialise the expectation is that such an eventuality will be considered in future years' budgets.</p> <p>Business cases for any new delivery vehicles will fully investigate any financial risks that the Council may face in the future and the Financial Strategy updated accordingly.</p>
<p>7. The availability of other funds to deal with major contingencies</p>	<p>Were a disaster to occur, we have to have a reserve in place to pick up costs that will fall to the Council.</p> <p>The impact of flooding within the Council area based on present experience is that it is limited to localised pockets.</p> <p>The geographical area covered by the Council has resulted in budget pressures in some years due to extreme weather conditions and additional costs such as snow clearance. Changes to the base budget provision has been made in previous years to help mitigate this, but overspends in previous years have, at times, been in excess of this growth level. In more recent years it has not been necessary to utilise all available funding, but a risk remains.</p> <p>Other disasters such as those relating to ICT could occur on a one off basis.</p>	<p>The level of reserves assumes that management and policy actions will be taken to address major contingencies. Should these be insufficient, the general fund balance may have to be used.</p> <p>An earmarked reserve has been established for Severe Weather however any pressure not covered by this reserve would need to be funded from the general fund balance.</p> <p>A risk based approach in calculating the general fund balance takes into consideration the types of incidents and costs associated and this is reviewed annually.</p> <p>The Council's insurance arrangements are a balance between external insurance premiums and internal funds to "self-insure" some areas. Premiums and self-funds are reactive to external perceptions of the risks faced by the Council which includes both risks that are generic to all organisations and those specific to the authority. Therefore the values of Insurance Reserves are reviewed each year to ensure that the optimum balance is held based on the level of outstanding liabilities.</p> <p>Any major incident or emergency may result in significant costs to the Council. Depending on the incident concerned, the Council may be able to recover such costs through the Bellwin Scheme however the Council would need to cover any expenditure up to the agreed threshold level. This level is fully included within the Council's general fund balance.</p>

Budget Assumption	Explanation of Risk	Financial Standing and Management and Mitigating Action					
<p>8. Impact on council funding of announcements of national changes</p>	<p>Council funding is always subject to change, especially in the current economic climate. However the Financial Strategy takes account of projected changes in the Revenue Support Grant and specific government grants.</p> <p>In recent years the Dedicated Schools Grant allocation to the Council has come under pressure, in relation to the costs of supporting High Needs Pupils and the centrally retained share due to the academisation process. Additional funding for High Needs Pupils has now been received by the Government which temporarily alleviated the pressure in this area, but increased costs of placements has again provided a pressure in 2023/24.</p>	<p>The major risk factor included is in relation to the Housing Benefits grants which the Council receives. Changes are planned for welfare benefits which may increase the Council's exposure to costs over and above the grant that is received. This has been factored into the General Fund risk based calculation.</p>					
<p>9. The overall financial standing of the authority (level of, debt outstanding, council tax collection rates etc.)</p>	<p>Changes may mean doing things in a way for which we have no ready evidence and any assumptions made may be wrong. Additionally, the areas of change will alter over time.</p> <p>An allowance for budget pressures has been built in to accommodate any corrective action that needs to be taken if the assumptions about changes in service delivery should change.</p> <p>Prior to the pandemic the economic downturn meant the risk of not collecting all income due to the Council was enhanced, which includes all sundry debt, and charges relating to Council Tax and Business Rates. Any such pressure identified should be evaluated and provided for.</p> <p>Income from fees and charges is also vulnerable to change based on the current economic climate. This is likely to continue and is adjusted for within the Financial Strategy, but is subject to short term negative variations from year to year.</p>	<p>The level of aged debt within the sundry debtors figure is monitored and reported to management regularly so that the appropriate action may be taken. Bad debt provisions are maintained to protect the budget against any such pressures, but should these not be sufficient, the general fund would be used.</p> <p>A fees and charges report is produced for Cabinet covering income from fees and charges. This review considers the level of income as monitored in the quarterly revenue monitors to Cabinet, and considers the impact of increases in charges, or the freezing of charges on the 2024/25 budget.</p>					
<p>10. The authority's track record in budget and financial management.</p>	<p>Any overspend realised in a financial year would result in the use of the general fund balance. The Council has identified that general fund balances need to be in place in order to protect the Council against specific financial risks, and so any general</p>	<p>The Council's recent track record in budget and financial management 2017 to 2024 shows potential variations from a £14.5m overspend to a £0.6m underspend (a range of £15.1m).</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td> (£'000)</td> <td> Underspend/</td> </tr> </table>			Financial	(£'000)	Underspend/
Financial	(£'000)	Underspend/					

Budget Assumption	Explanation of Risk	Financial Standing and Management and Mitigating Action		
	<p>overspend due to weaknesses in budget management, undermine any planned action being taken on the General Fund Balance.</p> <p>Financial management needs to be considered across all service areas of the Council. If a particular service area is unable to manage a particular overspend pressure, this may present a need to use general fund balance in the current financial year. Also this may have implications on future level of balances if no action is taken to reduce the spending pressure for the service area in future years or offset by compensating savings.</p>	Year		Overspend
		2017/18	(613)	Under
		2018/19	(167)	Under
		2019/20	1,692	Over
		2020/21	(655)	Under
		2021/22	2,505	Over
		2022/23	8,499	Over
		2023/24*	14,533	Over
		Total 2016 to 2023	25,794	Over
		* Projected Outturn position at Q3		
		Each year the Council manages budgets carefully and takes necessary management action to bring the budget into balance.		
		Ultimately, financial performance relies on all budget holders actively managing their budgets and complying with financial rules, including not committing expenditure if there is no budget provision available.		
		A significant overspend has arisen in 2023/24 as demand for services such as ASC and Children's Social Care has outstripped projections. Further work is required by these service areas to look to reduce demand where appropriate prior in the remainder of the year.		
		The authority needs to continually improve its ability to manage in-year budget pressures. The following steps are already in place:		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accuracy of projections has improved over the year, but further work is required. 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The monitoring system continues to be improved in terms of accuracy, the frequency of reporting and the challenge process. 		
		Financial monitoring is undertaken by line managers within Business World and Finance review the projections to ensure that the monitoring position reported is appropriate.		
		The Council's virement and carry forward rules are clear and detailed in the Constitution.		

7. Housing Revenue Account



7.1 Housing Revenue Account

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) records expenditure and income on running a council's own housing stock and closely related services or facilities, which are provided primarily for the benefit of the council's own tenants. Shropshire Council inherited its housing stock from Oswestry Borough Council and Bridgnorth District Council when the Council took on unitary status in 2009. The Council transferred the management of the housing stock into an Arm's Length Management Organisation (ALMO) called Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing (STaR) in 2013. STaR manages just over 4,000 houses within the HRA, and they collect rent, undertake repairs, build new affordable homes and make improvements to neighbourhoods and the housing stock.

In 2012 the Government removed the Housing Revenue Subsidy system and required HRAs to take out self-financing borrowing. Shropshire Council took out borrowing of £83.5m in 2012 as a result of this directive and so the HRA is required each year to repay interest and debt charges in relation to this borrowing. Councils were initially only permitted to borrow funds to support new housing builds to a specific level, however in 2018 the Government removed this borrowing cap from the HRA in a bid to allow councils to address the housing crisis in the country.

Since the introduction of self-financing the HRA has developed around 25 new homes each year through the HRA capital programme. These have been funded by a direct revenue contribution from the HRA within the headroom created by the end of the housing subsidy system. The removal of the borrowing cap will allow the opportunity to provide more homes each year by increasing the borrowing limits within the Housing Revenue Account based on affordability calculations to invest further in the development of social housing within Shropshire.

Figure 34: Housing Revenue Account Budget

SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT		
2023/24 Budget £		2024/25 Budget £
	<u>Income</u>	
(19,547,030)	Dwellings Rent	(21,660,420)
(95,300)	Garage Rent	(102,561)
(30,000)	Other Rent	(32,388)
(735,380)	Charges for Services	(792,004)
(20,407,710)	Total Income	(22,587,373)
	<u>Expenditure</u>	
9,663,160	ALMO Management Fee	10,407,223
683,600	Supplies and Services	900,813
4,471,690	Capital Charges - Dwelling Depreciation	4,771,293
261,670	Capital Charges - Depreciation Other	279,202
3,365,270	Interest Paid	3,239,903
625,000	Repairs charged to revenue	635,000
250,000	New Development Feasibility	266,750
50,000	Increase in Bad Debt Provision	106,391
357,520	Corporate & Democratic Core	389,716
19,727,910	Total Expenditure	20,996,291
(679,800)	Net Cost of Services	(1,591,082)
1,013,410	Revenue Financing Capital Expenditure	5,824,467
	Loan repayments	3,600
333,610	(Surplus)/deficit for the year	4,236,986
(60,000)	Interest Received	(218,772)
273,610	Net Cost of Service/(Surplus) for Year	4,018,214
	<u>HRA Reserve</u>	
	B/fwd 1 April 2024 (Forecast)	(13,111,367)
	(Surplus)/Deficit for year (Budget)	4,018,214
	Carried Forward 31 March 2025 (Forecast)	(9,093,153)

8. Links to Other Financial Strategies

8.1 Links to Capital Strategy and Revenue Implications of the Capital Strategy

The Council is required to have a capital strategy in place that sets out the long-term context in which capital expenditure and investment decisions are made to ensure that authorities are taking account of stewardship, value for money, prudence, sustainability and affordability.

The Capital Strategy recognises that the financial resources available to meet capital expenditure priorities are constrained by a significant reduction in financial resources and ensure that investment decisions taken are at least self-sustaining financially whilst also generating positive returns in terms of meeting priorities.

The Capital Programme will be funded from the following sources:

- Capital Receipts
- Prudential Borrowing
- Developers Contribution (S106, CIL)
- Revenue Contributions
- Capital Grants

Where Prudential Borrowing and Revenue Contributions are to be used to fund capital schemes, it is necessary that the costs of borrowing or the revenue contribution to capital is built into the revenue financial strategy. Cost of investment budgets have been built into 2024/25 budget and future years in order to provide for capital schemes being financed from prudential borrowing that are planned to be delivered in the next 5 years.

The Council has also identified a number of future capital and investment schemes within the capital strategy, however as these schemes have not yet completed a full due diligence process, these do not yet form part of the approved capital programme and so associated revenue costs that may be required have not been built into the Finance Strategy. As outlined above, it is expected that these schemes will be fully funded and will therefore not create a further burden on the Finance Strategy of the Council. It should also be noted that no financial savings arising from any of these capital investments has similarly not been projected within the Finance Strategy.

Policy for Flexibility around the use of Capital Receipts

The greater flexibilities around the use of capital receipts has been extended to allow authorities to use them for a further three years from 2022/23 onwards. This allows authorities to use capital receipts to fund transformation projects that produce long term savings or reduce the costs of service delivery.

Over 2023/24 and 2024/25, Shropshire proposes to use the flexibility to help fund the following:

- redundancy costs to allow the council to manage further service redesign and restructure changes.
- transformation works relating to the development of the new target operating model and driving out savings across the Council.

The savings that will be delivered as a result of using the flexibility for the use of capital receipts are outlined in section 11 of the MTFS.

As delivery of these two elements progress during the course of the 2024/25, the amount of capital receipts that will be utilised will be agreed by the Section 151 Officer, and reported through the agreed governance routes.

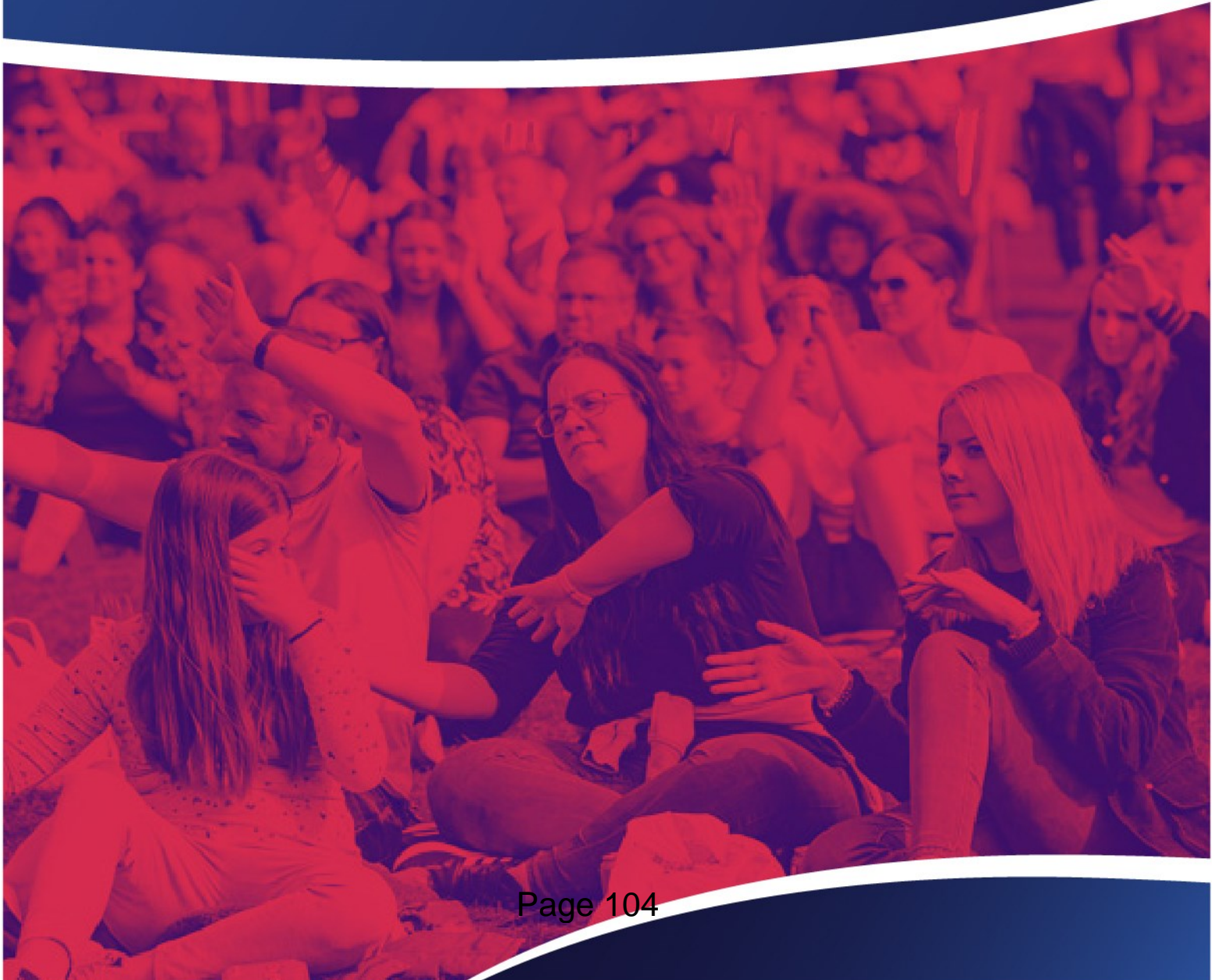
Between 2017/18 and 2022/23, this flexibility has been used to fund redundancy costs. The reduction in staffing numbers enabled through the redundancy programme, has allowed the Council to deliver revenue savings as highlighted in previous years Financial Strategies.

8.2 Links to Treasury Strategy

The Local Government Act 2003 and supporting Regulations requires the Council to have regard to the CIPFA Prudential Code and the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice in setting Prudential and Treasury Indicators for the next three years to ensure that capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable. The Act also requires the Council to set out its Treasury Strategy for borrowing and to prepare an Annual Investment Strategy. This sets out the Council's policies for managing its investments and for giving priority to the security and liquidity of those investments.

The Treasury Strategy outlines affordable borrowing limits based on the level of capital expenditure planned within the Capital Strategy and also considers the requirement for taking out new borrowing. The Council is currently under-borrowed as has applied funding for capital schemes from high cash balances rather than new prudential borrowing given that returns on cash balances are low and the Council has been holding a healthy cash balance. However with reserves reducing in 2023/24 the Council will need to monitor the level of balances held carefully to consider if there is a need to undertake external borrowing, and a number of factors will need to be considered before committing the Council to the additional costs resulting from external borrowing.

9. Public Consultation and Alternative Budget proposals



9.1 Budget Consultation Exercise and Responses

Shropshire Council Budget Consultation 2024/25

The budget consultation ran for 6 weeks to 28 January 2024. The response rate was more than three times that seen last year.

Respondents were asked to indicate their view of

- the proposed council tax increase (4.99%, including 2.99% on the basic rate and 2% on the social care precept)
- areas of the council they would protect more from spending reductions and those they would protect less
- proposals for ways to manage increased need (with demand for social care services being especially high at present, a trend that seems unlikely to change quickly)
- proposals for how to achieve spending reductions

Responses were that

- the proposed council tax increase was generally acceptable (67% agreement).
- Areas respondents preferred to
 - o protect more included adults and children's social care, and early help and support to learning and skills
 - o protect less included waste collection and disposal, support services and other running costs, theatres and museums, and planning.
- Preferred methods for securing spending reductions included increased efficiency and 'right-sizing' staffing
- Preferred methods for managing demand pressures included early help, care at home, and assistive technology.

Overall, the pattern of responses is closely aligned to the MTFs proposals set out in this report, including the proposed level of Council Tax increase, areas to protect more and less, preferred approaches to spending reductions, and preferred methods for managing resident needs in the best way.

Of course, it would not be possible to exactly reflect respondents preferences in the budgeting decisions, as some budget areas are more susceptible to change than others, and demand for services varies across different areas as well. It should also be noted that the decision on the eventual decisions arising from the budget will be reserved to Councillors, as per the Constitution. Councillors will want to have due regard for the respondents to the budget consultation, but may want or need to take some decisions that vary from those responses.

Headline statistics:

- Overall, a majority (67%) of respondents agree to the 4.99% increase in council tax.
- A majority (70%) agree with the council's approach to prioritisation.⁷

⁷ This question was worded as follows:

- A majority (73%) are either in favour of or neutral to the council's capital investment plans, but this is driven by staff.
- A majority (75%) are either in favour of or neutral to the council's budget plan overall.

Who responded:

- There were 1,064 responses (online and paper)
 - o This is more than a three-fold increase in responses to last year's consultation.
- 33% of respondents (252) identified themselves as Shropshire Council employees, so 67% from outside the Council.
- 75% of respondents are between 31 and 69 years of age.
- 56% of respondents indicated as female; 44% male.
- 17% of respondents indicated a disability.
- 16% of respondents are an unpaid carer.
- 66% of respondents are working.
- 88% of respondents reported that they are White (British; Irish; Welsh)
- Shrewsbury, Church Stretton and Bridgnorth had the highest response rates among Shropshire towns.

Service areas protection:

- Respondents were asked to rank the service areas they would most like to protect, with rankings of 1 being most protected and 16 being least protected. When averaged, the services receiving the most support for protection are at the top of this list and those services that respondents wanted least protection for are toward the bottom.

Figure 36: Ranking of Service Areas most like to protect

Service – Overall Ranking	Average Ranking
Adult Social Care	3
Children's Social Care	3.5
Children and Families, Early Help services and Youth Services	3.8
Education, Schools and Home to School Transport	5.2
Benefits and Welfare (e.g. Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit that the council administers)	6.3
Highways, Transport, Car Parking and Environmental Maintenance	7.1
Housing Services	8
Economic Growth	8.2
Leisure and outdoor spaces	9.6
Public Health Services including drug and alcohol, sexual health and health visiting, school nursing	10.4

"The Council's approach to prioritising spending reductions across Council services is outlined in the Medium Term Financial Strategy as below. Do you agree with this approach to prioritisation with number 1 being our most preferred approach, and 4 is the least preferred approach:

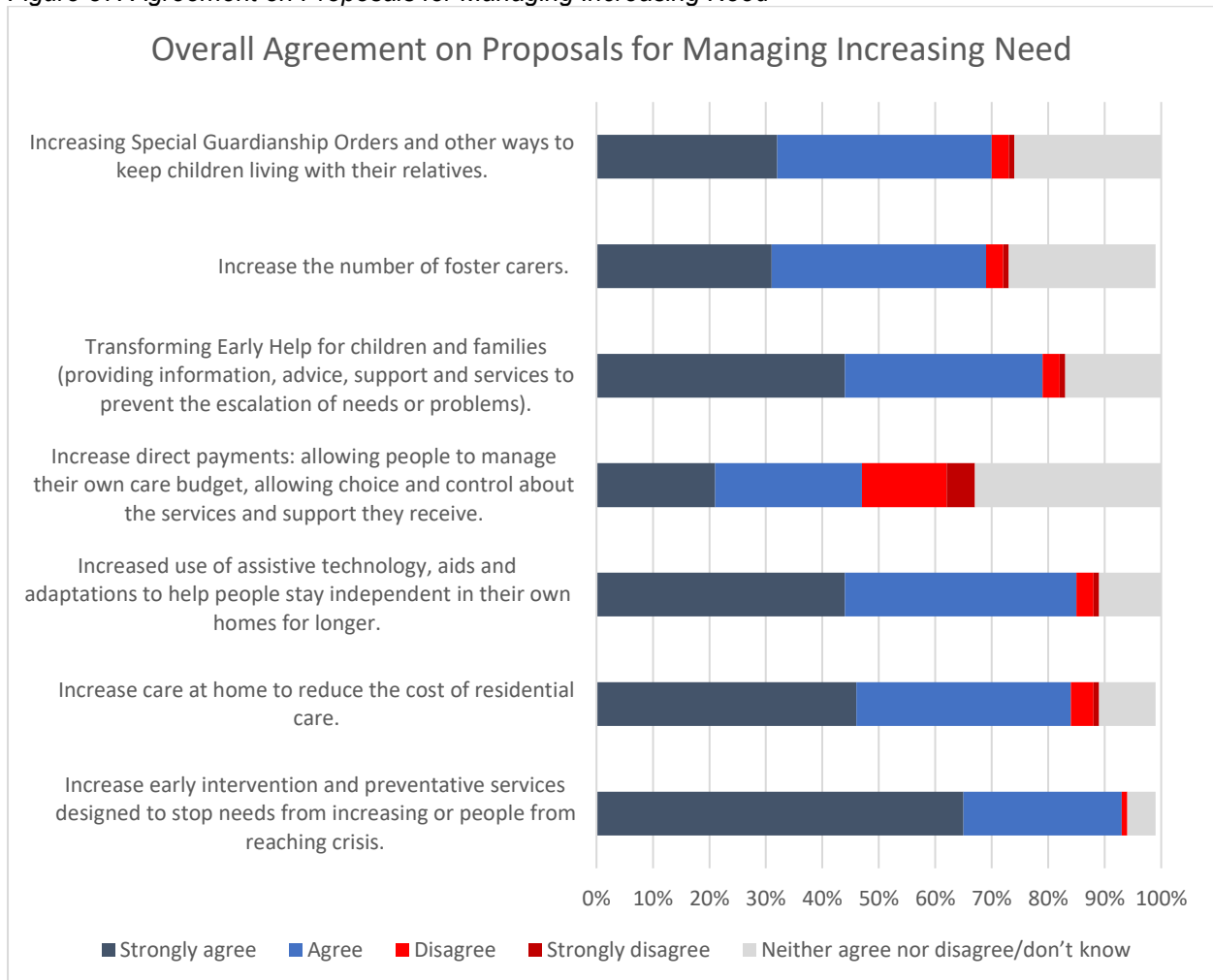
- 1) Reducing costs and improving efficiency
- 2) Increasing income raised
- 3) Reducing spend on suppliers and third parties
- 4) Reviewing staffing levels"

Service – Overall Ranking	Average Ranking
Libraries	10.5
Waste and Recycling	11.4
Regulatory services, including health protection, environmental health, trading standards and licencing	11.6
Council running costs and support services	11.7
Planning Services	12.5
Theatre, Arts, Museums and Archives	13.3

Managing Increasing Need

A majority of respondents “strongly agree” or “agree” with proposals for managing increasing need, though the most disagreement is evident for the proposal to increase direct payments.

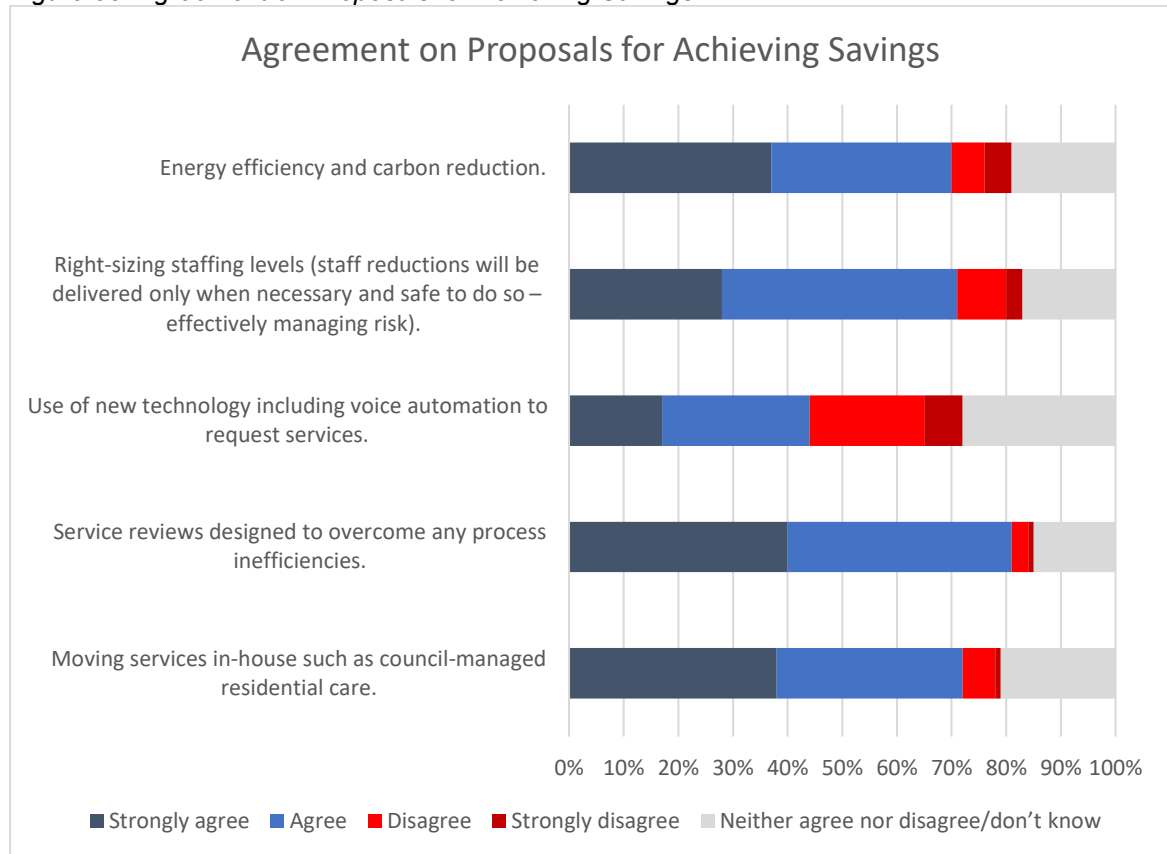
Figure 37: Agreement on Proposals for Managing Increasing Need



Achieving Savings

A majority of respondents “strongly agree” or “agree” with proposals for achieving savings, with the exception of the use of new technology to request services, where only a large minority agreed with this proposal, and 28% either “disagreed” or “strongly disagreed”.

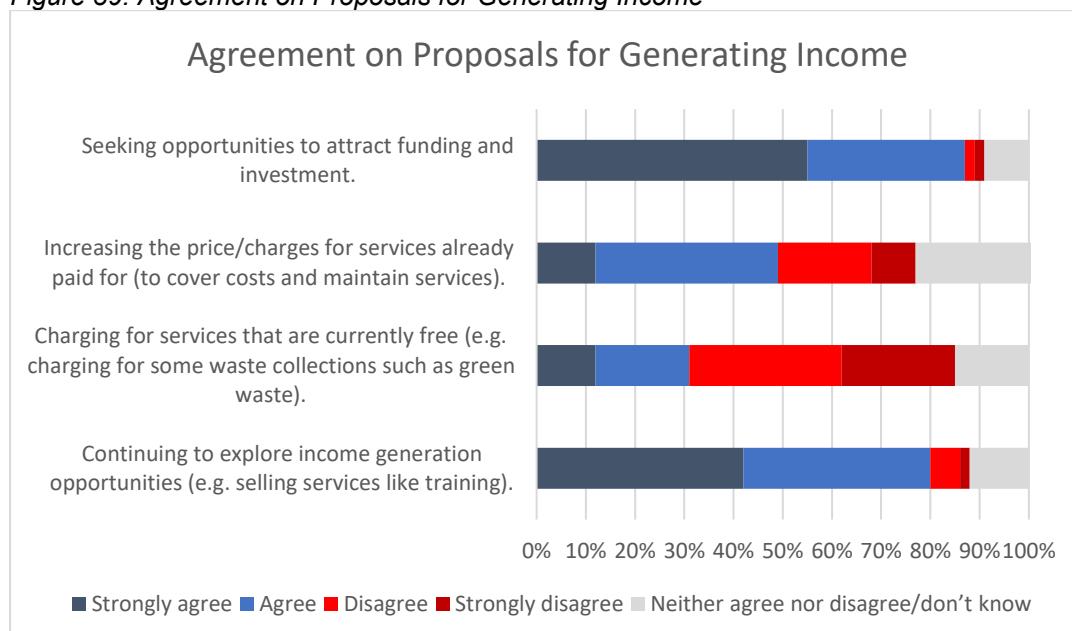
Figure 38: Agreement on Proposals for Achieving Savings



Generating Income

A majority of respondents “strongly agreed” or “agreed” with seeking opportunities to attract funding and investment, as well as exploring income generation opportunities. However, a majority “disagreed” or “strongly disagreed” with the proposal to charge for services that are currently free. A large minority (28%) also disagreed with increasing charges for things already paid for.

Figure 39: Agreement on Proposals for Generating Income



Acceptable savings

Respondents were asked to rank savings proposals from the most to the least acceptable. The following is the list of proposals by average ranking, meaning that those at the top of the list are the most acceptable proposals and those at the bottom are the least acceptable.

Despite the strong disagreement for charging for green waste expressed by respondents in the previous figure, it seems that when asked to rank this option among other possible savings, this option is ranked as second from top overall as one of the most acceptable savings proposals, and third from top among non-staff respondents.

Figure 40: Ranking for Savings Proposals

Proposal – Overall Ranking	Average Ranking
Increased car parking charges	5.4
Reduce spending on waste through a waste minimisation strategy which could include charging for green waste	5.7
Reduce investment in carbon reduction activities	6
Reduced spending on libraries and leisure centres which could include reducing opening times or fewer premises or increased charges	6.2
Reducing investment in businesses and town centres	6.9
Reduced spending on heritage, archive and museum services which could include reducing opening times or fewer premises or increased charges	7.7
Reduce road and highways works and repairs	8.6
Reduce support for public transport	8.7
Reduction in maintenance of and/or access to parks and outdoor spaces	8.7
Reduce home to school transport funding to a statutory minimum	8.8
Reductions in street cleaning	9.2
Reduce face-to-face customer contact and replace with automation and self-service where possible	9.8
Reducing services for refugees and rough sleepers	10
Introduce discretionary additional council tax payments if permitted by Government legislation	10.5
Reduced spending on day care services in adult social care, which could include reducing opening times or fewer premises or increased charges.	11.7
Reduce non-statutory early help services for families and young people	12.1

Achieving Savings

A majority of respondents “strongly agree” or “agree” with proposals for achieving savings, with the exception of the use of new technology to request services, where only a large minority agreed with this proposal, and 28% either “disagreed” or “strongly disagreed”.

9.2 Alternative Budget proposals

Further to the decision of Full Council in September 2022, a revised process was adopted for the preparation of alternative budget proposals by the opposition parties. These proposals were received and discussed by Scrutiny Committee on 10 January 2024.

The discussion of the proposals was reported to Cabinet in later in January. Cabinet resolved to further consider the proposals put forward by the opposition parties as they confirmed the proposals they wished to bring forward for consideration by Full Council in March, with particular attention to how carbon reduction objectives could be given a greater profile in the council's procurement activities.

Alternative budget proposals also included application of reserves to tackle existing pressures, delaying the impact on services.

10. Schedule of Movements



10.1 Movements in MTFS Position

The movements in the MTFS position since the updated MTFS was presented to Cabinet in December 2023 are as follows:

Figure 41: Movement in Resources between current position and December 2023 Cabinet

Estimated Resources	2024/25 @ Dec Cabinet £	Movement £	2024/25 @ Feb Cabinet £
Council Tax	205,104,165	0	205,104,165
Business Rates:			
Business Rates Collected	44,836,978	-5,070,897	39,766,081
Business Rates - Energy Renewable Schemes	1,000,000	540,262	1,540,262
Top Up Grant	11,119,831	-195,257	10,924,574
RSG	7,777,779	196,208	7,973,988
Collection Fund:			
Council Tax	0	-834,556	-834,556
Business Rates	0	-2,777,295	-2,777,295
NET BUDGET	269,838,754	-8,141,535	261,697,219
Grants included in Core Funding:			
Improved Better Care Fund	12,219,305	-355,902	11,863,403
New Homes Bonus	0	1,807,300	1,807,300
Rural Services Delivery Grant	7,757,314	1,224,839	8,982,153
Social Care Support Grant	22,193,471	5,816,399	28,009,870
Market Sustainability and Improvement Funding	5,903,869	194,108	6,097,977
Discharge Funding	5,363,231	-2,591,180	2,772,051
Services Grant	0	356,632	356,632
CORE FUNDING	323,275,944	-1,689,338	321,586,605
Local Income			
Fees and charges (including income savings deliverable from prior years)	86,918,240	11,607,230	98,525,470
Other Grants and contributions	33,445,280	3,384,120	36,829,400
Specific Grants (excluding Core Funding Grants above)	196,509,920	44,446,692	240,956,612
Internal Recharges	10,475,740	1,098,550	11,574,290
TOTAL FUNDING	650,625,124	58,847,254	709,472,377

This table shows increased resource of £59.4m between the estimates in December and those confirmed in February. The majority of this relates to local income. Local income is targeted to specific activities and Specific Grants, which has seen a significant increase of £44.5m between the predicted level in December and the confirmed values in February. These grants are provided for specific activities and so are ringfenced to these activities and cannot be used to fund other budgetary pressures within other Council services. Details of the movement between 2023/24 and 2024 are provided in Figure 20 and the largest increase

relates to an additional £16.5m in the Dedicated Schools Grant which is ringfenced to Schools. Other significant increases from December include an additional £10m in Business Rates Section 31 Grants as a result of business rate reliefs being continued into 2024/25, and £5.5m for The UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Changes to Council Tax and Business Rates are not earmarked and can be used to support operational costs and improve financial resilience (e.g. by increasing reserves and risk cover).

Figure 42: Movement in Expenditure between current position and December 2023 Cabinet

Estimated Expenditure	2024/25 @ Dec		2024/25 @
	Cabinet	Movement	Feb Cabinet
	£	£	£
Original Gross Budget Requirement	690,271,309	0	690,271,309
Inflationary Growth :			
Pay	10,452,858	0	10,452,858
Apprenticeship Levy	27,370	0	27,370
Pensions	0	0	0
Corporate Landlord inflation	690,857	0	690,857
Contract inflation	11,926,779	0	11,926,779
Demography & Demand	39,844,709	-6,762,664	33,082,045
Service Specific Pressures:			
Revenue Growth arising from capital programme	168,000	0	168,000
Ongoing Budget Pressures	7,862,078	0	7,862,078
Local Generated Pressures:			
Specific Grants Changes between years	-4,674,562	41,235,329	36,560,767
Ongoing reduction in New Homes Bonus (pressure)	1,747,510	-1,747,510	0
Estimated Cost of Investment - <i>Approved</i>	2,032,000	0	2,032,000
Contribution to General Fund	-7,875,010	18,591,120	10,716,110
MTFS reserve (savings slippage/optimism bias)	4,250,000	0	4,250,000
Adjustment to Gross budget offset by Income changes	0	16,089,901	16,089,901
Savings			
<i>Savings Agreed in Previous Financial Years</i>	<i>-4,989,927</i>	<i>4,989,927</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>TOM Budget Savings</i>	<i>-22,400,000</i>	<i>21,675,000</i>	<i>-725,000</i>
<i>Reduce Cost Budget Savings</i>	<i>-15,000,000</i>	<i>-22,809,965</i>	<i>-37,809,965</i>
<i>Manage Demand Budget Savings</i>	<i>-12,404,299</i>	<i>5,630,663</i>	<i>-6,773,636</i>
<i>New Income Budget Savings</i>	<i>-4,537,850</i>	<i>-4,154,870</i>	<i>-8,692,720</i>
<i>Charge More Budget Savings</i>		<i>-3,720,000</i>	<i>-3,720,000</i>
<i>Stop/Cease Budget Savings</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>-4,758,650</i>	<i>-4,758,650</i>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	697,391,823	64,258,281	761,650,104

The table above sets out overall expenditure changes of £65.9m. Key elements of this are the increase in grant spending, which reflects increased resources and the ring-fenced or targeted nature of these funds (i.e. they are not available for the overall financial position but must be spent on specific activities), and the contribution to the General Fund balance, intended to ensure an adequate level of non-earmarked reserves are held, in line with best practice, and to ensure that the council can address unexpected pressures without impacting

on frontline services. The savings plans have since been refined, following public consultation, to reflect the savings detailed in Section 11.

Figure 43: Movement in Funding Gap between current position and December 2023 Cabinet

Funding Gap	2024/25 @ Dec Cabinet £	Movement £	2024/25 @ Feb Cabinet £
Resources (incl savings plans)	650,625,124	58,847,254	709,472,377
Expenditure (incl savings plans)	697,391,823	64,258,281	761,650,104
Gap in year	46,766,699	5,411,027	52,177,726
One off Grants & Reserves:			
Improved Better Care Funding	-10,912,045	1,015,902	-9,896,143
New Homes Bonus - One Off	0	-59,790	-59,790
Rural Services Delivery grant	-7,757,314	0	-7,757,314
Social Care Grant - One Off	-22,193,471	-5,816,399	-28,009,870
Services Grant	0	-356,632	-356,632
Market Sustainability and Fair Cost Fund	-5,903,869	-194,108	-6,097,977
TOTAL ONE OFF FUNDING	-46,766,699	-5,411,027	-52,177,726
Remaining Gap/(Surplus) to be Funded	0	0	0

11. Proposed Spending Reductions



11.1 Proposed Spending Reductions

The following tables provide relevant detail on the proposed spending reductions for 2024/25 and later years. To interpret the tables:

- Values in 2024/25 are positive for a proposed spending reduction. Negative values are a spending pressure or increase.
- Values in 2024/25 are assumed to be continued into 2025/26 (i.e. a recurring, base budget proposal).
 - o Where there is no new value in 2025/26, the value therefore remains the same.
 - o Where there is a positive value in 2025/26 this is a further increase on the 2024/25 proposal.
 - o Where there is a negative value in 2025/26 then the value anticipated in 2024/25 reduces by that amount in 2025/26.
- The same principle applies to the values for 2026/27.

Figure 44: Example of how proposed spending reductions are represented:

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Impact on base budget
Proposal A	100,000	0	0	Permanent reduction of £100,000
Proposal B	100,000	-100,000	0	Reduction of £100,000 in 2024/25 only, reversed in 2025/26. No net reduction.
Proposal C	100,000	50,000	50,000	Permanent reduction of £100,000 in the first year, increased by £50,000 in year 2 and a further £50,000 in year 3. A total impact on the base budget of £200,000.

All proposed savings are made as changes to the 'base budget' of the council. The 'base budget' is the ongoing or recurrent budget. The recurrent base budget is amended from year to year to reflect 'one off' or 'non-recurrent' items. This is set out within the detailed budget proposals at the start of each year. All proposed savings are applied from 1 April in order to set a balance budget. Where savings are not achieved to the planned level, underachievement will cause an 'overspend' to be reported, and an overachievement will cause an 'underspend' to be reported. To secure the delivery of the budget in 2024/25 it is essential that all savings are either delivered as planned, or that alternative spending reductions to the same value are applied. This is also set out in the Financial Rules of the Council, approved by Full Council in 2019, and part of the Council Constitution.

The budget proposals have been consulted on publicly and opposition councillors have also provided alternative approaches to the 2024/25 budget. The proposals included in this section of the MTFs will be considered by Cabinet, for recommendation to be accepted by Council (subject to amendment). Full Council will debate and agree (or not) the proposals to be taken forward. That does not, however, mean that all proposals are then accepted. Where decisions are 'key decisions' per the Constitution, or where they affect agreed policy, or simply where Cabinet may decide to do so, further consultation may follow. So – these proposals, if adopted by Council, will not all be binding without further action by Officers and Members.

Many descriptions of spending reductions refer to 'review and resizing' staffing. Resizing our workforce means ensuring we have the right headcount in our teams to deliver the Shropshire Plan. For some teams this will mean additional staff to support objectives while for others it may lead to a reduction. Resizing may also lead to the change in composition of some teams (e.g. from higher average cost/skill to lower average cost/skill, or vice-versa.)

Figure 45: Detailed Saving Proposals for 2024/25 – 2026/27

Ref	Option Type	Directorate	Service Area	Saving Proposal	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
RC001	Reduce Cost	Health, Wellbeing & Prevention	Environmental Health and Health Protection	Redesign the delivery of the statutory service including managing demand.	105,000	0	0
RC002	Reduce Cost	Health, Wellbeing & Prevention	Ecology	Redesign the delivery of the statutory regulatory (ecology) services including managing demand.	58,600	0	0
RC003	Reduce Cost	Health, Wellbeing & Prevention	Public Health	Further increase allocation of the public health grant to support preventative initiatives at the children's, adults and customer front-door.	90,000	70,000	0
RC004	Reduce Cost	Health, Wellbeing & Prevention	Public Health	Capitalisation of reserves as one off for staff and projects relating to transformation work to further increase funding of public health reserves to support preventative initiatives. This is for 2024/25, in addition to 1,000,000 in 23/24.	1,000,000	-1,000,000	0
RC006	Reduce Cost	People	Adult Social Care	Increase income through charging for training.	180,000	0	0
RC007	Reduce Cost	People	Adult Social Care	Review of our in house day service provision.	105,000	0	0
RC008	Reduce Cost	People	Adult Social Care	Review and reduce 3rd party spend	2,600,000	0	0
RC009	Reduce Cost	People	Adult Social Care	Review and reduce the need for 24 hour provision through the use of technology to increase independence	300,000	0	0
RC011	Reduce Cost	People	Adult Social Care	Review and resize business support functions	375,000	0	0
RC012	Reduce Cost	People	Adult Social Care	Review of external day service provision	180,000	0	0
RC013	Reduce Cost	People	Children's Social Care	Improve efficiencies of commissioned services across children's services contracts and secure overall reduction in demand.	1,600,000	0	0
RC014	Reduce Cost	People	Children's Social Care	Review & resize senior staffing structure in Children's Services against projected activity levels	87,000	0	0
RC016	Reduce Cost	People	Children's Social Care	Agency Staff - reducing use of agency staff; promote permanent staffing.	85,000	0	0
RC017	Reduce Cost	People	Children's Social Care	Review & resize Supported Board and Lodgings (17 & 18 year olds) to ensure full capacity	30,000	0	0
RC019	Reduce Cost	People	Children's Social Care	Review and rightsize staffing in business support functions	0	250,000	0
RC020	Reduce Cost	People	Children's Social Care	Ensure that funding for the most complex of children is equitably shared with Health as an equal partner responsible for the safe care of children.	156,000	0	0
RC023	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Focus new residential property acquisitions on priority housing needs	50,000	0	0
RC024	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Optimise the use of existing Council residential properties	20,000	0	0
RC025	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Review and resize the Housing Services team	60,000	64,000	0
RC026	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Review and potential reduction of some leisure provision to achieve cost reductions.	0	354,020	0
RC029	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Review staffing and resize the Rights of Way team	19,395	6,465	0
RC030	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Review staffing and resize the Outdoor Partnerships team	41,250	13,840	0
RC031	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Removal of Arts Development funding	17,120	0	0
RC032	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Review Library Services to ensure maximum efficiencies including funding reviews and reshaping/reductions of services	0	220,538	112,050
RC035	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Review staffing and resize the Culture Leisure and Tourism management	350,000	0	0
RC036	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Service efficiencies from Registrars service digitisation	50,000	0	0
RC038	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Review staffing and resize the Business and Consumer Protection Team	35,000	0	0
RC040	Reduce Cost	Place	Commercial Services	Dispose of Shirehall quicker and relocate services	325,000	1,300,000	0

Ref	Option Type	Directorate		Saving Proposal	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
					£	£	£
RC043	Reduce Cost	Place	Commercial Services	Review and resize staffing in Property and Development Services	550,000	0	0
RC044	Reduce Cost	Place	Commercial Services	Review and resize the Climate Change team	200,000	0	0
RC045	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review and re-size staffing in Strategic Transport	70,000	0	0
RC046	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review staffing and secure workforce reductions in tree work, conservation, and historic environment teams.	175,000	0	0
RC047	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review and re-size staffing in Planning Policy team	160,000	0	0
RC048	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review and re-size staffing in Planning team.	230,000	0	0
RC049	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review and re-size staffing in Highways Development team	100,000	0	0
RC050	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review and re-sizing staffing in Planning Enforcement	35,000	0	0
RC051	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review and re-sizing staffing in Broadband team.	30,000	0	0
RC052	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Capitalise post in Strategic Infrastructure.	37,000	0	0
RC053	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Capitalise part of posts in Economic Growth.	50,000	0	0
RC054	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review and re-size staffing in the economic development team, including options to capitalise posts.	77,000	0	0
RC055	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Change in percentage split of chargeable/non-chargeable receipts in Building Control	70,000	0	0
RC057	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Cessation of LEP contribution further to government guidance.	36,000	0	0
RC058	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Stop payment of subscription to "Midlands Engine" partnership.	20,000	0	0
RC059	Reduce Cost	Place	Highways & Transport	Review contractor provisions relating to pensions costs (one off).	300,000	0	0
RC060	Reduce Cost	Place	Highways & Transport	Review contracts and secure cost reductions in current 'Green Asset'	250,000	0	0
RC061	Reduce Cost	Place	Highways & Transport	Review contract and secure cost reductions in reactive drainage	200,000	0	0
RC062	Reduce Cost	Place	Highways & Transport	Review and resize through highways restructure	600,000	0	0
RC063	Reduce Cost	Place	Highways & Transport	Cross Directorate structural efficiencies & synergies alongside framework utilisation reductions.	2,000,000	0	0
RC064	Reduce Cost	Resources	Workforce & Improvement	Review and re-size staffing HR/OD Team (1)	100,000	0	0
RC065	Reduce Cost	Resources	Workforce & Improvement	Review and re-size staffing HR/OD Team (2)	100,000	0	0
RC066	Reduce Cost	Resources	Workforce & Improvement	Review and re-size staffing in the Improvement Team	75,000	1,000,000	0
RC068	Reduce Cost	Resources	Workforce & Improvement	Review and re-size staffing in the Overview and Scrutiny Function	100,000	0	0
RC069	Reduce Cost	Resources	Workforce & Improvement	Review and re-size staffing in Occupational Health & Safety and HR Admin & Payroll.	0	300,000	0
RC071	Reduce Cost	Resources	ICT	Review contract, fleet, and secure cost reductions in use of mobile phones.	114,000	0	0
RC072	Reduce Cost	Resources	ICT	Review and resize staffing in ICT (includes systems maintenance and development (hardware and software), user support and helpdesk, and corporate network security).	1,000,000	0	0
RC073	Reduce Cost	Resources	Revenues and Benefits	Review and resize staffing in Revenues and Benefits (council tax and business rates collection and council tax support and housing benefits payments)	500,000	0	0
RC074	Reduce Cost	Resources	Revenues and Benefits	Anticipated cost reductions in Revenues & Benefits arising from improvement of in-house Temporary Accommodation provision.	1,000,000	1,000,000	0
RC076	Reduce Cost	Resources	Finance	Review and resize staffing in the Finance team (include statutory reporting, internal reporting, sundry debtors and creditors, capital management and systems).	0	500,000	0
RC077	Reduce Cost	Resources	Legal	Centralisation and efficiencies of external legal spending.	100,000	0	0
RC078	Reduce Cost	Resources	Customer Services	New model for future delivery of the Council's Out of Hours calls triage and Shrewsbury Town Centre CCTV monitoring	334,000	0	0

Ref	Option Type	Directorate		Saving Proposal	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
RC080	Reduce Cost	Council wide	All	Review and re-size overall council staffing beyond those listed elsewhere.	8,500,000	0	0
RC081	Reduce Cost	Council wide	All	Senior Management review	710,000	0	0
RC082	Reduce Cost	Council wide	All	Review and re-size staffing in executive support across the council.	50,000	0	0
RC083	Reduce Cost	Council wide	All	Review and secure cost reductions in the pooled training budget	50,000	0	0
RC085	Reduce Cost	Council wide	All	Reduce Third Party Spend. The proposal is to identify opportunities to reduce third party spend in a sustainable, recurrent way.	1,267,600	0	0
RC086	Reduce Cost	Council wide	All	Efficiency Savings across all areas of the Council, including paying attention to securing reduced carbon emissions within the supply chain.	12,400,000	0	0
TOTAL REDUCE COST SAVINGS					39,509,965	4,078,863	112,050
Ref	Option Type	Directorate		Saving Proposal	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
MD001	Manage Demand	Health, Wellbeing & Prevention	Public Health	Further increase funding of public health reserves to support preventative initiatives at the children's, adults and customer front-door.	200,000	-200,000	0
MD004	Manage Demand	Place	Homes & Communities	Transfer of a leisure asset to an appropriate provider.	100,000	0	0
MD006	Manage Demand	Place	Commercial Services	Introduce a booking system for household recycling centres	200,000	0	0
MD007	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	By increasing the use of technology, community and voluntary support reduce the need for formal care by maximising independence	2,215,811	0	0
MD008	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	Increase the number of people supported by START inhouse reablement service to maximise independence, preventing readmission and the need for long term social care	1,596,510	0	0
MD011	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	Reducing the need to long term residential care - Ensuring that Shropshire Council commission the right care for people in line with their needs	129,314	0	0
MD012	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	Supported living - Reduce the need for 24 hour provision and increase independence through alternative resources such as technology	1,200,000	0	0
MD014	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	Enabling the use of wider travel options to increase independence and reduce isolation	200,000	0	0
MD015	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	Deliver efficiencies though review of service delivery	300,000	0	0
MD016	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	Night time care and support service enabling people to stay at home	522,000	520,000	0
MD017	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	Supporting people to have Direct payment rather than agency care	110,000	110,000	110,000
TOTAL MANAGE DEMAND SAVINGS					6,773,635	430,000	110,000
Ref	Option Type	Directorate		Saving Proposal	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
CM003	Charge More	Place	Commercial Services	Increase fly tipping charges	20,000	0	0
CM007	Charge More	Council wide	All	Increase wider Fees and charges above those mentioned specifically elsewhere	2,000,000	0	0
TOTAL CHARGE MORE SAVINGS					2,020,000	0	0

Ref	Option Type	Directorate		Saving Proposal	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
NI001	New income	People	Adult Social Care	Increase in income through the Minimum income guarantee national announcement.	1,500,000	0	0
NI002	New income	People	Adult Social Care	Reconciliation of any variance to care hours provided.	2,300,000	0	0
NI003	New income	Place	Homes & Communities	Set up a charging structure for recipients of telecare	100,000	500,000	0
NI004	New income	Place	Homes & Communities	Expand the Handy Person service to a wider range of customers, including fee payers, supporting independent living	10,000	10,000	10,000
NI005	New income	Place	Homes & Communities	Increased income from countryside maintenance contracting activity. Review green asset maintenance arrangements	39,720	0	0
NI006	New income	Place	Homes & Communities	Increase income from Museums and Archives services	150,000	100,000	0
NI007	New income	Place	Homes & Communities	Increase income from an enhanced memorial and ceremony offer at Council sites	60,000	10,000	5,000
NI008	New income	Place	Homes & Communities	Increase income from an improved range of wedding and partnership ceremony packages	68,000	2,000	5,000
NI009	New income	Place	Homes & Communities	Development of commercial model for theatre and cinema income to achieve net zero budget	295,000	0	0
NI010	New income	Place	Commercial Services	Introduce charging for fortnightly green waste collection	4,000,000	0	0
NI011	New income	Place	Commercial Services	As per the PFI contract - Increased share from the sale of energy and recycles.	0	1,000,000	0
NI012	New income	Place	Commercial Services	Charge housing developers for new bins	70,000	0	0
NI013	New income	Place	Commercial Services	Review options for car parking charges at Council offices	100,000	0	0
TOTAL NEW INCOME SAVINGS					8,692,720	1,622,000	20,000
Ref	Option Type	Directorate		Saving Proposal	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
T0001	TOM	Health, Wellbeing & Prevention	Emergency Planning	Explore shared emergency planning resource and resilience with partners.	15,000	15,000	0
T0002	TOM	People	Learning & Skills	Review the use of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to maximise grant funding	60,000	0	0
T0003	TOM	People	Learning & Skills	Review the use of external grant funding for preventative SEND services across the People Directorate.	50,000	0	0
T0004	TOM	People	Children's Social Care	Review funding arrangements and contributions from external sources to higher cost placements	500,000	0	0
T0006	TOM	Place	Homes & Communities	Limit access to the Housing Register for a fixed period to focus upon priority need cases.	100,000	0	0
T0009	TOM	Place	Highways & Transport	Review service synergies to secure cost reductions across Highways, Maintenance, and Outdoors services.	0	2,000,000	0
T0011	TOM	Resources	Legal Services	Review and re-size staffing in the Legal team.	0	120,000	0
TOTAL TARGET OPERATING MODEL SAVINGS					725,000	2,135,000	0
Ref	Option Type	Directorate		Saving Proposal	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
SC002	Stop/Cease	People	Learning & Skills	Review education transport arrangements - changes to policy (mainstream and SEND)	350,000	300,000	0
SC003	Stop/Cease	People	Learning & Skills	Review education transport arrangements - changes to efficiency and delivery models (mainstream and SEND)	650,000	100,000	0
SC004	Stop/Cease	People	Adult Social Care	Decommission block contract and move to SPOT provision.	200,000	0	0

Ref	Option Type	Directorate		Saving Proposal	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
SC005	Stop/Cease	People	Adult Social Care	Review the development of a solo children's home to enable discussions about a joint funded model with Health. 24/25 and 25/26 only	400,000	0	-400,000
SC007	Stop/Cease	Place	Homes & Communities	Review and Minimise Museums and Archives service costs	0	0	50,000
SC008	Stop/Cease	Place	Homes & Communities	Review staffing and resize the Empty Homes service	44,650	47,010	0
SC010	Stop/Cease	Place	Homes & Communities	Service efficiencies and increased income from Registrars delivery focus on enhanced venues	50,000	0	0
SC012	Stop/Cease	Place	Commercial Services	Reduce from five to three Household Recycling Centres	14,000	0	0
SC013	Stop/Cease	Place	Commercial Services	Rationalise property and buildings to secure revenue savings (e.g. utilities, security, repairs and maintenance etc). Use reductions to secure additional capital receipts.	3,000,000	3,000,000	0
SC014	Stop/Cease	Place	Economy & Place	Review the provision of school crossing patrol service (Schools may opt to pay for the service).	20,000	0	0
SC018	Stop/Cease	Council wide	All	Review subscription and secure cost reductions in membership of West Midlands Employers	30,000	0	0
TOTAL STOP/CEASE SAVINGS					4,758,650	3,447,010	-350,000
TOTAL SAVINGS					62,479,970	11,712,873	-107,950

12. Equality, Social Inclusion and Health Impact Assessment (ESHIA)



12. Equality, Social Inclusion and Health Impact Assessment (ESHIA)

The Council is committed to its Public Sector Equality Duties and as such an equality, social inclusion and health impact assessment on the budget proposals has been prepared, and is included in the paragraphs below.

This ESHIA examines the overall proposed Medium Term Financial Strategy for Shropshire Council which will impact services across the County and the Council's workforce. It will consider whether the setting of the budget is likely to impact on groups of individuals in relation to protected characteristics, in line with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010, and it will also consider the impacts on inequalities, including rurality across our communities, from a social inclusion perspective. The report also includes an assessment of the impacts of the budget proposals on Council employees.

It is important to note that this report does not seek to consider each specific proposal in detail but to consider the overall impact of the budget proposals and to give an overall impact assessment of them. In many cases there will be a need for a separate Cabinet decision in due course on individual proposals which in turn will require specific equalities consideration. Where the level of adverse impacts for such a proposal reaches or is likely to reach the criteria for a stage 2 assessment, these will be undertaken by service leads. This report also describes actions to mitigate overall adverse impacts and presents an agreed process for the continued and robust monitoring and mitigation wherever possible as we move through 2024-25 and beyond.

At this point, it is expected that the equalities and social inclusion impact of the proposed budget on our residents and communities will be both a complex and evolving situation, with some proposals leading to adverse impacts that will require a stage 2 impact assessment and possible mitigations. The complexity of assessment at this stage is in part due to the scale of the programme being proposed, and the range of variables and factors that may impact both its delivery and its impact. The equalities and social inclusion impacts will also be determined by the continued progress of our strategic transformation programmes in line with The Shropshire Plan, including those that are focused on transforming how our residents/customers engage and connect with us as a Council, those focused on improving, protecting and safeguarding the health and wellbeing of all our population (children, families and adults), and work planned for 2024-25 that will redesign the Council's target operating model, seeking to continue to improve our efficiency and effectiveness as the Council becomes a smaller organisation.

It is, however, inevitable that the impact of some specific budget proposals will cause concern regarding particularly adverse impacts for our residents and communities, and we recognise that some impacts are likely to reach a threshold where a stage 2 impact assessment is required. At this point, we anticipate that the following are likely to require stage 2 assessments:

- Impact of any changes to our library and leisure centre offer
- Impact of a temporary closure of the housing register to new applicants
- Impact on planned reduction to the staffing establishment
- Impact on our residents due to changes in partnerships and supplier relationships
- Cumulative impact of the budget proposals on resident's health, care, wellbeing and protected characteristics, to include the potential for geographical disparities

in impact. This assessment will also consider the cumulative impact of cross council increase in fees and charging.

Protected Characteristics

Please see our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and insight information for detailed information on our Shropshire population:

[Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) | Shropshire Council](#) and [Population | Shropshire Council](#).

Please note that at the time of writing the data available through the JSNA web-links is from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) census data from 2011. These pages are in the process of being updated to include the OSN census data from 2021. For clarity, the population data presented below is from the ONS 2021 census.

Age

As a county we have a growing and increasingly older population living in dispersed rural communities, with 25% of our population aged 65 years or over (82,088 people), and 40.3% of the population aged over 54 years. 4.5% 14,442 of the population are under 5s and 13.7% 44,238 are between 5-15 years old. The nature of our statutory functions and demand for certain services, particularly social care and support mean we provide many services to older people, and to children & young people and families. Other services are also provided to the public, which if altered alongside, can specifically lead to implications for people of different ages, such as access to public transport, libraries, and leisure services. Increases in charges and incomes may also disproportionately impact on people of certain ages, particularly our growing older population and younger people accessing education and work. Access to services in local communities through a One Shropshire approach (part of the customer transformation programme and Health and Wellbeing Board's prevention framework (which includes Shropshire Local outreach support, hubs and social prescribing along with work to mitigate digital exclusion) will be critical to mitigating any negative implications. At this point we recognise the need to understand more about the impacts of the budget proposals on different age groups and these will be considered as part of stage 2 assessments.

We have an ageing Council workforce with an average age of 47 years. 32% of the workforce being in the age bracket 50-59 years, closely followed by 25% (40-49 years). We have 0.2% under 20 years of age and 8.7% between the ages of 20 and 29 years. These statistics are consistent across all areas of the council.

Disability

As a Council we provide a number of services and support to people living with disabilities, and their parents and carers, and we recognise that the impact of any changes on broader services, including housing, transport or education for example can disproportionately impact on these residents. In 2021 6.7% of our residents identified as being disabled with their lives impacted a lot by their disability. Detailed considerations of this will be undertaken in relevant stage 2 ESHIAs with ongoing monitoring for impacts undertaken moving forward, and the Children's SEND transport stage 1 ESHIA presented to Cabinet in July 2023 will also be refreshed.

The proportion of our Council workforce who have declared a disability is 2%, with just over 9% declaring that they do not have a disability. The remainder have either not declared a disability or have chosen 'prefer not to say'.

Gender reassignment

As with other local authorities, it is difficult to measure the incidence of gender reassignment within our Shropshire population, but we do know from the national position that the number of people to whom this applies is increasing in the UK. We also know that some of our services, both delivered directly and commissioned, will work with individuals who have this protected characteristic. We will continue to monitor the local impacts through working with our community safeguarding partners to tackle issues such as hate crime, and our public health services will continue to work with partners to consider issues in relation to health and well-being. We will also continue to monitor the delivery of our third-party suppliers. At this time, we consider that there is unlikely to be a measurable adverse impact, but it is important that we continue to monitor moving forwards.

We do not currently record workforce information on gender reassignment, so it is difficult to measure impact of the proposals.

Marriage and civil partnership

The public sector duties in relation to marriage and civil partnership seek to ensure that anyone in a civil partnership does not experience less favourable treatment than those who have entered into a marriage. It is our assessment at this time that the issue of marriage and civil partnership is unlikely to feature highly when considering the impact of budget proposals on our population, and there is unlikely to be a measurable adverse impact due to this protected characteristic.

We do not currently record workforce information on marriage or civil partnership; impacts for our workforce would be considered as part of the stage 2 impact assessment.

Pregnancy and maternity

Each year in Shropshire approximately 2,500 babies are born. During 2023-25 significant work is being undertaken across both the Council and through our joint work with the Integrated Care System to continue to enhance the offer to women during the pre-natal, natal and post-natal periods. This work includes the development of Women's Health Hubs, the delivery of the Best Start in Life programme for our youngest residents and parents / carers reflective on the critical first 1001 days of a child's life, and the enhancements to deliver family and community hubs across our market towns, with spokes in areas of greatest needs across our most rural and dispersed communities. Collectively, these interventions should positively improve access, experience and outcomes for pregnant women.

As an employer we have supportive employment policies for Family Leave that take account of employment rights and best practice. These include Maternity, Adoption & Surrogacy Adoption, Parental Leave and Parental Bereavement Leave, Paternity Leave and Shared Parental Leave policies. As at January 2024 there are just under 70 employees currently on maternity leave.

Race

The Shropshire population has 93.3% White: English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British through all Place Plan areas. The second largest group is Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh at 1.3%. 97.4% speak English as their main language, and of the remaining, 0.4% speak Polish, 0.4% speak Bulgarian and 0.3% speak Romanian.

It is our assessment that proposals in the budget could impact adversely on people from ethnically diverse backgrounds and will be dependent on whether individuals use or engage currently with services within scope of the proposals. It will be important for us to continue to monitor the impacts of the budget proposals and to mitigate where possible through continuation of our outreach work for example, to ensure appropriate access to, experience of, and outcomes of services for people with this protected characteristic.

Our workforce profile mirrors that of the local population. A Staff forum Shropshire Anti Racism Forum (SCARF) is well established and meets regularly to discuss issues impacting on the workforce and makes suggestions to senior management.

Religion or Belief

The profile of our Shropshire population is as follows: 55.5% of the Shropshire population reported that they are Christian, 37% reported that they are no religion and 5.9% did not state a religion. 0.5% are Muslim, 0.3% Buddhist, 0.2% Hindu, 0.2% Sikh, 0.1% Jewish. Other religion is defined for 0.5% of the population.

Religion and faith can often mean people will have different cultural or dietary needs, which will continue to be met in the delivery of appropriate services, including care and support plans – where changes to services may impact on people with specific religions or beliefs, these will be considered as part of service specific ESHIAs.

Our workforce profile aligns to that of the local population.

Sex

50.6 % of our Shropshire population is female with 49.4% male. Our data tells us that a higher proportion of people aged 60 and over will be female, and that this will need to be considered as part of our budget proposals. We also know that a greater proportion of women are likely to be informal and unpaid carers and are likely to be greater users of some of our Council services compared to males. We will need to continue to monitor the impacts on sex through appropriate stage 2 assessments, and through ongoing monitoring of the overall service changes as described elsewhere in this report.

Our workforce is made up of just over 75% female and just under 25% male employees. We have almost half of the workforce working part time, in roles that are predominantly lower paid and occupied by female employees.

Sexual Orientation

National estimates suggest that LGBTQ+ people make up between 2% and 5% of the population, and we know this this means that people who are LGBTQ+ will be included in all our customer groups, recognising that not all individuals may self-disclose as specifically LGBTQ+ to us. The council is working hard to improve the extent to which our services are aware of and respond to the needs of people who are LGBTQ+, and this work will continue.

At this time, there is no current evidence to suggest that people from LGBTQ+ communities will be specifically adversely impacted by the budget proposals, but they may be impacted to a similar degree as the rest of the population dependent on the current and future services they may need.

Our workforce profile shows that less than 1% of employees have declared their sexual orientation as being LGBTQ+ with a large number either declaring they would prefer not to say or not recorded in our systems.

Each year, as an employer we publish data on our workforce relating to the protected characteristics through the Workforce Diversity Monitoring Report and Gender Pay Gap Report:

[Equality, diversity and social inclusion | Shropshire Council](#)

For each of the protected characteristics reviewed in this report, ongoing monitoring of the impacts of the budget proposals will be undertaken through 2024-25 and beyond as outlined elsewhere in this report, with more detailed assessments undertaken in relevant service specific ESHIAs, including stage 2 ESHIAs, to include both the impact on our residents and communities, and on our workforce.

Social Inclusion Impacts

As a Council we recognise the important role that broader factors have in supporting, improving and protecting the health and wellbeing of our population.

Examples of these factors include:

- Housing & resettlement provision
- Access to transport
- Access to good quality education
- Routes to sustainable employment
- Access to health and wellbeing provision
- Impact of living in a rural setting
- Households on low incomes

We also recognise that the impacts of changes to these factors on our residents can also be cumulative, and it is therefore important that stage 2 assessments consider not only the factors as single issues, but also the cumulative impacts and potential for disproportionate impacts.

Impacts on health and wellbeing

The council will continue to prioritise the eligible needs of people requiring statutory care and support are met across all ages. It will also retain its commitment within resources available to an early help and preventative offer to help us to support people at an earlier stage and to help us to manage the demand for social care interventions and services. The range of work in this area is outlined in the next section of the report in some detail.

As we move through 2024-25 overall monitoring of impacts will be undertaken as outlined in the next section of this report and these will include with a particular emphasis on impacts for:

- Safeguarding vulnerable people and those with care and support needs
- Children & young people, including children who are looked after and care leavers
- People with learning disabilities, autism, mental health needs, substance misuse, needs, and people living with dementia
- All age carers
- People from the Armed Forces and Veterans
- People within Traveller communities
- People resettling into Shropshire, and impacted by global unrest
- People living in rural areas and the accessibility factors that are associated with it becomes a key consideration when adapting or introducing a new service or policy and we will recommend the use of the Rural Proofing for Health Toolkit to consider this.

At this stage, we recognise that the impacts on our resident’s health and wellbeing will be a complex and evolving position – this is due both to the scale of the budget proposals, and due to the range of strategic delivery and transformation programmes underway. It is our assessment that a stage 2 assessments will be needed to further consider the social inclusion and health and wellbeing impacts, linked to the rurality of the county and the cumulative impact of the budget proposals.

Actions to mitigate negative impact or enhance positive impact of the service change in terms of health and wellbeing considerations

The **Shropshire Plan** is the overarching strategic plan for the Council, setting the vision for “Shropshire living the best life” and setting out the strategic priorities and strategic objectives for the period 2022-2025, along with the delivery plans, performance management framework and financial strategy.

The Shropshire Plan has four strategic priorities:

Healthy People	Tackling Inequalities, Early Intervention, Partnerships & Self-responsibility
Healthy Economy	Skills & Employment, Safe, Strong & Vibrant destination, Connectivity & infrastructure, Housing
Healthy Environment	Climate Change Strategy, Safe Communities & Natural Environment
Healthy Organisation	Best Workforce, Absorb, Adapt, Anticipate, Communicate Well, Align our Resources and Strong Councillors

The Plan recognises health as the golden thread in all that the Council does, with a focus on prevention and early intervention woven into service delivery and improvement plans and across the organisational transformation programme, and our performance management framework. The budget proposals outlined for 2024-25 will particularly align with the Healthy Organisation priority ensuring that the Council is financially sustainable and that our resources, including services, staff, assets and third-party contracts are best aligned to The Shropshire Plan and the Council's statutory and mandatory functions, and to managing demand for services particularly in social care and support through earlier intervention and prevention. Performance against the Plan and its strategic priorities and objectives during 2024-25 will continue to be monitored and reported through the Council's Cabinet, full Council and Scrutiny Committees.

Further information on the Shropshire Plan and its delivery is available through the following link.

[The Shropshire Plan 2022-2025 | Shropshire Council](#)

Underpinning the delivery of The Shropshire Plan are three key components that will help to mitigate any negative impacts of the budget proposals as we move through 2024-25. These are briefly described below along with a summary of how they will support mitigation of the impacts.

- Target Operating Model (TOM) redesign

For 2024-25 the Council is resolutely focusing on our Healthy Organisation strategic priority with achieving a sustainable financial position as the core deliverable. This will create a new considered and robust operating model that will allow us to right size the organisation so that we become the most efficient and effective we can be and allow us to deliver the strategic priorities and objectives within The Shropshire Plan in a way that fits within our financial envelope. This means that some areas of service delivery will grow, others will reduce, and some will stop entirely.

Our agreed operating model will be applied to all services with the implementation adapting the model to the differential nature of our services and their customers, and considering at each stage the impact on our customers in a way that is reflective of their specific needs while limiting the impact on those with protected characteristics or inequalities, wherever possible.

- Service delivery and improvement plans

Each Assistant Director of the Council is in the process of refreshing their service delivery and improvement plans to ensure resources are allocated in the right place to deliver on the Council's statutory and mandatory duties and functions, and the objectives of the Shropshire Plan. These plans will require service leads to both consider the impact of changes for their area indicated in the budget proposals on both our Shropshire population and on their staff teams, from both a protected characteristics and inequalities perspective. Areas with adverse impacts will feed into appropriate stage 2 ESHIAs for specific budget proposals.

- Council-wide Transformation & Delivery Programmes

There is a range of specific transformation programmes that have been designed to both improve the Council's connectivity to our residents and our communities, particularly ensuring connections with our most vulnerable and at-risk residents, alongside programmes to manage demand for children's and adult social care through earlier intervention and prevention, and improved efficiency and effectiveness of social care interventions and support. Collectively, these programmes have been designed to both safeguard our most vulnerable residents across the life course, meet our statutory and mandated functions and duties as a Council, and protect and improve the health of our population. We will also continue to work with our ICS and wider system colleagues to achieve system healthcare transformation programmes and ensuring we continue to meet our safeguarding duties working through the safeguarding partnership and its priority programmes.

The table below lists the key programmes and projects and their intended benefits.

Projects	Benefits
Early Intervention & Prevention Strategic Framework endorsed by Health & Wellbeing Board January 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent prevention approach, at scale across the life-course of individuals, families and communities and across our Shropshire health and care system • Partners, communities, and individuals actively engaged in improving health
Customer Transformation Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Shropshire approach • Making Every Contact Count • New Directory & improved contact centre • Digitalisation, automation, and digital inclusion • Proactive outreach to our most isolated and at-risk residents • One front door to access the right support at the right time
Community & Family Hubs, and Integrated Practitioner Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redesigned Family Hubs in place by April 2024, providing drop-in support and service provision focused on cyp and families. • All age and community approach for the hubs to developed through 2024-2025. • 'Spokes' in targeted communities to be developed through 2024-25, reaching more rural communities with the highest need. • Integrated practitioner teams assessing individual families operational in 6 sites by April 2024.
Best Start in Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved support for parents, including new parents working closely with midwifery and health visiting. • Improved outcomes for 0–5-year-olds, including a focus on school readiness

	and speech, language and communication, and children with SEND
Early Help transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redesigned Front-Door • Refreshed Early Help Strategy • Strengthened Early Help Partnership Board • Refreshed Youth Strategy & Offer • Improved efficiency and effectiveness of the targeted early help provision, and early help system linked to the national systems guide. Ensuring drop-in support as well as direct and targeted work with families. • Improved outcomes for CYP and families, including CYP with SEND
Children's Social Care Transformation Programme	<p>Where intervention is required to safeguard a child through children's social care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More children will be supported by connected carers and Shropshire foster carers • More children will receive effective edge of care support through Stepping Stones • More children will remain living in Shropshire placed in Shropshire residential homes (Ofsted rating outstanding and good)
Adult's Social Care Transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redesign of the adult's front door, to include a new digital offer • Improved access to assistive technologies • Redesigned care at home and reablement provision • Improved day and supported living services • Improved integrated discharge arrangements with health
Commercial Transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimised third party spend to ensure we get value for money from the money we spend while supporting our local communities and economy • Improved debt management to reduce the level of debt being accrued and improve the timescales for recovery • Improved use of our assets to support our services, customer, communities, and future investment while enabling place shaping activity • Increased income to fully cover the costs of discretionary services while being cost effective for those in need

System Transformation & Safeguarding Programmes

<p>ICS and Shropshire Integrated Place Partnership Healthcare Improvement Programmes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Strategic Needs Assessment • Joint Forward Plan delivery • Local Care Programme delivery integrated health and care teams • Personalised care approach embedded • Cancer Strategy Programme • Diabetes Programme • Mental Health Transformation • Learning Disability and Autism Transformation • Suicide Prevention strategy delivery • Health Inequalities & Prevention Programme • Shropshire Inequalities Plan • Women’s Health Hubs • Healthier Weight Strategy • Rural Proofing Member Task Finish Group recommendations delivery, Director of Public Health report on rurality and ICS Rural Health Strategy • Health & Wellbeing Board Strategy
<p>Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership Priorities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug and Alcohol • Domestic Abuse • Exploitation • Community Safety • Adult and Children’s Safeguarding Practice Oversight
<p>Shropshire Area SEND and Inclusion Partnership Board programmes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerated Progress Plan (APP) related to speech, language and communication system pathways, neurodiversity system pathways and education, health and care plan quality and timeliness • SEND and Alternative Provision (AP) Change Programme delivery • SEND and Inclusion Strategy
<p>Digital Inclusion Network</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies the causes, barriers, and consequences of digital exclusion in Shropshire • Shares best practice, to propose and implement solutions that can reduce the digital divide and promote digital inclusion.
<p>Social Task Force including Cost of Living</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviews gaps and further actions stakeholders can take jointly within Shropshire to support our residents struggling with the cost-of-living increases, with a focus on ensuring that

	the most vulnerable in our community are supported
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Actions to review and monitor the impact of the service change in terms of equality, social inclusion, and health considerations

Robust monitoring of the impact of service changes aligned to the MTFs budget proposals for 2024-25 in terms of equality, social inclusion and health considerations will be led by the Council’s Assistant Director Leadership Team (ADLT). A range of intelligence, insight and data will be used to continue to assess and monitor ongoing impacts and where adverse impacts are noted, the Council’s ADLT will seek to identify and implement mitigating actions wherever possible.

Key data sources that will enable ongoing tracking and assessment of the impacts includes:

- Shropshire Plan Performance Dashboard
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, including Population profiles, thematic assessments (e.g. children’s, substance misuse), Place Plan assessments (covering 18 geographical areas of Shropshire with action plans)
- Health & Wellbeing Board agreed metrics and indicators
- Shropshire Integrated Place Partnership deliverables, metrics and indicators
- Public Health Outcomes Framework metrics
- Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework metrics
- Supporting Families Dashboard
- Regulation and Inspection outcomes, including Peer Reviews
- Associated ESHIAs, including those undertaken as a stage 2 assessment, and associated consultations where undertaken
- Engagement and involvement with Portfolio Holders, Cabinet and Council
- Scrutiny and involvement / engagement with Elected Members
- Staffing Profile indicators
- Service Levels KPIs included in Service Delivery and Improvement Plans
- Contract monitoring data from external suppliers, including delivery of social value strategy
- Evidence that the Health in All Policies approach is embedded across the organisation
- Application of the Rural Proofing for Health Toolkit

Associated ESHIAs

Specific budget proposals for 2024-25 that meet the Stage One screening assessment criteria for Stage Two Full Review will be undertaken by individual service leads and are noted elsewhere in this report. Where appropriate, associated stage one ESHIAs will be refreshed (e.g. SEND transport). These will be shared with consultation papers and form part of relevant reports to Council committees.

Actions to mitigate negative impact, enhance positive impact, and review and monitor overall impacts in terms of climate change considerations and any other impacts with regard to economic and societal implications

Climate change

The climate crisis poses a serious threat to the lives of millions of people globally, nationally and locally. The mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation measures to build resilience is now urgent and essential to prevent the worst outcomes. Even if we are successful in mitigating the worst effects, we will continue to experience more pronounced and frequent episodes of extreme weather which will significantly increase insurance risks and threaten the health, wellbeing and future resilience of our communities.

Shropshire Council declared a climate emergency in May 2019 and in December 2020 adopted a Climate Strategy and Action Plan, which establishes the objective of achieving net-zero carbon performance for Shropshire Council by 2030.

The climate crisis is already recognised as a significant strategic risk to Shropshire communities and businesses and to the delivery of Council and public services. This risk is most likely to manifest itself in terms of financial impacts (e.g. increasing demand for services, higher operating costs and adverse impacts on the Shropshire economy) and impacts on the health and well-being of staff and residents. The future costs of addressing climate change impacts are expected to significantly exceed that of the investment needed to reduce carbon emissions and improve climate resilience.

Climate action and carbon reduction are integral to all aspects of the Shropshire Plan:

Healthy People – Extreme weather associated with the climate crisis will adversely affect vulnerable residents and service users disproportionately. This is likely to drive significant future growth in the demand for social care services as well as generating significant impacts on the physical and mental health and wellbeing of staff.

Healthy Economy – The recent energy crisis illustrates potential impacts on the Shropshire economy from the climate crisis. However, there are also significant opportunities for growth and skilled employment in new technologies, renewable energy and the rural economy.

Healthy Environment – The climate crisis has very serious implications for biodiversity and food production. However, as a large rural area, Shropshire is also in an excellent position to take positive action to help mitigate these effects.

Healthy Organisation – Extreme weather associated with the climate crisis may significantly disrupt the delivery of Council services through damage to physical infrastructure such as roads and power infrastructure, and through impacts on staff health and wellbeing. Demand for services and service delivery costs such as highway maintenance are likely to increase significantly.

Continuing to take an active role through the implementation of the adopted corporate Climate Strategy and Action Plan and supporting wider community efforts allows the Council to make a demonstrable contribution to reducing the carbon footprint of the wider county, as well as ‘leading by example’ by reducing its own carbon footprint.

The focus to date has been on embedding climate change as a key consideration in the Council’s corporate governance systems and widening ownership of the climate challenge through accredited carbon literacy training. A range of projects and initiatives continue to be developed and implemented to help the Council improve its own performance and to help foster similar action across the wider economy and communities in Shropshire. A wide range of Shropshire Council staff outside the Climate Task Force actively contribute to carbon reduction and climate action projects.

Specific controls include:

Attracting capital and revenue grant funding awards currently totalling around £26m to invest in improvements to the energy efficiency of homes for our most vulnerable residents and low carbon infrastructure such as EV chargers

The development of a range of low carbon technology demonstrator projects which are already recognised as being at the forefront of good practice by local authorities in the UK

Working with key suppliers to measure carbon emissions and to help them develop and deliver carbon reduction plans to reduce the carbon emissions which they generate on our behalf

- Working with other public sector bodies and infrastructure providers in Shropshire to assess how local services and infrastructure could be affected by extreme weather and to build their resilience

Collaborative strategic planning for renewable energy infrastructure with neighbouring authorities and infrastructure providers

- Supporting the voluntary sector to help them engage Shropshire communities and businesses to help them make informed decisions about investment in measures to improve the energy performance of domestic and commercial buildings and capture the full potential of green growth and skills in Shropshire.

In implementing the MTFs, it is crucial that the longer-term impact of decisions takes into account information about the future costs and risks of climate change through explicit consideration of their lifetime carbon impact and future climate vulnerability. Individual Council services will progressively need to engage with their staff and service users to explore the need for, and implications of, service changes which reduce carbon emissions and improve resilience. Many carbon reduction and climate resilience measures also have the potential to generate revenue savings and generate 'green' economic growth.

Economic and societal/wider community

Continuing to prioritise our work with partners to deliver on the ambitions of the Economic Growth Strategy for Shropshire, aligned to the Healthy Economy in The Shropshire Plan will remain important as we move through the coming years.

Whilst this may involve re-shaping some of the levels of support to towns and villages, we will actively work with the parish and town councils to minimise the effect on jobs, opportunities for education and skills, and to ensure that our towns and villages continue to thrive to support those communities. Overall, the impact of the service changes may slow the pace of delivery, but the work remains an important priority.

We will continue to pursue grant funding opportunities which will enable us to improve our urban and rural areas. Moreover, continuing to progress major regeneration projects helps to future proof Shropshire and ensuring that its economy continues to prosper.

The reduction of Culture and Leisure service provision will be carefully planned to ensure that all decisions taken are evidence based, subject to appropriate consultation, reflect opportunities for communities to access alternative provision, and ensure that the Council at all times fulfils its statutory requirements.

Restriction on access to the Housing Register will allow the Housing Services team to focus attention upon those in greatest housing need to whom a statutory service is owed. This will

increase their chances of accessing a sustainable tenancy and improve their outcomes accordingly.

B. Detailed Screening Assessment

Aims of the service change and description

Shropshire Council draft MTFs for 2024/25-2028/29 notes an estimated a budget gap for 2024/25 of £62m. In common with other Councils, Shropshire is seeing significant budgetary challenges arising through social care demand and worsened by inflationary pressures. The draft MTFs sets out the spending reductions required to present a balanced budget to Council; this report presents an impact assessment of the overall budget proposals required to reduce the Council's planned spend that are presented to Cabinet on 21st February 2024 with a recommendation to propose to the MTFs to Council on 29th February.

Intended audiences and target groups for the service change

The overall budget proposals in the MTFs for 2024-25 will impact on the whole population of Shropshire. However, it is to be expected that specific proposals will impact more on certain groups of individuals and communities and certain protected characteristics more than others, and where adverse impacts are likely to reach a threshold where a stage 2 impact assessment is required, these will be undertaken.

The changes proposed are also likely to impact on a range of broader stakeholders and strategic partnerships, including, but not limited to:

- Integrated Care System
- Voluntary and Community Sector Agencies
- Council inspection and regulatory / professional bodies
- Formal partnership arrangements (e.g. Marches Local Enterprise Partnership)
- External suppliers and market
- Town and Parish Councils
- Elected members
- Education establishments and settings
- Recognised Trade Unions
- Shropshire Association of Local Councils
- Registered Providers of housing

As part of its monitoring of the impact of the budget proposals, the Council's ADLT will monitor the impact on partnership and stakeholder relationships and will work together as a combined leadership team to manage and mitigate the impact of the budget proposals on our partners and broader stakeholders wherever possible.

Evidence used for screening of the service change

A range of data and evidence will have been used to inform the development of the budget proposals; these include but are not limited to:

- Shropshire Plan Performance Dashboard
- MTFs 2024 Consultation findings

- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, including Population profiles, thematic assessments (e.g. children's, substance misuse), Place Plan assessments (covering 18 geographical areas of Shropshire with action plans)
- Service specific data-sets and outcomes frameworks
- Employee profile and establishment data
- Annual Diversity Monitoring Report
- Gender Pay Gap Report
- Review of budget proposals from other local authorities

Specific consultation and engagement with intended audiences and target groups for the service change

Shropshire Council launched its formal budget consultation on the draft MTFS 2024/25 to 2027/28 on 18th December 2023. The consultation sought Shropshire residents and Council staff views to help prioritise our approach to the difficult task of making the spending reductions that we need to make to be financially sustainable, whilst continuing to deliver on our strategic priorities.

The consultation focused on a number of ways that the council could achieve this:

- Through managing demand for our services by early intervention, prevention and promoting independence
- Increasing efficiency and effectiveness of how we deliver our services
- Increasing income so we can lessen the spend elsewhere, particularly thinking about discretionary services
- Reducing third-party spending to external suppliers such as businesses and agencies

Becoming a 'right-sized' organisation

Over 1000 responses were received to the consultation; the results of which have been considered in the drafting of the budget proposals and in relation to this impact assessment.

Further information regarding the consultation is available in section 9 of the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/25 - 2028/29.

It is important to note that some specific budget proposals are likely to require further consultation, and these will be undertaken, alongside detailed stage 2 impact assessments as required.

Initial equality impact assessment by grouping (Initial health impact assessment is included below this table)

Please note that the following impact assessment is regarding the impacts on our residents and communities. A more detailed impact assessment on our workforce will be undertaken at stage 2.

Protected Characteristic groupings and other groupings in Shropshire	High negative impact Stage Two ESHIA required	High positive impact Stage One ESHIA required	Medium positive or negative impact Stage One ESHIA required	Low positive, negative, or neutral impact (please specify) Stage One ESHIA required
<u>Age</u> (please include children, young people, young people leaving care, people of working age, older people. Some people may belong to more than one group e.g., a child or young person for whom there are safeguarding concerns e.g., an older person with a disability)	X			
<u>Disability</u> (please include cancer; HIV/AIDS; learning disabilities; mental health conditions and syndromes; multiple sclerosis; neurodiverse conditions such as autism; hidden disabilities such as Crohn's disease; physical and/or sensory disabilities or impairments)	X			
<u>Gender re-assignment</u> (please include associated aspects: safety, caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)				X
<u>Marriage and Civil Partnership</u> (please include associated aspects: caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)				X
<u>Pregnancy and Maternity</u> (please include associated aspects: safety, caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)			X	
<u>Race</u> (please include ethnicity, nationality, culture, language, Gypsy, Roma, Traveller)	X			
<u>Religion or belief</u> (please include Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Jainism, Judaism, Nonconformists; Rastafarianism; Shinto, Sikhism, Taoism,			X	

Veganism, Zoroastrianism, and any others)				
Sex (this can also be viewed as relating to gender. Please include associated aspects: safety, caring responsibility, potential for bullying and harassment)	X			
Sexual Orientation (please include associated aspects: safety; caring responsibility; potential for bullying and harassment)				X
Other: Social Inclusion (please include families and friends with caring responsibilities; households in poverty; people for whom there are safeguarding concerns; people you consider to be vulnerable; people with health inequalities; refugees and asylum seekers; rural communities; and veterans and serving members of the armed forces and their families)	X			

Initial health and wellbeing impact assessment of the proposed budget by category

Given the scale and complexity of the budget proposals, stage 2 assessments on the direct and indirect health impacts will be required on specific proposals as detailed above and also on the cumulative impacts.

Health and wellbeing: individuals and communities in Shropshire	High negative impact <i>Part Two HIA required</i>	High positive impact	Medium positive or negative impact	Low positive negative or neutral impact (please specify)
<p>Will the proposal have a <i>direct impact</i> on an individual's health, mental health and wellbeing?</p> <p>For example, would it cause ill health, affecting social inclusion, independence and participation?</p> <p>.</p>	X*			
<p>Will the proposal <i>indirectly impact</i> an individual's ability to improve their own health and wellbeing?</p> <p>For example, will it affect their ability to be physically active, choose healthy food, reduce drinking and smoking?</p> <p>.</p>	X*			
<p>Will the policy have a <i>direct impact</i> on the community - social, economic and environmental living conditions that would impact health?</p> <p>For example, would it affect housing, transport, child development, education, employment opportunities, availability of green space or climate change mitigation?</p> <p>.</p>	X*			
<p>Will there be a likely change in <i>demand</i> for or access to</p>				

<p>health and social care services?</p> <p>For example: Primary Care, Hospital Care, Community Services, Mental Health, Local Authority services including Social Services?</p>	<p>X*</p>			
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Capital Strategy

2023 / 24 to

2028 / 29

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Appendix A: Programme Governance

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Foreword

Shropshire Council's Capital Strategy sets out the local authority's long-term investment aspirations taking into account strategic objectives as set out in The Shropshire Plan, affordability criteria and available resources to guide capital investment decisions over the next five years. It is reviewed and revised annually.

Capital expenditure relates to long term investment in assets and differs completely from the Council's revenue budget as set out in the Council's Financial Strategy. We receive capital grants, apply for capital funding, and have the ability to raise capital finance ourselves, either by selling property and other assets that we no longer need, or by borrowing funds to support long-term investment in assets.

We have a robust process in place to test and consider all capital investment proposals with the underlying requirement that all decisions taken are affordable. The Council's Asset Management Strategy and Economic Growth Strategy are important documents that link together with the Capital Strategy and Treasury Strategy to enable the Council to take long term and large-scale investment decisions in a balanced and well-considered manner.

This strategy documents clarifies those schemes including financing included in the fully approved capital programme. These schemes have undergone a full business case appraisal and given full approval to proceed. It also includes the wider 'priority schemes' included in the 'capital strategy'. These 'priority schemes' include a number of high profile developments, which have not yet received full business case approval. This is due to their size and complexity and the involvement of stakeholders outside the local area. Notably, schemes such as the controversial North West Relief Road and the Riverside Development in Shrewsbury are in these categories. Further detail has therefore been included to reflect the scope and scale of these schemes, and their financial implications within the wider capital strategy.

James Walton

Executive Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer)

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Prudential Code requires the production of a Capital Strategy approved by full Council each year. Section 15(1) of the Local Government Act 2003 states that in carrying out its capital finance function under the Act (including the power to invest), a local authority shall have regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State, which includes the Statutory Guidance on Local Government Investments. This Guidance states that for each financial year, every local authority should prepare at least one Investment Strategy the content of which complies with the Guidance. The Council publishes the requirements for its Investment Strategy within the Capital Strategy in accordance with the Guidance.
- 1.2 The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) published a revised Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (The Code) in 2017. The objectives of the Code are to ensure that the capital expenditure plans of local authorities are affordable, prudent, and sustainable, and that treasury management decisions are taken in accordance with good professional practice and in full understanding of the risks involved and how these risks will be managed to levels that are acceptable to the organisation.
- 1.3 In order to demonstrate that the authority takes capital expenditure and investment decisions in line with service objectives and properly takes account of stewardship, value for money, prudence, sustainability, and affordability authorities should have in place a capital strategy that sets out the long-term context in which capital expenditure and investment decisions are made and gives due consideration to both risk and reward and impact on the achievement of priority outcomes.
- 1.4 Over the last five years there has been a growing trend for authorities to acquire land and buildings with the effect of supplementing their revenue budgets with rental income. Often these acquisitions have been supported by external borrowing through the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB), a department of HM Treasury.
- 1.5 Concerns over the nature and extent of the investments by a few councils has led to updated guidance. The former Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's (MHCLG) Statutory Guidance on Local Government Investments and CIPFA's Prudential and Treasury Management codes have all been updated recently to address the implications of investment in property.
- 1.6 Alongside these updates, in November 2019 CIPFA issued additional guidance ("Prudential Property Investment") to explain the provisions in the updated Prudential Code and Framework that relate to the acquisition of properties intended to make investment returns and confirm their implications in the light of the growing activity and the changes to statutory guidance.

- 1.7 Each local authority that wishes to borrow from the PWLB must submit a high-level description of their capital spending and financing plans for the following three years, including their expected use of the PWLB. Local authorities will be able to revise these plans in-year as required.
- 1.8 The PWLB guidance specifies investment assets bought primarily for yield would usually have one or more of the following characteristics:
 - a. buying land or existing buildings to let out at market rate.
 - b. buying land or buildings which were previously operated on a commercial basis which is then continued by the local authority without any additional investment or modification.
 - c. buying land or existing buildings other than housing which generate income and are intended to be held indefinitely, rather than until the achievement of some meaningful trigger such as the completion of land assembly”.

From PWLB Guidance to Local Authorities

- 1.9 Shropshire Council does not support commercial investments as defined by PWLB. It will continue to ensure that focus will be on securing sustainable capital projects that fit with regeneration objectives.
- 1.10 The local capital strategy has been revised to accommodate these updates and additional guidance.
- 1.11 In response to the National Audit Office (NAO) Local Authority Investment in Commercial Property” report (February 2020), recommendation by the Public Accounts Committee in July 2020 that the Prudential Framework should be reviewed and the substantial increase in commercial investment, CIPFA launched its “Proposed Changes to the Prudential Code” consultation: an initial consultation on proposals to strengthen the provisions within “The Code”. Following this consultation, a revised CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities was issued on 20 December 2021.
- 1.12 The capital strategy is intended to give a high-level overview of how capital expenditure; capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of services along with an overview of how associated risk is managed and the implications for future financial sustainability.
- 1.13 Capital expenditure is technically described as “Expenditure on the acquisition, creation, or enhancement of ‘long term assets’”. This is items of land, property and plant which have a useful life of more than 1 year.
- 1.14 The definition of capital investment is wider than that of capital expenditure. The Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) Guidance on Local Authority Investment states “The definition of an investment covers all of the financial assets of a local authority as well as other non-financial assets that the organisation holds primarily or partially to generate profit, for example, investment property portfolios. For the

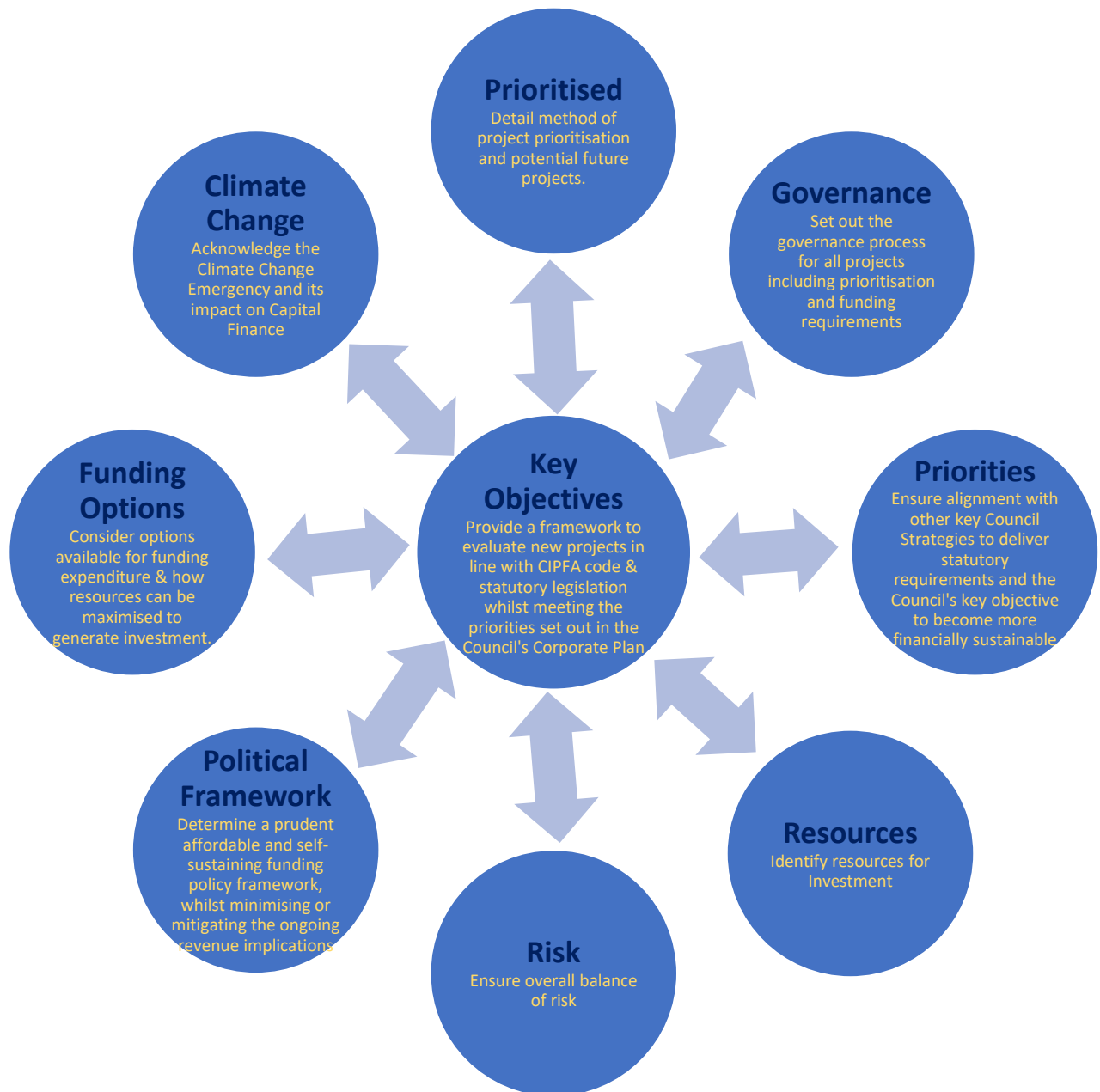
avoidance of doubt, the definition of an investment also covers loans made by a local authority to one of its wholly owned companies or associates, to a joint venture, or to a third party.”

- 1.15 This iteration of the Capital Strategy details the outturn position for 2022/23, the current approved Capital Programme covering the period 2023/24 to 2026/27 and summarises future proposed but currently unapproved capital schemes anticipated to commence over the period 2024/25 to 2029/30.
- 1.16 The Capital Strategy is always undergoing development and refinement.

2. Objectives

On 12th May 2022, the Council approved The Shropshire Plan which sets out its vision and key priorities for the coming years. This document will now help shape where the Council prioritises its activities and the Capital Strategy will be closely aligned to the Shropshire Plan to ensure that the Council resources are deployed to only those areas of priority.

The Council's Capital Strategy has the following objectives.



3. Asset Management Planning

- 3.1 The overriding objective of asset management within the council is to achieve a corporate portfolio of property assets that is appropriate, fit for purpose and affordable. The latest Asset Management Strategy 2020 – 2025 sets out a portfolio approach and defines five key areas. The five portfolios set out the definition of how and why the property and land is held and for what purposes:
- **Operational** - Efficient, suitable, and fit for purpose accommodation for the future delivery of public services.
 - **Heritage** - Community infrastructure for the future, the Council as custodian, manages and invests in these assets for future generations.
 - **Development and regeneration** - Appropriate intervention and enablement to deliver economic growth.
 - **Investment** - In support of the Council's Commercial Strategy, maximising income generating opportunities through appropriate and effective property investment.
 - **Disposal** - To divest, reduce revenue burden and fuel the Council's capital programme.
- 3.2 Asset management is an important part of the council's business management arrangements and is crucial to the delivery of efficient and effective services, the ongoing management and maintenance of capital assets will be considered as part of the strategy. The asset management planning includes an objective to optimise the council's land and property portfolio through proactive estate management and effective corporate arrangements for the acquisition and disposal of land and property assets.
- 3.3 The Council's Asset Management Strategy sets out the requirements for the continued capital investment in its estate to ensure that it is maintained appropriately to manage and mitigate against financial risk from health and safety breaches and / or failure of its landlord responsibilities incurring significant financial burden.
- 3.4 The Council's Asset Management Strategy sets out the requirement for the continued capital investment in its estate to ensure that the revenue income emanating from its property is protected and durable for future years.
- 3.5 The council will continue to realise the value of any properties that have been declared surplus to requirements in a timely manner, having regard to the prevailing market conditions.

3.6 When a capital asset is deemed as surplus, it may be sold so that the proceeds ('capital receipts'), can be spent on planned capital expenditure. Repayments of capital grants, loans and investments also generate capital receipts. The Council already has budget commitments within the current capital programme of projects expected to be funded from capital receipts. At Quarter 3 2023/24 the current position of expected capital receipts against budget commitments is as follows:

Detail	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
Corporate Resources Allocated in Capital Programme	12,675,711	15,876,462	5,952,293	1,600,000
Capital Programme Ring-fenced receipt requirements	1,224,248	16,555,333	18,371,005	-
Transformation activities	4,018,186	-	-	-
Total Commitments	17,918,146	32,431,795	24,323,298	1,600,000
Capital Receipts in hand/projected:				
Brought Forward in hand	17,465,369	12,965,717	- 18,906,078	- 43,164,376
Generated 2022/23YTD	9,009,567	-	-	-
Projected - 'Green'	4,408,927	560,000	65,000	65,000
Total in hand/projected	30,883,863	13,525,717	- 18,841,078	- 43,099,376
Shortfall to be financed from Prudential Borrowing / (Surplus) to carry forward	- 12,965,717	18,906,078	43,164,376	44,699,376
Further Assets Being Considered for Disposal	1,468,300	27,468,715	7,463,000	7,000,750

"Green" indicates disposals that are highly likely to be completed by the end of the financial year.

3.7 The previous table demonstrates that by 2026/27 the Council will require £44.699m of generated capital receipts to meet its current liabilities within the approved capital programme. Of this budget requirement £43.401m of assets have been identified as surplus to requirements with the potential to be disposed of.

3.8 Asset Management Planning needs full consideration as part of the Capital Strategy to fund future projects that are deemed unsuitable to be funded from Prudential Borrowing as they neither generate new income nor create revenue savings that will fund the resulting MRP requirement. At the point of considering such projects for inclusion in the Capital Programme, asset disposals to fund these projects will form part of the full appraisal process.

4. Governance Arrangements

- 4.1 To ensure that available resources are allocated optimally and deliver value for money, investment programme planning is, whilst having its own approval process, determined in parallel with the service and revenue budget planning process within the framework of the Financial Strategy.
- 4.2 New programmes of expenditure will be appraised along with other investments and grant allocation programmes following a clearly defined gateway process. The authority will make use of internal officer experience supported by external professional advisors where necessary to ensure robust investment decisions are made. This advice will cover financial, legal, property and economic outcomes through appropriate appointments.
- 4.3 The authority has an appraisal mechanism in place which will seek to ensure that there is an integrated approach to addressing cross-cutting issues, both internal and external to the authority, developing and improving service delivery through transformation and its investment in pursuance of the authority's over-arching aims. The appraisal mechanism and governance process are currently under review, however in the meantime, the governance arrangements as listed below will continue. This includes Officer Groups which bring together a range of service interests and professional expertise, including:
- Democratic decision-making and scrutiny processes which provide overall political direction and ensure accountability for the investment in the Capital Programme.
 - A Capital Investment Board (CIB) which will oversee the investment portfolio. It is supported by a matrix group of officers of all specialities that will continue to appraise all business plans using independent external advisors if necessary. This will assist the making of investment decisions based on full site investigations, due diligence, funding package, undertaking full risk and reward assessments, lifetime costings, asset replacement and monitoring the outcome and reviewing those projects already in progress.
 - The Strategic Programme Officer Group (SPOG) overseeing and reviewing business cases for investments prior to sign off and for submission to Capital Investment Board and Cabinet/Council approval.
 - Specific Project boards of management groups with wide ranging membership to oversee significant development projects as required.
- 4.4 For projects and programmes an Expression of Interest (EOI) will be submitted that needs to include the investment levels required, source of funding, outcomes to be delivered, risk assessments, appropriate due diligence, repayment mechanisms, revenue impacts and full lifetime

costings. These will be scored against an agreed weighting and appropriate recommendations made to the SPOG.

- 4.5 Subject to the EOI proposal being approved a detailed Outline Business Case (OBC) will be submitted and appraised in line with the Council approved methodology of the Treasury 5-case model, prior to a Full Business Case being completed and appended to a Council report. A suite of template documents is appended to the OBC to ensure a consistent approach to project delivery. These include:
- Risk Register.
 - Cash Flow Modelling.
 - Gantt Chart for project timeline.
 - Project Board Terms of Reference and Agenda.
 - Procurement considerations.
 - Project closure report.
- 4.6 Under certain circumstances, as specified in the Commercial strategy, an alternative approach is necessary for spending decisions from the approved regeneration investment fund. Officers negotiating commercial deals are aware of the core principles of the Prudential Framework and the regulatory regime through the provision of appropriate training and advice.
- 4.7 Officers and Members involved in the decision-making process in relation to proposed projects and programmes will have the appropriate capacity, skills, and information to enable them to take informed decisions to acquire specific investments, to assess investments in the context of the Council's strategic objectives and risk profile and to understand how decisions have changed the overall risk exposure of the Council.
- 4.8 This assurance will be secured through the provision of relevant training and advice, detailed scheme business cases, financial appraisals and regular monitoring and review of the Council's overall investment position.
- 4.9 A summary of the programme governance is detailed in Appendix A.
- 4.10 Future monitoring of the programmes will include more rigorous expenditure profiling, outcome achievements, delivery against timetable, returns, risk assessments and completion reviews for each project.
- 4.11 Quarterly Capital Programme reports will continue to be submitted to Cabinet that identify changes to the approved programme to reflect:
- New resource allocations
 - Rescheduling in programme delivery
 - Programmes reduced or removed
 - Virements between schemes and programmes to maximise delivery.
 - Revisions to spend profile and funding to ensure ongoing revenue costs are minimised.

- Monitor the funding of the programme
- Capital receipts generated

5. Investment Approach

- 5.1 Underlying the Capital Strategy is the recognition that the financial resources available to meet capital expenditure priorities are constrained by a significant reduction in financial resources. The Council must therefore rely on internal capital resources including borrowing or external funds and seek ways in which all investment decisions, relating to either single schemes or defined programme of schemes, are no less than self-sustaining financially whilst generating significant positive returns in terms of meeting priorities.
- 5.2 The Council's approach to investment will reflect those investments made into the delivery of services and those designed for a wider economic basis. A balanced portfolio approach to investment will ensure an overall net average return reflecting some investments will yield higher returns than others and limit exposure to volatility in any one area.
- 5.3 All potential projects identified for investment can be classified in one of the following three categories:
- Commercial
 - Transformation
 - Economic Growth
- 5.4 The priority capital investments as identified in Sections 8 and 10 are summarised in these 3 categories of investment below which demonstrates the balance of our approach to investment within the capital strategy. This shows a lower level of investment in commercial projects, with most investment planned to support economic growth.

Table 5.1: Capital Schemes Analysed By Investment Category

Investment Category	Estimated Capital Cost £m
Commercial	5.503
Transformation	108.27
Economic Growth	130.953

6. Current Capital Programme

- 6.1 The current projected capital programme is shown below in summary with the full detailed programme included as Appendix B. It includes all projects that have proceeded to approval stage, either via delegated powers or full Cabinet and Council recommendation approvals. It also includes estimates for capital grants for 2024/25 and beyond where there is an expectation that grant funding will continue, such as Highways Maintenance and School Maintenance Grants.

Table 6.1: Current Capital Programme Expenditure Budget					
	2022/23 Actual £ m	2023/24 Projection £ m	2024/25 Estimate £ m	2025/26 Estimate £ m	2026/27 Estimate £ m
Non HRA Capital Expenditure	74.1	83.2	88.2	104.9	39.9
HRA Capital Expenditure	8.1	16.2	29.3	14.2	9.0
Total Capital Expenditure	82.2	99.4	117.5	119.1	48.9

- 6.2 Table 6.1 above shows the expected capital programme budget as at Quarter 3 2023/24. It will be revised following completion of the 2023/24 capital closedown procedure when final figures are established, which may result in slippage of budgets from 2023/24 into 2024/25.
- 6.3 The Council may also receive additional grant notifications throughout the financial year or if bids are submitted for additional grant funding as the year progresses. These changes will be reported as part of the quarterly finance strategy reporting.
- 6.4 There are several projects being considered that are being processed via the appraisal mechanism that is in place. As these projects have not completed the full cycle of appraisal, they are not included in the capital programme budget above but are informed as part of the prioritised projects discussed in section 8, where the impact of having additional budget requirements, and the resulting effect on the Capital Financing Requirement against prudential indicators is fully assessed. As these projects progress through both the appraisal process and the Councils governance requirements they will be added into the capital programme.

7. Funding the Current Capital Programme

7.1 There are several sources of funding the Council can use to finance its Capital Programme. The Current Programme is funded from the following sources:

- Capital Receipts
- Prudential Borrowing
- Developers Contribution (S106, CIL)
- Revenue Contributions
- Capital Grants
- Cash Balances / Internal Borrowing

7.2 Capital Receipts

Capital Receipts come from the sale of the Council's assets. If the disposal is Housing Revenue Account land or property, then the whole receipt is not available to support the capital programme as a percentage must be paid over to the MHCLG. Where the sale of an asset leads to the requirement to repay grant, the capital receipt will be utilised for this purpose. Once this liability has been established and provided for, capital receipts will be available to support the capital programme as a corporate resource. Where the asset has been funded from prudential borrowing a review will be undertaken to determine whether the most cost-effective option is to utilise the receipt to repay debt, considering the balance sheet position of the authority.

7.2.1 Flexible use of Capital Receipts

The 2015 Comprehensive Spend Review (CSR) announced that local authorities will be allowed to spend up to 100% of capital receipts (excluding Right to Buy receipts) on the revenue costs of reform projects. Instead of holding assets that could be made surplus, councils will be able to sell them to reinvest in their services. Guidance relating to specific conditions, number of years that this will be offered and the qualifying criteria for a 'reform' project was issued as part of the Final Local Government Settlement on 11th March 2016. The key points included:

- The direction originally only related to new receipts received in the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2019 that could be applied to meet the revenue costs of reform incurred in the same timeframe. This has since been extended to 31st March 2025.

- The key criteria to use when deciding whether expenditure can be funded by the capital receipts flexibility is that it is forecast to generate ongoing savings to the authority's net service expenditure and is expenditure on a project where incurring upfront costs will generate ongoing savings; and
- Individual authorities demonstrate the highest standards of accountability and transparency.
- Examples of qualifying expenditure include the sharing of back office and administrative services; investment in service reform feasibility work; collaboration between central and local government to free up land for economic use; funding the cost of service reconfiguration or restructuring leading to ongoing efficiencies; sharing Chief Executives; driving a digital approach; aggregating procurement on common goods; improving systems and processes to tackle fraud; setting up commercial or alternative delivery models to deliver services more efficiently or increase revenue income; and integrating public facing services across two or more public sector bodies

7.2.2 HRA Right to Buy Receipts

In most cases there will be no ring fencing of capital receipts to specific projects. One exception to this is the retained Right to Buy (RTB) receipts held by the Council under the agreement signed in June 2012 and amended in June 2013. Under this agreement any retained RTB receipts, which are not used for the specific purpose of providing replacement affordable housing, must be returned to MHCLG.

7.3 Prudential Borrowing

The Council will investigate opportunities to resource capital projects using prudential borrowing where plans are sustainable, affordable, and prudent. Full appraisal will take place to ensure that, where appropriate, sufficient revenue returns are generated to cover the cost of borrowing.

Where it is considered that prudential borrowing is the appropriate method of funding, but it requires additional revenue financing, the cost will be built into the revenue budget planning process. There are various debt instruments available for financing prudential borrowing and these are explored in detail in the Treasury Management Strategy.

The PWLB remains the Council's preferred source of long-term borrowing given the transparency and control that its facilities continue to provide. The Council qualified for borrowing at the 'Certainty Rate' (20 basis points, i.e., 0.20%, below the PWLB standard rate) for a twelve-month period from 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024, through its application to MHCLG.

7.4 **S106 Developer Contributions**

S106 agreements are made with developers / landowners as part of the planning approval process to ensure that new development mitigates its own impact and provides the necessary infrastructure to support it.

These contributions are site specific or can be 'pooled' for a maximum of 5 site specific projects. Any contributions received are 'ring-fenced' for the purpose as set out in the relevant S106 agreement and are applied to fund schemes within the relevant capital programme once an eligible scheme has been identified.

S106 contribution agreements have covered all types of infrastructure including transport, affordable housing, play areas, open spaces, playing fields, public realm, and public art. However, since the Council adopted CIL the planning obligations sought within S106 agreements have been scaled back to deal with only site-specific requirements, as required by the CIL Regulations. Pooled contributions previously sought for strategic transport, public realm and public open space related obligations are now dealt with by CIL.

The S106 contributions are time limited in that if they are not spent within an agreed timescale, typically 5 - 10 years, dependent on what has been agreed in the S106 agreement and any funds not spent in line with the agreement would have to be repaid to the developer, which, may include interest.

Consideration of available S106 funding should be taken into account when agreeing, for example, the roads programme for future years to maximise the use of the available funding and reduce the reliance on other sources of funding, predominantly borrowing. With the exception of funding for affordable housing the other pooled S106 obligations, such as Strategic Transport, Public Realm and Public Open Space will become zero over time as the CIL continues to be applied.

7.4.1 **Proposals for a New Levy on Developer Contributions**

The government has consulted on plans to radically shake-up the process of negotiating developer contributions via an overhaul of the current system. The proposals would introduce a new infrastructure levy to replace the system of securing developer contributions towards affordable housing, roads, and schools. The proposed levy would replace planning obligations, negotiated with developers through S106 agreements and CIL with a rate set nationally as a fixed proportion of a developments final value and charged at the point of occupation. Developments below a certain threshold would be exempt to protect the viability of smaller sites.

7.4.2 **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

CIL contributions are determined by set rates as detailed within the Council's CIL Charging Schedule and based on the amount of floor space being created by the development. CIL can be used to fund a wide range of infrastructure that is needed as a result of new development but is not site specific, giving more flexibility in where the funding can be used in geographical terms.

The CIL does not replace the requirement of S106 contributions. S106 contributions will still be relevant and will be sought alongside CIL.

The Planning Act and subsequent Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) says that authorities can only spend CIL on providing infrastructure to support the development of their areas. This includes flood defence, open space, recreation and sport, roads and transport facilities, education, and health facilities. However, it does not include affordable housing, which will continue to be funded by S106 obligations.

7.5 **Revenue Contributions**

An element of the revenue budget can be set aside to fund the capital programme (Direct Revenue Financing). However, with increasing General Fund revenue pressures these amounts available are reducing. A service or school may wish to offer some of its revenue budget to support the financing of a capital project. This is acceptable if it can be demonstrated that this funding is unfettered.

7.6 **Capital Grants**

7.6.1 **Government Grants**

Capital resources from Central Government can be split into two categories:

- *Non-ring fenced* - resources which are delivered through grant that can be utilised on any project (albeit that there may be an expectation of use for a specific purpose). This now encompasses most Government funding, and the Council will initially allocate these resources to a general pool from which prioritised schemes can be financed.
- *Ring-fenced* - resources which are ring fenced to particular areas and therefore have restricted uses, specified by the funder.

7.6.2 Non-Government Contributions

Where there is a requirement to make an application to an external agency to receive external funding, and when appropriate to commit Council resources as matched funding to any bid for external resources, a business case should first be presented for consideration to the CIB. The business case must demonstrate how the project aligns to Council's priorities and how matched funding and any revenue consequences can be managed within the context of the capital and revenue budget.

7.7 Cash Balances/Internal Borrowing

The term Prudential Borrowing above does not automatically lead to external borrowing as the Council may be able to use cash it holds in reserves and as working capital which is usually termed internal borrowing.

7.8 Funding Summary of the Current Capital Programme 2022/23 - 2026/27

The current projected capital programme is financed as follows:

Table 7.1: Financing of the Capital Programme					
	2022/23 Actual £ m	2023/24 Projection £ m	2024/25 Estimate £ m	2025/26 Estimate £ m	2026/27 Estimate £ m
Capital Receipts	7.2	12.5	9.8	8.4	4.1
Capital grants	35.2	51.3	57.2	79.4	29.6
Other Contributions	14.3	7.3	5.5	6.2	0.5
Major Repairs Allowance	4.2	7.1	4.8	5.0	5.0
Revenue Contributions	1.4	3.6	0.2	0.7	0.4
Prudential Borrowing	38.1	17.6	40.0	19.4	9.3
Total Financing	100.4	99.4	117.5	119.1	48.9

Over time all debt whether it be internal or external borrowing must be repaid, and this is therefore replaced over time by other financing, usually from revenue which is known as minimum revenue provision (MRP). The Council is required to make an annual MRP statement which is included within the annual Treasury Management Strategy report. The project appraisal process ensures that all projects that are not fully funded from secured grants or capital receipts are assumed to be funded from Prudential Borrowing and must demonstrate that any future borrowing requirement is affordable and sustainable within the requirements of the project.

The current MRP budget requirements based on the estimated capital programme above are as follows:

Table 7.2: Capital Programme MRP Budget Requirement					
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	Actual	Projection	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m
MRP (Excluding PFI / Finance Leases)	5.1	6.2	6.2	6.6	7.2

8. Capital Project Prioritisation & Future Schemes

- 8.1 The main objective for the introduction of the Capital Strategy requirement was in response to the major expansion of local authority investment activity into the purchase of non-financial investments, particularly property. The capital strategy therefore requires local authorities to assess investments over the long-term as opposed to the usual three years that planning has been conducted over.
- 8.2 Section 6 of this strategy summarises the current approved capital programme for the three years to 2025/26. The projects included within this programme have progressed through the governance process and are deemed to have been assessed fully to ascertain the outcomes of the project against criterion of risk and reward.
- 8.3 In order to comply with the requirement to consider capital expenditure over a medium to long-term period and to determine the financial sustainability of the authority, focusing on the affordability of the capital programme, Shropshire Council has compiled a planned programme of capital schemes that are proposed but have yet to complete the full due diligence process.
- 8.4 The prioritised list of projects included in the February 2023 Capital Strategy has been reviewed in conjunction with Directors, Assistant Directors and Service Area Managers and where funding has now been agreed, these have been moved into the Capital Programme. The revised schedule of prioritised schemes has an estimated capital cost of £239.223, of which £38.088 is anticipated to be funded through borrowing. The schemes included in this prioritised schedule are detailed in Appendix C and are summarised by Portfolio Holder in Table 8.1 below. The revenue impact of this level of borrowing will be £2.203m by 2029/30 assuming an interest rate of 4.0% over 30 years.

Table 8.1: Priority Schemes Estimated Costs	
Portfolio Holder	Estimated Scheme Costs £m
Culture & Digital	35.955
Children & Education	9.500

Table 8.1: Priority Schemes Estimated Costs	
Portfolio Holder	Estimated Scheme Costs £m
Adult Social Care & Public Health	1.000
Growth & Regeneration	121.365
Highways	13.908
Housing & Assets	57.495
Total	239.223

8.5 The total scheme costs detailed in Table 8.1 are initial estimates only and these are highly likely to change as more work is undertaken to develop robust business cases on an individual project basis including full options appraisal and detailed costings.

8.6 Table 8.2 below summarises the projected borrowing requirements associated with the capital schemes detailed in Appendix C together with the revenue impact of these schemes as reflected by an additional MRP requirement.

Table 8.2: Projected Borrowing Requirement & MRP Liability of Agreed Prioritised Capital Schemes							
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Total
	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m	£m	£m	£ m
Projected Borrowing Requirement	3.728	17.581	14.785	1.000	0.000	0.994	38.088
Projected Year on Year MRP Liability	0.216	1.017	0.855	0.058	0.000	0.057	2.203
Projected Cumulative MRP liability	0.216	1.232	2.087	2.145	2.145	2.203	

- 8.7 The projected borrowing costs of £2.203m associated with borrowing of £38.088m is ostensibly a revenue pressure, although it is likely that projects may generate additional capital receipts, other income or reduce existing costs to reduce the estimated borrowing costs. The prioritised projects are not sufficiently developed at this stage to provide any clarity in relation to potential capital receipts, additional income or existing revenue budget savings or pressures. These factors will be identified during the development of the project business cases. Consequently, the currently calculated revenue impact of borrowing has not been adjusted for any of these factors and should represent the maximum revenue impact. The additional MRP requirements identified in Table 8.2 above will need to be incorporated in revenue budget setting from 2024/25 onwards in line with the profile identified in the Table 8.2. The affordability of this impact must be realistically appraised in light of other competing budget pressures.
- 8.8 Borrowing is only one element of the funding required to finance the prioritised projects. Other additional funding sources are targeted to finance these projects as detailed in Table 8.3.

Table 8.3: Targeted Funding Sources	
	Total £'000s
External Grants	27.001
S106 Developer Contributions	10.500
CIL Developer Contributions	0.500
External Contributions	0.450
Borrowing	38.088
Capital Receipts (Asset Disposals)	20.807
Alternative Funding Options	141.877
Total Funding	239.223

- 8.9 The targeted funding sources includes a significant level of capital receipts (£20.087m) to be realised from asset disposals. These capital receipt requirements are additional to those highlighted at paragraph 3.6 of Section 3: Asset Management Planning with the exception of £12.258m required for

the North West Relief Road (NWRR) scheme. In the interests of prudence this capital receipt requirement of £12.258m has already been built into the capital receipt projections discussed in Section 3 at paragraph 3.6.

- 8.10 Alternative funding sources totalling £141,877,611m are being targeted as funding sources for a small number of key prioritised projects (Pride Hill Repurposing, Shrewsbury Riverside Development and the Multi Agency Hub (MAH)). These alternative funding sources will be investigated and assessed by the relevant project board and must be a key consideration during development of the relevant business cases.
- 8.11 The schemes identified in Appendix C must progress through the approved capital scheme governance process as normal, with robust business cases being developed for each project. These projects and business cases must be presented and approved by Cabinet and /or Council prior to their inclusion in the Council's capital programme.
- 8.12 Progression of schemes detailed in Appendix C will provide the Council with a set of prioritised capital projects to progress over the medium term (2024/25 to 2028/29) and those not included on Appendix C will provide a set of aspirational pipeline projects for consideration and development over the longer term (2029/30 onwards). The estimated capital cost of these schemes is currently £175.033m (excluding the NWRR costs, which cannot be estimated with confidence at present, as detailed below).
- 8.13 The North West Relief Road (NWRR) project presents a number of challenges in terms of financial forecasting. The challenges include, but are not limited to, the following points:
- The initial outline business case was prepared a number of years ago, pre-pandemic and before significant cost inflation in the construction sector.
 - It is a scheme which has attracted a great deal of controversy within the local community.
 - Future funding for the entire NWRR (Not OLR) scheme has been indicated by Government, further to the part-cessation of the HS2 project (detail to be confirmed).
 - A number of objections to the planning permission have been raised. To progress to an approved capital project within the Council's capital programme, a number of further milestones will need to be achieved, including
 - Submission of a Full Business Case to Department of Transport, and their agreement to this;
 - Confirmation of the resulting scope and cost of the project and the funding sources for it;
 - Overcoming any further objections, for example and judicial review or similar challenge.

8.14 It is not possible, therefore, to include a costed value against the NWRR in this report. The reasons are set out in the paragraph above, and in the future scenarios listed below. Quite simply – there is no valid up to date costing for a scheme which was originally described 5 years ago. To ensure necessary transparency and clarity around this key capital scheme, the reasons for the absence of a clear value are being set out and the uncertainty over the future of the scheme as a whole (from a financial planning perspective) are set out. The various future scenarios are therefore:

- a) Project proceeds in line with the initial outline business case estimates, with no changes. (This is included for comparison only, as the costing dates to 2017 and is therefore out of date.)
- b) Project proceeds in line with the initial outline business case, revised for subsequent changes (e.g. revised estimated costs and scope)
- c) Project proceeds in line with the initial outline business case, revised for subsequent changes, and with 100% of all estimated costs funded by government except for incoming Section 106 contributions, CIL receipts and income associated with Oxon Link Road/SUE West developments.
- d) Project proceeds in line with the initial outline business case, revised for subsequent changes, and with 100% of all future estimated costs funded by government.
- e) Project does not proceed, with costs to date required to be written off through the revenue account.

The 5 scenarios set out above are summarised in the table below.

8.16 The costs of the scheme cannot be estimated with certainty at present. The original outline business case from 2017 set out costs of £87.2m. Since that costing was prepared, there has been significant inflation in the construction sector, and it is to be expected that the original design will need to be revised for latest technology, new approaches etc. These costs will be updated following the procurement exercise currently underway and completion of the Full Business Case to be submitted to DfT at an unspecified future date.

8.17 It should also be noted that, regardless of the funding sources to be applied, any revenue impact is anticipated to fall outside the current MTFS period.

8.18 It should also be noted that the decision to continue with the scheme or not will depend upon the future decisions of the DfT and Shropshire Council.

NWRR scenario	Funding	Revenue impact
a) Per OBC (2017)	<p>£54.4m – DfT (large majors fund) £19.8m – Shropshire Council match funding (land disposals) £8.3m – s106; £4.2m – LEP; £0.3m – CIL; £0.2m – NHB (match)</p> <p>Total: £87.2m</p>	Nil – no borrowing planned
b) Per OBC, updated for revised estimated costs and scope	As above, amended for revised scope. The scope will be determined further to future decisions and submission of a full business case (FBC) to Dept for Transport (DfT)	Borrowing is not yet confirmed as necessary as the scheme scope and costs are not yet clear. Borrowing costs would be repayable from the year following completion – which is likely to be outside the current MTFS period.
c) Per OBC, updated for revised estimated costs and scope, with 100% of all costs funded by Government.	This would release funding set out in row (a) and previously committed.	Nil – no borrowing required.
d) Per OBC, updated for revised estimated costs and scope, with 100% of future costs funded by government	This would confirm requirement for previous funding, but eliminate the need for any further funding.	Nil – no borrowing required.
e) Project cancelled, with sunk costs written off to revenue	<p>To be secured via revenue reserves and/or capital receipts or capitalisation direction.</p> <p>Depending on the availability of these, there may also be an impact on service revenue budgets. It would be anticipated that capital receipts would be largely required either to fund works already undertaken or to support (part) write off of capital costs in revenue.</p>	Major impact on revenue budget to be addressed via application of capital receipts, revenue reserves, revenue budget reduction, or even capitalisation direction.

9. Commercial Activity & Investment

- 9.1 The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) defines investment property as property held solely to earn rentals or for capital appreciation or both. Returns from property ownership can be both income-driven (through the receipt of rent) and by way of appreciation of the underlying asset value (capital growth). The combination of these is a consideration in assessing the attractiveness of a property for acquisition.
- 9.2 The principal reasons for Shropshire Council to buy and own property investments are to secure a continuing service objective, to directly deliver service benefits and to promote economic development and regeneration activity in the Council's area: not primarily to take advantage of market and economic opportunities. Generation of financial returns from a property investment will normally be secondary to these principal reasons and the monies generated utilised to fund services to residents. This is in line with the new PWLB reform on borrowing in Local Authorities as mentioned earlier.
- 9.3 The Council may also undertake other types of investment, such as investment property portfolios, loans to wholly owned companies or associates, to joint ventures, to local charities, or to third parties, where this is relevant to the Council's functions or management of its finances and generate income.
- 9.4 Local authorities have a range of powers available to them permitting the acquisition of property, powers to undertake income generating and commercial activity and to invest for purposes relevant to their functions, or for the purposes of the prudent management of their financial affairs (Section 12 of the Local Government Act 2011).
- 9.5 Before undertaking any commercial or investment activity, the Council will need to make sure that its proposals are legally compliant: consider any increased risk to the Council; take account of the requirement of its published strategies relevant to the project; and are compliant with other relevant statutory requirements, such as "state aid" rules, i.e., to ensure public funding is not used to subsidise commercial entities operating in a market economy.
- 9.6 Legal advice will be an early aspect of any development of commercial activities or investment projects to ensure the Council will be acting within the legislative framework in undertaking the activity and to inform good decision making. Specialist external advice will be sought as appropriate.

- 9.7 Identification of the relevant statutory powers to be relied upon may impact upon the funding available for a project, including whether the Council is permitted to borrow to fund the investment. The Council will consider the requirements of the statutory codes that comprise the CIPFA prudential framework, including the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities, in addition to the CIPFA guidance on Prudential Property Investment.
- 9.8 In summary, the ability to borrow for an investment will depend on the powers utilised for the acquisition. Where the Council acquires an investment property utilising a power permitting the acquisition of land and building, borrowing will be considered to fund the acquisition, however, where a power permitting the acquisition of investments has been utilised, borrowing will not be considered as a funding option where this constitutes borrowing in advance of need.
- 9.9 Although local authorities are able to acquire land and property both inside and outside their own administrative areas, the Council will limit investments to within its own administrative area.
- 9.10 Property investment is not without risk as property values can fall as well as rise and changing economic conditions could cause tenants to leave with properties remaining vacant as has happened during the national pandemic. An example of this, within Shropshire Council's portfolio, is the Shrewsbury Shopping Centres. The pandemic has significantly impacted on the retail sector, thus impacting on Shropshire Council due to its interest in the assets.
- 9.11 The strategy makes it clear that the Council will continue to invest prudently to support service delivery and provide additional sources of income and to take advantage of opportunities as they present themselves, supported by our robust governance process.

10. Regeneration Investment Fund & Climate Change

10.1 The Council allocated an Investment Fund to facilitate regeneration of strategic assets and contribute towards the Council's revenue outturn position. An income target of £2m per year from 2019/20 to 2022/23 was initially included in the Council's 2019/20 Financial Strategy equating to investment of £80m and cost of investment of £4.4m. The fund and income targets were revised and reprofiled to £45m and £4.5m respectively over the period 2020/21 to 2022/23 to align with actual investments undertaken to date and anticipated income realisation profiles. The total of the Regeneration Investment Fund will continue to be reviewed in light of other Council priorities.

10.2 The following table summarises the investments made to date and the remaining balance on the Investment Fund.

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Approved budget allocation	20,000,000	20,000,000	5,000,000				45,000,000
Unutilised Fund Carry Forward:	0	9,609,897	25,908,427	30,817,386	22,721,932	10,986,655	
Drawn down into capital programme:							
Tannery Block C & B	(7,133,862)	(311,325)	(16,614)	(3,847)	(2,153)		(7,467,801)
Whitchurch Medical Practice				(171,509)	(3,606,719)		(3,778,228)
Site Acquisition at Ennerdale Road Shrewsbury							
Strategic Property Acquisition Shrewsbury							
Oswestry Morrisons Site		(3,390,145)					(3,390,145)
Oswestry Castleview	(3,256,241)						(3,256,241)
Maesbury Tip Solar PV				(19,682)	(2,021,491)		(2,041,173)
Tannery Development - Block A			(62,500)	(594,752)	(1,356,605)	(5,000,000)	(7,013,857)
Shrewsbury Pitch and Putt			(11,927)	(136,349)	(4,748,309)	(503,415)	(5,400,000)
15-18 English Walls, Oswestry				(3,332,304)			(3,332,304)
7-9 Pride Hill, Shrewsbury				(3,837,011)			(3,837,011)
Balance of unutilised fund	9,609,897	25,908,427	30,817,386	22,721,932	10,986,655	5,483,240	

10.3 The table shows that around 12% of the £45m regeneration investment fund is currently unallocated. The current remaining balance is £5,483,240.

10.4 All of the projects listed in the table have been approved and are included in the Capital Programme. It is expected that the projects agreed in the capital programme will generate in excess of £1.8m each year from 2024/25.

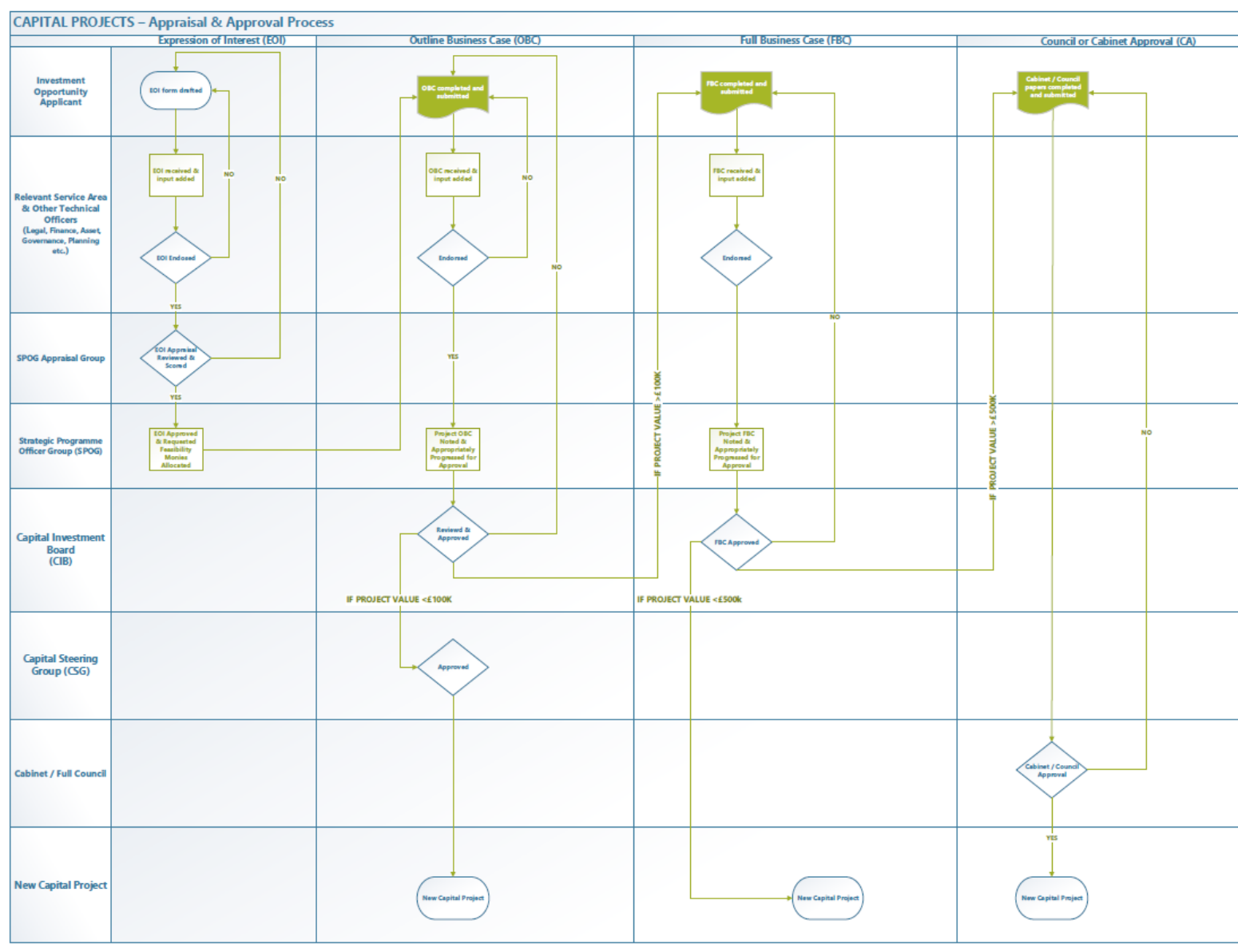
10.5 Details on progress to date for each of these approved capital projects is summarised below.

10.6 **Tannery Block C and Tannery Block B** were completed in full within the 2020/21 Financial Year with some units currently unoccupied but with active interest.

- 10.7 **Whitchurch Medical Practice** project was approved in July 2018 to provide NHS facilities in the area, and following a lengthy pause due to judicial review, is now in delivery with construction starting during 2022/23.
- 10.8 **Oswestry Morrison's Site** acquisition was completed halfway through the 2020/21 financial year. Early surrender of the lease by Morrison's in 2021/22 has led to review of options at the site. Negotiations with prospective tenants are being explored.
- 10.9 **Castle View, Oswestry** was acquired at the end of the 2019/20 financial year and has provided a gross yield in excess of 5%.
- 10.10 **Maesbury Tip Solar PV scheme** for installation of Solar PV was approved in 21/22 for £1.1m. This scheme was reviewed and expanded to increase energy capacity and financial returns at the site and a revised budget of £2.041m was approved by Council in 2022/23.
- 10.11 **Tannery Block A project** received Council approval for a land acquisition alongside future development. Options for the development of the site are being explored in light of other developments in the Town Centre area.
- 10.12 **Shrewsbury Pitch & Putt scheme** for the development of a small retail park was approved in 2021/22. Planning has been submitted for this scheme with construction expected to start in 2024/25.
- 10.13 **15-18 English Walls, Oswestry** strategic acquisition was undertaken during 2022/23, generating further income against the regeneration investment fund.
- 10.14 **7-9 Pride Hill, Shrewsbury** strategic acquisition was undertaken during 2022/23. This is a key site linked to the redevelopment of the Pride Hill Shopping Centre.
- 10.15 There are also two schemes that had received Cabinet or Council approval for funding via the Commercial Investment Fund but not proceeded being:
1. The freehold acquisition of land and property owned by a Government department being the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency in Ennerdale Road, Shrewsbury to support the economic growth of North Shrewsbury. Negotiations ceased when the freeholder chose to cease negotiations with the council and sell the site via the open market.
 2. The freehold acquisition of a site located between English Bridge and the Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury, and currently under occupational lease to National Car Parks (NCP) Ltd. The freeholder chose not to dispose of the land and property due to the impact of covid and a subsequent decision was taken to retain the asset in their ownership.

10.16 **Climate Change Emergency**

Following approval of Shropshire Council's Corporate Climate Emergency Strategy, which included an Action Plan and Project Pipeline climate change projects have been progressing. In addition to Maesbury Solar PV project mentioned above there have been further projects being undertaken and embedded within the whole Capital Programme such as decarbonisation of buildings, Electric Vehicle Charging Points and improving energy efficiency across the Council's asset portfolio. The Council have been successful with obtaining external sources of funding to assist in the delivery of these Climate Change schemes and are continuing to seek further options for funding future projects.



Directorate Service Area	Revised Budget P10 2023/24 £	2024/25 Revised Budget £	2025/26 Revised Budget £	2026/27 Revised Budget £
General Fund				
Health & Wellbeing	0	0	0	0
Public Health Capital	0	0	0	0
Regulatory Services Capital	0	0	0	0
People	6,167,451	9,025,290	9,280,231	3,950,000
Adult Social Care Contracts & Provider Capital	0	0	0	0
Adult Social Care Operations Capital	467,109	300,000	0	0
Children's Residential Care Capital	385,075	300,000	0	0
Non-Maintained Schools Capital	1,108,047	750,000	2,000,000	0
Primary School Capital	6,117,707	2,081,777	0	0
Secondary School Capital	551,301	27,250	0	0
Special Schools Capital	11,904	0	0	0
Unallocated School Capital	-351,360	5,566,263	7,280,231	3,950,000
Place Capital - Commercial Services	8,307,153	15,844,144	19,001,000	6,100,000
Corporate Landlord Capital	8,307,153	15,844,144	19,001,000	6,100,000
Place Capital - Economic Growth	8,811,876	13,636,892	8,602,226	1,500,000
Broadband Capital	1,449,043	909,632	1,579,945	1,500,000
Development Management Capital	519,274	121,500	40,500	0
Economic Growth Capital	6,474,557	12,246,020	6,602,908	0
Planning Policy Capital	369,002	359,740	378,873	0
Place Capital - Homes & Communities	3,138,121	7,736,498	2,090,998	633,261
Leisure Capital	2,773,508	7,269,715	2,067,303	633,261
Libraries Capital	118,475	94,780	23,695	0
Outdoor Partnerships Capital	269,038	370,000	0	0
Visitor Economy Capital	-22,900	0	0	0
Place Capital - Infrastructure	42,715,768	37,761,483	61,773,880	22,237,000
Environment & Transport Capital	438,156	0	0	0
Highways Capital	42,277,612	37,761,483	61,773,880	22,23,000
Waste Capital	0	0	0	0

Directorate Service Area	Revised Budget P10 2023/24 £	2024/25 Revised Budget £	2025/26 Revised Budget £	2026/27 Revised Budget £
Place Capital - Housing Services	11,795,527	4,149,000	4,149,000	5,452,995
Housing Services	11,795,527	4,149,000	4,149,000	5,452,995
Resources	142,361	100,000	0	0
ICT Digital Transformation - CRM Capital	576	0	0	0
ICT Digital Transformation - ERP Capital	0	0	0	0
ICT Digital Transformation - Infrastructure & Architecture Capital	0	0	0	0
ICT Digital Transformation - Social Care Capital	0	0	0	0
ICT Digital Transformation - Unallocated Capital	141,785	100,000	0	0
Total General Fund	81,078,257	88,251,307	104,897,335	39,873,256
<u>Housing Revenue Account</u>	16,201,936	29,252,974	14,231,781	9,000,000
HRA Dwellings Capital	16,201,936	22,252,974	14,231,781	9,000,000
Total Approved Budget	99,402,525	117,504,281	119,129,116	48,873,256

PRIORITY CAPITAL SCHEMES SCHEDULE

APPENDIX C

Proposed Scheme	Scheme Description	Estimated Capital Cost (£m)	Proposed Sources of Finance (£m)									Anticipated Borrowing Requirement Profile (£m)								
			External Grants	Section 106 Developer Contributions	CIL Developer Contributions	Revenue Contributions	Alternative Funding Option	External Contributions	Borrowing	Capital Receipts	Total	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	Total		
Swimming in Shrewsbury	Design and build an extension to the Shrewsbury Sports Village to include a range of new fitness, wellbeing and swimming facilities.	28.003			0.500						22.503	5.000	28.003	3.203	9.700	9.600				22.503
Libraries Self Service Machines	Programme to install self-service machines .	0.152	0.152										0.152							0.000
Shrewsbury Museum - British Museum Gallery	Development of new British Museum Partnership Gallery at Shrewsbury Museum, to develop a major new visitor attraction (only 7 other Partnership Galleries in the UK) and thus drive income generation.	1.750	1.500									0.250	1.750							0.000
Nils Yard Redevelopment	The replacement of existing buildings and reconfiguration of the Outdoor Partnerships depot and offices at Nils Yard, Pontesbury to address health and safety and operational requirements	0.500										0.500	0.500							
Old Market Hall & Square	Restoration and redevelopment of the outdoor area beneath and around the Old Market Hall Shrewsbury to facilitate greater use of the area in order to further animate the streetscape and deter antisocial behaviour. Health and Safety issue with needles and rough sleeper possessions left on fire escape.	0.100										0.100	0.100							
Coleham Pumping Station	Restoration of chimney needed as at risk of collapse. Health and Safety issue	0.400										0.400	0.400							
SpArC Leisure Centre Bishop's Castle	Reprofiling of swimming pool, with new pool liner and new filtration system. Health and Safety issue. Requirement for major investment for De-carbonising building	4.750	4.000						0.450			0.300	4.750							
Bayston Hill Library Refurbish	Conversion of garage on school site for either commercial or town council use and library refurbishment including required H&S works.	0.300									0.300		0.300		0.300					0.300
SUBTOTAL: PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR CULTURE & DIGITAL		35.955	5.652	0.000	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.450	22.803	6.550	35.955	3.203	10.000	9.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	22.803	
Buldwas Primary	New Primary School requirement on former power station site subject to planning approvals.	5.100		5.100									5.100							
William Brookes School	Expansion linked to Secondary pupils from power station site.	4.400		4.400									4.400							
SUBTOTAL: PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR CHILDREN & EDUCATION		9.500	0.000	9.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	9.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Greenacres Development	Inflation pressure on development	1.000									1.000		1.000							1.000
SUBTOTAL: PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE & PUBLIC HEALTH		1.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.000	
UKSPF	Improvements to town centres & high streets	1.100	1.100										1.100							
UKSPF	Enhancing existing cultural historic and heritage institutions offer	0.370	0.370										0.370							

PRIORITY CAPITAL SCHEMES SCHEDULE

APPENDIX C

Proposed Scheme	Scheme Description	Estimated Capital Cost (£m)	Proposed Sources of Finance (£m)									Anticipated Borrowing Requirement Profile (£m)								
			External Grants	Section 106 Developer Contributions	CIL Developer Contributions	Revenue Contributions	Alternative Funding Option	External Contributions	Borrowing	Capital Receipts	Total	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	Total		
UKSPF	Capacity building and infrastructure support local groups	0.100	0.100																	
Shrewsbury Riverside Development - Demolition	Demolition of the current Riverside Shopping Centre to enable future development.	4.287								4.287				0.100	4.187				4.287	
Shrewsbury Riverside Enabling Works - LUF Round 2 Project 1	Physical infrastrucutre works critical to unlocking the vital, transformational Smithfield Riverside Development Programme.	19.464	14.849							4.615						4.615			4.615	
Shrewsbury Town Centre Public Realm - LUF Round 2 Project 2	A number of projects identified within the Big Town Plan, primarily around Public Realm improvements and town centre movement.	4.280	4.280																4.280	
Pride Hill - Repurposing	Future development of the former Pride Hill shopping centre and adjacent gap site	31.757					31.757												31.757	
Shrewsbury Riverside Development	Following on from the demolition, investment in development of the site for end use - part of the Big Town Plan.	53.619					53.619												53.619	
Conservation Management Plan - Rowleys House, Shrewsbury	First Phase Stabilisation requirement before future use investment	2.000									2.000	2.000								
Oswestry - Cambrian Railway Building	Renovation of Cambrian Railway Building, Oswestry and reconfiguration for future use. Reconfiguration	0.570								0.570		0.570			0.570				0.570	
Oswestry Innovation Park	Electricity rebate built into Business Case may not come to fruition.	2.969								2.969		2.969			2.969				2.969	
White Horse, Wem	Repurpose and restoration following successful auction bid. Aiming to attract external funding - English Heritage potentially.	0.850								0.850		0.850		0.425	0.425				0.850	
SUBTOTAL: PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR GROWTH & REGENERATION		121.365	20.699	0.000	0.000	0.000	85.376	0.000	0.000	13.291	2.000	121.365		0.525	7.581	5.185	0.000	0.000	0.000	13.291
North West Relief Road	Linked to Phase 1 Pre Commencement Programme within the capital programme to deliver the North West Relief Road (including Oxon Link Road). This represents the Council Investment requirement that has not yet been secured at OBC Stage.	12.258									12.258	12.258								
Oteley Road, Shrewsbury Traffic Management Improvements	Traffic Flow Improvements and Road Safety on Oteley Road, Shrewsbury	1.000		1.000								1.000								
Shropshire Safety Road Fund	A5191 Shrewsbury Northern Corridor between Railway Station and Heathgates Island	0.650	0.650									0.650								
SUBTOTAL: PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR HIGHWAYS		13.908	0.650	1.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	12.258	13.908		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	

Proposed Scheme	Scheme Description	Estimated Capital Cost (£m)	Proposed Sources of Finance (£m)								Anticipated Borrowing Requirement Profile (£m)							
			External Grants	Section 106 Developer Contributions	CIL Developer Contributions	Revenue Contributions	Alternative Funding Option	External Contributions	Borrowing	Capital Receipts	Total	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	Total
Development of New Multi-Agency Hub (MAH)	Future development of a new Multi-Agency Hub (MAH) including demolition of the current Riverside Shopping Centre to enable future development.	56.501					56.501										0.000	
Shirehall Decant & Decommission	Underwriting of estimated costs incurred to deliver full planning permission for the Shirehall site prior to marketing for sale.	0.994							0.994							0.994	0.994	
SUBTOTAL: PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR HOUSING & ASSETS		57.495	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	56.501	0.000	0.994	0.000	57.495	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.994	0.994	
		239.223	27.001	10.500	0.500	0.000	141.877	0.450	38.088	20.808	239.223	3.728	17.581	14.785	1.000	0.000	0.994	38.088

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Draft Revenue and Capital Budget 2024/25



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Foreword from Lezley Picton, Leader of Shropshire Council

This report sets out the detailed budget book for the Council for the 2024/25 financial year.

The budgets for the year are presented after the removal of the proposed spending reductions set out in the Financial Strategy report (see MTFS section 11).

All budget holders will be supported to ensure that they remain within the spending limits set out in this report through the coming year. Of course – plans often change, and the budgets can change to reflect that. The financial rules (here: [Feb 2019 - Financial Rules](#)) set out the way in which this can be done.

Besides being a key element of the framework for management control across the authority, the Budget Book also provides a range of data insight and intelligence – both the levels of spending in different areas, the composition of funding, and the way the Council's resources have been allocated.

Our financial plan is framed by the objectives of The Shropshire Plan (TSP), and our prioritisation of services for local people. But we must also manage our money. The Budget Book provides a key document to help us to achieve TSP objectives, by providing a 'map' of the Council's financial resources from which we can plan and act.

Within the financial strategy (MTFS) we set out clearly the challenges we face and the measures proposed to address those. To secure the opportunities for improved efficiency and focus – even though we already do well – changes in the way we operate are proposed to secure improved efficiency and effectiveness.

I am under no illusion over the challenge this budget clearly sets out and how hard we will need to work. But I am also confident that we have never been so well prepared.

Lezley Picton
Leader of Shropshire Council



Figure 1 - Interlocking initiatives - our 'honeycomb'

Budget Summary



Revenue Summary

2023/24 Revised Budget £	Service Area	Budget 2024/25						Gross Income			Net Budget Requirement £
		Employee Related Costs £	Third Party & Transfer Payments £	Gross Expenditure Other Controllable expenditure £	Internal Recharges £	Non Controllable costs £	Total Expenditure £	Government Grants £	Service Income £	Total Income £	
(40,156,300)	Corporate Budgets	6,150,330	10,575,980	43,726,110	1,705,210	(20,951,490)	41,206,140	(74,200,010)	(4,039,810)	(78,239,820)	(37,033,680)
2,547,320	Health & Wellbeing	5,250,610	10,649,670	(2,501,490)	2,686,740	706,530	16,792,060	(14,364,510)	(1,372,360)	(15,736,870)	1,055,190
208,371,120	People	62,833,350	323,245,180	17,748,770	10,067,850	12,157,990	426,053,140	(148,555,460)	(57,185,940)	(205,741,400)	220,311,740
81,459,540	Place	45,373,160	23,001,910	85,841,870	8,475,790	7,133,190	169,825,920	(17,068,080)	(80,415,120)	(97,483,200)	72,342,720
3,513,570	Resources	22,955,170	49,070,970	4,776,290	3,518,690	858,140	81,179,260	(46,657,950)	(29,781,270)	(76,439,220)	4,740,040
178,400	Strategic Management Board	751,480	0	23,030	289,690	95,640	1,159,840	0	(878,630)	(878,630)	281,210
255,913,650	Sub Total	143,314,100	416,543,710	149,614,580	26,743,970	0	736,216,360	(300,846,010)	(173,673,130)	(474,519,140)	261,697,220
	Less recharges*				(26,743,970)		(26,743,970)		26,743,970	26,743,970	0
255,913,650	Net Budget	143,314,100	416,543,710	149,614,580	0	0	709,472,390	(300,846,010)	(146,929,160)	(447,775,170)	261,697,220
(7,478,630)	Revenue Support Grant										(7,973,990)
(11,119,830)	Top Up Grant										(10,924,570)
(39,424,460)	Business Rates										(41,306,340)
(4,313,680)	Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit										3,611,850
193,577,050	Council Tax Requirement										205,104,170
1,639.01	Council Tax (Band D)										1,720.80
7,093,350	General Fund Balances (Opening)										1,628,000
52,578,720	Earmarked Reserves (Openings)										32,197,370
59,672,070	Total Balances Held										33,825,370

* Recharges have been excluded from the Council's expenditure and income budget to ensure that the cost of these services and the recharged cost for these services are no longer both reflected in the gross budget

Portfolio Holder Summary

2023/24 Revised Budget Portfolios £	Gross Expenditure					Budget 2024/25				Net Budget Requirement £
	Employee Related Costs £	Third Party & Transfer Payments £	Other Controllable expenditure £	Internal Recharges £	Non Controllable costs £	Total Expenditure £	Government Grants £	Service Income £	Total Income £	
131,071,130 Adult Social Care and Public Health	29,075,990	169,011,700	(4,229,490)	8,908,040	4,275,120	207,041,360	(25,543,680)	(50,755,380)	(76,299,060)	130,742,300
1,690,350 Growth and Regeneration	1,302,930	(16,590)	5,319,330	234,740	268,640	7,109,050	(5,662,420)	(674,410)	(6,336,830)	772,220
36,031,910 Deputy Leader, Climate Change, Environment and Transport	790,410	325,510	43,396,570	788,890	131,340	45,432,720	(3,345,610)	(5,910,630)	(9,256,240)	36,176,480
77,687,970 Children & Education	37,159,370	164,883,150	19,459,470	5,196,530	8,307,200	235,005,720	(137,376,290)	(7,643,390)	(145,019,680)	89,986,040
(37,606,960) Finance, Corporate Resources & Communities	20,171,440	59,646,950	43,071,190	4,063,870	(20,240,210)	106,713,240	(120,857,960)	(19,756,490)	(140,614,450)	(33,901,210)
8,981,719 Housing and Assets	18,563,140	2,590,780	23,128,750	(240,100)	3,356,690	47,399,260	(3,246,580)	(38,637,190)	(41,883,770)	5,515,490
10,393,001 Culture and Digital	13,452,440	3,609,930	9,970,890	2,707,330	1,100,600	30,841,190	(2,666,360)	(18,193,500)	(20,859,860)	9,981,330
18,407,870 Highways	6,763,650	15,969,060	8,115,490	3,338,010	861,070	35,047,280	(2,002,940)	(17,781,840)	(19,784,780)	15,262,500
896,310 Leader, Policy and Strategy, Improvement and Communication	4,043,530	0	(82,750)	1,965,640	202,540	6,128,960	0	(5,311,960)	(5,311,960)	817,000
8,360,350 Planning and Regulatory Services	11,991,200	523,220	1,465,130	(218,980)	1,737,010	15,497,580	(144,170)	(9,008,340)	(9,152,510)	6,345,070
255,913,650 Sub Total	143,314,100	416,543,710	149,614,580	26,743,970	0	736,216,360	(300,846,010)	(173,673,130)	(474,519,140)	261,697,220
Less recharges				(26,743,970)		(26,743,970)		26,743,970	26,743,970	0
255,913,650 Total Portfolio Budgets	143,314,100	416,543,710	149,614,580	0	0	709,472,390	(300,846,010)	(146,929,160)	(447,775,170)	261,697,220

Portfolio	Portfolio Holder
Portfolio Holder Adult Social Care and Public Health	Councillor Cecilia Motley
Portfolio Holder Growth and Regeneration	Councillor Mark Jones
Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder Climate Change, Environment and Transport	Councillor Ian Nellins
Portfolio Holder Children and Education	Councillor Kirstie Hurst-Knight
Portfolio Holder Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities	Councillor Gwilym Butler
Portfolio Holder Housing and Assets	Councillor Dean Carroll
Portfolio Holder Culture and Digital	Councillor Rob Macey
Portfolio Holder Highways	Councillor Dan Morris
Leader and Portfolio Holder Policy and Strategy, Improvement and Communications	Councillor Lezley Picton
Portfolio Holder Planning and Regulatory Services	Councillor Chris Schofield

Subjective Analysis

Service Area	Budget 2024/25														
	Employee Related		Transport	Supplies & Services	Third Party Payments	Transfer Payments	Internal Recharges	Non Controllable costs	Total Expenditure	Government Grants	Gross Income		Internal Recharges	Total Income	Net Budget Requirement
	Costs	Premises									Other Grants & Contributions	Other Income incl Fees & Charges			
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Corporate Budgets	6,150,330	1,580	0	43,724,530	10,575,980	0	1,705,210	(20,951,490)	41,206,140	(74,200,010)	(1,046,110)	(2,644,590)	(349,110)	(78,239,820)	(37,033,680)
Health & Wellbeing	5,250,610	6,600	54,580	(2,562,670)	10,649,670	0	2,686,740	706,530	16,792,060	(14,364,510)	(247,830)	(1,084,530)	(40,000)	(15,736,870)	1,055,190
People	62,833,350	764,170	15,271,400	1,713,200	267,323,220	55,921,960	10,067,850	12,157,990	426,053,140	(148,555,460)	(24,745,950)	(31,690,450)	(749,540)	(205,741,400)	220,311,740
Place	45,373,160	16,078,510	4,935,080	64,828,280	22,971,910	30,000	8,475,790	7,133,190	169,825,920	(17,068,080)	(7,476,870)	(57,846,190)	(15,092,060)	(97,483,200)	72,342,720
Resources	22,955,170	144,770	81,950	4,549,570	61,570	49,009,400	3,518,690	858,140	81,179,260	(46,657,950)	(3,312,640)	(5,259,710)	(21,208,920)	(76,439,220)	4,740,040
Strategic Management Board	751,480	0	1,680	21,350	0	0	289,690	95,640	1,159,840	0	0	0	(878,630)	(878,630)	281,210
Sub Total	143,314,100	16,995,630	20,344,690	112,274,260	311,582,350	104,961,360	26,743,970	0	736,216,360	(300,846,010)	(36,829,400)	(98,525,470)	(38,318,260)	(474,519,140)	261,697,220
Less recharges							(26,743,970)		(26,743,970)		0		26,743,970	26,743,970	(0)
Net Budget	143,314,100	16,995,630	20,344,690	112,274,260	311,582,350	104,961,360	0	0	709,472,390	(300,846,010)	(36,829,400)	(98,525,470)	(11,574,290)	(447,775,170)	261,697,220

Financial Strategy Summary



Financial Strategy Summary

The Final Council Financial Strategy presented to Council 29 February 2024 provides the latest projections on the Council's Resource and Expenditure projections for the period 2024/25 and the initial projections for 2025/26 to 2028/29. The following table provides a summary.

Table 1: Resource and Expenditure Projections 2024-2029

	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	2027/28 £'000
Resources	709,472	701,441	713,053	724,702	736,703
Expenditure	709,472	720,392	744,030	765,018	785,675
Funding Gap	0	-18,951	-30,977	-40,316	-48,972
Year on Year Increase		-18,951	-12,026	-9,339	-8,656

The Resource Projections are based on the Final Local Government Finance Settlement received on 5 February 2024 and estimates of Local Business Rates retained locally. Council Tax will increase in 2024/25 by 2.99% and a further 2.00% relating to an Adult Services Precept.

The expenditure projections reflect the latest assumptions for inflationary growth including pay and prices which has resulted in a significant growth pressure for 2024/25 due to continued high inflation rates in the economy, alongside demand pressures being experienced in Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care. Also included within the 2024/25 budget, the Council is proposing savings of £62.48m in order to get the Council's budget on a more sustainable footing.

In delivering a balanced budget for 2024/25, the Council has agreed to use one off core grants to close and fully fund the original funding gap of £52.178m in 2024/25. There is still uncertainty over the longer term over the future of some of these core grants from the government so these are treated as one off funding rather than treating as base funding until the future funding position is known.

The table below details how the total £52.178m will be funded in 2024/25.

Table 2: Funding Gap and Savings for 2024/25

	£'000	£'000
Funding Gap:		
2024/25 Original Funding Gap	52,178	
Total Funding Gap		52,178
One off Funding:		
Rural Services Delivery Grant – One Off	-7,757	
Social Care Grant - One Off	-28,010	
Improved Better Care Funding	-9,896	
Services Grant - One Off	-357	
Market Sustainability and Fair Cost Fund	-6,098	
New Homes Bonus	-60	
Total Funding Applied		-52,178

Detailed Budgets by Service Area



Corporate

Corporate budgets are not a 'service' or 'support' function but hold all budgets which are necessary requirements in the running of the council. This includes budgets for treasury management (including investment and borrowings) and provides the point where core government grant funding is applied to support the Council's budget and service areas.

Corporate Budget Build Up	£
2032/24 Revised Budget	(40,156,300)
Growth including inflation ¹ and demography	13,972,960
Proposed savings	(6,548,080)
Virements between service areas	1,555,890
Non-controllable adjustments ²	(5,858,150)
2024/25 Net Budget	(37,033,680)

¹ includes pay, pensions, utilities, and contracts

² includes IAS19, insurance and internal market

Strategic Management Board

Provides strategic support in leadership of the council. Includes overall leadership of corporate initiatives such as the 'Target Operating Model' and securing a 'Strategic Transformation Partner' who will help the whole council achieve rapid improvements in overall focus, efficiency, and effectiveness.

Strategic Management Board Budget Build Up	£
2023/24 Revised Budget	178,400
Growth including inflation ¹ and demography	128,770
Proposed savings	(210,660)
Virements between service areas	(19,960)
Non-controllable adjustments ²	204,660
2024/25 Net Budget	281,210

¹ includes pay, pensions, utilities, and contracts

² includes IAS19, insurance and internal market

2023/24 Revised Budget £	Service Area	Budget 2024/25						Gross Income			Net Budget Requirement £
		Employee Related Costs £	Third Party & Transfer Payments £	Gross Expenditure Other Controllable expenditure £	Internal Recharges £	Non Controllable costs £	Total Expenditure £	Government Grants £	Service Income £	Total Income £	
Corporate Budgets											
189,080	Corporate Subscriptions	0	0	173,090	1,200	0	174,290	0	0	0	174,290
3,681,630	Corporate & Democratic Core	0	0	119,180	1,686,080	0	1,805,260	0	(349,110)	(349,110)	1,456,150
1,017,620	Non Distributable Costs	1,476,560	0	2,970	980	690,000	2,170,510	0	0	0	2,170,510
(59,760,550)	Other Corporate Budgets	4,668,290	59,400	31,805,920	7,540	(21,641,490)	14,899,660	(72,677,360)	(250,000)	(72,927,360)	(58,027,700)
2,114,850	QICS PFI Unitary Charge	0	1,083,380	2,995,680	5,220	0	4,084,280	(1,522,650)	0	(1,522,650)	2,561,630
12,601,070	Treasury Management	5,480	9,433,200	8,629,270	4,190	0	18,072,140	0	(3,440,700)	(3,440,700)	14,631,440
(40,156,300)	Net Budget for Corporate	6,150,330	10,575,980	43,726,110	1,705,210	(20,951,490)	41,206,140	(74,200,010)	(4,039,810)	(78,239,820)	(37,033,680)
Strategic Management Board											
145,770	Chief Executive & PAs	695,790	0	23,030	180,920	(0)	899,740	0	(878,630)	(878,630)	21,110
32,630	Programme Management	55,690	0	0	108,770	95,640	260,100	0	0	0	260,100
178,400	Net Budget for Strategic Management Board	751,480	0	23,030	289,690	95,640	1,159,840	0	(878,630)	(878,630)	281,210

Health & Wellbeing

The vision for the directorate aligns to the Shropshire plan to create a healthy, safe and supportive communities, to achieve wellbeing for all and support Shropshire, living the best life

For Public Health, this is a dual approach underpinned by the Councils organisation principles:

- Protecting our populations health and creating a healthy environment through our Statutory Regulatory functions around health protection for infectious disease, food standards and safety and the environment while protecting the built environment and a strong emergency planning response.
- Focusing on working with our partners and communities to build good health outcomes, in our towns and villages and to promote healthy behaviours, starting at birth, prevent and delay poor outcomes and tackling inequalities through delivery of our mandated services and functions aligned to delivery of the Statutory Health and Wellbeing and Integrated Care Strategies.

Health & Wellbeing Budget Build Up	£
2023/24 Revised Budget	2,547,320
Growth including inflation ¹ and demography	138,810
Proposed savings	(1,671,080)
Virements between service areas	(35,510)
Non-controllable adjustments ²	75,650
2024/25 Net Budget	1,055,190

¹ includes pay, pensions, utilities, and contracts

² includes IAS19, insurance and internal market

2023/24 Revised Budget £	Service Area	Budget 2024/25						Gross Income			Net Budget Requirement £
		Employee Related Costs £	Third Party & Transfer Payments £	Gross Expenditure Other		Non Controllable costs £	Total Expenditure £	Government Grants £	Service Income £	Total Income £	
				Controllable expenditure £	Internal Recharges £						
Public Health - Non-Ringfenced											
2,159,340	Regulatory Services	1,848,600	0	17,300	(1,349,980)	282,200	798,120	0	(159,530)	(159,530)	638,590
2,159,340	Total Public Health - Non-Ringfenced	1,848,600	0	17,300	(1,349,980)	282,200	798,120	0	(159,530)	(159,530)	638,590
Public Health - Ringfenced											
595,590	Public Health Children & Young People	0	4,540,000	0	3,320	0	4,543,320	0	0	0	4,543,320
2,751,320	Substance Misuse	84,690	3,524,410	16,100	32,120	19,870	3,677,190	(706,410)	(120,000)	(826,410)	2,850,780
199,280	Children & Young People's Public Health	143,870	0	5,380	14,920	23,170	187,340	0	0	0	187,340
1,620	Health Watch	0	162,000	0	1,370	0	163,370	(162,000)	0	(162,000)	1,370
241,520	Shropshire Partnership	313,410	0	14,410	15,200	27,790	370,810	0	(92,830)	(92,830)	277,980
11,010	Community Safety	0	0	0	3,970	0	3,970	0	0	0	3,970
(5,961,420)	Public Health General Management	1,389,060	817,260	(2,909,610)	3,815,730	169,200	3,281,640	(13,496,100)	0	(13,496,100)	(10,214,460)
1,049,510	Help to Change	1,342,430	110,000	352,600	108,780	175,090	2,088,900	0	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	1,088,900
1,363,050	Sexual Health	0	1,466,000	1,200	10,080	0	1,477,280	0	0	0	1,477,280
136,500	Health Intelligence	128,550	30,000	1,130	31,230	9,210	200,120	0	0	0	200,120
387,980	Total Public Health - Ringfenced	3,402,010	10,649,670	(2,518,790)	4,036,720	424,330	15,993,940	(14,364,510)	(1,212,830)	(15,577,340)	416,600
2,547,320	Net Budget for Health & Wellbeing	5,250,610	10,649,670	(2,501,490)	2,686,740	706,530	16,792,060	(14,364,510)	(1,372,360)	(15,736,870)	1,055,190

People

The main focus and priorities of the People Directorate are:

- Tackle inequalities
- Early intervention
- Partnerships
- Self-responsibility

To tackle inequalities, including rural inequalities, and poverty in all its forms, providing early support and interventions that reduce risk and enable children, young people, adults and families to achieve their full potential and enjoy life.

To support Shropshire residents to take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing, choosing healthy lifestyles and preventing ill-health, reducing the need for long-term or hospital care.

To work with partners to develop, commission and deliver the right services and support that meet the needs of children, young people, adults and families in the right place, at the right time.

People Budget Build Up	£
2023/24 Revised Budget	208,371,120
Growth including inflation ¹ and demography	36,632,230
Proposed savings	(24,956,670)
Virements between service areas	(549,940)
Non-controllable adjustments ²	814,990
2023/24 Net Budget	220,311,730

¹ includes pay, pensions, utilities, and contracts

² includes IAS19, insurance and internal market

2023/24 Revised Budget £	Service Area	Gross Expenditure						Gross Income			Net Budget Requirement £
		Employee Related Costs £	Third Party & Transfer Payments £	Other Controllable expenditure £	Internal Recharges £	Non Controllable costs £	Total Expenditure £	Government Grants £	Service Income £	Total Income £	
People Directorate Management											
573,230	People Directorate Management	403,830	(67,170)	(3,630,260)	1,962,040	138,680	(1,192,880)	0	(68,350)	(68,350)	(1,261,230)
573,230	Total People Directorate Management	403,830	(67,170)	(3,630,260)	1,962,040	138,680	(1,192,880)	0	(68,350)	(68,350)	(1,261,230)
Adult Social Care Management											
1,237,410	Adult Social Care Management	842,470	0	(25,000)	88,260	134,940	1,040,670	0	0	0	1,040,670
1,237,410	Total Adult Social Care Management	842,470	0	(25,000)	88,260	134,940	1,040,670	0	0	0	1,040,670
Adult Social Care Business Support and Development											
3,054,280	Adult Social Care Business Support	2,757,030	0	18,770	371,090	449,040	3,595,930	(6,279,450)	(250,440)	(6,529,890)	(2,933,960)
337,000	Adult Social Care Training	594,260	0	(224,500)	59,500	73,250	502,510	0	(277,270)	(277,270)	225,240
497,560	Professional Development Unit	435,470	0	21,390	30,730	57,650	545,240	(11,000)	(15,000)	(26,000)	519,240
91,560	Projects	424,520	0	133,120	8,200	60,440	626,280	0	(566,640)	(566,640)	59,640
524,290	Enable	2,618,820	0	367,100	240,090	303,540	3,529,550	(128,000)	(2,855,350)	(2,983,350)	546,200
4,504,690	Total Adult Social Care Business Support and Development	6,830,100	0	315,880	709,610	943,920	8,799,510	(6,418,450)	(3,964,700)	(10,383,150)	(1,583,640)
Adult Social Care Operations - Community											
1,064,680	Care Management - Transport	866,750	0	681,300	17,250	21,550	1,586,850	(141,660)	(3,100)	(144,760)	1,442,090
(15,460)	Supported Living Properties	0	0	65,750	(810)	0	64,940	0	0	0	64,940
99,806,960	Social Care Community Purchasing	0	140,148,530	0	279,110	0	140,427,640	(165,150)	(32,374,830)	(32,539,980)	107,887,660
6,810,440	Care Management - Social Work Teams	3,797,830	66,770	54,010	514,160	778,790	5,211,560	(272,160)	(265,910)	(538,070)	4,673,490
107,666,620	Total Adult Social Care Operations - Community	4,664,580	140,215,300	801,060	809,710	800,340	147,290,990	(578,970)	(32,643,840)	(33,222,810)	114,068,180
Adult Social Care Operations - Hospital Interface											
813,460	Social Care Hospital Interface Purchasing	0	4,227,370	0	16,510	0	4,243,880	(2,772,050)	(1,781,790)	(4,553,840)	(309,960)
755,870	Hospital Interface Social Work Teams	3,561,520	400	43,570	207,240	459,190	4,271,920	(655,660)	(2,964,000)	(3,619,660)	652,260
1,569,330	Total Adult Social Care Operations - Hospital Interface	3,561,520	4,227,770	43,570	223,750	459,190	8,515,800	(3,427,710)	(4,745,790)	(8,173,500)	342,300
Adult Social Care Operations - Mental Health											
48,110	Mental Health Property	0	0	0	47,390	0	47,390	0	0	0	47,390
7,296,530	Social Care Mental Health Purchasing	0	12,074,620	0	11,130	0	12,085,750	0	(2,643,100)	(2,643,100)	9,442,650
3,079,450	Mental Health Social Work Teams	2,797,060	0	61,640	180,480	395,910	3,435,090	(366,740)	(57,990)	(424,730)	3,010,360
10,424,090	Total Adult Social Care Operations - Mental Health	2,797,060	12,074,620	61,640	239,000	395,910	15,568,230	(366,740)	(2,701,090)	(3,067,830)	12,500,400
Adult Social Care Provider Services											
82,750	External Providers	0	1,911,510	174,550	10,250	0	2,096,310	(25,000)	(1,922,210)	(1,947,210)	149,100
2,717,780	Internal Providers - Day Services	1,883,020	0	74,540	428,000	326,080	2,711,640	0	(267,060)	(267,060)	2,444,580
1,187,820	Internal Providers - Nursing Services	2,084,280	0	287,710	84,320	253,400	2,709,710	0	(1,338,410)	(1,338,410)	1,371,300
719,430	Internal Providers - Domiciliary Services	2,607,120	0	185,610	316,380	398,330	3,507,440	(362,300)	(1,891,100)	(2,253,400)	1,254,040
4,707,780	Total Adult Social Care Provider Services	6,574,420	1,911,510	722,410	838,950	977,810	11,025,100	(387,300)	(5,418,780)	(5,806,080)	5,219,020

		Budget 2024/25										
2023/24 Revised Budget £	Service Area	Gross Expenditure					Gross Income					Net Budget Requirement £
		Employee Related Costs £	Third Party & Transfer Payments £	Other Controllable expenditure £	Internal Recharges £	Non Controllable costs £	Total Expenditure £	Government Grants £	Service Income £	Total Income £		
Children's Social Care and Safeguarding												
1,642,870	Children's Social Care and Safeguarding Management	1,121,350	0	(1,056,920)	404,770	121,200	590,400	0	0	0	590,400	
2,887,380	Looked After Children (LAC) Service	2,799,900	94,840	2,226,420	125,710	314,600	5,561,470	(2,035,390)	0	(2,035,390)	3,526,080	
1,154,190	Looked After Children (LAC) - Leaving Care Team (18 +)	684,690	517,430	1,007,080	75,070	91,290	2,375,560	(999,240)	0	(999,240)	1,376,320	
5,043,540	Children's Case Management	2,458,330	137,000	1,240,380	1,631,640	314,890	5,782,240	0	0	0	5,782,240	
3,297,740	Disabled Children's Team	948,230	3,443,930	113,420	(216,050)	115,850	4,405,380	0	0	0	4,405,380	
2,374,640	Compass & Assessment	2,467,680	2,560	(334,530)	139,680	317,070	2,592,460	0	(15,000)	(15,000)	2,577,460	
1,729,120	Placements: Adoption Service	1,375,930	1,052,430	556,250	136,850	172,290	3,293,750	(256,670)	(906,890)	(1,163,560)	2,130,190	
15,933,940	Placements: Residential Placements	3,984,510	21,912,400	389,010	(1,557,830)	438,050	25,166,140	0	(1,836,830)	(1,836,830)	23,329,310	
11,567,830	Placements: Foster Care	0	12,097,450	1,233,990	5,250	0	13,336,690	(92,950)	0	(92,950)	13,243,740	
3,457,010	Placements: Placement Staffing	4,209,730	1,400	(1,074,610)	258,810	536,480	3,931,810	0	(51,110)	(51,110)	3,880,700	
2,246,430	Quality & Assurance: Learning & Development	1,780,440	0	23,890	181,620	197,810	2,183,760	(17,000)	0	(17,000)	2,166,760	
285,980	Shropshire's Safeguarding Children Board	384,260	18,750	10,970	21,470	49,730	485,180	0	(172,440)	(172,440)	312,740	
51,620,670	Total Children's Social Care and Safeguarding Management	22,215,050	39,278,190	4,335,350	1,206,990	2,669,260	69,704,840	(3,401,250)	(2,982,270)	(6,383,520)	63,321,320	
Children's Early Help, Partnerships and Commissioning												
2,188,890	Early Help Family Hubs	2,006,710	0	137,480	(243,360)	255,860	2,156,690	0	0	0	2,156,690	
793,350	Early Help General	1,118,910	1,006,470	128,380	(42,270)	98,820	2,310,310	(1,011,900)	(500,320)	(1,512,220)	798,090	
69,900	Early Help Management	(175,680)	(53,330)	(111,090)	61,160	10,280	(268,660)	0	0	0	(268,660)	
631,500	Youth Support Services	486,380	60,000	(24,880)	6,990	73,390	601,880	0	0	0	601,880	
3,683,640	Total Children's Early Help, Partnerships and Commissioning	3,436,320	1,013,140	129,890	(217,480)	438,350	4,800,220	(1,011,900)	(500,320)	(1,512,220)	3,288,000	
Learning & Skills												
42,670	Early Years	0	28,589,620	0	540,460	0	29,130,080	(28,990,960)	0	(28,990,960)	139,120	
113,690	Education Improvement Service	808,830	0	(190,360)	(501,490)	101,950	218,930	(14,660)	(30,900)	(45,560)	173,370	
17,160	Shropshire Music Service	1,064,480	10,000	163,460	(1,390)	32,390	1,268,940	0	(1,236,550)	(1,236,550)	32,390	
81,870	Education Welfare Service	659,860	15,190	22,630	(282,870)	82,030	496,840	0	(414,400)	(414,400)	82,440	
432,030	Looked After Children Education	884,170	710,440	16,380	(28,200)	102,140	1,684,930	(1,143,560)	0	(1,143,560)	541,370	
13,675,710	Home to School Transport	1,056,650	0	13,300,680	39,500	0	14,396,830	(430,100)	(314,450)	(744,550)	13,652,280	
689,200	Learning & Skills Business Support	1,507,460	522,420	559,910	692,130	177,910	3,459,830	(2,016,430)	(669,350)	(2,685,780)	774,050	
4,109,980	LA Non-Delegated Primary	81,870	0	14,930	521,500	4,139,770	4,758,070	0	0	0	4,758,070	
209,250	LA Non-Delegated Secondary	950	0	15,890	45,990	151,920	214,750	0	0	0	214,750	
185,320	LA Non-Delegated Special	0	0	0	13,280	115,650	128,930	0	0	0	128,930	
700	Non-Delegated Primary DSG	326,420	50,000	13,250	0	0	389,670	(325,000)	(51,420)	(376,420)	13,250	
1,410,190	Education VER	2,661,650	0	21,880	(140,840)	0	2,542,690	(545,990)	(583,170)	(1,129,160)	1,413,530	
591,530	Education Psychology Service	815,740	0	59,290	(69,240)	103,550	909,340	0	(279,650)	(279,650)	629,690	
824,360	Special Educational Needs & Disability	1,639,920	28,465,790	996,290	2,812,600	192,280	34,106,880	(32,702,490)	(580,910)	(33,283,400)	823,480	
22,383,660	Total Learning & Skills	11,508,000	58,363,460	14,994,230	3,641,430	5,199,590	93,706,710	(66,169,190)	(4,160,800)	(70,329,990)	23,376,720	
0	Schools	0	66,228,360	0	565,590	0	66,793,950	(66,793,950)	0	(66,793,950)	0	
208,371,120	Net Budget for People	62,833,350	323,245,180	17,748,770	10,067,850	12,157,990	426,053,140	(148,555,460)	(57,185,940)	(205,741,400)	220,311,740	

Place

The Place Directorate is working to deliver a healthy economy for Shropshire by :

- developing Shropshire as a safe, strong and vibrant destination to attract people to live in, work in, learn in and visit the county.
- Delivering excellent connectivity and infrastructure, increasing access to social contact, employment, education, services and leisure opportunities
- Ensuring an appropriate mix of housing in the right areas of the county and attract the right workforce for the employment needs and opportunities located there; reducing distances travelled to work.

The directorate are also working to provide a healthy environment and in doing so will:

- Deliver the Council's Corporate Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, promoting the means to tackle climate change and reduce the carbon footprint including the adoption of low carbon energy for council's assets and for communities.
- Enable safer, sustainable, diverse and inclusive communities that pull together by reducing anti-social behaviour and risk of harm; addressing the issues they face; and adopting the waste hierarchy to reduce, recycle and recover from all household waste.
- Maintain, protect and enhance our outstanding natural and historic environment, promoting positive behaviours and greater biodiversity and environmental sustainability.

The Place Directorate looks after Commercial Services, Economy and Place, Highways and Transport, and Homes and Communities within the Council.

Place	£
Budget Build Up	
2022/23 Revised Budget	81,459,540
Growth including inflation ¹ and demography	12,784,020
Proposed savings	(22,372,870)
Virements between service areas	(494,090)
Non-controllable adjustments ²	966,120
2023/24 Net Budget	72,342,720

¹ includes pay, pensions, utilities, and contracts

² includes IAS19, insurance and internal market

2023/24 Revised Budget £	Service Area	Budget 2024/25									Net Budget Requirement £
		Employee Related Costs £	Third Party & Transfer Payments £	Gross Expenditure		Non Controllable costs £	Total Expenditure £	Gross Income			
				Other Controllable expenditure £	Internal Recharges £			Government Grants £	Service Income £	Total Income £	
Director of Place											
(725,841) Director of Place		297,540	0	83,500	114,420	25,030	520,490	0	0	0	520,490
(725,841) Total Director of Place		297,540	0	83,500	114,420	25,030	520,490	0	0	0	520,490
Commercial Services											
66,590 Assistant Director Commercial Services		(263,730)	0	(3,937,300)	20,650	18,390	(4,161,990)	0	(609,970)	(609,970)	(4,771,960)
103,010 Commercial Services Business Development		73,440	0	140	32,230	9,740	115,550	0	(100,000)	(100,000)	15,550
11,940 Climate Change		103,100	0	(338,690)	24,770	40,610	(170,210)	0	0	0	(170,210)
(0) Corporate Landlord - Adult Services		0	0	428,210	144,500	(0)	572,710	0	(550,360)	(550,360)	22,350
(147,220) Corporate Landlord - Admin Buildings		0	0	1,962,650	664,220	0	2,626,870	0	(2,497,500)	(2,497,500)	129,370
251,240 Corporate Landlord - Mardol House & Tannery		125,000	399,800	1,231,370	163,070	0	1,919,240	0	(1,602,280)	(1,602,280)	316,960
217,870 Corporate Landlord - Youth Centres & Community		0	0	228,690	183,540	(0)	412,230	0	(128,500)	(128,500)	283,730
261,370 Corporate Landlord - PFI Properties		0	0	435,920	134,360	(0)	570,280	0	(366,760)	(366,760)	203,520
41,700 Corporate Landlord - Children's Services		0	0	167,290	(99,360)	(0)	67,930	0	0	0	67,930
98,280 Corporate Landlord - Museums & Culture		0	0	1,007,340	(906,200)	0	101,140	0	(37,250)	(37,250)	63,890
(0) Corporate Landlord - Libraries		0	0	828,780	(745,580)	(0)	83,200	0	(83,200)	(83,200)	(0)
15,440 Corporate Landlord - Leisure		0	0	261,220	(244,850)	0	16,370	0	0	0	16,370
8,520 Corporate Landlord - Environmental & Regulatory Service		0	0	45,520	448,860	0	494,380	0	(484,430)	(484,430)	9,950
4,300 Corporate Landlord - Highways		0	0	399,340	(100,170)	0	299,170	0	(294,300)	(294,300)	4,870
(0) Corporate Landlord - Car Parks		0	0	1,314,980	(1,225,340)	(0)	89,640	0	(89,640)	(89,640)	(0)
17,580 Corporate Landlord - Housing		0	0	20	94,510	(0)	94,530	0	(80,650)	(80,650)	13,880
(20,990) Corporate Landlord - Smallholdings		0	0	29,660	126,880	0	156,540	0	(159,190)	(159,190)	(2,650)
0 Corporate Landlord - Traveller Sites		0	0	193,920	98,730	(0)	292,650	0	(292,650)	(292,650)	0
(5,140) Corporate Landlord - Economic Development		0	461,680	3,970,590	460,500	(0)	4,892,770	0	(4,968,270)	(4,968,270)	(75,500)
48,380 Corporate Landlord - Outdoor Partnerships		0	0	41,600	30,420	0	72,020	0	0	0	72,020
1,614,070 Corporate Landlord - Central Repairs & Maintenance		0	0	1,610,750	750	0	1,611,500	0	0	0	1,611,500
35,260 Property Services Group		2,160,660	0	85,850	395,860	20	2,642,390	0	(2,640,500)	(2,640,500)	1,890
1,092,400 Property & Development		2,381,360	22,350	481,130	416,730	101,580	3,403,150	0	(2,343,860)	(2,343,860)	1,059,290
1,667,130 Shire Services		9,010,190	3,910	6,605,040	(0)	2,416,900	18,036,040	0	(15,619,140)	(15,619,140)	2,416,900
33,865,280 Waste Management		236,200	0	42,607,110	725,370	27,750	43,596,430	(3,185,610)	(5,910,630)	(9,096,240)	34,500,190
39,247,010 Total Commercial Services		13,826,220	887,740	59,661,130	844,450	2,614,990	77,834,530	(3,185,610)	(38,859,080)	(42,044,690)	35,789,840
Economy and Place											
181,140 Assistant Director Economy & Place		(428,260)	(36,590)	(243,460)	47,730	25,220	(635,360)	0	(48,210)	(48,210)	(683,570)
1,240,560 Planning Services		4,324,380	414,220	255,540	539,070	608,570	6,141,780	0	(5,233,650)	(5,233,650)	908,130
1,509,210 Economic Growth		1,731,190	20,000	5,562,790	187,010	243,420	7,744,410	(5,662,420)	(626,200)	(6,288,620)	1,455,790
191,230 Broadband		109,310	0	16,620	25,950	17,290	169,170	0	0	0	169,170
2,171,120 Planning Policy		1,960,430	5,000	242,240	420,650	303,010	2,931,330	(144,170)	(648,420)	(792,590)	2,138,740
2,154,690 Environment and Transport (Strategic)		451,110	325,510	1,128,150	38,750	62,980	2,006,500	(160,000)	0	(160,000)	1,846,500
7,447,950 Total Economy and Place		8,148,160	728,140	6,961,880	1,259,160	1,260,490	18,357,830	(5,966,590)	(6,556,480)	(12,523,070)	5,834,760

		Budget 2024/25									
2023/24 Revised Budget £	Service Area	Gross Expenditure					Gross Income				Net Budget Requirement £
		Employee Related Costs £	Third Party & Transfer Payments £	Other Controllable expenditure £	Internal Recharges £	Non Controllable costs £	Total Expenditure £	Government Grants £	Service Income £	Total Income £	
Highways and Transport											
132,270	Assistant Director Highways and Transport	(203,960)	(721,530)	(587,020)	18,890	34,310	(1,459,310)	0	(574,740)	(574,740)	(2,034,050)
12,022,480	Highways (Operations)	1,956,260	5,865,800	3,412,870	718,050	174,970	12,127,950	0	(268,970)	(268,970)	11,858,980
1,416,980	Highways (Bridges and Structures)	226,390	1,220,490	11,880	13,350	30,110	1,502,220	0	(7,390)	(7,390)	1,494,830
(2,678,010)	Highways (Streetworks)	1,390,770	189,170	258,720	103,800	180,030	2,122,490	0	(4,703,440)	(4,703,440)	(2,580,950)
568,290	Highways (Governance)	1,478,120	134,590	164,860	236,460	101,970	2,116,000	0	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	616,000
7,292,280	Environment and Transport (Public Transport)	1,356,370	7,115,810	4,122,840	503,530	277,330	13,375,880	(2,002,940)	(3,699,250)	(5,702,190)	7,673,690
4,061,310	Environment and Transport (Street Scene)	408,800	2,034,350	(25,030)	25,940	46,310	2,490,370	0	(39,970)	(39,970)	2,450,400
(4,407,730)	Environment and Transport (Parking)	150,900	130,380	756,370	1,717,990	16,040	2,771,680	0	(6,988,080)	(6,988,080)	(4,216,400)
18,407,870	Total Highways and Transport	6,763,650	15,969,060	8,115,490	3,338,010	861,070	35,047,280	(2,002,940)	(17,781,840)	(19,784,780)	15,262,500
Homes and Communities											
(146,970)	Assistant Director Homes and Communities	(1,005,040)	(408,270)	(584,080)	46,490	47,290	(1,903,610)	0	(630,870)	(630,870)	(2,534,480)
1,781,410	Housing Options	1,979,500	241,680	3,682,600	(323,510)	254,040	5,834,310	(1,112,460)	(2,800,980)	(3,913,440)	1,920,870
1,964,330	Independent Living	2,307,930	1,862,480	152,800	(353,600)	318,200	4,287,810	(621,340)	(1,400,110)	(2,021,450)	2,266,360
413,660	Housing Services Management	341,040	0	(62,840)	182,130	44,910	505,240	0	(400)	(400)	504,840
(61,130)	Housing Property	0	0	0	(59,430)	0	(59,430)	0	0	0	(59,430)
228,910	Care Management - Assistive Equipment & Technology	0	7,150	319,490	10,610	0	337,250	0	(103,150)	(103,150)	234,100
38,410	Refugee Resettlement	368,790	0	1,144,570	18,490	48,160	1,580,010	(1,512,780)	0	(1,512,780)	67,230
25,640	Culture, Leisure & Tourism Development	0	0	0	1,230	6,690	7,920	0	0	0	7,920
82,200	Shropshire Hills AONB	429,670	0	1,384,230	36,580	47,240	1,897,720	(1,733,060)	(80,780)	(1,813,840)	83,880
1,391,271	Outdoor Partnerships	1,240,710	0	394,760	114,310	165,460	1,915,240	(30,000)	(533,470)	(563,470)	1,351,770
2,305,320	Leisure	867,980	976,130	1,118,190	294,910	115,260	3,372,470	0	(851,550)	(851,550)	2,520,920
3,610,950	Libraries	1,725,430	155,140	523,090	1,259,960	253,130	3,916,750	0	(215,140)	(215,140)	3,701,610
1,363,980	Museums & Archives	997,350	0	399,160	583,860	120,680	2,101,050	(189,000)	(708,230)	(897,230)	1,203,820
432,780	Theatre Services	2,010,690	2,478,660	890,950	839,890	219,410	6,439,600	0	(6,173,070)	(6,173,070)	266,530
50,710	Culture & Heritage Manager	61,540	0	651,270	29,090	9,150	751,050	(714,300)	0	(714,300)	36,750
692,600	Head of Culture, Leisure & Tourism	367,750	0	55,630	37,470	106,330	567,180	0	0	0	567,180
119,150	Housing Development and HRA	786,460	0	0	29,990	72,430	888,880	0	(753,230)	(753,230)	135,650
(233,320)	Bereavement Services	43,550	0	303,850	(419,120)	9,740	(61,980)	0	(198,600)	(198,600)	(260,580)
2,332,120	Business and Consumer Protection	2,821,800	0	307,100	206,580	389,900	3,725,380	0	(1,416,180)	(1,416,180)	2,309,200
690,530	Registrars and Coroners	992,440	104,000	339,100	383,820	143,590	1,962,950	0	(1,351,960)	(1,351,960)	610,990
17,082,551	Total Homes and Communities	16,337,590	5,416,970	11,019,870	2,919,750	2,371,610	38,065,790	(5,912,940)	(17,217,720)	(23,130,660)	14,935,130
81,459,540	Net Budget for Place	45,373,160	23,001,910	85,841,870	8,475,790	7,133,190	169,825,920	(17,068,080)	(80,415,120)	(97,483,200)	72,342,720

Resources

The Resources Directorate covers core support services to council functions. We are divided into 3 functional areas

- Finance and IT ('making it work')
- Workforce and Improvement ('delivering success')
- Legal and Governance ('doing it right')

The extent of our services is driven by the needs of operational colleagues across the Council, to whom we provide professional advice and support in a range of ways.

The directorate is working to deliver a healthy organisation for Shropshire Council.

Resources	£
Budget Build Up	
2022/23 Revised Budget	3,513,570
Growth including inflation ¹ and demography	4,606,750
Proposed savings	(6,720,620)
Virements between service areas	(456,390)
Non-controllable adjustments ²	3,796,730
2023/24 Net Budget	4,740,040

¹ includes pay, pensions, utilities, and contracts

² includes IAS19, insurance and internal market

2023/24 Revised Budget £	Service Area	Budget 2024/25						Gross Income			Net Budget Requirement £
		Employee Related Costs £	Third Party & Transfer Payments £	Other Controllable expenditure £	Internal Recharges £	Non Controllable costs £	Total Expenditure £	Government Grants £	Service Income £	Total Income £	
Resources Directorate Management											
(971,470)	Resources Directorate Management	232,500	0	(1,903,830)	54,250	0	(1,617,080)	0	1,627,270	1,627,270	10,190
(971,470)	Total Resources Directorate Management	232,500	0	(1,903,830)	54,250	0	(1,617,080)	0	1,627,270	1,627,270	10,190
Finance & Technology											
(409,890)	Finance & Technology Management	(753,620)	0	(1,315,890)	(471,910)	(0)	(2,541,420)	0	2,540,070	2,540,070	(1,350)
(71,250)	Finance	3,042,770	0	213,420	1,049,950	0	4,306,140	0	(4,306,290)	(4,306,290)	(150)
3,054,250	Revenues and Benefits Team	3,287,240	0	622,210	1,336,460	433,860	5,679,770	(755,570)	(2,197,310)	(2,952,880)	2,726,890
(8,040)	Insurance	(44,200)	0	1,470	18,110	24,700	80	0	0	0	80
512,130	Housing Benefits	0	49,009,400	0	4,610	0	49,014,010	(45,902,380)	(2,600,000)	(48,502,380)	511,630
217,060	Automation and Technology	5,000,360	0	4,513,810	(599,150)	39,960	8,954,980	0	(8,921,690)	(8,921,690)	33,290
3,294,260	Total Finance & Technology	10,532,550	49,009,400	4,035,020	1,338,070	498,520	65,413,560	(46,657,950)	(15,485,220)	(62,143,170)	3,270,390
Workforce and Improvement											
29,260	Business Improvement: Data, Analysis and Intelligence	641,650	0	23,180	83,230	0	748,060	0	(709,570)	(709,570)	38,490
(133,720)	Workforce and Improvement Management	(293,210)	0	(218,370)	83,120	(0)	(428,460)	0	449,360	449,360	20,900
(22,860)	Occupational Health & Safety	761,870	61,570	37,940	51,000	0	912,380	0	(912,590)	(912,590)	(210)
88,140	Human Resources and Organisational Development	2,611,420	0	251,270	564,300	(0)	3,426,990	0	(3,408,450)	(3,408,450)	18,540
80,430	Overview & Scrutiny	30,860	0	0	(15,270)	10,660	26,250	0	69,410	69,410	95,660
240	Risk Management	142,050	0	(170,280)	0	18,980	(9,250)	0	0	0	(9,250)
41,490	Total Workforce and Improvement	3,894,640	61,570	(76,260)	766,380	29,640	4,675,970	0	(4,511,840)	(4,511,840)	164,130
Legal and Governance											
231,850	Democratic Services	308,780	0	1,593,990	(18,520)	(0)	1,884,250	0	(1,877,240)	(1,877,240)	7,010
587,940	Elections	321,120	0	196,000	82,190	35,720	635,030	0	(1,000)	(1,000)	634,030
(69,650)	Policy and Governance	820,040	0	43,850	(227,600)	(0)	636,290	0	(663,880)	(663,880)	(27,590)
136,700	Legal and Governance Management	(117,250)	0	(88,640)	2,790	18,390	(184,710)	0	184,710	184,710	0
(80,710)	Legal Services	1,797,120	0	(34,620)	(377,790)	(0)	1,384,710	0	(1,387,960)	(1,387,960)	(3,250)
(275,240)	Legal Services – Child Care	93,150	0	751,820	(510)	0	844,460	0	(853,660)	(853,660)	(9,200)
(213,520)	Commissioning Development & Procurement	157,170	0	42,240	22,080	0	221,490	0	(240,200)	(240,200)	(18,710)
317,370	Total Legal and Governance	3,380,130	0	2,504,640	(517,360)	54,110	5,421,520	0	(4,839,230)	(4,839,230)	582,290
Pensions											
4,950	Pensions Management	321,710	0	2,970	67,800	0	392,480	0	(392,480)	(392,480)	(0)
109,060	Pension Administration Services	1,301,590	0	319,530	133,600	168,970	1,923,690	0	(1,746,440)	(1,746,440)	177,250
114,010	Total Pensions	1,623,300	0	322,500	201,400	168,970	2,316,170	0	(2,138,920)	(2,138,920)	177,250
Communications & Engagement											
376,670	Welfare & Reform	239,820	0	27,070	72,860	32,100	371,850	0	0	0	371,850
323,410	Customer Services	2,239,770	0	(52,670)	1,601,490	64,870	3,853,460	0	(3,698,400)	(3,698,400)	155,060
5,910	Credit Union	75,890	0	0	1,500	9,930	87,320	0	(77,080)	(77,080)	10,240
11,920	Communications & Engagement	736,570	0	(80,180)	100	0	656,490	0	(657,850)	(657,850)	(1,360)
717,910	Total Communications & Engagement	3,292,050	0	(105,780)	1,675,950	106,900	4,969,120	0	(4,433,330)	(4,433,330)	535,790
3,513,570	Net Budget for Resources	22,955,170	49,070,970	4,776,290	3,518,690	858,140	81,179,260	(46,657,950)	(29,781,270)	(76,439,220)	4,740,040

Appendix 1

Savings



Summary of Savings for 2024/25

For 2024/25 total gross savings of £62.480m have been identified. The savings identified fit into 6 main categories:

- Reducing cost of existing services;
- Savings delivered through a new Target Operating Model – which transforms how we operate our services;
- Savings delivered through managing demand levels for our services;
- Charging more for existing services we provide;
- Generating new income for services that we have not previously charged for;
- Stopping or ceasing some services or activities.

	Health & Wellbeing £	People £	Place £	Resources £	Council Wide £	Total £
Reduce Cost Savings	1,253,600	5,698,000	6,157,765	3,423,000	22,977,600	39,509,965
Target Operating Model Savings	15,000	610,000	100,000	0	0	725,000
Manage Demand Savings	200,000	6,273,636	300,000	0	0	6,773,636
Charge More Savings	0	0	20,000	0	2,000,000	2,020,000
New Income Savings	0	3,800,000	4,892,720	0	0	8,692,720
Stop/Cease Savings	0	1,600,000	3,128,650	0	30,000	4,758,650
Total Savings Proposals	1,468,600	17,981,636	14,599,135	3,423,000	25,007,600	62,479,971

Ref	Option Type	Directorate	Service Area	Saving Proposal	2024/25 £
RC001	Reduce Cost	Health, Wellbeing & Prevention	Environmental Health and Health Protection	Redesign the delivery of the statutory service including managing demand.	105,000
RC002	Reduce Cost	Health, Wellbeing & Prevention	Ecology	Redesign the delivery of the statutory regulatory (ecology) services including managing demand.	58,600
RC003	Reduce Cost	Health, Wellbeing & Prevention	Public Health	Further increase allocation of the public health grant to support preventative initiatives at the children's, adults and customer front-door.	90,000
RC004	Reduce Cost	Health, Wellbeing & Prevention	Public Health	Capitalisation of reserves as one off for staff and projects relating to transformation work to further increase funding of public health reserves to support preventative initiatives. This is for 2024/25, in addition to 1,000,000 in 23/24.	1,000,000
RC006	Reduce Cost	People	Adult Social Care	Increase income through charging for training.	180,000
RC007	Reduce Cost	People	Adult Social Care	Review of our in house day service provision.	105,000
RC008	Reduce Cost	People	Adult Social Care	Review and reduce 3rd party spend	2,600,000
RC009	Reduce Cost	People	Adult Social Care	Review and reduce the need for 24 hour provision through the use of technology to increase independence	300,000
RC011	Reduce Cost	People	Adult Social Care	Review and resize business support functions	375,000
RC012	Reduce Cost	People	Adult Social Care	Review of external day service provision	180,000
RC013	Reduce Cost	People	Children's Social Care	Improve efficiencies of commissioned services across children's services contracts and secure overall reduction in demand.	1,600,000
RC014	Reduce Cost	People	Children's Social Care	Review & resize senior staffing structure in Children's Services against projected activity levels	87,000
RC016	Reduce Cost	People	Children's Social Care	Agency Staff - reducing use of agency staff; promote permanent staffing.	85,000
RC017	Reduce Cost	People	Children's Social Care	Review & resize Supported Board and Lodgings (17 & 18 year olds) to ensure full capacity	30,000

Ref	Option Type	Directorate	Service Area	Saving Proposal	2024/25 £
RC020	Reduce Cost	People	Children's Social Care	Ensure that funding for the most complex of children is equitably shared with Health as an equal partner responsible for the safe care of children.	156,000
RC023	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Focus new residential property acquisitions on priority housing needs	50,000
RC024	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Optimise the use of existing Council residential properties	20,000
RC025	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Review and resize the Housing Services team	60,000
RC029	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Review staffing and resize the Rights of Way team	19,395
RC030	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Review staffing and resize the Outdoor Partnerships team	41,250
RC031	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Removal of Arts Development funding	17,120
RC035	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Review staffing and resize the Culture Leisure and Tourism management team	350,000
RC036	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Service efficiencies from Registrars service digitisation	50,000
RC038	Reduce Cost	Place	Homes & Communities	Review staffing and resize the Business and Consumer Protection Team	35,000
RC040	Reduce Cost	Place	Commercial Services	Dispose of Shirehall quicker and relocate services	325,000
RC043	Reduce Cost	Place	Commercial Services	Review and resize staffing in Property and Development Services	550,000
RC044	Reduce Cost	Place	Commercial Services	Review and resize the Climate Change team	200,000
RC045	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review and re-size staffing in Strategic Transport	70,000
RC046	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review staffing and secure workforce reductions in tree work, conservation, and historic environment teams.	175,000
RC047	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review and re-size staffing in Planning Policy team	160,000
RC048	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review and re-size staffing in Planning team.	230,000
RC049	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review and re-size staffing in Highways Development team	100,000
RC050	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review and re-sizing staffing in Planning Enforcement	35,000
RC051	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review and re-sizing staffing in Broadband team.	30,000
RC052	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Capitalise post in Strategic Infrastructure.	37,000

Ref	Option Type	Directorate	Service Area	Saving Proposal	2024/25 £
RC053	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Capitalise part of posts in Economic Growth.	50,000
RC054	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Review and re-size staffing in the economic development team, including options to capitalise posts.	77,000
RC055	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Change in percentage split of chargeable/non-chargeable receipts in Building Control	70,000
RC057	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Cessation of LEP contribution further to government guidance.	36,000
RC058	Reduce Cost	Place	Economy & Place	Stop payment of subscription to "Midlands Engine" partnership.	20,000
RC059	Reduce Cost	Place	Highways & Transport	Review contractor provisions relating to pensions costs (one off).	300,000
RC060	Reduce Cost	Place	Highways & Transport	Review contracts and secure cost reductions in current 'Green Asset' contracts.	250,000
RC061	Reduce Cost	Place	Highways & Transport	Review contract and secure cost reductions in reactive drainage operational team.	200,000
RC062	Reduce Cost	Place	Highways & Transport	Review and resize through highways restructure	600,000
RC063	Reduce Cost	Place	Highways & Transport	Cross Directorate structural efficiencies & synergies alongside framework utilisation reductions.	2,000,000
RC064	Reduce Cost	Resources	Workforce & Improvement	Review and re-size staffing HR/OD Team (1)	100,000
RC065	Reduce Cost	Resources	Workforce & Improvement	Review and re-size staffing HR/OD Team (2)	100,000
RC066	Reduce Cost	Resources	Workforce & Improvement	Review and re-size staffing in the Improvement Team	75,000
RC068	Reduce Cost	Resources	Workforce & Improvement	Review and re-size staffing in the Overview and Scrutiny Function	100,000
RC071	Reduce Cost	Resources	ICT	Review contract, fleet, and secure cost reductions in use of mobile phones.	114,000

Ref	Option Type	Directorate	Service Area	Saving Proposal	2024/25 £
RC072	Reduce Cost	Resources	ICT	Review and resize staffing in ICT (includes systems maintenance and development (hardware and software), user support and helpdesk, and corporate network security).	1,000,000
RC073	Reduce Cost	Resources	Revenues and Benefits	Review and resize staffing in Revenues and Benefits (council tax and business rates collection and council tax support and housing benefits payments)	500,000
RC074	Reduce Cost	Resources	Revenues and Benefits	Anticipated cost reductions in Revenues & Benefits arising from improvement of in-house Temporary Accommodation provision.	1,000,000
RC077	Reduce Cost	Resources	Legal	Centralisation and efficiencies of external legal spending.	100,000
RC078	Reduce Cost	Resources	Customer Services	New model for future delivery of the Council's Out of Hours calls triage and Shrewsbury Town Centre CCTV monitoring	334,000
RC080	Reduce Cost	Council wide	All	Review and re-size overall council staffing beyond those listed elsewhere.	8,500,000
RC081	Reduce Cost	Council wide	All	Senior Management review	710,000
RC082	Reduce Cost	Council wide	All	Review and re-size staffing in executive support across the council.	50,000
RC083	Reduce Cost	Council wide	All	Review and secure cost reductions in the pooled training budget	50,000
RC085	Reduce Cost	Council wide	All	Reduce Third Party Spend. The proposal is to identify opportunities to reduce third party spend in a sustainable, recurrent way.	1,267,600
RC086	Reduce Cost	Council wide	All	Efficiency Savings across all areas of the Council, including paying attention to securing reduced carbon emissions within the supply chain.	12,400,000
TOTAL REDUCE COST SAVINGS					39,509,965

Ref	Option Type	Directorate	Service Area	Saving Proposal	2024/25 £
MD001	Manage Demand	Health, Wellbeing & Prevention	Public Health	Further increase funding of public health reserves to support preventative initiatives at the children's, adults and customer front-door.	200,000
MD004	Manage Demand	Place	Homes & Communities	Transfer of a leisure asset to an appropriate provider.	100,000
MD006	Manage Demand	Place	Commercial Services	Introduce a booking system for household recycling centres	200,000
MD007	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	By increasing the use of technology, community and voluntary support reduce the need for formal care by maximising independence	2,215,811
MD008	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	Increase the number of people supported by START inhouse reablement service to maximise independence, preventing readmission and the need for long term social care	1,596,510
MD011	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	Reducing the need to long term residential care - Ensuring that Shropshire Council commission the right care for people in line with their needs	129,314
MD012	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	Supported living - Reduce the need for 24 hour provision and increase independence through alternative resources such as technology	1,200,000
MD014	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	Enabling the use of wider travel options to increase independence and reduce isolation	200,000
MD015	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	Deliver efficiencies though review of service delivery	300,000
MD016	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	Night time care and support service enabling people to stay at home	522,000
MD017	Manage Demand	People	Adult Social Care	Supporting people to have Direct payment rather than agency care	110,000
TOTAL MANAGE DEMAND SAVINGS					6,773,635

Ref	Option Type	Directorate	Service Area	Saving Proposal	2024/25 £
CM003	Charge More	Place	Commercial Services	Increase fly tipping charges	20,000
CM007	Charge More	Council wide	All	Increase wider Fees and charges above those mentioned specifically elsewhere	2,000,000
TOTAL CHARGE MORE SAVINGS					2,020,000

Ref	Option Type	Directorate	Service Area	Saving Proposal	2024/25 £
NI001	New income	People	Adult Social Care	Increase in income through the Minimum income guarantee national announcement.	1,500,000
NI002	New income	People	Adult Social Care	Reconciliation of any variance to care hours provided.	2,300,000
NI003	New income	Place	Homes & Communities	Set up a charging structure for recipients of telecare	100,000
NI004	New income	Place	Homes & Communities	Expand the Handy Person service to a wider range of customers, including fee payers, supporting independent living	10,000
NI005	New income	Place	Homes & Communities	Increased income from countryside maintenance contracting activity. Review green asset maintenance arrangements	39,720
NI006	New income	Place	Homes & Communities	Increase income from Museums and Archives services	150,000
NI007	New income	Place	Homes & Communities	Increase income from an enhanced memorial and ceremony offer at Council sites	60,000
NI008	New income	Place	Homes & Communities	Increase income from an improved range of wedding and partnership ceremony packages	68,000
NI009	New income	Place	Homes & Communities	Development of commercial model for theatre and cinema income to achieve net zero budget	295,000
NI010	New income	Place	Commercial Services	Introduce charging for fortnightly green waste collection	4,000,000
NI012	New income	Place	Commercial Services	Charge housing developers for new bins	70,000

Ref	Option Type	Directorate	Service Area	Saving Proposal	2024/25 £
NI013	New income	Place	Commercial Services	Review options for car parking charges at Council offices	100,000
TOTAL NEW INCOME SAVINGS					8,692,720

Ref	Option Type	Directorate	Service Area	Saving Proposal	2024/25 £
TO001	TOM	Health, Wellbeing & Prevention	Emergency Planning	Explore shared emergency planning resource and resilience with partners.	15,000
T0002	TOM	People	Learning & Skills	Review the use of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to maximise grant funding	60,000
T0003	TOM	People	Learning & Skills	Review the use of external grant funding for preventative SEND services across the People Directorate.	50,000
TO004	TOM	People	Children's Social Care	Review funding arrangements and contributions from external sources to higher cost placements	500,000
TO006	TOM	Place	Homes & Communities	Limit access to the Housing Register for a fixed period to focus upon priority need cases.	100,000
TOTAL TARGET OPERATING MODEL SAVINGS					725,000

Ref	Option Type	Directorate	Service Area	Saving Proposal	2024/25 £
SC002	Stop/Cease	People	Learning & Skills	Review education transport arrangements - changes to policy (mainstream and SEND)	350,000
SC003	Stop/Cease	People	Learning & Skills	Review education transport arrangements - changes to efficiency and delivery models (mainstream and SEND)	650,000

Ref	Option Type	Directorate	Service Area	Saving Proposal	2024/25 £
SC004	Stop/Cease	People	Adult Social Care	Decommission block contract and move to SPOT provision.	200,000
SC005	Stop/Cease	People	Adult Social Care	Review the development of a solo children's home to enable discussions about a joint funded model with Health. 24/25 and 25/26 only	400,000
SC008	Stop/Cease	Place	Homes & Communities	Review staffing and resize the Empty Homes service	44,650
SC010	Stop/Cease	Place	Homes & Communities	Service efficiencies and increased income from Registrars delivery focus on enhanced venues	50,000
SC012	Stop/Cease	Place	Commercial Services	Reduce from five to three Household Recycling Centres	14,000
SC013	Stop/Cease	Place	Commercial Services	Rationalise property and buildings to secure revenue savings (e.g. utilities, security, repairs and maintenance etc). Use reductions to secure additional capital receipts.	3,000,000
SC014	Stop/Cease	Place	Economy & Place	Review the provision of school crossing patrol service (Schools may opt to pay for the service).	20,000
SC018	Stop/Cease	Council wide	All	Review subscription and secure cost reductions in membership of West Midlands Employers	30,000
TOTAL STOP/CEASE SAVINGS					4,758,650
TOTAL SAVINGS					62,479,970

Appendix 2

Recharges



Support Service**Recharge Base****Strategic Management Board**

Chief Executive

Direct cost recharged wholly to Corporate & Democratic Core/HRA based on turnover, project budgets charged out over directorates as a percentage split

Administrative Support

Recharged to Service Areas

Resources**Communications & Engagement**

Customer Service Centre

Based on contact activities such as Email, Face to Face or Telephone from records from CSC system

Communications & Engagement

Based on estimate of time spent on each service

Workforce & Improvement

Web Team

Based on active directory users

IT:

Based on number of IT Licences and time estimates

Application Management

Based on estimate of time spent on each application and contract values

IT Help desk and IT Services

Based on active directory users

IT (Data Centre, File Storage, Virtualisation)

Service specific calculation

Mail Room

Recharged to Corporate Landlord shared buildings

Health & Safety

Based on headcount

Human Resources

Based on headcount

Occupational Health

Based on headcount

Information, Intelligence & Insight

Based on estimate of time spent on each service

Legal & Governance

Legal Services

Based on estimate of time spent on each service

Committee Services

Based on estimate of time spent on each service with an element recharged to Corporate & Democratic Core/HRA

Support Service	Recharge Base
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Member Allowances/Services	Recharged wholly to Corporate & Democratic Core/HRA based on a time estimate
FOI/Information Governance	Recharged wholly to Corporate & Democratic Core/HRA
Procurement	Based on estimate of time spent on each service
Audit	Based on audit plan

Finance & Technology

Finance Business Partners	Recharged to services based on estimated time supporting specific services including the capital programme
Technical Accounting	Based on estimated time spent on each technical accounting activity. Recharged to services based on number of cost centres. Proportion of time relating to closing the accounts, treasury management and costs in relation to estimating and allocating corporate level resources (i.e. grant settlements) is charged direct to Corporate & Democratic Core
Management Accounting:	
Purchase Ledger	Recharged based on number of PL invoices processed, number of authorising officers within PL, users of PL, number of imprest accounts
Income	Recharged to services based on volume and type of income transactions.
Sales Ledger	Recharged based on number of sales ledger invoices raised.
General Ledger	Recharged to services based on number of cost centres within finance system. Purchasing cards administration recharged to services holding purchasing cards.
Core Activity	Proportion of time relating to closing the accounts, treasury management and costs in relation to estimating and allocating corporate level resources is charged direct to Corporate & Democratic Core.
Finance and Technology Management	Recharged based on estimate of time spent on each service area. Proportion of time relating to closing the accounts, treasury management and costs in relation to estimating and allocating corporate level resources (i.e. grant settlements) is charged direct to Corporate & Democratic Core

Support Service

Head of Finance

Recharge Base

Recharged based on estimate of time spent on each service area. Proportion of time relating to closing the accounts, treasury management and costs in relation to estimating and allocating corporate level resources (i.e. grant settlements) is charged direct to Corporate & Democratic Core

Treasury & Pensions

Treasury

Recharged to Corporate & Democratic Core/HRA and service areas based on number of purchasing cards, imprest accounts and leasing arrangements

Corporate

External Audit Fees

Recharged wholly to Corporate & Democratic Core/HRA based on audited working papers

Place**Commercial Services**

Head of Property & Development

Based on estimate of time spent between Estates, Assets and Gypsy & Traveller Team

Office Accommodation

Cost of office accommodation recharged based on floor occupancy where services occupy a space 100% of the time. Remaining floor areas recharged based on staff user status.

Assets

Based on estimated time spent over Corporate Landlord buildings, buildings with energy charges, admin buildings, school buildings and asset value of all buildings in the Fixed Asset Register

Premises Services

Based on Repairs and Maintenance expenditure

Facilities Management

Based on estimate of time spent on each Facilities Management Team managed building

Estates Team

Based on estimate of time for specific works across all Council buildings

Homes & Communities

Records Management

Based on number of boxes held in archive

Appendix 3

Government Grants



2023/24
Revised
Budget
£

Government Grants

2024/25
Budget
£

Corporate

1,522,650	Quality in Community Services – Private Finance Initiative	1,522,650
1,747,510	New Homes Bonus	1,807,300
21,521,300	Business Rate Retention Scheme – Section 31 Grants	23,625,260
7,757,310	Rural Services Delivery Grant	8,982,150
9,896,140	Improved Better Care Fund	9,896,140
21,547,060	Additional Social Care Funding	28,009,870
3,263,870	Market Sustainability and Fair Cost Fund	0
2,065,890	Core Spending Power Services Grants	356,640
69,321,730	Total Corporate Government Grants	74,200,010

Health & Wellbeing

54,000	Local Services Support Grant	54,000
13,191,830	Public Health Grant	13,496,100
162,000	Local Reform and Community Voices	162,000
0	Supplementary Substance Misuse Treatment & Recovery Grant	42,770
0	Rough Sleeping Drug & Alcohol Treatment Grant	609,640
13,407,830	Total Health & Wellbeing Government Grants	14,364,510

2023/24
Revised
Budget
£

Government Grants

2024/25
Budget
£

People

110,186,640	Dedicated Schools Grant	128,081,530
4,011,060	Pupil Premium Grant	4,436,850
14,660	KS2 Moderation	14,660
669,500	Tackling Troubled Families	1,011,900
2,041,500	Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children	2,986,540
256,670	Adoption Support Fund	256,670
92,950	Staying Put Grant	92,950
28,000	Assessed and Supported Year in Employment	28,000
48,090	Extending Personal Adviser support to age 25: new burdens assessment	48,090
430,100	Local Services Support Grant	430,100
117,210	War Pension Disregard Grant	117,210
1,967,260	Improved Better Care Fund	1,967,260
47,940	Care and Support Prisons	47,940
0	Market Sustainability and Fair Cost Fund	6,097,980
37,730	Local Reform and Community Voices	37,730
18,730	Reducing Parental Conflict Workforce Development Grant	0
124,220	Homes for Ukraine Scheme Local Authority Tariff Payment	128,000
1,663,230	Adult Social Care Discharge Fund	2,772,050
121,755,490	Total People Government Grants	148,555,460

2023/24 Revised Budget £	Government Grants	2024/25 Budget £
	Place	
3,185,610	Waste – Private Finance Initiative	3,185,610
160,000	Bikeability	160,000
30,000	RPA Higher Level Stewardship	30,000
512,450	Bus Services Operators Grant	512,450
228,110	AONB Core Grant	228,110
720,420	Homeless Prevention Grant	753,550
327,190	Rough Sleepers Initiative	377,330
632,390	Domestic Abuse Duty Capacity Building Fund	602,920
1,375,780	Homes for Ukraine Scheme Local Authority Tariff Payment	1,512,780
0	Holiday Activities and Food Programme	714,300
17,620	Arts Council - National Portfolio Organisations (NPOs)	189,000
0	DEFRA - Woodland Creation Accelerator Fund	50,020
0	Bus Service Improvement Plan Plus (BSIP+)	1,490,490
48,060	DEFRA - Trees Outside Woods (TOW)	53,800
50,000	Historic England - Offa's Dyke Project	40,350
784,530	DEFRA - Farming in Protected Landscapes	1,504,950
50,960	National Lottery Heritage Fund - Shropshire Hills Young Ranger	0
143,140	DLUHC – UK Shared Prosperity Fund (Levelling Up)	5,662,420
8,266,260	Total Place Government Grants	17,068,080
	Resources	
643,520	Housing Benefit Administration Subsidy	642,970
0	Housing Benefit Accuracy Initiative	26,600
38,000,000	Mandatory Rent Allowances: Subsidy	38,000,000
7,902,380	Rent Rebates: Subsidy	7,902,380
65,100	DWP Verify Earnings and Pensions	6,680
39,300	Universal Credit	21,000
66,090	Welfare Reform New Burdens	57,300
1,110	Single Fraud Investigation Service	1,020
46,717,500	Total Resources Government Grants	46,657,950
259,468,810	Total Shropshire Council Government Grants	300,846,010

Appendix 4

Report Schedule



Date	Committee	Financial Strategy Reports	Other Relevant Reports
6 September 2023	Cabinet	Capital Strategy 2022/23 – 2027/28 Mid-Year Review	
21 September 2023	Council	Capital Strategy 2022/23 – 2027/28 Mid-Year Review	
18 October 2023	Cabinet	Financial Strategy 2024/25 - 2028/29	
15 November 2023	Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Financial Strategy 2024/25 – 2028/29 Capital Strategy	
4 December 2023	Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Capital Strategy Task and Finish Group	
13 December 2023	Cabinet	Financial Strategy 2024/25 - 2028/29	Setting the Council Tax Taxbase for 2024/25
14 December 2023	Council		Setting the Council Tax Taxbase for 2024/25
10 January 2024	Transformation and Improvement Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Alternative Budget Proposals 2024/25	
17 January 2024	Cabinet	Alternative Budget Proposals 2024/25	
21 February 2024	Cabinet	Financial Strategy 2024/25 - 2028/29	Estimated Collection Fund Outturn 2023/24 Fees and Charges 2024/25
29 February 2024	Council	Financial Strategy 2024/25 - 2028/29	Fees and Charges 2024/25

Appendix 5

Glossary



Budget

The financial plan reflecting the Council's policies and priorities over a period of time i.e. what the Council is going to spend to provide services.

Business Rates

Taxation that is levied on business properties and collected by Shropshire Council. A change in regulations surrounding Business Rates has resulted in a proportion being retained and shared locally amongst authorities (including Fire Authority), rather than going to the Government for redistribution on a national basis.

Capital Expenditure/Capital Programme

Expenditure on items that have a life of more than one year, such as buildings, land, major equipment, or which adds to rather than maintains the value of existing assets.

Capital Financing

Capital expenditure is financed by Government grants, external contributions (e.g. developers' contributions to specific schemes), contribution from the revenue account, proceeds from the sale of assets, and borrowing. The revenue budget bears the cost of direct revenue contributions, together with interest and the provision for repayments of the loans.

Capital Receipts

The proceeds from the sale of fixed assets such as land and buildings. These sums can be used to finance new capital expenditure.

Collection Fund Surplus

A surplus of council tax and business rate income collected over the level assumed for budget purposes. Any such surplus or deficit is shared between the billing authority and its major precepting authorities.

Council Tax Requirement

This is an amount calculated, in advance of each year, by every local authority. It is the amount of revenue to be collected from council tax, and is equivalent to an authority's Band D council tax multiplied by its council tax base.

Earmarked Reserves

The Council maintains certain specific revenue reserves to meet future expenditure. These are held within earmarked reserves.

Employees

This includes all staffing budgets as well as indirect employees costs such as training, recruitment, agency staff and any budgeted redundancy costs.

General Fund Balances

This balance is held by the Council for general purposes, i.e. against which there are no specific commitments. The balance is treated as a contingency to protect the Council's financial standing should there be any financial issues in the year.

Government Grants

Contributions by central Government towards either the revenue or capital cost of local authority services.

Housing Revenue Account

The statutory account to which the revenue costs of providing, maintaining and managing Council dwellings are charged. These costs are financed by tenants' rents and government housing subsidy.

Internal Recharges

This includes the costs of support services such as IT, HR, Finance, Legal and Property Services. These services provide support functions to the frontline services in their service delivery.

Net Budget Requirement

The total expenditure (after deduction of income) that the Council finances from the aggregation of Revenue Support Grant, Business Rates and Council Tax.

Non Controllable Expenditure

This includes notional accounting transactions required to show the total cost of a service and includes capital charges such as depreciation, insurance contributions and future pension costs.

Other Controllable Expenditure

This includes all premises, transport related and supplies and services budgets that the Council holds.

Revenue Expenditure

Expenditure on the day to day running costs of the Council, such as salaries, wages, utility costs, repairs and maintenance.

Service Income

This includes all other income received within the revenue budget and will include other grants and contributions, fees and charges, other sales and internal recharge income.

Staff Budgets

This includes only staff salaries, NI contributions and Pension costs for Council employees.



Tax Base

To set the Council Tax for each property a Council has to first of all calculate the council tax base. This is a figure that is expressed as the total of band D equivalent properties.

Third Party Payments

This is a payment to an external provider or an internal service delivery unit defined as a trading operation. This generally contains any major contracts that the Council enters into.

Transfer Payments

This includes the costs of payments to individuals for which no goods or services are received in return. Examples of transfer payments include rent rebates and rent allowances for Housing Benefits.

Housing Revenue Account



2023/24 Budget £	Shropshire Council Housing Revenue Account	2024/25 Budget £
	Income	
(19,547,030)	Dwellings Rent	(21,660,420)
(95,300)	Garage Rent	(102,561)
(30,000)	Other Rent	(32,388)
(735,380)	Charges for Services	(792,004)
(20,407,710)	Total Income	(22,587,373)
	Expenditure	
9,663,160	ALMO Management Fee	10,407,223
683,600	Supplies & Services	900,813
4,471,690	Capital Charges – Dwelling Depreciation	4,771,293
261,670	Capital Charges – Depreciation Other	279,202
3,365,270	Interest Paid	3,239,903
625,000	Repairs charged to revenue	635,000
250,000	New Development Feasibility	266,750
50,000	Increase in Bad Debt Provision	106,391
357,520	Corporate & Democratic Core/Support Services	389,716
20,286,320	Total Expenditure	20,996,291
(679,800)	Net Cost of Services	(1,591,082)
1,013,410	Revenue Financing Capital Expenditure	5,824,467
0	Loan Repayments	3,600
333,610	(Surplus)/deficit for the year	4,236,986
(60,000)	Interest Received	(218,772)
273,610	Net Cost of Service/(Surplus) for Year	4,018,214
	HRA Reserve	
	B/fwd 1 April	(13,111,367)
	(Surplus)/Deficit for year	4,018,214
	Carried Forward 31 March	(9,093,153)

Capital Programme





Capital Programme Summary

The Capital Programme for the period 2023/2024 to 2025/2026 is based on current confirmed funding and anticipated delivery schedules for schemes. The programme is based on projects that have proceeded to approval stage, either via delegated powers or full Cabinet and Council recommendation approvals.

The 2022/23 financial year saw the launch of The Shropshire Plan: the overarching strategic plan for the Council, providing a single point where the key components that set the Council's direction of travel for the coming years are documented. The Plan forms the umbrella for all the Council's plans and strategies and helps direct decisions on how we use our available resources to achieve the best outcomes for Shropshire. The Plan is made up of four key sections: the strategic plan, the associated delivery plans, the Council's performance management framework (PMF), and the financial strategy. The capital strategy is a key element of the financial strategy that considers the Council's long-term aspirations for investment in assets and infrastructure, but ultimately focussing on the next five years.

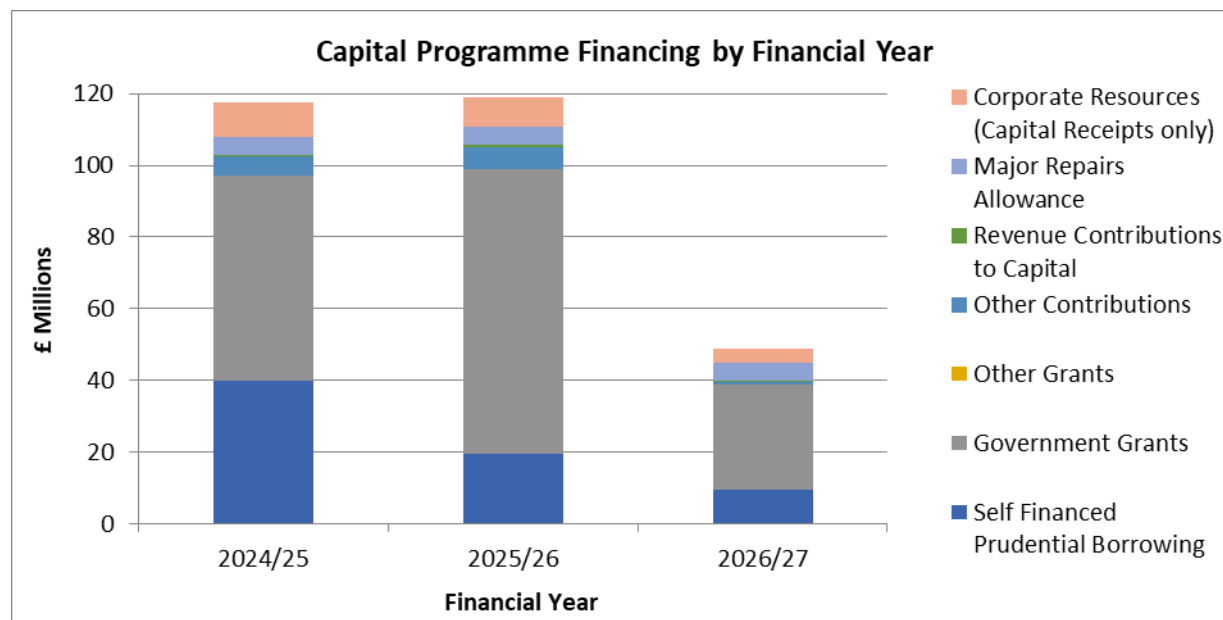
The Capital Strategy 2023/24 to 2028/29 details a schedule of capital schemes identified as priorities for the Council over the next five years. These schemes will progress through the approved capital scheme governance process as normal, with robust business cases being developed for each project. These projects and business cases will be presented and approved by Cabinet and / or Council prior to their inclusion in the Council's capital programme. Consequently, as these projects have yet to complete the full due diligence process, they are not currently included in the Capital Programme.

Capital Budgets 2024/25 to 2026/27

Service Area	2024/25 Budget £	2025/26 Budget £	2026/27 Budget £
General Fund			
Health & Wellbeing Capital	0	0	0
People Capital	9,025,290	9,280,231	3,950,000
Place Capital - Commercial Services	15,844,144	19,001,000	6,100,000
Place Capital - Economy & Place	13,636,892	8,602,226	1,500,000
Place Capital - Homes & Communities	7,734,498	2,090,998	633,261
Place Capital - Housing Services	4,149,000	4,149,000	5,452,995
Place Capital – Highways & Transport	37,761,483	61,773,880	22,237,000
Resources Capital	100,000	0	0
Total General Fund	88,251,307	104,897,335	39,873,256
Housing Revenue Account	29,252,974	14,231,781	9,000,000
Total Approved Budget	117,504,281	119,129,116	48,873,256

Capital Financing 2024/25 to 2026/27

Service Area	2024/25 Budget £	2025/26 Budget £	2026/27 Budget £
Self Financed Prudential Borrowing	40,024,344	19,352,050	9,335,756
Government Grants	57,032,169	79,419,586	29,591,000
Other Grants	155,530	43,945	0
Other Contributions	5,460,609	6,172,776	500,000
Revenue Contributions to Capital	231,260	747,374	346,500
Major Repairs Allowance	4,828,300	5,000,000	5,000,000
Corporate Resources (Capital Receipts only)	9,772,069	8,393,385	4,100,000
Total Confirmed Funding	117,504,281	119,129,116	48,873,256



Capital Programme Detail by Scheme

Scheme Description	2024/2025 Budget £	2025/2026 Budget £	2026/2027 Budget £
Housing Revenue Account Capital			
<u>HRA Dwellings Capital</u>			
Coton Hill House, Shrewsbury Refurbishment	1,114,250	1,113,350	0
Housing New Build Programme - Fairfield's Development, Gobowen	4,777,761	139,368	0
Housing New Build Programme - Godings Lane, Harmer Hill	1,238,301	550,151	0
Housing New Build Programme - Off Penybryn Avenue, Whittington	115,478	0	0
Housing New Build Programme - Russell Close, Stanmore	503,445	14,544	0
Housing New Build Programme - Weston Court, Harlescott, Shrewsbury	412,465	410,000	0
Housing New Build Programme - Weston Rhyn	269,782	96,810	0
Housing New Build Programme (500 new homes plan)	2,581,132	6,907,558	4,000,000
HRA Developer Purchases - Ellesmere Wharf, Ellesmere	945,143	0	0
HRA Developer Purchases - Ifton Heath	2,363,250	0	0
HRA Housing New Build Programme Phase 6 - Shrewsbury Training Centre, Racecourse Lane	467,244	0	0
HRA Housing New Build Programme Phase 6- Richmond House	24,554	0	0
Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) - Unallocated	6,027,821	0	0
Parish Rooms Bridgnorth Refurbishment	500,000	0	0
Housing Major Repairs Programme - Unallocated		5,000,000	5,000,000
STaR Disabled Aids & Adaptations	250,000	0	0
STaR Electrical Remedial Works	250,000	0	0
STaR External Doors	158,000	0	0
STaR Fire Safety Works	100,000	0	0
STaR Kitchens & Bathrooms	1,180,600	0	0
STaR Major Works	200,000	0	0
STaR Rewires	550,000	0	0
STaR Roofing	40,000	0	0
STaR Asbestos Removal	150,000	0	0
STaR Garage Sites Refurbishments	200,000	0	0
STaR Heating Works - Reactive	834,000	0	0

Scheme Description	2024/2025 Budget £	2025/2026 Budget £	2026/2027 Budget £
STaR Off Grid Properties Investment	300,000	0	0
STaR PSH Adaptations Grant	250,000	0	0
STaR Roof Replacement Works	403,200	0	0
STaR Sewage Treatment Works	100,000	0	0
STaR Window Replacement Works	112,500	0	0
Temporary Accommodation Programme Unallocated	2,834,048	0	0
Total HRA Dwellings Capital	29,252,974	14,231,781	9,000,000
	29,252,974	14,231,781	9,000,000

Scheme Description	2024/2025 Budget £	2025/2026 Budget £	2026/2027 Budget £
People Capital			
<u>Adult Social Care Operations Capital</u>			
Adult Social Care Supported Living - Technology Equipment	300,000	0	0
Total Adult Social Care Operations Capital	300,000	0	0
<u>Children's Residential Care Capital</u>			
Children's Residential Care - Beulah House	200,000	0	0
Children's Residential Care TBC	100,000	0	0
Total Children's Residential Care Capital	300,000	0	0
<u>Non Maintained Schools Capital</u>			
Bowbrook Primary - Place Planning New Build	750,000	0	0
Marches Academy Trust - Grange/Sundorne Amalgamation	0	2,000,000	0
Total Non Maintained Schools Capital	750,000	2,000,000	0

Scheme Description	2024/2025 Budget £	2025/2026 Budget £	2026/2027 Budget £
Primary School Capital			
Albrighton Primary - Chimney Replacement	32,700	0	0
Albrighton Primary - Demolish Boiler House & Re-route Services	107,850	0	0
Albrighton Primary Removal of Overhanging Concrete Framed Windows to KS1 Block	38,150	0	0
Albrighton Primary School Emergency Lighting Upgrade	38,150	0	0
Belvidere Primary Replacement of Fan Convectors	54,500	0	0
Bicton Primary Secure Lobby Internal Alterations	33,300	0	0
Criftins Primary Fire Alarm Replacement	27,250	0	0
Farlow Primary - GP Room	120,000	0	0
Hodnet Primary Nursery Reroof	13,080	0	0
Longnor Primary School Emergency Lighting Upgrade	21,800	0	0
Newtown Primary Replacement Fire Alarm System	27,250	0	0
Norbury Primary Replacement Sewage System	86,300	0	0
Norton In Hales Primary Replacement of Timber Sash Windows	21,800	0	0
Oxon Primary School Hall Extension	700,000	0	0
Selattyn Primary School EY Outdoor Classroom	5,450	0	0
Sheriffhales Primary Replace Single Glazed Windows To WC & Other Window Works	16,350	0	0
Shifnal Primary - Secure Lobby	114,104	0	0
Shifnal Primary Replacement Of Kitchen/Hall Bi-Fold Doors To Fire Rated Doors	27,250	0	0
Shifnal Primary Replacement Ramp and Steps to Nursery Demountable	21,800	0	0
Shifnal Primary Reroofing Phase 1	196,200	0	0
St Andrews Shifnal -DfE School Rebuilding Programme Contribution	191,273	0	0
The Martin Wilson School Replacement Of Fire Doors	21,800	0	0
Welshampton - Sewage Treatment Plant	87,200	0	0
Weston Rhyn Primary School Emergency Lighting Upgrade	54,500	0	0
Weston Rhyn Primary School Installation of TRV's to Control Heating	8,720	0	0
Total Primary School Capital	2,066,777	0	0

Scheme Description	2024/2025 Budget £	2025/2026 Budget £	2026/2027 Budget £
<u>Primary School Managed Capital</u>			
Farlow CE Primary School - School Managed Capital - DFC	15,000	0	0
Total Primary School Managed Capital	15,000	0	0
<u>Secondary School Capital</u>			
SAI 2324 BCCC Accessibility Works	27,250	0	0
Total Secondary School Capital	27,250	0	0
<u>Unallocated School Capital</u>			
Basic Need Unallocated	973,032	2,000,000	0
Condition Unallocated	1,450,000	1,000,000	750,000
Devolved Formula Capital - re-profiling	800,000	250,000	200,000
Early Years Unallocated	34,409	0	0
Schools Access Initiative Unallocated	68,115	0	0
Schools Future Place Planning Programme - Unallocated	574,578	1,500,000	1,500,000
SEN High Needs Capital Funding - Unallocated	1,616,129	2,530,231	1,500,000
Special Provision Funds Allocation	50,000	0	0
Total Unallocated School Capital	5,566,263	7,280,231	3,950,000
9,025,290 9,280,231 3,950,000			

Scheme Description	2024/2025 Budget £	2025/2026 Budget £	2026/2027 Budget £
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Place Capital - Commercial Services

Corporate Landlord Capital

55 Aston Street Wem - Phase 2 Internal Works	43,600	0	0
Battlefield, Shrewsbury - Gypsy Transit Site	269,632	0	0
Bishops Castle SPARC - Hyproliser Chemical Dosing System	30,000	0	0
C10580-101	500,000	1,500,000	0
Cambrian Railway Building Oswestry - Structural Repairs	900,657	0	0
Church Stretton Library - Replacement and Upgrade of Asphalt Roof	8,000	0	0
Commercial Investment Programme - Unallocated	1,479,704	1,000,000	1,000,000
Corporate Landlord Suitability Programme Unallocated	800,000	600,000	600,000
Corporate Landlord Unallocated	1,200,000	1,101,000	1,000,000
Gateway Shrewsbury - Overhaul and Reinstatement of the Ventilation System	65,400	0	0
London Road, Shrewsbury - Self and Custom Build Phase 2	282,041	0	0
Lord Hill Statue - P1 Major Refurbishment of Statue and Base Decorative Fence	102,735	0	0
Ludlow Library & Museum - FRA Improvement Works	40,000	0	0
Maesbury Solar Farm	500,000	1,000,000	500,000
Market Drayton Library Boiler Replacement	160,900	0	0
Meole Brace Pitch & Putt Development	2,003,415	2,500,000	500,000
Morgan Library Former - Damp Improvement Works To Floor & Wall Panelling	10,900	0	0
Morgan Library Former - External Weather Proofing of Brickwork	8,720	0	0
Morgan Library Former - Replacement of External Ramp Handrails	2,180	0	0
Multi-Agency Hub, Shrewsbury Feb 22 Approval	5,849,654	10,000,000	0
Shirehall - Replacement of Bellstone Elevation High traffic Automatic Doors	30,000	0	0
The Tannery Development - Block A	56,606	1,300,000	2,500,000
Whitchurch Medical Practice	1,500,000	0	0
Total Corporate Landlord Capital	15,844,144	19,001,000	6,100,000

	15,844,144	19,001,000	6,100,000
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Scheme Description	2024/2025 Budget £	2025/2026 Budget £	2026/2027 Budget £
Place Capital - Economy & Place			
<u>Broadband Capital</u>			
Broadband Phase 5 - BDUK Gigabit Voucher Top Up Scheme	500,000	500,000	500,000
Broadband Project - Phase 6 - TBC	409,632	1,079,945	1,000,000
Total Broadband Capital	909,632	1,579,945	1,500,000
<u>Development Management Capital</u>			
Offa's Dyke Conservation Management	121,500	40,500	0
Total Development Management Capital	121,500	40,500	0
<u>Economic Growth Capital</u>			
Bishops Castle Business Park	250,000	0	0
LUF2 - Project 2 - Transforming Movement and Public Spaces in Shrewsbury	1,500,000	2,351,615	0
Oswestry Mile End Roundabout Improvement Works - Design & Planning Stage	9,496,020	4,251,293	0
Pride Hill Shopping Centre Redevelopment Feb 22 Approval	1,000,000	0	0
Total Economic Growth Capital	12,246,020	6,602,908	0
<u>Planning Policy Capital</u>			
Community Housing Grant - Community Led Scheme	92,613	0	0
Community Led Affordable Housing Grant Scheme	267,127	378,873	0
Total Planning Policy Capital	359,740	378,873	0
13,636,892 8,602,226 1,500,000			

Scheme Description	2024/2025 Budget £	2025/2026 Budget £	2026/2027 Budget £
Place Capital - Homes & Communities			
<u>Leisure Capital</u>			
Whitchurch Swimming and Fitness Centre	7,269,718	2,067,303	633,261
Total Leisure Capital	7,269,718	2,067,303	633,261
<u>Libraries Capital</u>			
Bridgnorth Library - Live Well With Your Library Project	15,397	3,849	0
Ludlow Library - Live Well With Your Library Project	16,596	4,149	0
Market Drayton Library - Live Well With Your Library Project	15,397	3,850	0
Oswestry Library - Live Well With Your Library Project	15,397	3,849	0
Shrewsbury Library - Live Well with your Library Project	16,596	4,149	0
Whitchurch Library - Live Well With Your Library Project	15,397	3,849	0
Total Libraries Capital	94,780	23,695	0
<u>Outdoor Partnerships Capital</u>			
Birchmeadow Play Area, Broseley	170,000	0	0
RoW - Unallocated	200,000	0	0
Total Outdoor Partnerships Capital	370,000	0	0
7,734,498 2,090,998 633,261			

Scheme Description	2024/2025 Budget £	2025/2026 Budget £	2026/2027 Budget £
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Place Capital - Housing Services

Housing Services Capital

Disabled Facilities Grants - Capital	4,149,000	4,149,000	4,149,000
Greenacres Farm - Supported Living Development	0	0	1,303,995
Total Housing Services Capital	4,149,000	4,149,000	5,452,995

	4,149,000	4,149,000	5,452,995
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Scheme Description	2024/2025 Budget £	2025/2026 Budget £	2026/2027 Budget £
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Place Capital - Highways & Transport

Highways Capital

A488 Hope Landslip	240,000	0	0
A529 Road Safety Works - WSP	500,000	0	0
B4368 Clun to Newcastle Road	750,000	0	0
Bridgeguard - B4904 Bind Footbridge	15,000	0	0
Bridgeguard - Betton Street Footbridge	250,000	0	0
Bridgeguard - Bridgnorth Bridge (Low Town)	10,000	0	0
Bridgeguard - Broad Bridge	12,000	0	0
Bridgeguard - Montague Railway Bridge Footbridge	250,000	0	0
Bridgeguard - Nant Lane Retaining Wall	75,000	0	0
Bridgeguard - Unallocated	1,839,406	0	0
Centrally Managed Ringway Secondary Surfacing Programme	6,000,000	0	0
Church Stretton - Flood & Water Management	13,106	0	0
Countywide Autumn Statement Pothole Fund	6,000,000	0	0

Scheme Description	2024/2025 Budget £	2025/2026 Budget £	2026/2027 Budget £
Countywide Culverts	150,000	0	0
Countywide Drainage Unallocated	700,000	100,000	0
Countywide Footway Slurry Sealing Programme	300,000	0	0
Countywide Patching Schemes Tender Package	400,000	0	0
Countywide Permanent Repair Programme	3,000,000	0	0
Countywide Roadmaster Programme	400,000	0	0
CS - Unallocated	100,000	0	0
Depot Fixed Costs - Principal	1,047,000	0	0
Depot Fixed Costs - Secondary	1,047,000	0	0
Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund - Flood Risk - Albrighton Project	291,900	0	0
Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund - Flood Risk - Clun Project	286,600	250,000	0
Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund - Flood Risk - Much Wenlock Project	330,000	250,000	0
Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund - Flood Risk - Shifnal Project	261,000	250,000	0
Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund - Flood Risk - Unallocated	153,804	0	0
ITP Countywide - Unallocated	1,138,000	1,638,000	1,638,000
LEP Oxon Relief Road Project	2,000,000	5,000,000	0
LEPSITP - Project Management/Design	300,000	0	0
North West Relief Road, Shrewsbury	6,666,667	30,856,880	0
NWS - Unallocated	100,000	0	0
Oswestry - Flood & Water Management	20,000	0	0
Programme of structural replacement of lighting columns	600,000	0	0
RoW - Rindleford Footbridge	15,000	0	0
School 20mph Zones - Unallocated	399,500	500,000	0
SES - Unallocated	100,000	0	0
Shrewsbury - Longden Road widening towards Meole School	500	0	0
Shropshire Countywide- Road Assessment Surveys	500,000	0	0
Shropshire Countywide- Unallocated Responsive Budget	1,500,000	22,929,000	20,599,000
Total Highways Capital	37,761,483	61,773,880	22,237,000
	37,761,483	61,773,880	22,237,000

Scheme Description	2024/2025 Budget £	2025/2026 Budget £	2026/2027 Budget £
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Resources Capital

ICT Digital Transformation - Unallocated Capital

ICT Digital Transformation - Unallocated	100,000	0	0
Total ICT Digital Transformation - Unallocated Capital	100,000	0	0

	100,000	0	0
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Capital Funding of Programme

Account	2024/2025 Budget £	2025/2026 Budget £	2026/2027 Budget £
Borrowing	(40,024,344)	(19,352,050)	(9,335,756)
Prudential Borrowing	(40,024,344)	(19,352,050)	(9,335,756)
Salix Loan	0	0	0
Government Grants	(57,032,169)	(79,419,586)	(29,591,000)
GG Capital DfT Highways Maintenance	(9,682,000)	(9,255,000)	(9,155,000)
GG Capital DfT LTP Integrated Transport Grant	(1,538,000)	(2,138,000)	(1,638,000)
GG Capital DfT Incentive Fund	(2,289,000)	(2,289,000)	(2,289,000)
GG Capital DfT Pothole Action Fund	(9,712,000)	(9,155,000)	(9,155,000)
GG Capital DoH Better Care Fund	(4,599,000)	(4,149,000)	(4,404,000)
GG Capital DoE Devolved Formula Capital Grant	(800,000)	(250,000)	(200,000)
GG Capital DoE Basic Need Grant	(1,864,305)	(4,000,000)	0
GG Capital DoE School Condition Grant	(2,482,394)	(1,000,000)	(750,000)
GG Capital DoE Special Provisions Fund	(1,666,129)	(2,530,231)	(1,500,000)
GG Capital Environment Agency	(33,106)	0	0
GG Capital Home & Communities Agency	(3,844,775)	(694,860)	(500,000)
GG Capital MHCLG Community Housing Grant	(92,613)	0	0
GG Capital DfT Safer Roads Fund	(500,000)		
GG Capital DfT Capital Block Funding Specific Grant	(1,323,304)	(750,000)	0
GG Capital DfT Large Local Majors	(6,666,667)	(30,856,880)	0
GG Capital DHLUC Self and Custom Build Grant Phase 2	(282,041)	0	0
GG Capital DHLUC Local Authority Housing Fund	(2,676,631)	0	0
GG Capital DHLUC UK Shared Prosperity Fund	(630,550)	0	0
GG Capital DHLUC Levelling Up Fund Round 2	(6,349,654)	(12,351,615)	0

Account	2024/2025 Budget £	2025/2026 Budget £	2026/2027 Budget £
Other Grants	(155,530)	(43,945)	0
GG Capital Historic England	(60,750)	(20,250)	0
GG Capital Arts Council	(94,780)	(23,695)	0
Other Contributions	(5,460,609)	(6,172,776)	(500,000)
Capital Contributions from Public Bodies	(60,750)	(20,250)	0
Capital Contributions from Private Sectors	(885,072)	(638,853)	(500,000)
Capital Contributions Section 106	(4,344,787)	(5,513,673)	0
Capital Contributions Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	(170,000)	0	0
Revenue Contributions to Capital	(231,260)	(747,374)	(346,500)
Revenue Contributions to Capital - GF	(160,900)	(378,873)	0
Revenue Contributions to Capital - Schools	(20,360)	0	0
Revenue Contributions to Capital - HRA	(50,000)	(368,501)	(346,500)
Major Repairs Allowance	(4,828,300)	(5,000,000)	(5,000,000)
Corporate Resources - Capital Receipts	(9,772,069)	(8,393,385)	(4,100,000)
Total Financing	(117,504,281)	(119,129,116)	(48,873,256)

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Draft Revenue and Capital Budget 2024/25

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COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION 2024/25

1. The format of the Council Tax setting resolution that the Council must approve, has been previously agreed between the Local Government Association and Communities and Local Government, and the determination follows that format.
2. That it be noted that at its meeting on 14th December 2023 the Council calculated the following amounts for the year 2024/25 in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (The Act):
 - a. **119,191.17** being the number calculated by the Council, in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 2002 (The Regulations), as its Council Tax Base for the year and:
 - b. for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept related as in the attached Annex 2.
3. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2024/25 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of The Act:

	Description	Amount £	Notes
A	Gross Expenditure	723,914,782	Gross expenditure including Parish precepts in accordance with s31A(2) of the Act.
B	Gross Income	507,980,063	Gross income including the use of reserves in accordance with s31A(3) of the Act.
C	Budget Requirement	215,934,719	The budget requirement in accordance with s31A(4) of the Act D
D	Basic Amount of Council Tax	1,811.67	Item (c) divided by tax base (resolution 2(a) - this represents the weighted average Council Tax at Band D including Parish precepts but excluding Fire and Police in accordance with s31B of the Act.
E	Total of Special Items	10,830,554	This represents the total of Parish precepts in accordance with s34(1) of the Act as per Annex 2
F	Basic Amount of Council Tax for dwellings in parts of the area to which no special items relate	1,720.80	Item (c) - (e) divided by tax base (resolution 2(a)) in accordance with s34(2) of the Act.
G	Basic Amount of Council Tax for dwellings in parts of the area to which one or more special items relate	Sums shown in Schedule A Annex 1	This represents the Band D Council Tax by Parish including Parish precepts but excluding Fire and Police in accordance with s34(3) of the Act.
H	Amount of Council Tax as in (g) for each Council Tax Band	Sums shown in Schedule B Annex 1	This represents the Council Tax by Parish and by each valuation band including Parish precepts but excluding Fire and Police in accordance with s36(1) and s5(1) of the Act.

4. That it be noted that for the year 2024/25 the West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner and the Shropshire & Wrekin Fire Authority have stated that the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:

Precepting Authority	Valuation Bands 2024/25							
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Shropshire & Wrekin Fire Authority	76.33	89.05	101.77	114.49	139.93	165.37	190.82	228.98
West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner	185.00	215.83	246.67	277.50	339.17	400.83	462.50	555.00

5. That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(h) and 4 above, the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts listed in Annex 1 Schedule C as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2024/25 for each of the categories of dwellings in the Council's area.

Annex 1 Schedule A

Basic Amounts of Council Tax at Band D for Combined Shropshire Council and Parish/Town Councils 2024/25

Parish / Town Council	£:p
Abdon & Heath	1,720.80
Acton Burnell, Frodesley, Pitchford, Ruckley & Langley	1,745.08
Acton Scott	1,734.36
Adderley	1,798.17
Alberbury with Cardeston	1,754.44
Albrighton	1,839.56
All Stretton, Smethcott & Woolstaston	1,757.64
Alveley & Romsley	1,782.94
Ashford Bowdler	1,720.80
Ashford Carbonell	1,769.58
Astley	1,760.25
Astley Abbotts	1,746.66
Aston Botterell, Burwarton & Cleobury North	1,777.28
Atcham	1,782.68
Badger	1,796.67
Barrow	1,763.59
Baschurch	1,764.21
Bayston Hill	1,826.73
Beckbury	1,786.95
Bedstone & Bucknell	1,813.35
Berrington	1,754.85
Bettws-Y-Crwyn	1,791.47
Bicton	1,751.97
Billingsley, Deuxhill, Glazeley & Middleton Scriven	1,766.62
Bishops Castle Town	2,006.18
Bitterley	1,744.04
Bomere Heath & District	1,747.75
Boningale	1,742.95
Boraston	1,727.69
Bridgnorth Town	1,892.06
Bromfield	1,755.97
Broseley Town	1,923.36
Buildwas	1,807.96
Burford	1,802.18
Cardington	1,757.70
Caynham	1,760.14
Chelmarsh	1,780.70
Cheswardine	1,778.21
Chetton	1,758.00
Childs Erccall	1,768.47
Chirbury with Brompton	1,757.29
Church Preen, Hughley & Kenley	1,751.85
Church Pulverbatch	1,742.69
Church Stretton & Little Stretton Town	1,944.78
Claverley	1,747.75
Clee St. Margaret	1,720.80
Cleobury Mortimer	1,835.75
Clive	1,791.84
Clun Town with Chapel Lawn	1,856.06
Clunbury	1,742.80
Clungunford	1,743.62
Cockshutt-cum-Petton	1,783.88
Condover	1,771.96
Coreley	1,776.96
Cound	1,757.35
Craven Arms Town	1,796.79
Cressage, Harley & Sheinton	1,789.09
Culmington	1,749.12
Diddlebury	1,746.12
Ditton Priors	1,767.22
Donington & Boscobel	1,782.16
Eardington	1,760.65
Easthope, Shipton & Stanton Long	1,748.03
Eaton-Under-Heywood & Hope Bowdler	1,750.92
Edgton	1,740.87
Ellesmere Rural	1,764.69
Ellesmere Town	1,905.96
Farlow	1,746.90
Ford	1,803.44
Great Hanwood	1,798.06
Great Ness & Little Ness	1,788.29
Greete	1,720.80
Grinshill	1,786.33
Hadnall	1,760.47
Highley	1,847.93
Hinstock	1,779.40
Hodnet	1,768.17
Hope Bagot	1,739.46
Hopesay	1,783.93
Hopton Cangeford & Stoke St. Milborough	1,734.63
Hopton Castle	1,737.20
Hopton Wafers	1,754.82

Basic Amounts of Council Tax at Band D for Combined Shropshire Council and Parish/Town Councils 2024/25

Parish / Town Council	£:p
Hordley	1,769.05
Ightfield	1,790.43
Kemberton	1,754.04
Kinlet	1,746.36
Kinnerley	1,767.79
Knockin	1,837.88
Leebotwood & Longnor	1,767.97
Leighton & Eaton Constantine	1,770.96
Llanfair Waterdine	1,771.54
Llanyblodwel	1,768.05
Llanymynech & Pant	1,761.72
Longden	1,790.21
Loppington	1,738.66
Ludford	1,743.64
Ludlow Town	1,952.75
Lydbury North	1,772.36
Lydham & More	1,720.80
Mainstone & Colebatch	1,749.00
Market Drayton Town	1,852.86
Melverley	1,820.90
Milson & Neen Sollars	1,798.28
Minsterley	1,767.72
Montford	1,743.69
Moreton Corbet & Lee Brockhurst	1,736.47
Moreton Say	1,782.99
Morville, Acton Round, Aston Eyre, Monkhopton & Upton Cressett	1,751.50
Much Wenlock Town	1,937.28
Munslow	1,758.00
Myddle, Broughton & Harmer Hill	1,766.83
Myrdtown, Norbury, Ratlinghope & Wentnor	1,738.63
Nash	1,746.93
Neen Savage	1,761.53
Neenton	1,720.80
Newcastle	1,880.44
Norton-In-Hales	1,793.39
Onibury	1,756.52
Oswestry Rural	1,744.18
Oswestry Town	1,823.69
Pontesbury	1,875.91
Prees	1,745.14
Quatt Malvern	1,780.02
Richards Castle	1,764.50
Rushbury	1,751.18
Ruyton-XI-Towns	1,788.67
Ryton & Grindle	1,774.67
Selattyn & Gobowen	1,788.43
Shawbury	1,784.90
Sheriffhales	1,771.03
Shifnal Town	1,867.76
Shrewsbury Town	1,787.22
Sibdon Carwood	1,720.80
St. Martins	1,779.14
Stanton Lacy	1,749.09
Stanton-Upon-Hine Heath	1,768.49
Stockton	1,765.73
Stoke-Upon-Tern	1,762.93
Stottesdon & Sidbury	1,794.51
Stowe	1,727.78
Sutton Maddock	1,749.53
Sutton-Upon-Tern	1,741.91
Tasley	1,746.95
Tong	1,757.28
Uffington	1,801.12
Upton Magna	1,757.32
Welshampton & Lyneal	1,787.83
Wem Rural	1,763.46
Wem Town	1,917.17
West Felton	1,750.17
Westbury	1,763.83
Weston Rhyn	1,758.73
Weston-Under-Redcastle	1,782.60
Wheathill	1,747.86
Whitchurch Rural	1,759.59
Whitchurch Town	1,881.00
Whittington	1,779.43
Whitton	1,720.80
Whixall	1,758.64
Wistanstow	1,757.96
Withington	1,780.35
Woore	1,770.96
Worfield & Rudge	1,749.70
Worthen with Shelve	1,760.73
Wroxeter & Uppington	1,751.13

Annex 1 Schedule B

Council Tax for Combined Shropshire Council and Parish/Town Councils 2024/25

Parish / Town Council	Band A £:p	Band B £:p	Band C £:p	Band D £:p	Band E £:p	Band F £:p	Band G £:p	Band H £:p
Abdon & Heath	1,147.20	1,338.40	1,529.60	1,720.80	2,103.20	2,485.60	2,868.00	3,441.60
Acton Burnell, Frodesley, Pitchford, Ruckley & Langley	1,163.39	1,357.28	1,551.18	1,745.08	2,132.88	2,520.67	2,908.47	3,490.16
Acton Scott	1,156.24	1,348.95	1,541.65	1,734.36	2,119.77	2,505.19	2,890.60	3,468.72
Adderley	1,198.78	1,398.58	1,598.37	1,798.17	2,197.76	2,597.36	2,996.95	3,596.34
Alberbury with Cardeston	1,169.63	1,364.56	1,559.50	1,754.44	2,144.32	2,534.19	2,924.07	3,508.88
Albrighton	1,226.37	1,430.77	1,635.16	1,839.56	2,248.35	2,657.14	3,065.93	3,679.12
All Stretton, Smethcott & Woolstaston	1,171.76	1,367.05	1,562.35	1,757.64	2,148.23	2,538.81	2,929.40	3,515.28
Alveley & Romsley	1,188.63	1,386.73	1,584.84	1,782.94	2,179.15	2,575.36	2,971.57	3,565.88
Ashford Bowdler	1,147.20	1,338.40	1,529.60	1,720.80	2,103.20	2,485.60	2,868.00	3,441.60
Ashford Carbonell	1,179.72	1,376.34	1,572.96	1,769.58	2,162.82	2,556.06	2,949.30	3,539.16
Astley	1,173.50	1,369.08	1,564.67	1,760.25	2,151.42	2,542.58	2,933.75	3,520.50
Astley Abbotts	1,164.44	1,358.51	1,552.59	1,746.66	2,134.81	2,522.95	2,911.10	3,493.32
Aston Botterell, Burwarton & Cleobury North	1,184.85	1,382.33	1,579.80	1,777.28	2,172.23	2,567.18	2,962.13	3,554.56
Atcham	1,188.45	1,386.53	1,584.60	1,782.68	2,178.83	2,574.98	2,971.13	3,565.36
Badger	1,197.78	1,397.41	1,597.04	1,796.67	2,195.93	2,595.19	2,994.45	3,593.34
Barrow	1,175.73	1,371.68	1,567.64	1,763.59	2,155.50	2,547.41	2,939.32	3,527.18
Baschurch	1,176.14	1,372.16	1,568.19	1,764.21	2,156.26	2,548.30	2,940.35	3,528.42
Bayston Hill	1,217.82	1,420.79	1,623.76	1,826.73	2,232.67	2,638.61	3,044.55	3,653.46
Beckbury	1,191.30	1,389.85	1,588.40	1,786.95	2,184.05	2,581.15	2,978.25	3,573.90
Bedstone & Bucknell	1,208.90	1,410.38	1,611.87	1,813.35	2,216.32	2,619.28	3,022.25	3,626.70
Berrington	1,169.90	1,364.88	1,559.87	1,754.85	2,144.82	2,534.78	2,924.75	3,509.70
Bettws-Y-Crwyn	1,194.31	1,393.37	1,592.42	1,791.47	2,189.57	2,587.68	2,985.78	3,582.94
Bicton	1,167.98	1,362.64	1,557.31	1,751.97	2,141.30	2,530.62	2,919.95	3,503.94
Billingsley, Deuxhill, Glazeley & Middleton Scriven	1,177.75	1,374.04	1,570.33	1,766.62	2,159.20	2,551.78	2,944.37	3,533.24
Bishops Castle Town	1,337.45	1,560.36	1,783.27	2,006.18	2,452.00	2,897.82	3,343.63	4,012.36
Bitterley	1,162.69	1,356.48	1,550.26	1,744.04	2,131.60	2,519.17	2,906.73	3,488.08
Bomere Heath & District	1,165.17	1,359.36	1,553.56	1,747.75	2,136.14	2,524.53	2,912.92	3,495.50
Boningale	1,161.97	1,355.63	1,549.29	1,742.95	2,130.27	2,517.59	2,904.92	3,485.90
Boraston	1,151.79	1,343.76	1,535.72	1,727.69	2,111.62	2,495.55	2,879.48	3,455.38
Bridgnorth Town	1,261.37	1,471.60	1,681.83	1,892.06	2,312.52	2,732.98	3,153.43	3,784.12
Bromfield	1,170.65	1,365.75	1,560.86	1,755.97	2,146.19	2,536.40	2,926.62	3,511.94
Broseley Town	1,282.24	1,495.95	1,709.65	1,923.36	2,350.77	2,778.19	3,205.60	3,846.72
Buildwas	1,205.31	1,406.19	1,607.08	1,807.96	2,209.73	2,611.50	3,013.27	3,615.92
Burford	1,201.45	1,401.70	1,601.94	1,802.18	2,202.66	2,603.15	3,003.63	3,604.36
Cardington	1,171.80	1,367.10	1,562.40	1,757.70	2,148.30	2,538.90	2,929.50	3,515.40
Caynham	1,173.43	1,369.00	1,564.57	1,760.14	2,151.28	2,542.42	2,933.57	3,520.28
Chelmarsh	1,187.13	1,384.99	1,582.84	1,780.70	2,176.41	2,572.12	2,967.83	3,561.40
Cheswardine	1,185.47	1,383.05	1,580.63	1,778.21	2,173.37	2,568.53	2,963.68	3,556.42
Chetton	1,172.00	1,367.33	1,562.67	1,758.00	2,148.67	2,539.33	2,930.00	3,516.00
Childs Ercall	1,178.98	1,375.48	1,571.97	1,768.47	2,161.46	2,554.46	2,947.45	3,536.94
Chirbury with Brompton	1,171.53	1,366.78	1,562.04	1,757.29	2,147.80	2,538.31	2,928.82	3,514.58
Church Preen, Hughley & Kenley	1,167.90	1,362.55	1,557.20	1,751.85	2,141.15	2,530.45	2,919.75	3,503.70
Church Pulverbatch	1,161.79	1,355.43	1,549.06	1,742.69	2,129.95	2,517.22	2,904.48	3,485.38
Church Stretton & Little Stretton Town	1,296.52	1,512.61	1,728.69	1,944.78	2,376.95	2,809.13	3,241.30	3,889.56
Claverley	1,165.17	1,359.36	1,553.56	1,747.75	2,136.14	2,524.53	2,912.92	3,495.50
Clee St. Margaret	1,147.20	1,338.40	1,529.60	1,720.80	2,103.20	2,485.60	2,868.00	3,441.60
Cleobury Mortimer	1,223.83	1,427.81	1,631.78	1,835.75	2,243.69	2,651.64	3,059.58	3,671.50
Clive	1,194.56	1,393.65	1,592.75	1,791.84	2,190.03	2,588.21	2,986.40	3,583.68
Clun Town with Chapel Lawn	1,237.37	1,443.60	1,649.83	1,856.06	2,268.52	2,680.98	3,093.43	3,712.12
Clunbury	1,161.87	1,355.51	1,549.16	1,742.80	2,130.09	2,517.38	2,904.67	3,485.60
Clungunford	1,162.41	1,356.15	1,549.88	1,743.62	2,131.09	2,518.56	2,906.03	3,487.24
Cockshutt-cum-Petton	1,189.25	1,387.46	1,585.67	1,783.88	2,180.30	2,576.72	2,973.13	3,567.76
Condover	1,181.31	1,378.19	1,575.08	1,771.96	2,165.73	2,559.50	2,953.27	3,543.92
Coreley	1,184.64	1,382.08	1,579.52	1,776.96	2,171.84	2,566.72	2,961.60	3,553.92
Cound	1,171.57	1,366.83	1,562.09	1,757.35	2,147.87	2,538.39	2,928.92	3,514.70
Craven Arms Town	1,197.86	1,397.50	1,597.15	1,796.79	2,196.08	2,595.36	2,994.65	3,593.58
Cressage, Harley & Sheinton	1,192.73	1,391.51	1,590.30	1,789.09	2,186.67	2,584.24	2,981.82	3,578.18
Culmington	1,166.08	1,360.43	1,554.77	1,749.12	2,137.81	2,526.51	2,915.20	3,498.24
Diddlebury	1,164.08	1,358.09	1,552.11	1,746.12	2,134.15	2,522.17	2,910.20	3,492.24
Ditton Priors	1,178.15	1,374.50	1,570.86	1,767.22	2,159.94	2,552.65	2,945.37	3,534.44
Donington & Boscobel	1,188.11	1,386.12	1,584.14	1,782.16	2,178.20	2,574.23	2,970.27	3,564.32
Eardington	1,173.77	1,369.39	1,565.02	1,760.65	2,151.91	2,543.16	2,934.42	3,521.30
Easthope, Shipton & Stanton Long	1,165.35	1,359.58	1,553.80	1,748.03	2,136.48	2,524.93	2,913.38	3,496.06
Eaton-Under-Heywood & Hope Bowdler	1,167.28	1,361.83	1,556.37	1,750.92	2,140.01	2,529.11	2,918.20	3,501.84
Edgton	1,160.58	1,354.01	1,547.44	1,740.87	2,127.73	2,514.59	2,901.45	3,481.74
Ellesmere Rural	1,176.46	1,372.54	1,568.61	1,764.69	2,156.84	2,549.00	2,941.15	3,529.38
Ellesmere Town	1,270.64	1,482.41	1,694.19	1,905.96	2,329.51	2,753.05	3,176.60	3,811.92
Farlow	1,164.60	1,358.70	1,552.80	1,746.90	2,135.10	2,523.30	2,911.50	3,493.80
Ford	1,202.29	1,402.68	1,603.06	1,803.44	2,204.20	2,604.97	3,005.73	3,606.88
Great Hanwood	1,198.71	1,398.49	1,598.28	1,798.06	2,197.63	2,597.20	2,996.77	3,596.12
Great Ness & Little Ness	1,192.19	1,390.89	1,589.59	1,788.29	2,185.69	2,583.09	2,980.48	3,576.58
Greete	1,147.20	1,338.40	1,529.60	1,720.80	2,103.20	2,485.60	2,868.00	3,441.60
Grinshill	1,190.89	1,389.37	1,587.85	1,786.33	2,183.29	2,580.25	2,977.22	3,572.66
Hadnall	1,173.65	1,369.25	1,564.86	1,760.47	2,151.69	2,542.90	2,934.12	3,520.94
Highley	1,231.95	1,437.28	1,642.60	1,847.93	2,258.58	2,669.23	3,079.88	3,695.86
Hinstock	1,186.27	1,383.98	1,581.69	1,779.40	2,174.82	2,570.24	2,965.67	3,558.80
Hodnet	1,178.78	1,375.24	1,571.71	1,768.17	2,161.10	2,554.02	2,946.95	3,536.34
Hope Bagot	1,159.64	1,352.91	1,546.19	1,739.46	2,126.01	2,512.55	2,899.10	3,478.92
Hopesay	1,189.29	1,387.50	1,585.72	1,783.93	2,180.36	2,576.79	2,973.22	3,567.86
Hopton Cangeford & Stoke St. Milborough	1,156.42	1,349.16	1,541.89	1,734.63	2,120.10	2,505.58	2,891.05	3,469.26
Hopton Castle	1,158.13	1,351.16	1,544.18	1,737.20	2,123.24	2,509.29	2,895.33	3,474.40
Hopton Wafers	1,169.88	1,364.86	1,559.84	1,754.82	2,144.78	2,534.74	2,924.70	3,509.64

Council Tax for Combined Shropshire Council and Parish/Town Councils 2024/25

Parish / Town Council	Band A £:p	Band B £:p	Band C £:p	Band D £:p	Band E £:p	Band F £:p	Band G £:p	Band H £:p
Hordley	1,179.37	1,375.93	1,572.49	1,769.05	2,162.17	2,555.29	2,948.42	3,538.10
Ightfield	1,193.62	1,392.56	1,591.49	1,790.43	2,188.30	2,586.18	2,984.05	3,580.86
Kemberton	1,169.36	1,364.25	1,559.15	1,754.04	2,143.83	2,533.61	2,923.40	3,508.08
Kinlet	1,164.24	1,358.28	1,552.32	1,746.36	2,134.44	2,522.52	2,910.60	3,492.72
Kinnerley	1,178.53	1,374.95	1,571.37	1,767.79	2,160.63	2,553.47	2,946.32	3,535.58
Knockin	1,225.25	1,429.46	1,633.67	1,837.88	2,246.30	2,654.72	3,063.13	3,675.76
Leebotwood & Longnor	1,178.65	1,375.09	1,571.53	1,767.97	2,160.85	2,553.73	2,946.62	3,535.94
Leighton & Eaton Constantine	1,180.64	1,377.41	1,574.19	1,770.96	2,164.51	2,558.05	2,951.60	3,541.92
Llanfair Waterdine	1,181.03	1,377.86	1,574.70	1,771.54	2,165.22	2,558.89	2,952.57	3,543.08
Llanyblodwel	1,178.70	1,375.15	1,571.60	1,768.05	2,160.95	2,553.85	2,946.75	3,536.10
Llanymynech & Pant	1,174.48	1,370.23	1,565.97	1,761.72	2,153.21	2,544.71	2,936.20	3,523.44
Longden	1,193.47	1,392.39	1,591.30	1,790.21	2,188.03	2,585.86	2,983.68	3,580.42
Loppington	1,159.11	1,352.29	1,545.48	1,738.66	2,125.03	2,511.40	2,897.77	3,477.32
Ludford	1,162.43	1,356.16	1,549.90	1,743.64	2,131.12	2,518.59	2,906.07	3,487.28
Ludlow Town	1,301.83	1,518.81	1,735.78	1,952.75	2,386.69	2,820.64	3,254.58	3,905.50
Lydbury North	1,181.57	1,378.50	1,575.43	1,772.36	2,166.22	2,560.08	2,953.93	3,544.72
Lydham & More	1,147.20	1,338.40	1,529.60	1,720.80	2,103.20	2,485.60	2,868.00	3,441.60
Mainstone & Colebatch	1,166.00	1,360.33	1,554.67	1,749.00	2,137.67	2,526.33	2,915.00	3,498.00
Market Drayton Town	1,235.24	1,441.11	1,646.99	1,852.86	2,264.61	2,676.35	3,088.10	3,705.72
Melverley	1,213.93	1,416.26	1,618.58	1,820.90	2,225.54	2,630.19	3,034.83	3,641.80
Milson & Neen Sollars	1,198.85	1,398.66	1,598.47	1,798.28	2,197.90	2,597.52	2,997.13	3,596.56
Minsterley	1,178.48	1,374.89	1,571.31	1,767.72	2,160.55	2,553.37	2,946.20	3,535.44
Montford	1,162.46	1,356.20	1,549.95	1,743.69	2,131.18	2,518.66	2,906.15	3,487.38
Moreton Corbet & Lee Brockhurst	1,157.65	1,350.59	1,543.53	1,736.47	2,122.35	2,508.23	2,894.12	3,472.94
Moreton Say	1,188.66	1,386.77	1,584.88	1,782.99	2,179.21	2,575.43	2,971.65	3,565.98
Morville, Acton Round, Aston Eyre, Monkhopon & Upton Cressett	1,167.67	1,362.28	1,556.89	1,751.50	2,140.72	2,529.94	2,919.17	3,503.00
Much Wenlock Town	1,291.52	1,506.77	1,722.03	1,937.28	2,367.79	2,798.29	3,228.80	3,874.56
Munslow	1,172.00	1,367.33	1,562.67	1,758.00	2,148.67	2,539.33	2,930.00	3,516.00
Myddle, Broughton & Harmer Hill	1,177.89	1,374.20	1,570.52	1,766.83	2,159.46	2,552.09	2,944.72	3,533.66
Myrdownton, Norbury, Ratlinghope & Wentnor	1,159.09	1,352.27	1,545.45	1,738.63	2,124.99	2,511.35	2,897.72	3,477.26
Nash	1,164.62	1,358.72	1,552.83	1,746.93	2,135.14	2,523.34	2,911.55	3,493.86
Neen Savage	1,174.35	1,370.08	1,565.80	1,761.53	2,152.98	2,544.43	2,935.88	3,523.06
Neenton	1,147.20	1,338.40	1,529.60	1,720.80	2,103.20	2,485.60	2,868.00	3,441.60
Newcastle	1,253.63	1,462.56	1,671.50	1,880.44	2,298.32	2,716.19	3,134.07	3,760.88
Norton-In-Hales	1,195.59	1,394.86	1,594.12	1,793.39	2,191.92	2,590.45	2,988.98	3,586.78
Onibury	1,171.01	1,366.18	1,561.35	1,756.52	2,146.86	2,537.20	2,927.53	3,513.04
Oswestry Rural	1,162.79	1,356.58	1,550.38	1,744.18	2,131.78	2,519.37	2,906.97	3,488.36
Oswestry Town	1,215.79	1,418.43	1,621.06	1,823.69	2,228.95	2,634.22	3,039.48	3,647.38
Pontesbury	1,250.61	1,459.04	1,667.48	1,875.91	2,292.78	2,709.65	3,126.52	3,751.82
Prees	1,163.43	1,357.33	1,551.24	1,745.14	2,132.95	2,520.76	2,908.57	3,490.28
Quatt Malvern	1,186.68	1,384.46	1,582.24	1,780.02	2,175.58	2,571.14	2,966.70	3,560.04
Richards Castle	1,176.33	1,372.39	1,568.44	1,764.50	2,156.61	2,548.72	2,940.83	3,529.00
Rushbury	1,167.45	1,362.03	1,556.60	1,751.18	2,140.33	2,529.48	2,918.63	3,502.36
Ruyton-XI-Towns	1,192.45	1,391.19	1,589.93	1,788.67	2,186.15	2,583.63	2,981.12	3,577.34
Ryton & Grindle	1,183.11	1,380.30	1,577.48	1,774.67	2,169.04	2,563.41	2,957.78	3,549.34
Selattyn & Gobowen	1,192.29	1,391.00	1,589.72	1,788.43	2,185.86	2,583.29	2,980.72	3,576.86
Shawbury	1,189.93	1,388.26	1,586.58	1,784.90	2,181.54	2,578.19	2,974.83	3,569.80
Sheriffhales	1,180.69	1,377.47	1,574.25	1,771.03	2,164.59	2,558.15	2,951.72	3,542.06
Shifnal Town	1,245.17	1,452.70	1,660.23	1,867.76	2,282.82	2,697.88	3,112.93	3,735.52
Shrewsbury Town	1,191.48	1,390.06	1,588.64	1,787.22	2,184.38	2,581.54	2,978.70	3,574.44
Sibdon Carwood	1,147.20	1,338.40	1,529.60	1,720.80	2,103.20	2,485.60	2,868.00	3,441.60
St. Martins	1,186.09	1,383.78	1,581.46	1,779.14	2,174.50	2,569.87	2,965.23	3,558.28
Stanton Lacy	1,166.06	1,360.40	1,554.75	1,749.09	2,137.78	2,526.46	2,915.15	3,498.18
Stanton-Upon-Hine Heath	1,178.99	1,375.49	1,571.99	1,768.49	2,161.49	2,554.49	2,947.48	3,536.98
Stockton	1,177.15	1,373.35	1,569.54	1,765.73	2,158.11	2,550.50	2,942.88	3,531.46
Stoke-Upon-Tern	1,175.29	1,371.17	1,567.05	1,762.93	2,154.69	2,546.45	2,938.22	3,525.86
Stottesdon & Sidbury	1,196.34	1,395.73	1,595.12	1,794.51	2,193.29	2,592.07	2,990.85	3,589.02
Stowe	1,151.85	1,343.83	1,535.80	1,727.78	2,111.73	2,495.68	2,879.63	3,455.56
Sutton Maddock	1,166.35	1,360.75	1,555.14	1,749.53	2,138.31	2,527.10	2,915.88	3,499.06
Sutton-Upon-Tern	1,161.27	1,354.82	1,548.36	1,741.91	2,129.00	2,516.09	2,903.18	3,483.82
Tasley	1,164.63	1,358.74	1,552.84	1,746.95	2,135.16	2,523.37	2,911.58	3,493.90
Tong	1,171.52	1,366.77	1,562.03	1,757.28	2,147.79	2,538.29	2,928.80	3,514.56
Uffington	1,200.75	1,400.87	1,601.00	1,801.12	2,201.37	2,601.62	3,001.87	3,602.24
Upton Magna	1,171.55	1,366.80	1,562.06	1,757.32	2,147.84	2,538.35	2,928.87	3,514.64
Welshampton & Lyneal	1,191.89	1,390.53	1,589.18	1,787.83	2,185.13	2,582.42	2,979.72	3,575.66
Wem Rural	1,175.64	1,371.58	1,567.52	1,763.46	2,155.34	2,547.22	2,939.10	3,526.92
Wem Town	1,278.11	1,491.13	1,704.15	1,917.17	2,343.21	2,769.25	3,195.28	3,834.34
West Felton	1,166.78	1,361.24	1,555.71	1,750.17	2,139.10	2,528.02	2,916.95	3,500.34
Westbury	1,175.89	1,371.87	1,567.85	1,763.83	2,155.79	2,547.75	2,939.72	3,527.66
Weston Rhyn	1,172.49	1,367.90	1,563.32	1,758.73	2,149.56	2,540.39	2,931.22	3,517.46
Weston-Under-Redcastle	1,188.40	1,386.47	1,584.53	1,782.60	2,178.73	2,574.87	2,971.00	3,565.20
Wheatthill	1,165.24	1,359.45	1,553.65	1,747.86	2,136.27	2,524.69	2,913.10	3,495.72
Whitchurch Rural	1,173.06	1,368.57	1,564.08	1,759.59	2,150.61	2,541.63	2,932.65	3,519.18
Whitchurch Town	1,254.00	1,463.00	1,672.00	1,881.00	2,299.00	2,717.00	3,135.00	3,762.00
Whittington	1,186.29	1,384.00	1,581.72	1,779.43	2,174.86	2,570.29	2,965.72	3,558.86
Whitton	1,147.20	1,338.40	1,529.60	1,720.80	2,103.20	2,485.60	2,868.00	3,441.60
Whixall	1,172.43	1,367.83	1,563.24	1,758.64	2,149.45	2,540.26	2,931.07	3,517.28
Wistanstow	1,171.97	1,367.30	1,562.63	1,757.96	2,148.62	2,539.28	2,929.93	3,515.92
Withington	1,186.90	1,384.72	1,582.53	1,780.35	2,175.98	2,571.62	2,967.25	3,560.70
Woore	1,180.64	1,377.41	1,574.19	1,770.96	2,164.51	2,558.05	2,951.60	3,541.92
Worfield & Rudge	1,166.47	1,360.88	1,555.29	1,749.70	2,138.52	2,527.34	2,916.17	3,499.40
Worthen with Shelve	1,173.82	1,369.46	1,565.09	1,760.73	2,152.00	2,543.28	2,934.55	3,521.46
Wroxeter & Uppington	1,167.42	1,361.99	1,556.56	1,751.13	2,140.27	2,529.41	2,918.55	3,502.26

Annex 1 Schedule C

Council Tax Bands A to H for Shropshire Council, Fire Authority, Police & Crime Commissioner and Parish/Town Councils 2024/25

Parish / Town Council	Band A £:p	Band B £:p	Band C £:p	Band D £:p	Band E £:p	Band F £:p	Band G £:p	Band H £:p
Abdon & Heath	1,408.53	1,643.28	1,878.04	2,112.79	2,582.30	3,051.80	3,521.32	4,225.58
Acton Burnell, Frodesley, Pitchford, Ruckley & Langley	1,424.72	1,662.16	1,899.62	2,137.07	2,611.98	3,086.87	3,561.79	4,274.14
Acton Scott	1,417.57	1,653.83	1,890.09	2,126.35	2,598.87	3,071.39	3,543.92	4,252.70
Adderley	1,460.11	1,703.46	1,946.81	2,190.16	2,676.86	3,163.56	3,650.27	4,380.32
Alberbury with Cardeston	1,430.96	1,669.44	1,907.94	2,146.43	2,623.42	3,100.39	3,577.39	4,292.86
Albrighton	1,487.70	1,735.65	1,983.60	2,231.55	2,727.45	3,223.34	3,719.25	4,463.10
All Stretton, Smethcott & Woolstaston	1,433.09	1,671.93	1,910.79	2,149.63	2,627.33	3,105.01	3,582.72	4,299.26
Alveley & Romsley	1,449.96	1,691.61	1,933.28	2,174.93	2,658.25	3,141.56	3,624.89	4,349.86
Ashford Bowdler	1,408.53	1,643.28	1,878.04	2,112.79	2,582.30	3,051.80	3,521.32	4,225.58
Ashford Carbonell	1,441.05	1,681.22	1,921.40	2,161.57	2,641.92	3,122.26	3,602.62	4,323.14
Astley	1,434.83	1,673.96	1,913.11	2,152.24	2,630.52	3,108.78	3,587.07	4,304.48
Astley Abbots	1,425.77	1,663.39	1,901.03	2,138.65	2,613.91	3,089.15	3,564.42	4,277.30
Aston Botterell, Burwarton & Cleobury North	1,446.18	1,687.21	1,928.24	2,169.27	2,651.33	3,133.38	3,615.45	4,338.54
Atcham	1,449.78	1,691.41	1,933.04	2,174.67	2,657.93	3,141.18	3,624.45	4,349.34
Badger	1,459.11	1,702.29	1,945.48	2,188.66	2,675.03	3,161.39	3,647.77	4,377.32
Barrow	1,437.06	1,676.56	1,916.08	2,155.58	2,634.60	3,113.61	3,592.64	4,311.16
Baschurch	1,437.47	1,677.04	1,916.63	2,156.20	2,635.36	3,114.50	3,593.67	4,312.40
Bayston Hill	1,479.15	1,725.67	1,972.20	2,218.72	2,711.77	3,204.81	3,697.87	4,437.44
Beckbury	1,452.63	1,694.73	1,936.84	2,178.94	2,663.15	3,147.35	3,631.57	4,357.88
Bedstone & Bucknell	1,470.23	1,715.26	1,960.31	2,205.34	2,695.42	3,185.48	3,675.57	4,410.68
Berrington	1,431.23	1,669.76	1,908.31	2,146.84	2,623.92	3,100.98	3,578.07	4,293.68
Bettws-Y-Crwyn	1,455.64	1,698.25	1,940.86	2,183.46	2,668.67	3,153.88	3,639.10	4,366.92
Bicton	1,429.31	1,667.52	1,905.75	2,143.96	2,620.40	3,096.82	3,573.27	4,287.92
Billingsley, Deuxhill, Glazeley & Middleton Scriven	1,439.08	1,678.92	1,918.77	2,158.61	2,638.30	3,117.98	3,597.69	4,317.22
Bishops Castle Town	1,598.78	1,865.24	2,131.71	2,398.17	2,931.10	3,464.02	3,996.95	4,796.34
Bitterley	1,424.02	1,661.36	1,898.70	2,136.03	2,610.70	3,085.37	3,560.05	4,272.06
Bomere Heath & District	1,426.50	1,664.24	1,902.00	2,139.74	2,615.24	3,090.73	3,566.24	4,279.48
Boningale	1,423.30	1,660.51	1,897.73	2,134.94	2,609.37	3,083.79	3,558.24	4,269.88
Boraston	1,413.12	1,648.64	1,884.16	2,119.68	2,590.72	3,061.75	3,532.80	4,239.36
Bridgnorth Town	1,522.70	1,776.48	2,030.27	2,284.05	2,791.62	3,299.18	3,806.75	4,568.10
Bromfield	1,431.98	1,670.63	1,909.30	2,147.96	2,625.29	3,102.60	3,579.94	4,295.92
Broseley Town	1,543.57	1,800.83	2,058.09	2,315.35	2,829.87	3,344.39	3,858.92	4,630.70
Buildwas	1,466.64	1,711.07	1,955.52	2,199.95	2,688.83	3,177.70	3,666.59	4,399.90
Burford	1,462.78	1,706.58	1,950.38	2,194.17	2,681.76	3,169.35	3,656.95	4,388.34
Cardington	1,433.13	1,671.98	1,910.84	2,149.69	2,627.40	3,105.10	3,582.82	4,299.38
Caynham	1,434.76	1,673.88	1,913.01	2,152.13	2,630.38	3,108.62	3,586.89	4,304.26
Chelmarsh	1,448.46	1,689.87	1,931.28	2,172.69	2,655.51	3,138.32	3,621.15	4,345.38
Cheswardine	1,446.80	1,687.93	1,929.07	2,170.20	2,652.47	3,134.73	3,617.00	4,340.40
Chetton	1,433.33	1,672.21	1,911.11	2,149.99	2,627.77	3,105.53	3,583.32	4,299.98
Childs Ercall	1,440.31	1,680.36	1,920.41	2,160.46	2,640.56	3,120.66	3,600.77	4,320.92
Chirbury with Brompton	1,432.86	1,671.66	1,910.48	2,149.28	2,626.90	3,104.51	3,582.14	4,298.56
Church Preen, Hughley & Kenley	1,429.23	1,667.43	1,905.64	2,143.84	2,620.25	3,096.65	3,573.07	4,287.68
Church Pulverbatch	1,423.12	1,660.31	1,897.50	2,134.68	2,609.05	3,083.42	3,557.80	4,269.36
Church Stretton & Little Stretton Town	1,557.85	1,817.49	2,077.13	2,336.77	2,856.05	3,375.33	3,894.62	4,673.54
Claverley	1,426.50	1,664.24	1,902.00	2,139.74	2,615.24	3,090.73	3,566.24	4,279.48
Clee St. Margaret	1,408.53	1,643.28	1,878.04	2,112.79	2,582.30	3,051.80	3,521.32	4,225.58
Cleobury Mortimer	1,485.16	1,732.69	1,980.22	2,227.74	2,722.79	3,217.84	3,712.90	4,455.48
Clive	1,455.89	1,698.53	1,941.19	2,183.83	2,669.13	3,154.41	3,639.72	4,367.66
Clun Town with Chapel Lawn	1,498.70	1,748.48	1,998.27	2,248.05	2,747.62	3,247.18	3,746.75	4,496.10
Clunbury	1,423.20	1,660.39	1,897.60	2,134.79	2,609.19	3,083.58	3,557.99	4,269.58
Clunbury	1,423.74	1,661.03	1,898.32	2,135.61	2,610.19	3,084.76	3,559.35	4,271.22
Cockshutt-cum-Petton	1,450.58	1,692.34	1,934.11	2,175.87	2,659.40	3,142.92	3,626.45	4,351.74
Condover	1,442.64	1,683.07	1,923.52	2,163.95	2,644.83	3,125.70	3,606.59	4,327.90
Coreley	1,445.97	1,686.96	1,927.96	2,168.95	2,650.94	3,132.92	3,614.92	4,337.90
Cound	1,432.90	1,671.71	1,910.53	2,149.34	2,626.97	3,104.59	3,582.24	4,298.68
Craven Arms Town	1,459.19	1,702.38	1,945.59	2,188.78	2,675.18	3,161.56	3,647.97	4,377.56
Cressage, Harley & Sheinton	1,454.06	1,696.39	1,938.74	2,181.08	2,665.77	3,150.44	3,635.14	4,362.16
Culmington	1,427.41	1,665.31	1,903.21	2,141.11	2,616.91	3,092.71	3,568.52	4,282.22
Diddlebury	1,425.41	1,662.97	1,900.55	2,138.11	2,613.25	3,088.37	3,563.52	4,276.22
Ditton Priors	1,439.48	1,679.38	1,919.30	2,159.21	2,639.04	3,118.85	3,598.69	4,318.42
Donington & Boscobel	1,449.44	1,691.00	1,932.58	2,174.15	2,657.30	3,140.43	3,623.59	4,348.30
Eardington	1,435.10	1,674.27	1,913.46	2,152.64	2,631.01	3,109.36	3,587.74	4,305.28
Easthope, Shipton & Stanton Long	1,426.68	1,664.46	1,902.24	2,140.02	2,615.58	3,091.13	3,566.70	4,280.04
Eaton-Under-Heywood & Hope Bowdler	1,428.61	1,666.71	1,904.81	2,142.91	2,619.11	3,095.31	3,571.52	4,285.82
Edgton	1,421.91	1,658.89	1,895.88	2,132.86	2,606.83	3,080.79	3,554.77	4,265.72
Ellesmere Rural	1,437.79	1,677.42	1,917.05	2,156.68	2,635.94	3,115.20	3,594.47	4,313.36
Ellesmere Town	1,531.97	1,787.29	2,042.63	2,297.95	2,808.61	3,319.25	3,829.92	4,595.90
Farlow	1,425.93	1,663.58	1,901.24	2,138.89	2,614.20	3,089.50	3,564.82	4,277.78
Ford	1,463.62	1,707.56	1,951.50	2,195.43	2,683.30	3,171.17	3,659.05	4,390.86
Great Hanwood	1,460.04	1,703.37	1,946.72	2,190.05	2,676.73	3,163.40	3,650.09	4,380.10
Great Ness & Little Ness	1,453.52	1,695.77	1,938.03	2,180.28	2,664.79	3,149.29	3,633.80	4,360.56
Greete	1,408.53	1,643.28	1,878.04	2,112.79	2,582.30	3,051.80	3,521.32	4,225.58
Grinshill	1,452.22	1,694.25	1,936.29	2,178.32	2,662.39	3,146.45	3,630.54	4,356.64
Hadnall	1,434.98	1,674.13	1,913.30	2,152.46	2,630.79	3,109.10	3,587.44	4,304.92
Highley	1,493.28	1,742.16	1,991.04	2,239.92	2,737.68	3,235.43	3,733.20	4,479.84
Hinstock	1,447.60	1,688.86	1,930.13	2,171.39	2,653.92	3,136.44	3,618.99	4,342.78
Hodnet	1,440.11	1,680.12	1,920.15	2,160.16	2,640.20	3,120.22	3,600.27	4,320.32
Hope Bagot	1,420.97	1,657.79	1,894.63	2,131.45	2,605.11	3,078.75	3,552.42	4,262.90
Hopesay	1,450.62	1,692.38	1,934.16	2,175.92	2,659.46	3,142.99	3,626.54	4,351.84
Hopton Cangeford & Stoke St. Milborough	1,417.75	1,654.04	1,890.33	2,126.62	2,599.20	3,071.78	3,544.37	4,253.24
Hopton Castle	1,419.46	1,656.04	1,892.62	2,129.19	2,602.34	3,075.49	3,548.65	4,258.38
Hopton Wafers	1,431.21	1,669.74	1,908.28	2,146.81	2,623.88	3,100.94	3,578.02	4,293.62

Council Tax Bands A to H for Shropshire Council, Fire Authority, Police & Crime Commissioner and Parish/Town Councils 2024/25

Parish / Town Council	Band A £:p	Band B £:p	Band C £:p	Band D £:p	Band E £:p	Band F £:p	Band G £:p	Band H £:p
Hordley	1,440.70	1,680.81	1,920.93	2,161.04	2,641.27	3,121.49	3,601.74	4,322.08
Ightfield	1,454.95	1,697.44	1,939.93	2,182.42	2,667.40	3,152.38	3,637.37	4,364.84
Kemberton	1,430.69	1,669.13	1,907.59	2,146.03	2,622.93	3,099.81	3,576.72	4,292.06
Kinlet	1,425.57	1,663.16	1,900.76	2,138.35	2,613.54	3,088.72	3,563.92	4,276.70
Kinnerley	1,439.86	1,679.83	1,919.81	2,159.78	2,639.73	3,119.67	3,599.64	4,319.56
Knockin	1,486.58	1,734.34	1,982.11	2,229.87	2,725.40	3,220.92	3,716.45	4,459.74
Leebotwood & Longnor	1,439.98	1,679.97	1,919.97	2,159.96	2,639.95	3,119.93	3,599.94	4,319.92
Leighton & Eaton Constantine	1,441.97	1,682.29	1,922.63	2,162.95	2,643.61	3,124.25	3,604.92	4,325.90
Llanfair Waterdine	1,442.36	1,682.74	1,923.14	2,163.53	2,644.32	3,125.09	3,605.89	4,327.06
Llanyblodwel	1,440.03	1,680.03	1,920.04	2,160.04	2,640.05	3,120.05	3,600.07	4,320.08
Llanymnech & Pant	1,435.81	1,675.11	1,914.41	2,153.71	2,632.31	3,110.91	3,589.52	4,307.42
Longden	1,454.80	1,697.27	1,939.74	2,182.20	2,667.13	3,152.06	3,637.00	4,364.40
Loppington	1,420.44	1,657.17	1,893.92	2,130.65	2,604.13	3,077.60	3,551.09	4,261.30
Ludford	1,423.76	1,661.04	1,898.34	2,135.63	2,610.22	3,084.79	3,559.39	4,271.26
Ludlow Town	1,563.16	1,823.69	2,084.22	2,344.74	2,865.79	3,386.84	3,907.90	4,689.48
Lydbury North	1,442.90	1,683.38	1,923.87	2,164.35	2,645.32	3,126.28	3,607.25	4,328.70
Lydham & More	1,408.53	1,643.28	1,878.04	2,112.79	2,582.30	3,051.80	3,521.32	4,225.58
Mainstone & Colebatch	1,427.33	1,665.21	1,903.11	2,140.99	2,616.77	3,092.53	3,568.32	4,281.98
Market Drayton Town	1,496.57	1,745.99	1,995.43	2,244.85	2,743.71	3,242.55	3,741.42	4,489.70
Melverley	1,475.26	1,721.14	1,967.02	2,212.89	2,704.64	3,196.39	3,688.15	4,425.78
Milson & Neen Sollars	1,460.18	1,703.54	1,946.91	2,190.27	2,677.00	3,163.72	3,650.45	4,380.54
Minsterley	1,439.81	1,679.77	1,919.75	2,159.71	2,639.65	3,119.57	3,599.52	4,319.42
Montford	1,423.79	1,661.08	1,898.39	2,135.68	2,610.28	3,084.86	3,559.47	4,271.36
Moreton Corbet & Lee Brockhurst	1,418.98	1,655.47	1,891.97	2,128.46	2,601.45	3,074.43	3,547.44	4,256.92
Moreton Say	1,449.99	1,691.65	1,933.32	2,174.98	2,658.31	3,141.63	3,624.97	4,349.96
Morville, Acton Round, Aston Eyre, Monkhopton & Upton Cressett	1,429.00	1,667.16	1,905.33	2,143.49	2,619.82	3,096.14	3,572.49	4,286.98
Much Wenlock Town	1,552.85	1,811.65	2,070.47	2,329.27	2,846.89	3,364.49	3,882.12	4,658.54
Munslow	1,433.33	1,672.21	1,911.11	2,149.99	2,627.77	3,105.53	3,583.32	4,299.98
Myddle, Broughton & Harmer Hill	1,439.22	1,679.08	1,918.96	2,158.82	2,638.56	3,118.29	3,598.04	4,317.64
Myrdtown, Norbury, Ratlinghope & Wentnor	1,420.42	1,657.15	1,893.89	2,130.62	2,604.09	3,077.55	3,551.04	4,261.24
Nash	1,425.95	1,663.60	1,901.27	2,138.92	2,614.24	3,089.54	3,564.87	4,277.84
Neen Savage	1,435.68	1,674.96	1,914.24	2,153.52	2,632.08	3,110.63	3,589.20	4,307.04
Neenton	1,408.53	1,643.28	1,878.04	2,112.79	2,582.30	3,051.80	3,521.32	4,225.58
Newcastle	1,514.96	1,767.44	2,019.94	2,272.43	2,777.42	3,282.39	3,787.39	4,544.86
Norton-In-Hales	1,456.92	1,699.74	1,942.56	2,185.38	2,671.02	3,156.65	3,642.30	4,370.76
Onibury	1,432.34	1,671.06	1,909.79	2,148.51	2,625.96	3,103.40	3,580.85	4,297.02
Oswestry Rural	1,424.12	1,661.46	1,898.82	2,136.17	2,610.88	3,085.57	3,560.29	4,272.34
Oswestry Town	1,477.12	1,723.31	1,969.50	2,215.68	2,708.05	3,200.42	3,692.80	4,431.36
Pontesbury	1,511.94	1,763.92	2,015.92	2,267.90	2,771.88	3,275.85	3,779.84	4,535.80
Prees	1,424.76	1,662.21	1,899.68	2,137.13	2,612.05	3,086.96	3,561.89	4,274.26
Quatt Malvern	1,448.01	1,689.34	1,930.68	2,172.01	2,654.68	3,137.34	3,620.02	4,344.02
Richards Castle	1,437.66	1,677.27	1,916.88	2,156.49	2,635.71	3,114.92	3,594.15	4,312.98
Rushbury	1,428.78	1,666.91	1,905.04	2,143.17	2,619.43	3,095.68	3,571.95	4,286.34
Ruyton-XI-Towns	1,453.78	1,696.07	1,938.37	2,180.66	2,665.25	3,149.83	3,634.44	4,361.32
Ryton & Grindle	1,444.44	1,685.18	1,925.92	2,166.66	2,648.14	3,129.61	3,611.10	4,333.32
Selattyn & Gobowen	1,453.62	1,695.88	1,938.16	2,180.42	2,664.96	3,149.49	3,634.04	4,360.84
Shawbury	1,451.26	1,693.14	1,935.02	2,176.89	2,660.64	3,144.39	3,628.15	4,353.78
Sheriffhales	1,442.02	1,682.35	1,922.69	2,163.02	2,643.69	3,124.35	3,605.04	4,326.04
Shifnal Town	1,506.50	1,757.58	2,008.67	2,259.75	2,761.92	3,264.08	3,766.25	4,519.50
Shrewsbury Town	1,452.81	1,694.94	1,937.08	2,179.21	2,663.48	3,147.74	3,632.02	4,358.42
Sibdon Carwood	1,408.53	1,643.28	1,878.04	2,112.79	2,582.30	3,051.80	3,521.32	4,225.58
St. Martins	1,447.42	1,688.66	1,929.90	2,171.13	2,653.60	3,136.07	3,618.55	4,342.26
Stanton Lacy	1,427.39	1,665.28	1,903.19	2,141.08	2,616.88	3,092.66	3,568.47	4,282.16
Stanton-Upon-Hine Heath	1,440.32	1,680.37	1,920.43	2,160.48	2,640.59	3,120.69	3,600.80	4,320.96
Stockton	1,438.48	1,678.23	1,917.98	2,157.72	2,637.21	3,116.70	3,596.20	4,315.44
Stoke-Upon-Tern	1,436.62	1,676.05	1,915.49	2,154.92	2,633.79	3,112.65	3,591.54	4,309.84
Stottesdon & Sidbury	1,457.67	1,700.61	1,943.56	2,186.50	2,672.39	3,158.27	3,644.17	4,373.00
Stowe	1,413.18	1,648.71	1,884.24	2,119.77	2,590.83	3,061.88	3,532.95	4,239.54
Sutton Maddock	1,427.68	1,665.63	1,903.58	2,141.52	2,617.41	3,093.30	3,569.20	4,283.04
Sutton-Upon-Tern	1,422.60	1,659.70	1,896.80	2,133.90	2,608.10	3,082.29	3,556.50	4,267.80
Tasley	1,425.96	1,663.62	1,901.28	2,138.94	2,614.26	3,089.57	3,564.90	4,277.88
Tong	1,432.85	1,671.65	1,910.47	2,149.27	2,626.89	3,104.49	3,582.12	4,298.54
Uffington	1,462.08	1,705.75	1,949.44	2,193.11	2,680.47	3,167.82	3,655.19	4,386.22
Upton Magna	1,432.88	1,671.68	1,910.50	2,149.31	2,626.94	3,104.55	3,582.19	4,298.62
Welshampton & Lyneal	1,453.22	1,695.41	1,937.62	2,179.82	2,664.23	3,148.62	3,633.04	4,359.64
Wem Rural	1,436.97	1,676.46	1,915.96	2,155.45	2,634.44	3,113.42	3,592.42	4,310.90
Wem Town	1,539.44	1,796.01	2,052.59	2,309.16	2,822.31	3,335.45	3,848.60	4,618.32
West Felton	1,428.11	1,666.12	1,904.15	2,142.16	2,618.20	3,094.22	3,570.27	4,284.32
Westbury	1,437.22	1,676.75	1,916.29	2,155.82	2,634.89	3,113.95	3,593.04	4,311.64
Weston Rhyn	1,433.82	1,672.78	1,911.76	2,150.72	2,628.66	3,106.59	3,584.54	4,301.44
Weston-Under-Redcastle	1,449.73	1,691.35	1,932.97	2,174.59	2,657.83	3,141.07	3,624.32	4,349.18
Wheatthill	1,426.57	1,664.33	1,902.09	2,139.85	2,615.37	3,090.89	3,566.42	4,279.70
Whitchurch Rural	1,434.39	1,673.45	1,912.52	2,151.58	2,629.71	3,107.83	3,585.97	4,303.16
Whitchurch Town	1,515.33	1,767.88	2,020.44	2,272.99	2,778.10	3,283.20	3,788.32	4,545.98
Whittington	1,447.62	1,688.88	1,930.16	2,171.42	2,653.96	3,136.49	3,619.04	4,342.84
Whitton	1,408.53	1,643.28	1,878.04	2,112.79	2,582.30	3,051.80	3,521.32	4,225.58
Whixall	1,433.76	1,672.71	1,911.68	2,150.63	2,628.55	3,106.46	3,584.39	4,301.26
Wistanstow	1,433.30	1,672.18	1,911.07	2,149.95	2,627.72	3,105.48	3,583.25	4,299.90
Withington	1,448.23	1,689.60	1,930.97	2,172.34	2,655.08	3,137.82	3,620.57	4,344.68
Woore	1,441.97	1,682.29	1,922.63	2,162.95	2,643.61	3,124.25	3,604.92	4,325.90
Worfield & Rudge	1,427.80	1,665.76	1,903.73	2,141.69	2,617.62	3,093.54	3,569.49	4,283.38
Worthen with Shelve	1,435.15	1,674.34	1,913.53	2,152.72	2,631.10	3,109.48	3,587.87	4,305.44
Wroxeter & Uppington	1,428.75	1,666.87	1,905.00	2,143.12	2,619.37	3,095.61	3,571.87	4,286.24

Parish and Town Council Precepts

Parish / Town Council	2023/24			2024/25			Band D Change Increase/(Decrease) %
	Taxbase	Precepts	Band D Council Tax	Taxbase	Precepts	Band D Council Tax	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Abdon & Heath	113.70	0.00	-	115.66	0.00	-	-
Acton Burnell, Frodesley, Pitchford, Ruckley & Langley	267.72	6,500.00	24.28	271.74	6,598.00	24.28	0.00
Acton Scott	43.08	600.00	13.93	44.25	600.00	13.56	(2.66)
Adderley	212.06	16,407.00	77.37	207.32	16,040.00	77.37	0.00
Alberbury with Cardeston	410.96	9,500.00	23.12	416.21	14,000.00	33.64	45.50
Albrighton	1,652.81	183,750.00	111.17	1,678.81	199,368.00	118.76	6.83
All Stretton, Smethcott & Woolstaston	177.34	6,660.00	37.55	180.78	6,660.00	36.84	(1.89)
Alveley & Romsley	876.95	54,809.00	62.50	882.00	54,809.00	62.14	(0.58)
Ashford Bowdler	38.14	0.00	-	38.86	0.00	-	-
Ashford Carbonell	182.84	8,425.00	46.08	194.76	9,500.00	48.78	5.86
Astley	207.89	7,155.00	34.42	206.74	8,155.00	39.45	14.61
Astley Abbots	249.48	6,357.00	25.48	251.36	6,500.00	25.86	1.49
Aston Bottrell, Burwarton & Cleobury North	114.79	7,000.00	60.98	115.09	6,500.00	56.48	(7.38)
Atcham	224.34	13,882.00	61.88	227.01	14,047.00	61.88	0.00
Badger	58.68	4,023.00	68.55	60.63	4,600.00	75.87	10.68
Barrow	265.12	11,000.00	41.49	268.73	11,500.00	42.79	3.13
Baschurch	1,189.60	51,635.00	43.41	1,230.39	53,406.00	43.41	0.00
Bayston Hill	1,820.52	182,825.45	100.42	1,860.21	197,059.44	105.93	5.49
Beckbury	152.96	10,000.00	65.38	151.17	10,000.00	66.15	1.18
Bedstone & Bucknell	320.34	28,050.00	87.56	325.83	30,155.00	92.55	5.70
Berrington	481.27	16,389.00	34.05	536.13	18,257.00	34.05	0.00
Bettws-Y-Crwyn	94.53	6,500.00	68.76	91.98	6,500.00	70.67	2.78
Bicton	557.00	14,746.00	26.47	473.03	14,746.00	31.17	17.76
Billingsley, Deuxhill, Glazeley & Middleton Scriven	163.70	7,500.00	45.82	168.35	7,713.00	45.82	0.00
Bishops Castle Town	668.20	160,000.00	239.45	683.30	195,000.00	285.38	19.18
Bitterley	357.64	8,124.00	22.72	360.13	8,367.72	23.24	2.29
Bomere Heath & District	896.78	23,261.00	25.94	906.30	24,421.00	26.95	3.89
Boningale	142.60	3,140.00	22.02	141.78	3,140.00	22.15	0.59
Boraston	77.99	500.00	6.41	76.25	525.00	6.89	7.49
Bridgnorth Town	4,648.91	723,978.00	155.73	4,660.39	798,161.00	171.26	9.97
Bromfield	122.92	4,250.00	34.58	120.84	4,250.00	35.17	1.71
Broseley Town	1,590.93	319,303.00	200.70	1,576.35	319,303.00	202.56	0.93
Buildwas	107.21	9,228.00	86.07	114.73	10,000.00	87.16	1.27
Burford	457.65	24,200.00	52.88	460.90	37,510.00	81.38	53.90
Cardington	209.56	7,260.00	34.64	211.37	7,800.00	36.90	6.52
Caynham	533.75	21,000.00	39.34	547.53	21,542.00	39.34	0.00
Chelmarsh	238.22	14,271.00	59.90	232.62	13,936.00	59.90	0.00
Cheswardine	403.94	23,191.00	57.41	407.37	23,388.00	57.41	0.00
Chetton	163.08	6,000.00	36.79	169.37	6,300.00	37.20	1.11
Childs Erroll	307.34	13,587.00	44.21	307.84	14,674.00	47.67	7.83
Chirbury with Brompton	341.17	12,323.00	36.12	341.09	12,446.00	36.49	1.02
Church Preen, Hughley & Kenley	127.90	4,000.00	31.27	128.81	4,000.00	31.05	(0.70)
Church Pulverbatch	166.74	3,825.00	22.94	174.70	3,825.00	21.89	(4.58)
Church Stretton & Little Stretton Town	2,190.09	447,537.00	204.35	2,215.31	496,176.00	223.98	9.61
Claverley	936.15	25,231.00	26.95	934.28	25,181.00	26.95	0.00
Clee St. Margaret	70.25	0.00	-	71.56	0.00	-	-
Cleobury Mortimer	1,224.85	117,892.00	96.25	1,217.97	140,000.00	114.95	19.43
Clive	252.03	16,495.00	65.45	247.89	17,610.00	71.04	8.54
Clun Town with Chapel Lawn	514.05	62,000.00	120.61	517.52	70,000.00	135.26	12.15
Clunbury	253.52	5,500.00	21.69	250.03	5,500.00	22.00	1.43
Clungrunford	158.93	3,800.00	24.21	157.75	3,600.00	22.82	(5.74)
Cockshutt-cum-Petton	326.59	20,600.00	63.08	323.03	20,375.00	63.08	0.00
Condover	931.37	45,821.00	49.20	940.43	48,112.00	51.16	3.98
Coreley	140.72	7,440.00	52.87	139.06	7,810.00	56.16	6.22
Count	211.36	6,756.00	31.96	212.20	7,756.00	36.55	14.36
Craven Arms Town	822.38	62,483.00	75.98	839.43	63,788.00	75.99	0.01
Cressage, Harley & Sheinton	420.84	28,174.00	66.95	419.46	28,644.00	68.29	2.00
Culmington	172.34	4,864.96	28.23	177.98	5,040.10	28.32	0.32
Diddlebury	288.11	6,660.00	23.12	296.19	7,500.00	25.32	9.52
Ditton Priors	363.40	16,000.00	44.03	366.22	17,000.00	46.42	5.43
Donington & Boscobel	609.84	36,390.00	59.67	612.76	37,599.00	61.36	2.83
Eardington	246.11	10,000.00	40.63	250.91	10,000.00	39.85	(1.92)
Easthope, Shipton & Stanton Long	205.31	4,600.00	22.41	206.98	5,637.00	27.23	21.51
Eaton-Under-Heywood & Hope Bowdler	180.99	5,588.00	30.87	185.55	5,588.00	30.12	(2.43)
Edgton	48.93	902.00	18.44	51.82	1,040.00	20.07	8.84
Ellesmere Rural	992.64	42,500.00	42.82	1,002.30	43,986.85	43.89	2.50
Ellesmere Town	1,524.77	261,412.19	171.44	1,537.51	284,683.68	185.16	8.00
Farlow	188.14	5,000.00	26.58	191.54	5,000.00	26.10	(1.81)
Ford	331.12	25,104.00	75.82	332.68	27,494.00	82.64	8.99
Great Hanwood	430.74	33,278.00	77.26	437.55	33,804.00	77.26	0.00
Great Ness & Little Ness	565.24	32,291.00	57.13	570.68	38,516.00	67.49	18.13
Greete	48.74	0.00	-	51.12	0.00	-	-
Grinshill	114.57	7,150.00	62.41	116.07	7,606.00	65.53	5.00
Hadnall	378.90	14,631.00	38.61	384.01	15,233.00	39.67	2.75
Highley	1,126.95	137,244.30	121.78	1,133.50	144,106.52	127.13	4.39
Hinstock	554.79	30,098.00	54.25	554.62	32,500.00	58.60	8.02
Hodnet	596.56	26,893.00	45.08	596.08	28,237.00	47.37	5.08
Hope Bagot	29.82	550.00	18.44	29.47	550.00	18.66	1.19
Hopesay	244.87	14,782.00	60.37	255.83	16,150.00	63.13	4.57
Hopton Cangeford & Stoke St. Milborough	165.95	2,295.00	13.83	168.93	2,336.00	13.83	0.00
Hopton Castle	39.85	668.00	16.76	40.72	668.00	16.40	(2.15)
Hopton Wafers	303.68	9,900.00	32.60	305.52	10,393.00	34.02	4.36

Parish / Town Council	2023/24			2024/25			Band D Change Increase/(Decrease) %
	Taxbase	Precepts £	Band D Council Tax £	Taxbase	Precepts £	Band D Council Tax £	
Hordley	107.75	4,791.00	44.46	104.61	5,047.00	48.25	8.52
Ightfield	214.12	14,500.00	67.72	221.88	15,450.00	69.63	2.82
Kemberton	116.88	3,740.00	32.00	120.42	4,003.00	33.24	3.88
Kinlet	420.00	10,554.00	25.13	437.63	11,186.00	25.56	1.71
Kinnerley	523.50	24,600.00	46.99	536.11	25,193.00	46.99	0.00
Knockin	144.45	16,620.00	115.06	148.31	17,364.00	117.08	1.76
Leebotwood & Longnor	205.39	9,000.00	43.82	201.41	9,500.00	47.17	7.64
Leighton & Eaton Constantine	208.53	9,500.00	45.56	206.60	10,363.00	50.16	10.10
Llanfair Waterdine	108.51	4,500.00	41.47	108.39	5,500.00	50.74	22.35
Llanyblodwel	268.70	12,000.00	44.66	267.73	12,650.00	47.25	5.80
Llanymynech & Pant	690.74	28,000.00	40.54	698.90	28,600.00	40.92	0.94
Longden	544.61	37,472.00	68.81	559.74	38,853.00	69.41	0.87
Loppington	285.22	4,267.00	14.96	286.72	5,120.00	17.86	19.39
Ludford	409.88	9,420.00	22.98	412.40	9,420.00	22.84	(0.61)
Ludlow Town	3,532.64	773,395.00	218.93	3,551.11	823,696.00	231.95	5.95
Lydbury North	230.24	11,723.00	50.92	232.75	12,000.00	51.56	1.26
Lydham & More	134.32	0.00	-	138.18	0.00	-	-
Mainstone & Colebatch	89.18	1,000.00	11.21	88.66	2,500.00	28.20	151.56
Market Drayton Town	4,138.99	546,579.00	132.06	4,196.58	554,184.00	132.06	0.00
Melverley	52.96	4,802.00	90.67	52.53	5,258.00	100.10	10.40
Milson & Neen Sollars	120.71	9,268.35	76.78	119.63	9,268.35	77.48	0.91
Minsterley	602.94	26,000.00	43.12	618.08	29,000.00	46.92	8.81
Montford	257.62	6,000.00	23.29	262.13	6,000.00	22.89	(1.72)
Moreton Corbet & Lee Brockhurst	142.06	2,300.00	16.19	146.74	2,300.00	15.67	(3.21)
Moreton Say	211.91	13,178.00	62.19	217.34	13,516.00	62.19	0.00
Morville, Acton Round, Aston Eyre, Monkhoppton & Upton Cressett	380.49	12,000.00	31.54	390.90	12,000.00	30.70	(2.66)
Much Wenlock Town	1,239.16	249,532.00	201.37	1,271.68	275,287.00	216.48	7.50
Munslow	178.44	5,633.00	31.57	177.95	6,620.24	37.20	17.83
Myddle, Broughton & Harmer Hill	634.68	29,250.00	46.09	635.45	29,250.00	46.03	(0.13)
Myrdtown, Norbury, Ratlinghope & Wentnor	272.71	4,862.00	17.83	272.54	4,859.00	17.83	0.00
Nash	139.44	3,450.00	24.74	140.86	3,680.00	26.13	5.62
Neen Savage	157.57	6,000.00	38.08	159.57	6,500.00	40.73	6.96
Neerton	64.91	0.00	-	62.51	0.00	-	-
Newcastle	134.16	9,400.00	70.07	131.21	20,947.00	159.64	127.83
Norton-in-Hales	348.20	24,934.00	71.61	346.20	25,130.00	72.59	1.37
Onibury	132.77	4,744.00	35.72	133.60	4,774.00	35.72	0.00
Oswestry Rural	1,691.22	34,522.00	20.41	1,693.41	39,600.00	23.38	14.55
Oswestry Town	5,429.41	486,000.00	89.51	5,445.71	560,300.00	102.89	14.95
Pontesbury	1,391.54	207,780.00	149.32	1,426.04	221,188.00	155.11	3.88
Prees	1,176.75	27,804.48	23.63	1,205.58	29,343.00	24.34	3.00
Quatt Malvern	102.26	6,047.00	59.13	102.11	6,047.00	59.22	0.15
Richards Castle	142.71	5,000.00	35.04	137.29	6,000.00	43.70	24.71
Rushbury	274.01	8,100.00	29.56	279.80	8,500.00	30.38	2.77
Ruyton-XI-Towns	460.30	31,920.00	69.35	470.33	31,920.00	67.87	(2.13)
Ryton & Grindle	177.37	3,970.00	51.31	80.45	4,334.00	53.87	4.99
Selattyn & Gobowen	1,360.84	92,028.00	67.63	1,375.78	93,038.00	67.63	0.00
Shawbury	911.68	58,850.00	64.55	918.10	58,850.00	64.10	(0.70)
Sheriffhales	324.24	16,962.00	52.31	337.66	16,962.00	50.23	(3.98)
Shifnal Town	3,219.48	525,548.50	145.20	3,605.10	529,814.00	146.96	1.21
Shrewsbury Town	26,402.73	1,670,237.00	63.26	26,648.74	1,770,089.00	66.42	5.00
Sibdon Carwood	48.69	0.00	-	50.41	0.00	-	-
St. Martins	993.37	57,948.00	58.34	1,002.42	58,476.00	58.34	0.00
Stanton Lacy	169.38	4,304.00	25.41	165.35	4,677.00	28.29	11.33
Stanton-Upon-Hine Heath	250.53	11,563.00	46.15	249.72	11,910.00	47.69	3.34
Stockton	130.91	5,628.00	42.99	136.39	6,128.00	44.93	4.51
Stoke-Upon-Tern	508.57	21,426.00	42.13	509.46	21,463.00	42.13	0.00
Stottesdon & Sidbury	342.75	24,000.00	70.02	352.74	26,000.00	73.71	5.27
Stowe	48.21	690.00	14.31	50.15	350.00	6.98	(51.22)
Sutton Maddock	109.64	3,150.00	28.73	115.89	3,330.00	28.73	0.00
Sutton-Upon-Tern	423.53	8,086.00	19.09	417.57	8,814.00	21.11	10.58
Tasley	419.00	10,410.00	24.84	418.05	10,930.00	26.15	5.27
Tong	127.31	4,550.00	35.74	129.72	4,732.00	36.48	2.07
Uffington	125.87	0.00	-	125.61	10,089.00	80.32	100.00
Upton Magna	152.86	5,268.00	34.47	152.91	5,584.00	36.52	5.95
Weishampton & Lyneal	387.89	26,000.00	67.03	393.02	26,344.00	67.03	0.00
Wem Rural	702.05	28,926.00	41.20	705.12	30,083.04	42.66	3.54
Wem Town	2,027.65	380,394.00	187.60	2,037.01	400,000.00	196.37	4.67
West Felton	587.64	17,261.00	29.37	603.79	17,735.00	29.37	0.00
Westbury	525.10	14,366.00	27.36	529.18	22,770.00	43.03	57.27
Weston Rhyn	882.68	34,000.00	38.52	896.47	34,000.00	37.93	(1.53)
Weston-Under-Redcastle	122.04	6,700.00	54.90	119.75	7,400.00	61.80	12.57
Wheatthill	80.70	1,800.00	22.30	81.29	2,200.00	27.06	21.35
Whitchurch Rural	669.47	25,966.00	38.79	692.98	26,878.00	38.79	0.00
Whitchurch Town	3,454.03	556,730.00	161.18	3,506.54	561,732.00	160.20	(0.61)
Whittington	987.29	55,665.52	56.38	1,010.88	59,265.25	58.63	3.99
Whitton	63.56	0.00	-	57.53	0.00	-	-
Whixall	339.40	11,801.00	34.77	340.40	12,880.00	37.84	8.83
Wistanstow	335.07	12,450.00	37.16	332.60	12,358.00	37.16	0.00
Withington	106.28	6,028.00	56.72	109.07	6,495.00	59.55	4.99
Woore	613.55	31,537.00	51.40	623.06	31,250.00	50.16	(2.41)
Worfield & Rudge	930.26	24,437.00	26.27	939.91	27,160.10	28.90	10.01
Worthen with Shelve	825.21	37,928.00	45.96	823.87	32,900.00	39.93	(13.12)
Wroxeter & Uppington	164.83	5,095.00	30.91	167.99	5,095.00	30.33	(1.88)
Parish / Town Council Total / Average	118,106.08	10,155,575.75	85.99	119,191.17	10,830,554.29	90.87	5.68

Pay and Reward Policy Statement For All Council Staff 2024-2025

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- i) Appendix A – Shropshire Council Pay Scales (NJC Staff)
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Summary

Shropshire Council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. The pay policy details our approach to managing pay and reward in a way which supports the aims and objectives of the organisation.

This policy applies to all council staff, excluding schools where a separate policy exists.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Shropshire Council has a clear written policy on wages and salaries to ensure that all staff employed at the Council are rewarded fairly, without discrimination, for the work they do.
- 1.2 This policy applies to all council employees, including Executive Directors and the Chief Executive, as well as fixed term and temporary employees and casual workers.
- 1.3 With the exception of;
 - 1.3.1 Employees on teachers' pay & conditions and educational support staff (employed directly by the school and subject to the School Staffing (England))

Regulations (2009)) who are covered separately by the Schools Model Pay Policy.

1.3.2 Unattached Teachers on Teachers Pay and Conditions who are covered separately by the Unattached Teachers Pay Policy.

1.4 This policy does not apply to contractors, consultants, agency workers or any self-employed individuals working for the council.

1.2 When reviewing the pay policy, Trade Union Representatives will be consulted as appropriate and their views considered when deciding the respective elements of the pay policy.

1.3 Shropshire Council recognises that pay is not the only means of rewarding and supporting staff, and endeavours to ensure that all staff have good working conditions, regular access to appropriate development and training opportunities, and other forms of financial and non-financial reward.

1.4 This policy aims to reflect:-

- pay and grading underpinned by job evaluation (where a scheme exists)
- fairness and equality of opportunity
- the need to encourage and enable people to perform to the best of their ability
- the need to recruit and retain skilled, experienced, and qualified staff in a competitive market

1.5 Shropshire Council's employment offer includes a wider range of benefits alongside pay

- access to learning and development
- access to local government pension scheme
- flexible working where this fits business needs
- performance management which incorporates smart objectives and behaviours
- access to a range of benefits offered through 'Shropshire Rewards'
- carrying out work which is of public value and contributes to making Shropshire a great place to live and work.

1.6 To make these principles work, Shropshire Council needs remuneration arrangements which:-

- are based on a clear and rational process for setting and reviewing the pay of employees;
- provide a pay framework and levels of remuneration which are sufficiently flexible and reasonably competitive, taking account of relevant benchmarking, and market related pay data at local and national level;
- enable the Council to recruit and retain employees with the required skills, knowledge and experience; and

- which are affordable by the Council and support the provision of good quality public services.
- 1.7 Shropshire Council will make this policy and any related procedures available to all staff, ensuring that any concerns, complaints or formal appeals about its application are managed promptly, fairly and objectively.
 - 1.8 Shropshire Council wishes to ensure that development and promotion opportunities, where possible, are available to all employees.
 - 1.9 Shropshire Council will not promote staff through the grading system nor use other pay mechanisms in order to improve an employee's pension entitlement.

2.0 Legal Framework

2.1 The primary legislation governing equal pay is the Equalities Act 2010 and subsequent amendments. This requires employers to ensure that men and women in the same employment, carrying out equivalent work (as defined below), receive the same level of pay. The following terms are contained in Equal Pay Legislation:

- ‘Like work’ is defined as work which is the same or broadly similar
- ‘Work rated as equivalent’ is defined as work which has achieved the same or similar number of points under a job evaluation scheme.
- ‘Work of equal value’ is defined as work which is broadly equal in value when compared under headings such as effort, skill and decision-making responsibility.

2.2 In addition, indirect discrimination has been incorporated into equal pay as a result of case law in the UK and Europe. Indirect discrimination may arise when the pay policy has a disproportionate impact on one particular sex.

2.3 Differences in pay may be justified where it is established that the difference is for a genuine and material reason which is not related to gender.

2.4 From April 2018 all employers with more than 250 employees are required to report on the Gender Pay Gap. This information is published on Shropshire Council’s website.

3.0 Definitions

3.1 For the purposes of this policy and in line with legislation, pay is defined by Article 141 of the Treaty of Rome as:

The ordinary basic or minimum wage or salary and any other consideration, whether in cash or kind, which the worker receives, directly or indirectly, in respect of his (or her) employment from his (or her) employer.

3.2 Pay therefore includes allowances, pensions, discretionary bonuses, annual leave and sick pay, as well as other non-financial benefits such as vocational training.

3.3 Chief Officer means the Head of Paid Service - Chief Executive, Executive Director of People, Executive Director of Place, Executive Director of Resources, Executive Director of Health Wellbeing and Prevention and Assistant Directors. For further details of the Council’s delegations to officers including delegations to Chief Officers, see Part 8 of the Council’s Constitution or follow the link below:

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/legal-and-democratic-services/our-constitution/>

4.0 Principles

4.1 Pay Structures

- 4.1.1. Shropshire Council's pay structure is currently split across three sectors, described below. The pay range for a large proportion of staff is based on the NJC framework for Local Government Services (the Green Book). The national pay spine applies for posts on Grades 1 to Band 15.
- 4.1.2 All other pay related allowances are the subject of either nationally or locally negotiated rates, having been determined from time to time in accordance with collective bargaining mechanism and/or as determined by Council Policy.
- 4.1.3 In determining its grading structure and setting remuneration levels for all posts, the Council takes account of the need to ensure value for money in respect of the use of public expenditure, balanced against the need to recruit and retain employees who are able to meet the requirements of commissioning or provide high quality services to the community, delivered effectively and efficiently and at the times at which those services are required.
- 4.1.4 The Council faces significant challenges in attracting, recruiting and retaining talent. The use of market supplements, additional payments and agency staff has increased over the years but are subject to regular reviews.
- 4.1.5 The NJC pay award for 1 April 2023 experienced long and protracted negotiations between National Employers and trade unions. Final agreement in November 2023 saw an increase of £1,925 per annum on all pay scale points from Grade 1 (scp2) to Band 13 (scp43), for Band 14 and Band 15 (scp44 to scp53) an increase of 3.88% from 1 April 2023.
- 4.1.6 Implementation of the changes to the pay structure took place in December, back dated to April 2023.
- 4.1.7 At the time of writing this policy National negotiations for April 2024 NJC pay award are to commence. The likely % pay award isn't fully known.
- 4.1.8 Equal opportunity considerations; pay and conditions will apply equally to employees working full-time and part-time in accordance with the Part-time Employment (Prevention of Less Favourable Treatment) Regulations 2000.

See Appendix A for current pay scales for Grade1 to Band 15.

4.2 Pay Range – Grades 1 to 10

- 4.2.1. For the majority of its staff, Shropshire Council operates a Grade 1 to 10 pay structure, ranging from spinal column point (scp) 1 to scp 28. The Shropshire grading structure has been developed through the local application of the National Joint Council (NJC) Job Evaluation Scheme. The NJC Scheme is designed for application within local authorities and provides a mechanism for

reviewing the duties and responsibilities of posts to determine the appropriate grade.

4.2.2. Salary on recruitment in all pay ranges should be set at a level within the range consistent with attracting and securing the appointment of good calibre people. Flexibility exists to pay a higher incremental point or a higher salary within the range for both recruitment and retention purposes. Such practice must be made within budgetary arrangements and take account of equality implications.

4.2.3. The lowest remuneration for Council employees is Grade 1, scp 1 £22,366 p.a at 1 April 2023.

4.3 Pay Ranges –Banded Posts

4.3.1. From scp 29 £37,336 p.a. Shropshire Council has a Banded grading structure in place. These posts require a high level of technical competence or have significant management responsibility.

4.3.2. The structure has five abutting bands (Band 11 to Band 15). Each band contains five spinal column points. The structure was developed by means of benchmarking existing job/roles using the Monks Job Evaluation Scheme, as agreed with the trade unions.

4.3.4 As outlined in 4.1.7 the April 2024 pay award is pending.

4.4 Pay Ranges – Chief Officer Grades

4.4.1 Senior management are defined for this purpose as the Chief Executive and Chief Officers (as defined under the Localism Act 2011 Part One Chapter 8, section 43(2), Government and Housing Act 1989 2(8), and for the avoidance of doubt include Executive Directors and Directors, statutory chief officers and non-statutory chief officers mentioned in section 2 (6) and (7) of the act. Senior management grades are locally agreed salary scales, which are reviewed annually having regard to the JNC pay award for Local Authority Chief Executives and Chief Officers and market conditions. The senior management pay structure is shown in section 4.4.3

4.4.2. A review by the Local Government Association (LGA) was undertaken and posts were job evaluated using the LGA Scheme for Chief Officers in the summer of 2018.

4.4.3 April 2023 rates were agreed by Council on 21st September 2023 are shown below and take account of the positions detailed in 4.8.2.

Grade	Min 2023	Max 2023	Job Title
C1		£167,142.78	Chief Executive
C2	£134,112.70	£145,122.73	Executive Director
C3	£117,597.66	£123,102.67	Director

C4	£101,082.62	£106,587.63	Assistant Director
C5	£90,072.59	£95,577.60	Head of Service
C6	£73,557.55	£84,567.58	Service Manager

4.4.4 In relation to the termination of the employment of Chief Officers, the council will consider making such payments, having regard to the law, the council's constitution, and where it is in the council's best interests. This will take into account any potential risks and liabilities to the council, including any legal costs, disruption to services, and impact on employee relations and management time. The council will only make special severance payments in exceptional circumstances where the application is fair, proportionate, lawful and demonstrates value for money for the taxpayer. Special severance payments will be defined by, and considered, in accordance with the statutory guidance issued under section 26 of the Local Government Act 1999. Refer to section 4.14 termination of employment.

4.5 Other Pay Schemes

4.5.1 Shropshire Council has a small number of employees on other nationally determined pay scales and conditions, including:

- Soulbury (teaching staff now in Education Improvement Roles)
- NHS (TUPE staff only)

4.5.2 These pay schemes are used to give greater flexibility to meet particular service needs and assist in recruitment and retention of appropriately qualified and experienced staff within the respective sectors.

4.6 Salary Progression

Grade 1 to Band 15 (scp 1 to scp 53)/Chief Officer Grades

4.6.1. Increments are usually due on the 1st April each year, or 6 months after appointment where the employee has been in the post for less than 6 months by 1st April, i.e. if the employee is appointed between 01st October and 31st March the increment will be paid after 6 months in post and then annually on the 1st April thereafter up to the maximum SCP within the grade

4.6.2. Posts are usually advertised within salary bands with annual increments, and where the top of the salary band advertised represents the maximum incremental point within that pay range. Appointments are normally made at the minimum of the pay range, unless there is an objectively justifiable reason e.g. the candidate's previous experience or difficulties in recruiting at the lowest pay point. However, the advice of Human Resources must be sought in these cases, to ensure equality issues have been considered.

4.6.3. Incremental progression (for posts on NJC for Local Government Services terms and conditions) up to Band 14 within the pay range for the job takes place

until the maximum scp of the job is achieved. Thereafter the employee is only eligible to receive the annual cost of living award as negotiated by the appropriate bodies and implemented by the council

4.6.4 For Band 15 and Chief Officer Grades (C Grade), progression through the grade will be dependent upon individuals meeting objectives set through review at annual appraisals. There is no automatic incremental progression.

4.6.5. **Accelerated Increments**

4.6.5.1 The salary of an employee may be accelerated within the grade on the grounds of special merit or ability, by up to two increments, provided that the maximum of the grade is not exceeded. The additional benefit of increments granted in this way is not carried over on the regrading of the post or on the employee's promotion to a higher graded post.

4.6.6. **Additional Increments**

4.6.6.1 Up to two additional increments may be granted to employees (graded on an NJC grade) beyond the normal maximum of the grade of the post to which they are appointed.

4.6.6.2 The award of up to two additional increments may only be made to employees who have consistently achieved a high level of performance and who have made a significant contribution to the Council's work.

4.6.6.3 All employees who have completed 35 years of service will be considered, but not automatically accepted for the additions.

4.6.6.4 At any one time, the number of employees receiving additional increments shall not exceed 3% of the number of full-time employees employed under the conditions of service to which the scheme applies.

4.6.7. **Honoraria**

4.6.7.1. An employee, who for any reason other than the annual leave of another employee is called upon at the request of their Directorate to undertake the full duties and responsibilities of a higher graded post for a continuous period of at least four weeks, is entitled to be paid in accordance with the grading of the post temporarily occupied. The salary to be paid in such circumstances is the salary that would apply if the employee were promoted to the higher graded post. Once the qualifying period of four weeks has been satisfied the higher salary will be paid with effect from the first day on which the employee was required to undertake the full duties and responsibilities of the higher post.

4.6.7.2. In any case where there is no automatic entitlement to a higher salary the Council may consider granting an honorarium (of an amount dependent upon the circumstances of each case) to an employee who performs duties outside the scope of his post over an extended period or where the additional duties and responsibilities involved are exceptionally onerous.

4.6.8. **Ex Gratia Payments**

4.6.8.1. The principal purpose of the ex-gratia payments scheme is to maintain the goodwill of staff who have suffered personal loss during the course of their duties and where no provision exists for the claim to be referred to the council's Insurers.

4.7 Chief Officer Grade

4.7.1 New appointments will normally commence on the bottom of the salary band or on an 'entry salary' within the bottom 10% of the salary band. However, this may be adjusted to take account of previous experience and remuneration.

4.7.2. Any additional payment within the Chief Officer Grade will be based on performance in relation to the achievement of objectives and on meeting the behavioural competences set.

4.8 Pay Review

4.8.1. Grades 1 to Band 15 are reviewed in line with the National Pay Award for Local Government staff, as described in 4.1.1

4.8.2 Shropshire Council's Chief Officer Grades are locally determined and not subject to national pay negotiations by the JNC for Chief Executives and Chief Officers in Local Authorities. Pay levels consider any cost of living increase negotiated nationally by the JNC for Chief Officers of Local Authorities Conditions of Services. There are no automatic cost of living increases and any adjustments to the pay band range are based on affordability, market forces and full Council approval.

4.8.3 Employees are able to request re-evaluations of the grade of their post where they believe that work duties have substantially altered. All re-evaluation requests will be graded using the council's JE scheme in line with the job evaluation and grading policy that provides the right of appeal against any grade outcomes. Where a manager or employee led job evaluation request results in a grade increase the appointment will be made at the bottom of the grade or at the minimum point of advantage.

4.9 Market Supplement

4.9.1. Basic pay may be supplemented by a market supplement which reflects the current national or regional rate for the nature of the post, provided this can be supported by researched market evidence.

4.9.2. Any Market Supplements are reviewed annually and can be adjusted or removed in line with market changes.

4.10. Recruitment and Retention Payments

4.10.1 The Executive Director of Resources has delegated powers under Shropshire Council's Constitution to introduce and maintain employee benefits, other than the provision of cars, where these are likely to assist with recruitment and retention and where the costs can be found within existing budgets.

4.11 Pay Data

4.11.1. Shropshire Council will obtain up to date local, regional and, if appropriate, national pay data to inform decision making on local pay awards and market levels, alongside, other relative factors e.g. labour turnover rates.

4.12 Allowances

- **Sick pay**

- During 1st year of service 1 month's full pay

- During 2nd year of service 2 months' full pay

- During 3rd year of service 4 months' full pay

- During 4th and 5th years of service 5 months' full pay

- After 5 years of service 6 months' full pay

- **Overtime**

- Time off in lieu (TOIL) will be given as a first priority for all additional hours worked, rather than overtime. Additional hours / overtime, which are not eligible for an enhancement (for night, weekend or public holiday work), will be paid at plain time.

- **Subsistence**

Subsistence payments for reimbursement of the cost of breakfast and evening meal are made when an employee is required to stay away from their home overnight on Council business, on production of appropriate receipted evidence of such expenditure.

- **Annual Leave**

Annual leave entitlement from April 2023 was nationally increased by an additional day (pro-rata for part-time staff) as part of the pay award for 2022. Shropshire has a locally agreed annual leave entitlement and following agreement with the trade union entitlements will increase in line with the national agreement. Flat rate scheme of 28 days (207 hours) annual leave plus bank holidays, with 5 days (33 days, 244 hours) extra awarded to those staff with 5 years local government service. 2 days of an employee's allowance (pro-rata for part-time staff) must be taken at Christmas for any potential Christmas closures.

Where a service operates at this time, the 2 days (pro-rata for part-time staff) are added to leave entitlement to be used during the year.

- **Office Hours / Annualised Hours**

The public opening hours for Shropshire Council are 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday and 8am to 1pm on a Saturday. All staff are subject to Annualised Hours, i.e. they are contracted to work a set number of hours over a year, not a fixed working week, with working patterns designed in line with the Council's Flexible Working Hours policy.

- **Callout/Standby**

Payments are made to reflect the unsociability of working in particular circumstances, where an employee is recalled to work at short notice. These are locally agreed.

- **Relocation**

Shropshire Council may provide relocation assistance to new recruits as part of the employment package; this is offered on an exceptional basis to attract candidates to hard to fill roles. The Council does not make payments to employees to reflect the costs of increased travel to work if the employee's work location changes. Approval of relocation assistance is delegated to the Executive Director of Resources

- **Salary Protection**

Shropshire Council operates salary protection arrangements in a range of circumstances including:

- where an employee has been at risk of redundancy and is successfully redeployed to another post at a lower salary (within 15%)
- Where an employee has been redeployed to another lower graded post due to a disability or health related issue
- Where as a result of a restructuring or grading review/ job evaluation process the grade of the post is reduced

In these circumstances the employee will receive pay protection (based on the level of pay but not hours of work). Protection normally applies for a period of up to 12 months.

- **Car Allowances**

Employees using their cars, electric cars, motor cycles or cycles for the efficient performance of their duties, which have been agreed by their line manager, will be eligible to receive an allowance in line with HMRC Approved Mileage rates as follows

Cars/electric cars Up to 10,000 miles (in each financial year April to March) – 45p per mile. Over 10,000 miles (in each financial year April to March) – 25p per mile

Motor Cycle 24p per mile

Cycles 45p per miles for the first 10,000 miles (for cycles, reimbursement above 20p per mile is liable for income tax)

4.14 Termination of Employment

4.14.1. In relation to the termination of employment, the Council will have due regard to making any appropriate payments where it is in the Council's best interests. Any such payments will be in accordance with contractual or statutory requirements and take into account the potential risks and liabilities to the Council, including any legal costs, disruption to services, impact on employee relations and management time. This is consistent with the risk management practices of well governed organisations in private, public and voluntary/charitable sectors.

4.14.2 Where a severance package (not including employee statutory entitlements) is payable the following approval process is put in place:

- Payments in excess of £100,000, the decision to award such package will be made by full Council.
- Payments of £20,000 and above, but below £100,000, must be personally approved and signed off by the Head of Paid Service; with a clear record of the Leader's approval and that of any others who have signed off the payment in accordance with the local authority's scheme of delegation.
- Payments below £20,000 must be approved according to the local authority's scheme of delegation.

4.14.5 Appropriate HR, legal and financial advice will be sought and considered in respect of all special severance payments. Where it is thought appropriate, the council's external auditors will be consulted in relation to substantial severance packages

4.14.6 In addition to the Special Severance Payments authorisation policy and process detailed in this section (18) and in accordance with the statutory guidance on Special Severance Payments, the council's S151 Officer and Monitoring Officer

will take a close interest in and be able to justify any Special Severance Payments made by the council and in particular any payments that are made that are not consistent with the statutory guidance.

4.14.7 Where the proposed payment is to the Head of Paid Service, to avoid a conflict of interest it is expected that the payment should be approved by the Leader and full council.

4.14.8 It is the Council's policy not to re-employ any chief officer who was previously made redundant from the authority / received any other severance payment, or later engage them under a contract for service or interim contract except under exceptional circumstances

5.0 Notice Periods

5.1 The contractual period of notice required to be given to an employee to terminate their employment, and that required of them on resignation, will be clearly stated in the terms of their appointment. The following local scheme on contractual notice periods has been adopted for NJC employees:-

Those graded up to and including Grade 8	1 month
Those graded Grades 9 and 10 (scp 23-28) inclusive	2 months'
Those graded Band 11 (scp 29-33)	2 months'
Those graded Band 12 (scp 34-38)	3 months'
Those graded Band 13 (scp 39-43)	3 months'
Those graded Band 14 (scp 44-48)	3 months'
Those graded Band 15 (scp 49-53)	3 months'

5.2 The contractual notice period for Chief Officers is 3 months.

5.3. The statutory provisions relating to minimum periods of notice to be given by the employer to any employee are as contained in the Employment Rights Act 1996

Period of continuous employment - Minimum notice

One month or more but less than 2 years	Not less than 1 week
Two years or more but less than 12 years	1 week for each year of continuous service
12 years or more	Not less than 12 weeks

5.4 The employer's obligation to the employee under the contractual notice agreed must always be read against any additional notice required to be given to the employee under the statutory grade. Therefore, an employee with one month's contractual notice entitlement, with 5 years' service, will be entitled to five weeks statutory notice on the termination of their employment by the Council and an additional week's notice for each additional year's service up to a maximum of 12 weeks' notice.

6.0 Pensions

6.1 All Council employees are entitled to join the Local Government Pension scheme (LGPS) which is offered by Local Government Employers. Staff eligible for membership of the LGPS will automatically become a member of the "scheme" in accordance with the Auto Enrolment Regulations. Employees have the right to decide to opt out of the "scheme" by following the required process. The benefits and contributions payable under the Fund are set out in the Local Government Pension Scheme (Benefits, Membership and Contributions) Regulations 2013. Appendix B provides details of Shropshire Council's Pensions and Retirement Policy and Appendix C details of the Council's Redundancy and Compensation Policy.

6.2 The current level of contribution to the scheme by employees effective from 1 April 2023 is as follows, based on actual pensionable pay:

If your pay is:	Main section contribution rate:	50/50 section contribution rate:
Up to £16,500	5.50%	2.75%
£16,501 to £25,900	5.80%	2.90%
£25,901 to £42,100	6.50%	3.25%
£42,101 to £53,300	6.80%	3.40%
£53,301 to £74,700	8.50%	4.25%
£74,701 to £105,900	9.90%	4.95%
£105,901 to £124,800	10.50%	5.25%

£124,801 to £187,200	11.40%	5.70%
£187,201 or more	12.50%	6.25%

The contribution band will be assessed using the actual pensionable pay plus any pensionable extra payments.

7.0 Chief Officer Pay

- 7.1. The salary levels of Chief Officers (to 3rd tier) on appointment is set by elected members, at the relevant committee of the council. The salary details for Chief Officers are published at:
<https://shropshire.gov.uk/open-data/datasets/senior-salary-information/>

This information has been published since October 2010 in the interests of openness and transparency and shows levels of remuneration for Chief Officers for the previous financial year. The definition of Chief Officer is contained in paragraph 3.3 above.

- 7.2 Under Regulation 4 of the Accounts and Audit (Amendment No2) (England) Regulations 2009 [SI 2009 No.3322] the Council has a legal requirement to report the remuneration of senior employees as part of its published salaries information. This requirement is reinforced under section 38 (1) of the Localism Act 2011, which requires the Council to produce a pay policy statement on an annual basis.
- 7.3 The relationship between the rate of pay for the lowest paid Council employees and the chief officers' is determined by the processes used for determining pay and grading structures as set out earlier in this policy statement. The statutory guidance under the Localism Act recommends the use of pay multiples as a means of measuring the relationship between pay rates across the workforce and that of senior managers, as included within the Hutton review 'Review of Fair Pay in the Public Sector' 2010. The Government supports the case for a fixed limit on dispersion of pay, through a requirement that no public sector manager can earn more than 20 times the lowest paid person in the organisation. The Hutton report concluded that the relationship to median earnings was a more relevant measure and the Government's Code of Recommended Practice on Data Transparency recommends the publication of the ratio between the highest paid salary and the median average salary of the authority's workforce.
- 7.4 The remuneration of the most senior manager within Shropshire Council, the Chief Executive is £167,142.78 (at 1 April 2023). The median basic remuneration for a full-time equivalent employee of Shropshire Council is £28,770.00 per annum. The mean basic pay, based on 3,789 posts ranging in pay from the Chief Executive remuneration to Grade 1 (scp 1 - £22,366), is £33,464.59. The current pay multiple from top to bottom of the organisation is

1:8. The ratio from the median pay to the Chief Executive pay is 1:6, which is well within the limits outlined in the Hutton Review.

7.5 Chief Officers do not receive bonuses.

7.6 All Chief Officers are eligible for the same Car Allowance as outlined for all employees in section 4.12 above.

7.7 All Chief Officers are currently entitled to the same annual leave entitlement as outlines for all employees in section 4.12 above.

7.8 The Council will have regard to the specific legal requirements which apply to the termination of employment of the Head of Paid Service, the Section 151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer as its Statutory Officers in accordance with Part 4 of the Standing Orders relating to staff.

8.0 Accountability and Decision Making on Remuneration and Reward

8.1 The Council's Cabinet has powers delegated to it in accordance with Section 3 of the Constitution, to make decisions on major policy matters affecting the council as a whole and to make decisions which have significant service or resource implications across the Council as a whole. This includes significant locally determined changes to staff terms and conditions and remuneration.

8.2 The Employees' Joint Consultative Committee which consists of Trade union representatives and Members is constituted to agree changes to employee terms and conditions, such as changes to allowances, mileage, and annual leave, subject to ratification by Cabinet and, where the decision has significant financial implications, by full Council.

8.3 In accordance with the Council's constitution the Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive) has delegated powers to approve the grading and regrading of posts (covered by NJC for Local Government Service, Soulbury and Youth and Community Worker Conditions of Service) where the grade maximum is Band 15 or above (or equivalent). Chief Officers have authority to approve changes to the grading of posts (covered by NJC for Local Government Service, Soulbury and Youth and Community Worker Conditions of Service), taking account of job evaluation outcomes for posts covered by these schemes and subject to financial provision for the current and future years being available, and the proposed maximum of the grade being below Band 15 (or equivalent).

8.4 New appointments to Chief Executive, Executive Director, Director, Assistant Director positions are by member appointment. The appointment to the Chief Executive role will also be subject to approval of full Council.

9.0 Review of the Policy

9.1 This policy will be subject to annual review and amendment, taking account of legislation, external best practise, internal data on recruitment and retention and external pay data etc.

APPENDIX A
April 2023

Grade	SCP	Hourly Rate	Per annum
Grade 1	2	11.59	22,366
Grade 2	3	11.79	22,737
Grade 3	4	11.98	23,114
Grade 4	5	12.18	23,500
Grade 5	6	12.38	23,893
	7	12.59	24,294
Grade 6	8	12.80	24,702
	9	13.02	25,119
	10	13.24	25,545
	11	13.47	25,979
Grade 7	12	13.69	26,421
	13	not in use	not in use
	14	14.17	27,334
	15	14.41	27,803
	16	not in use	not in use
	17	14.91	28,770
Grade 8	18	not in use	not in use
	19	15.43	29,777
	20	15.70	30,296
	21	not in use	not in use
	22	16.26	31,364

Grade 9	23	16.63	32,076
	24	17.12	33,024
	25	17.59	33,945
Grade 10	26	18.06	34,834
	27	18.53	35,745
	28	19.00	36,648
Band 11	29	19.35	37,336
	30	19.81	38,223
	31	20.31	39,186
	32	20.85	40,221
	33	21.47	41,418
Band 12	34	21.98	42,403
	35	22.51	43,421
	36	23.03	44,428
	37	23.55	45,441
	38	24.08	46,464
Band 13	39	24.58	47,420
	40	25.13	48,474
	41	25.66	49,498
	42	26.18	50,512
	43	26.70	51,515
Band 14	44	27.25	52,579
	45	27.80	53,638

	46	28.52	55,022
	47	28.87	55,704
	48	29.42	56,751
Band 15	49	29.97	57,813
	50	30.50	58,852
	51	31.04	59,891
	52	31.59	60,955
	53	32.15	62,018

NB: hourly rate calculated by dividing annual salary by 52.143 weeks (which is 365 days divided by 7) and then divided by 37 hours, then rounded to nearest 1p

Appendix B

Pensions and Retirement Policy

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Appendix 1 – Flexible Retirement Process Flow

Appendix 2 – Flexible Retirement Request Manager Report

1.0 Statement of Purpose/Objective

In supporting one of our core values of promoting diversity, Shropshire Council no longer applies compulsory retirement at age 65. An early and flexible retirement age is provided as part of enhancing of the employment policies. This is to ensure that Shropshire Council's retirement policy meets the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010.

2.0 Scope

This policy is effective from April 2014, as a result of the changes in LGPS Regulation.

This policy applies to all Shropshire Council employees, other than those employed by schools, for which a separate policy will apply.

3.0 Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 The Responsibilities of Managers

3.1.1 Managers have a statutory duty to ensure that all employees approaching retirement age are informed of Shropshire Council's retirement policy, 6 to 12 months prior to an employee reaching the age of 65. They are also required to be aware of the flexible retirement provisions.

3.2 The Responsibilities of Employees

3.2.1 Employees are responsible for deciding whether or not they wish to be a member of the pension scheme and for taking the necessary actions to request the transfer in of any other scheme membership as outlined in this policy. They are also responsible for following the relevant processes outlined below in respect of pension transfers, early retirement or flexible retirement.

4.0 Pensions

4.1 Pension Auto-enrolment

The government has introduced new regulations to encourage more people in the UK to save for their retirement and require employers (both private and public sector) to automatically enrol employees' into a 'qualifying pension scheme'. The Shropshire Pension Scheme is classified as a 'qualifying scheme'.

Employees who have previously opted out of the Pension Scheme, and who are eligible (please see below) for auto enrolment on 1 February 2013, will not be auto enrolled until 1 October 2017 due to a transitional delay.

4.1.2 Eligibility criteria for auto enrolment?

Criteria set by the government means that you will be eligible for auto enrolment if you:-

- are aged 22 or over, and are below state pension age, and
- are paid more than Pension Regulator threshold, which is subject to change each year in line with inflation.

4.1.3 How does this affect you?

Under the Pension Regulations, employees can join the scheme at any time.

If you are currently a member of the Pension Scheme, you will still receive correspondents (for each of your posts) regarding auto-enrolment as the Authority is required by legislation to keep you informed about how this affect you or the Scheme.

If you are not currently a member of the Scheme, and you meet the eligibility criteria on 1st February 2013, you will be automatically enrolled into the LGPS on 1 October 2017. You will receive correspondence from Pensions Services advising you of this. You will have the right to opt out if you wish

You may also be auto enrolled in the following circumstances: -

- a) If you change your role or take on an additional role.
- b) If you become eligible for auto enrolment after 1 February 2013. You will be auto enrolled into the Scheme from the date you become eligible.

So, for example, if your 22nd birthday falls after 1 February 2013, and you are paid more than Pension Regulator threshold you will be auto enrolled from your 22nd birthday.

Likewise, if you are paid more than the Pension Regulator threshold and you meet the age criteria, you will be auto enrolled from the first of the month that your pay increases over that threshold.

If you are auto enrolled, Pension Services will write and advise you of this. You do have the option to opt out of the Scheme if you wish. Forms for this purpose are available on the County Pension Scheme Website.

4.2 Joining the Pension Scheme and Contribution Rates

4.2.1 Employees will automatically become a member of the pension scheme, unless one of the following applies: -

- Unless in a post in which the employee is required to join another public sector scheme, e.g. teachers
- Employed as a casual worker, in which case, if you have worked for us for three consecutive months or more, you are not already in the LGPS and you meet the eligibility criteria detailed in section 4.1.2, you will be written to advising you that we will be applying the transitional delay. If you have worked on a casual basis for less than three consecutive months, you'll be written to advising you that we'll postpone auto enrolment until you have worked for three months, but that you have the right to opt into the LGPS at any time.
- Whereby the offer of employment, and subsequent contract does not exceed three months – You'll be written to advising you that auto enrolment will be postponed for three months, but that you have the right to opt into the LGPS at any time. If your contract is then extended beyond three months, you will be

auto enrolled into the LGPS if you are not already a member and you meet the eligibility criteria detailed in section 4.1.2.

- Where the employee has written to Shropshire Pension Fund to confirm they do not want to be a member of the pension scheme. This can only be done once employment with the organisation has commenced.
- Employees aged 75 or over.

4.2.2 Bandings

The contribution table for 2023/24, effective from 1st April 2023. An employee pays a percent of their actual pay, each month, into their pension account, according to the pay bands and contribution rates. Please refer to the Shropshire Pensions website for the current [pay bands and contribution rates](#).

The contribution band will be assessed using the actual pensionable salary plus any pensionable extra payments.

For term time staff, the actual pensionable salary will be based on the actual pensionable salary across the term time week's only, plus any pensionable extras.

Any fee earning staff will be assessed on the previous year's earnings to 31st March or part year if the individual is not employed for the whole year.

The salary figures detailed in the table above will increase on 1st April each year by the rise in the Consumer Price Index.

4.2.3 –Reassessment of Banding

The Council will re-assess bandings for all employees every April, with the exception of the following:

- Promotion or permanent/long term honoraria payments
- Down-grading or demotion
- A re-grading exercise

All of the above will prompt an immediate reassessment.

4.2.4 The Council will not re-assess pension contribution bandings after a back dated pay award.

4.2.5 Individual Pension contribution banding can be found on your payslip accessed through ERP. To access your payslip, please log into the ERP and navigate to;

Your Employment > Personnel Information

Once this screen has loaded up, click on the blue paper clip in the top right hand corner of the screen.

To see previous payslips easily, at the top of the new screen, change view to 'List' and click in the relevant pay slip.

4.2.6 Any appeal against a decision regarding an employees pension contribution banding, or any other decision relating to an employees rights or liabilities under the scheme, will be as detailed in paragraph 9.1 below.

4.2.7 All payments in respect of the job carried out by the employee are pensionable, save for the following exclusions:

- Any sum which has not had income tax liability determined on it
- Any expenses incurred in carrying out the duties of the role
- Any payment made in consideration of loss of holidays
- Any payment in lieu of notice to terminate the contract of employment
- Any retention payment made in order not to terminate the contract
- Any amount paid in relation to the provision of a motor vehicle or any amount in lieu of
- Any payment in consideration of loss of future pensionable payment or benefits
- Any award of compensation for the purposes of achieving equal pay in relation to other employees
- Any payment made by the Authority to a member of staff on reserve forces service leave
- Returning Officer (or acting) fees other than those paid in respect of local government elections, elections for the National Assembly of Wales, Parliamentary Elections or European Parliamentary Elections.

4.2.8 In addition to pensionable contributions, an employee is able to pay additional pension contributions (APC). There is no minimal payment, although the maximum is £7,579 per annum (figure at 1 April 2023) per annum. Advice on this is available from the Pensions team (see paragraph 11.1 below).

4.3 Those scheme members wishing to voluntarily draw benefits on or after 55 and before 60, the 85 year rule will not be applied by the Authority in this circumstance, except in circumstances where the Council considers it is in its financial or operational interests to do so. For those employees would have to meet any strain on fund cost via an actuarial reduction applied to their pension.

85 year rule is a very complex area and individuals considering retirement should contact Shropshire County Pension Fund for clarification as to whether, and if so how, protections apply to their pension benefits.

4.4 50:50 Option

4.4.1 This option allows employees to contribute half the normal contribution rates to the pension scheme, yet still provides the full death in service benefit.

4.4.2 The intention is that this option allows those who wish to join the scheme, but can't afford to pay the full contribution rates, as a "stepping stone" into the scheme.

4.4.3 Should you wish to remain in this option longer term, you will be required to opt out of the full contribution rate scheme every three years and re-join the 50:50 option

4.4.4 The employer will pay the same contribution rates as members paying the full contribution rates.

4.4.5 For new employees to the Council who wish to join the 50:50 option, you must elect to pay reduced contributions as a 50:50 member. You are only allowed to do this once you have started your employment with the Council.

4.4.5 Should you elect to join the 50:50 option, please refer to the Shropshire County Pension Scheme website where you are able to find the application form.

4.4.6 The switch to the 50:50 option will only take effect from the next available pay period and not the date that the application form has been completed.

4.4.7 The Pension Scheme will provide you with information regarding how joining the 50:50 option will impact on your benefits.

4.5 Transferring Pension into the Shropshire Pension Fund

4.5.1 Employees may choose to transfer other pension rights into the Shropshire Pension Scheme. Advice on this is available from the Pensions Team (see paragraph 11.1 below).

4.5.2 Transfers between Local Government Pensions Funds will happen automatically, unless the employee requests for this not to happen.

4.5.2 The request to transfer pension rights as per section 4.4.1, or in the event of 4.4.2 the employee then decides to transfer other Local Government Pension Fund benefits, should normally be made within 12 months of the employee starting employment with Shropshire Council.

4.5.3 In exceptional circumstances, where an employee can demonstrate good cause, they may seek an extension to the first twelve months by up to a further 12 months before making a decision on making an application to transfer their pension rights subject to confirmation from their Executive Director that they are not likely to retire, or be subject to ill-health retirement in the near future. Please note that this provision is **discretionary** and in **all instances**, the employee should write to the Head of Human Resources requesting an extension to the twelve months, detailing any extenuating circumstances. The Assistant Director Workforce and Improvement will be the first stage approval, with the Pension Fund having to also agree to the transfer.

4.5.4 Any appeal against a decision not to allow an employee to transfer pension rights, or any other decision relating to an employee's rights or liabilities under the scheme, will be as detailed in paragraph 9.1 below.

4.5.5 Relevant employees (those who have AVC contracts taken out prior to 13th November 2001) at retirement may request to transfer in AVCs (Additional Voluntary

Contributions). Requests should be made within 1 month of retiring; however this may be extended to 3 months to allow for administrative procedures.

4.6 Awarding extra Annual Pension

4.6.1 As a result of the changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2014, Augmentation (also known as “Added Years”) will no longer be permitted as part of the Scheme. The option for the employer to grant extra annual pension of up to £7,579 per annum (figure at 1 April 2023) to an active member of the scheme, or within 6 months of leaving to a member whose employment was terminated on the grounds of redundancy or business efficiency (APC) will only be in exceptional circumstances and is not an automatic entitlement.

4.6.2 The Assistant Director Workforce and Improvement, in consultation with the Executive Director of Resources, has discretion to approve an award after taking into account all the financial implications, including sharing the cost with the employee (Shared Cost Additional Pension Contributions – SCAPC). It should be noted that any extra annual pension granted would be subject to an actuarial reduction if the pension is drawn early, other than if on the grounds of Ill Health.

4.6.3 Shropshire Council will only voluntarily contribute towards the cost of purchasing extra pension via a SCAPC if a member has a period of authorised unpaid leave of absence and elects within 30 days of return to work to pay a SCAPC to cover the amount of pension ‘lost’ during that period of absence. The Council will contribute 2/3rds of this cost to a SCAPC.

4.6.4 Granting extra pension will also be permitted in accordance with the Council’s Redundancy and Compensation Policy

5.0 Retirement

For information on all aspects of retirement please refer to the “Shropshire Fund Pension Scheme Booklet – a guide to your pension” available from the Pensions Team (01743 – 252130) or look on their website <http://shropshirecountypensionfund.co.uk/>

5.1 Early Retirement on Compassionate or Exceptional Grounds

5.1.1 With effect from 1st April 2014, the opportunity to apply for early release of benefits on compassionate or exceptional grounds will no longer be available and will only be considered in exceptional circumstances only.

Employees that left prior to 01 April 2014, the provision for compassionate grounds remains **discretionary** and in **all instances**, the employees should write to the Assistant Director Workforce and Improvement detailing the exceptional circumstances and any associated evidence to support their request. The case will then be considered on the basis of the submission and any associated costs that the Council may have to meet.

5.2 Early Retirement on the Grounds of Ill Health

5.2.1 With effect from 1st April 2008, a three tiered ill health retirement scheme will apply (amended under the 2013 regulations). Extra membership on the grounds of ill health retirement will be awarded on the following basis:

- The first condition is that the member is, as a result of ill-health or infirmity of mind or body, permanently incapable (that the member will, more likely than not, be incapable until at the earliest, the member's normal pension age) of discharging efficiently the duties of the employment the member was engaged in.
- The second condition is that the member, as a result of ill-health or infirmity of mind or body, is not immediately capable of undertaking any gainful employment (in this instance, "gainful" is defined as "paid employment for not less than 30 hours per week for a period of not less than 12 months")

5.2.2 The process for ill health retirements can be found within the Council's policy on "Caring about Sickness", Section 9.

5.3 Flexible Retirement

5.3.1 Under the flexible retirement arrangements, employees who are members of the Local Government Pension Scheme, may request a reduction in their hours or move to a lower graded post and also draw their pension whilst continuing to work, under regulation 30(6) of the LGPS Regulation 2013 of the pension scheme regulations. This will be subject to management consent and will only be considered where there is a justifiable business case and the cost, if any, of early release of pension is managed within the section's budget.

It should be noted that as this provision needs to be cost effective, cases will be considered on an individual basis and a reduction in hours needs to equate to a minimum requirement equivalent to one working day (pro-rotta) if already part-time.

5.3.2 To be considered for this, employees must:

- be aged 55 or over
- not work in a post or area of work where there are difficulties in recruiting; there are skill shortages or work of a particular nature which requires their skills;
- get authorisation for early release of their pension.

5.3.3 Employees who request a reduction in their hours or in the grade of their post should use the procedure outlined in the Flexible and Agile Working Policy and submit a Flexible and Agile Working Request Form to their Manager. The manager will then complete a Flexible Retirement Request Manager Report, outlining the business case. See Appendix 1 Flexible Retirement Process Flow and Appendix 2 for manager report template.

5.3.3 Early release of pension before age 65 may mean pension benefits are reduced (please refer to Section 5.3.5). Employees should therefore obtain information on their pensionable benefits, which would apply in these circumstances before

submitting a request. This is available from the Pensions team (see paragraph 11.1 below).

5.3.4 The decision to permit an employee to receive immediate payment of their pension under flexible retirement will be authorised by their Executive Director, in discussion with the Assistant Director Workforce and Improvement.

5.3.5 When making the decision to permit Flexible Retirement, all benefits pre 1st April 2008 will be released. A cost analysis of benefits accrued between the 1st April 2008 and 31st March 2014, and 1st April 2014 onwards will determine whether all, part or none of the benefits are released and whether actuarial reduction, in whole or in part, will be waived to benefits taken before Normal Pension Age (NPA).

5.3.6 Once the Manager has received approval from their Executive Director and the Assistant Director Workforce and Improvement, they should complete the Flexible and Agile Working Acceptance Form and submit a Contract Amendment e-Form through MyView (refer to Appendix 1 for process).

Please note that in order to be accepted for Flexible Retirement, approval is required from the Assistant Director Workforce and Improvement and the appropriate Executive Director. Merely accepting the reduction in hours does not automatically release the pension benefits of the employee

6.0 Working beyond the age of 65

6.1 Job applicants over the age of 65

There will be no upper age restriction for job applicants to the Council. Where a job applicant aged 65 or over is appointed, they will receive the standard contractual terms which apply to the post.

6.2 Existing employees working beyond age 65

6.2.1 The Employment Equality (Age) Regulations 2006 state that employees have the right to request not to be retired. As Shropshire Council does not apply a compulsory retirement age, an employee can continue in their post beyond the age of 65 if they wish to do so.

6.2.2 Performance of all employees will continue to be reviewed through the normal annual performance appraisal mechanisms. When being appraised, no employee should be treated differently because of their age.

6.3 Implications for employees in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) who work beyond age 65

6.3.1 Employees in the LGPS who continue to work beyond 65

Employees over the age of 65 can remain in the scheme to the eve of their 75th birthday and their LGPS benefits earned up to their Normal Pension Age will be

increased to compensate for their late payment. Benefits must be paid from age 75, even if employment continues beyond that age.

6.3.2 Employees formerly in the LGPS who after a break in service are re-employed at 65 or above

Employees under the age of 75 can re-join and remain in the scheme up to that age and benefits must be paid from age 75, even if employment continues beyond that age. Any LGPS pension already in payment will not be affected, but any part of that pension resulting from added years given in early retirement cases may be subject to adjustment. Details are available from the pension section in individual cases.

6.3.3 Employees appointed at 65 or above with no previous reckonable service

Employees under the age of 75 can join and remain in the scheme up to that age and benefits must be paid from age 75, even if employment continues beyond that age.

7.0 Pre-retirement Courses

7.1 Employees who have indicated that they wish to retire will have the opportunity of attending a Pre-Retirement Course, to better prepare them for that change.

7.2 Further details of the Planning a Positive Retirement course are available on SC Intranet: <http://staff.shropshire.gov.uk/training-and-development/staff/planning-a-positive-retirement/>

8.0 Links to Other Policies

8.1 This policy links to Shropshire Council's Flexible Working Framework and to the Council's Redundancy and Compensation Policy, Absence Management Policy with relation to ill health.

9.0 Pensions Appeals

9.1 In accordance with Regulation 73 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Administration) Regulations 2013, the Council is required to draw all employees' attention to the fact that, if they are dissatisfied with any decision in relation to their rights or liabilities under the Scheme, they may make an application to the Head of Pensions, as the person appointed for resolving first stage disputes. An appeal must be made within six months of the event. Standard forms and guidelines are available from the Pension Team for this purpose.

If employees remain dissatisfied, they may apply for a reconsideration of the decision to the Assistant Director of Legal and Governance. The final level of appeal would be to the Pensions Ombudsman.

In all instances, all initial concerns, or matters whereby an employee is not in agreement, should be referred to the individual who made the original decision. The Pension Scheme will also be available to advise you of your rights under the Scheme.

10.0 Monitoring and Review

10.1 Human Resources will work with Managers to monitor the application of this policy. Shropshire Council may review any aspect of the procedure in the light of changing circumstances at any time, in consultation with the trade unions.

10.2 The policy will be reviewed at regular intervals, in conjunction with changes to legislation, and any changes to the regulations as informed by the LGPS that may impact upon it.

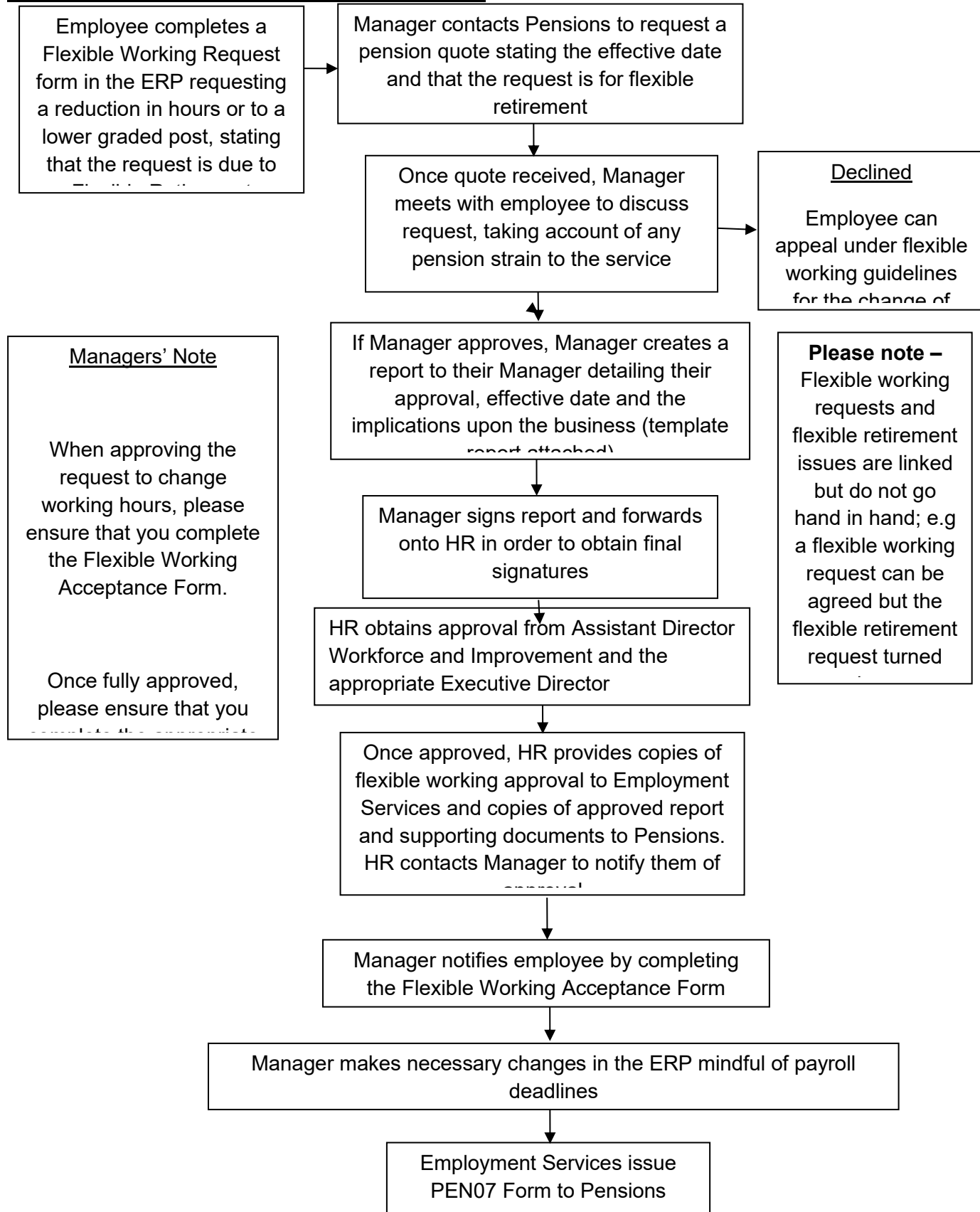
11.0 Further Advice on Pensions

11.1 Advice and information on the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) is available from the Pensions team who can be contacted on 01743 252130 or at pensions@shropshire.gov.uk. Further useful information can also be found at

Update 29.03.23	Section 4 4.2.2	Removed the pension contribution table and replaced with a link.
17.01.24	Section 4 4.2.2. Appendix 1	Updated year of bandings and job titles throughout
	4.2.8 & 4.6.1	Value updated

<http://shropshirecountypensionfund.co.uk/>

Appendix 1 - Flexible Working Process Flow



Flexible Retirement Request Manager Report

Employee Name:

Employee number:

Background

Include the following in your business case:

- *Current employment details – include current post, hours worked and current SCP details*
- *Effective date of change and what that change will be*
- *How the approval of the request will benefit the team*
- *Details regarding the strain (if any) on the pension fund, and the cost implications in relation to the team budget (if any)*

I agree to this request for flexible retirement and that pension payments commence with effect from (date).

Direct Line Manager

.....Date.....
(Name and sign)

Post:

Next Level of Line Management

.....Date.....
(Name and sign)

Post:

Assistant Director Workforce and Improvement

.....Date.....
(Name and sign)

Executive Director

.....Date.....
(Name and sign)

Attached supporting paperwork:
Flexible Working Request Form
Flexible Working Approval Form

Redundancy Policy

Contents

1. Introduction
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12. Payment of Pension
13. Assistance to Seek New Employment
14. Review of Policy

Appendix A Redundancy Selection Criteria

Appendix B Redundancy Appeals Procedure

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Shropshire Council aspires to be a fair and equitable employer committed to the principle of maintaining the highest possible level of job security for its employees. However, it is recognised that there may be certain circumstances e.g. in times of severe budgetary constraints when staffing reductions are necessary.
- 1.2 In the event of a potential redundancy situation being identified Shropshire Council will endeavour to address this by limiting external recruitment, redeploying employees where possible, considering requests for voluntary redundancy and other reasonably practicable measures in order to avoid a compulsory redundancy situation. However, should compulsory redundancy become necessary Shropshire Council will strive to ensure a consistent and fair method of selection is applied.
- 1.3 The Redundancy Policy sets out how potential redundancy situations and, if necessary, compulsory redundancies will be managed within Shropshire Council.
- 1.4 The policy applies to all Council employees, except those employed directly by schools who have a specific policy available on the Schools Learning Gateway.

2. Exclusions to the Policy

- 2.1 The Redundancy Policy will not apply in the following circumstances:
 - Termination during, or at the end of a probationary period of service in accordance with the Probationary Performance Policy, whether or not the probationary period was extended beyond its originally specified duration.
 - Resignation by an employee, or other termination, by mutual consent.
 - To agency staff, contractors or external consultants.
 - Apprentices who do not secure permanent employment after their training.

- Employees on a fixed term contract with less than 2 years' service in the affected post.

3. Objectives

3.1 The objectives of the Redundancy Policy are to:

- Ensure the Council complies with its legislative requirements in relation to redundancy situations;
- Provide clear advice when handling potential redundancy situations;
- Outline measures that may be available to seek to minimise or avoid compulsory redundancy;
- Set out a clear framework for the management of compulsory redundancy situations including the application of a Redundancy Selection Criteria;
- Ensure that where compulsory redundancy is necessary employees leave the Council feeling that they have been treated in a fair and equitable manner.

4. Potential Redundancy Situation

4.1 A potential redundancy situation arises when:

- An employer has ceased, or intends to cease, to carry on the business in the place where an employee was so employed; or
- Where the requirements of the business for employees to carry out work of a particular kind have ceased or diminished or are expected to cease or diminish; or
- Where the requirements of the business for employees to carry out work of a particular kind, in the place where they are so employed, have ceased or diminished or are expected to cease or diminish.

4.2 As soon as it becomes evident that a potential redundancy situation could exist then the Service Manager, in conjunction with HR Business Partner will identify those likely to be affected, both directly and indirectly.

4.3 In some instances the employee(s) to be made redundant will comprise all those undertaking a particular job. In these circumstances, however, care must be taken to check whether a wider group of employees could potentially be affected as a consequence of them having similar or common contracts of employment. In this situation it may be appropriate to ring fence those employees highlighted and follow the process as detailed in Appendix A.

5. Alternatives to Compulsory Redundancy

5.1 In order to avoid or reduce the need for compulsory redundancy alternative measures will be considered. These will include the following:

- Natural wastage through normal staff turnover;
- Suspending relevant external recruitment;
- Reducing overtime;
- Reducing the number of hours worked;
- Voluntary redundancy;
- Redeployment within the Council.

2 The Consultation Process

- 6.1 Consultation must be carried out “in good time” i.e. as soon as redundancies are proposed. Where 20 or more redundancies are proposed there is a statutory duty to consult with the Trade Unions. The Chief Executive or Director with the support of HR will be responsible for issuing a Section 188 notice to the relevant Trade Unions and submitting a HR1 form to the Secretary of State.
- 6.2 When consulting staff, it is important to consult those who are sick, on maternity, paternity or adoption leave. Failure to consult an employee on maternity leave may lead to a successful sex discrimination claim at tribunal, with unlimited compensation.
- 6.3 Where the Council is proposing to make redundancies consultation must begin at the earliest opportunity and no less than follows:

Number of employees	Period of Consultation
between 20 and 99 employees at one establishment within a period of 90 days or less,	at least 30 days before the first of the dismissals takes effect.
Over 100 employees at one establishment within a period of 90 days or less,	a period of at least 45 days consultation will apply.
fewer than 20 in one establishment	the Council will endeavour to observe a consultation period of at least 30 days

- 6.4 Fixed term contracts that have reached their termination date or will terminate during the consultation time are excluded from the requirement to consult collectively.
- 6.5 An employee(s) and, where appropriate, his/her representative(s) will be provided with the following information as part of the genuine and meaningful consultation process:
- The reason(s) for the proposal(s);
 - The number(s) and description of employees proposed to be dismissed as redundant;
 - The total number of employees of that description employed at the establishment in question;
 - The timeline of the planned consultation period;
 - The proposed structure;
 - The proposed method of selecting the employees who may be dismissed;
 - The proposed method of carrying out the dismissals, including the period over which the dismissals are to take effect; and
 - The proposed method of calculating the amount of any redundancy payments – other than statutory payments – to be made to the employees who are dismissed.

Consultation will also include ways of:

- Avoiding or reducing the number of dismissals i.e. considering other options instead of dismissal; e.g. suspending recruitment or reviewing the options for redeployment; and
- Mitigating the consequences of dismissal, e.g. outplacement support

During the consultation process all employees have the option to have individual consultations with management and HR to discuss their options or to put forward evidenced counter proposals to the planned restructure or redundancy.

3 Application of the Compulsory Redundancy Selection Criteria

7.1 If, despite consideration of alternative measures, the need for compulsory redundancy is unavoidable, then the 'Redundancy Selection Criteria', attached at Appendix A to the Policy, will be used to determine which employee(s) will ultimately be declared redundant unless it is evident that all employees will be made redundant. In the event of a restructure or job re-design the selection method may be through interviews. It should be noted that the Council reserves the right to amend the redundancy selection criteria/weighting where circumstances suggest that this would be reasonable.

7.2 All employees involved in the redundancy selection process will be provided with a copy of the 'Redundancy Selection Criteria', together with an explanation as to how this will be applied, prior to the redundancy selection taking place.

8. Redeployment

8.1 The Council will make every reasonable effort to find alternative work within the organisation for any employee who is selected for redundancy. Such employees will be added to the redeployment register for any available vacancies at the time of their redundancy selection and during their notice period.

8.2 Where either an employee or management have identified a post as being potentially suitable alternative employment the employee will need to participate in a selection process in order to establish whether or not the position is suitable for the employee taking into account his/her skills, knowledge, experience, level of seniority as well as the terms and conditions of the post.

8.3 Employees who are on Maternity, (or Adoption), leave are legally entitled to be offered any suitable alternative job before any other employee. Failure to do so will result in the dismissal being automatically unfair.

8.4 Where an alternative post offered is substantially the same with regards to:

- Existing Grade
- Work location;
- Duties of the post;
- Working hours

the post will be considered Suitable Alternative Employment (SAE).

If the employee accepts the offer of redeployment they will be entitled to a 28 day trial period. The purpose of the trial period is to enable both the Council and an employee to assess the suitability of the post.

8.5 Should the Council deem an employee to be unsuitable for the post, or the employee themselves has concerns about their new role during the 28 day trial period, appropriate action will be taken in consultation with the employee, which may include

seeking further redeployment opportunities, but may also include an employee finishing work in line with notice previously issued.

The determination of what is suitable and, indeed, what constitutes an unreasonable refusal is not statutorily defined and hence each case will need to be determined on merit and in consultation with HR

Should an employee unreasonably refuse an offer of SAE, the employee will lose his/her right to any redundancy payment that may be due.

For more information please refer to the [Redeployment Procedure](#).

9. Issuing Notice of Redundancy

- 9.1 Notice of redundancy will not be issued until the agreed consultation period has elapsed.
- 9.2 The Council's obligation to the employee must always be read against any additional notice required so the notice period will be whichever is greater; statutory or contractual. Therefore an employee in a Grade 7 post with a contractual notice period of 1 month who has 6 years' service will be given 6 weeks statutory notice. For more information on notice periods please see the [Periods of Notice Policy](#).
- 9.3 Payment in lieu of notice is not justifiable in cases where the timetable for redundancy is known sufficiently well in advance to give normal notice, and there is nothing else preventing this.
- 9.4 If you have been made aware through consultation that you are at risk of redundancy the employee and manager need to work together to ensure that all pro rata annual leave and credit/debit hours are taken wherever possible. Payment of annual leave is not justifiable in cases where employees have known sufficiently well in advance of their termination date. Annual leave needs to be pro rata to their termination date and used prior to leaving. In the event that an individual has exceeded their annual leave entitlement, action will be taken to recover the amount from pay.

10. Appeals against Redundancy

- 10.1 Notice of redundancy will contain details of the right of appeal against Selection for Redundancy to the Redundancy Appeals Panel. Any appeal must be submitted in writing to the Head of HR within **10** working days of receipt of the redundancy notification and provide all details of the reason for the appeal. For the full appeal process see Appendix B.
- 10.2 While an appeal is in progress, the contractual period of notice will continue to run from the original date of notification of redundancy.

11. Redundancy Payments

- 11.1 All eligible employees (see paragraph 2.1) who are made redundant either following a call for volunteers, or through a compulsory redundancy and have a minimum of two years continuous service with local government or a Redundancy Modification Order body are entitled to a redundancy payment. Redundancy payments are

calculated dependent of the length of continuous service in the affected post. The maximum length of service counted for statutory redundancy pay is 20 years.

11.2 Employees will receive the following entitlement:

Service	Entitlement
For service between ages 16 – 21	½ weeks' pay for each completed year of service multiplied by 1.5
For service between ages 22 – 40	1 weeks' pay for each completed year of service multiplied by 1.5
For service from age 41 and above.	1 ½ weeks' pay for each completed year of service multiplied by 1.5

11.3 A weeks' pay is defined as the amount to which an employee is entitled under his or her contract of employment when he/she works a normal week. If an employee's working hours vary, or where additional payments are made, pay is averaged over the previous 12 weeks from the date of your termination letter.

11.4 If an employee holds more than one post they will only be made redundant from the affected post and will remain in any other posts. Redundancy pay will be calculated on the continuous start date of the post from which they are being made redundant and all other continuous start dates will remain.

For Example:

Post 1: Admin post started 01/01/1990

Post 2: Assistant Social Worker post started 01/01/2005

If you were made redundant from your Admin post then the continuous start date used for redundancy calculations would be 01/01/1990 and your start date would remain as 01/01/2005 for the other post.

If you were made redundant from your Assistant Social Worker post then the continuous start date used for your redundancy pay would be 01/01/2005.

11.5 The additional compensatory payment (1.5 multiplier) is calculated taking account of any local government service, and service covered by the Redundancy Payments Modification Order up to a maximum of 20 years in total.

For example:

Current Continuous Service: 4 years from age 41 = 6 weeks' pay (4 x ½ week's pay)

Previous Service: 10 years from age 20 = 9 weeks' pay (2 years at ½ week's pay + 8 years at 1 weeks' pay)

Total: 6 + 9 = 15 week's pay x 1.5 multiplier

11.6 Final redundancy payments will be made once the employee has completed their notice period and all final salary payments have been made. The redundancy payment will then be calculated and paid on the next available pay run.

11.7 Redundancy payments are expressly exempt from income tax. They will, however, be taken into account in determining whether or not the total compensation paid to an employee exceeds the £30,000 tax-free limit.

- 11.8 Any offer of employment made by any local authority (or specified body covered by the Modification Order) accepted whilst under notice of redundancy and commencing within four weeks of the date of redundancy would disqualify an employee from receiving a redundancy payment.
- 11.9 In the event of being re-employed in another local authority post (or with a related employer) after termination and having received a redundancy payment, continuity of service for purposes of any future redundancy pay rights will start afresh.
- 11.10 All employees are responsible for checking their redundancy calculations to ensure any errors are highlighted as soon as possible.

12. **Payment of Pension**

- 12.1 Any employee who is subject to these redundancy provisions, who is aged 55 and over at the date of termination and is a member of the pension scheme, will be eligible to receive immediate payment of their pension. In these cases, the employing service will meet any additional strain on pension fund.

12.2 Purchasing Additional Pension Benefits

If the employee is a member of the Local Government Pension scheme, there will be an option for the council to purchase additional pension benefits under regulation 13 of the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 as an **alternative**, but not as well as additional compensation under section 11.1. The award of additional pension cannot exceed £6,500 from 1st April 2015 and that figure is increased on 1st April each year. Additional pension benefits can be purchased by the notional additional compensation i.e. the excess over the statutory payment calculated in accordance with paragraph 11.1. This will be at no extra cost to the Council and the calculation will take into account any additional pension costs met by the Council resulting from the early payment of pension benefits. The employee must be an active member of the LGPS and any decision to opt for this alternative must be made before their employment is terminated.

13. **Assistance to Seek New Employment**

- 13.1 An employee with at least two years continuous service at the dismissal date has a statutory entitlement to reasonable time off with pay during his/her notice period to look for new employment or to make arrangements to undertake training for future employment. The Employment Rights Act 1996 does not specify what is deemed to be a reasonable amount of time off, However, employers do not have to pay more than two-fifths of a week's pay regardless of the length of time off allowed. For example, if an employee works five days a week and they take four days off in total during the whole notice period, Shropshire Council is only obliged to pay employees for two days. Employees are required to provide reasonable notice of their interview, including proof of the interview date, time and location to their Manager
- 13.2 The council also provides a number of courses for employees facing redundancy to give them the skills and knowledge to apply for alternative employment. Details of additional support are also available [here](#).

14. Review of Policy

14.1 This policy will be reviewed by HR and Development, in consultation with unions.

Redundancy Selection Criteria Appendix A

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 It is essential that during a redundancy process the Council ensures that fair and transparent criteria for selection for redundancy are identified and applied consistently.
- 1.2 As a preliminary stage to selection, volunteers for redundancy may be invited to express an interest and be considered by management. However the Council is under no obligation to accept these volunteers. Care must be exercised when selecting from a list of volunteers to ensure that a balanced workforce remains in order to meet the demands of the service.
- 1.3 The handling of compulsory redundancies where selection is involved requires a systematic approach, if any dismissals are to be judged as fair. There is also an expectation amongst Trade Unions that in the event of compulsory redundancies being necessary, the Council will adopt reasonable selection criteria. These guidelines are to be used in the event of compulsory redundancies affecting National Joint Council for Local Government Services, Soulbury, Youth Service employees, other than those whose posts form part of the establishment of a school. The guidelines aim to ensure that good industrial relations practice is maintained in dealing with difficulties of this kind. There may be occasions where different selection criteria is used and in this case employees will be made aware of this at the beginning of the consultation period.
- 1.4 Any team or service faced with the problem of achieving employee reductions by selection for compulsory redundancy will have the principal objective of maintaining a balanced workforce after the redundancies are carried out, measured against the anticipated needs of the Authority. On this basis the approach to selection will be as follows:-

2.0 Unit of Selection

- 2.1 The "unit of selection" should be clearly defined - that is the area of work (based on geography, function and/or level) where reductions are necessary. The relevant Trade Unions and employees concerned will be made aware of the unit of selection by the consultative stages required by the Redundancy Policy.

3.0 Selection Procedure

- 3.1 Wherever possible two senior managers and a HR Business Partner together, with responsibility and/or knowledge of staff in the unit of selection will then apply selection criteria in the following way:-

Stage 1

Completion of the Selection Criteria Matrix. The application of the redundancy matrix will effectively score or rank the individuals within the pool and identify those employees who are likely to be 'at risk' of redundancy, depending on the number of redundancies needed in the particular service area. Once agreed, for a specific situation, matrices and weighting cannot be changed to influence the results.

Relevant Qualification and skills	Score
--	--------------

Has all the relevant qualifications and skills required	5
Is working towards a relevant qualification and has the skills required	4
Either has the relevant qualification but does not have all the skills required OR has the skills required but does not have the relevant qualification	3
Does not have the relevant qualification or skills	1

Relevant Experience	Score
Has the relevant experience to be able to be effective in the role with immediate effect, or with minimal development	5
Has relevant experience but would require some structured development	3
Has insufficient experience	1

Work Performance	Score
Regularly exceeds target performance in a number of different and additional tasks	5
Regularly achieves target performance in usual tasks	3
Usually performs below target performance	1

Ability to learn new tasks	Score
Learns new tasks faster than the majority of employees at the same level	5
Learns new tasks as quickly as the majority of employees at the same level	3
Needs longer than the majority of other employees at the same level to learn new tasks	1

Attitude towards others	Score
Is always co-operative with colleagues and managers and demonstrates a positive attitude	5
Usually co-operative with colleagues and managers and normally demonstrates a positive attitude	3
Can sometimes be negative and does not always co-operate fully with colleagues or managers.	1

Continuous Employment	Score
Over 15 years' service	5
Between 10 and 15 years' service	4
Between 5 and 10 years' service	3
Between 2 and 5 years' service	2
Up to 2 years' service	1

Weighting

Compulsory Redundancy

To achieve the total score for an employee, each criterion is weighted by a factor of 1-3 to reflect its relative importance. The weightings take into account the service's

requirements to meet its future service needs and targets as well as the need to maintain a balanced workforce. The weighting will be as follows:

- Qualifications & Skills (x3)
- Experience (x3)
- Work performance (x3)
- Ability to learn new tasks (x2)
- Attitudes towards other (x2)
- Continuous Service (x1)

Having weighted the scores, a total is calculated for each employee. For example, where necessary to reduce the headcount in a service area from 20 to 15 a selection matrix is completed for all 20 employees. The 5 with the lowest scores will be provisionally selected for redundancy.

Voluntary Redundancy

- Qualifications & Skills (x1)
- Experience (x1)
- Work Performance (x3)
- Ability to learn new tasks (x1)
- Attitudes towards others (x1)
- Continuous Service (x3)

Stage 2

Where a tie-break situation arises and more than 1 employee has a similar score, the following criteria will be taken into consideration. This criteria is to be used only in such a situation.

Disciplinary Record	Score
No disciplinary record	5
Informal disciplinary discussion / letter of concern	4
Verbal warning	3
Written Warning	2
Final written warning	1

Only current warnings on file where the disciplinary process has been completed at the date of the selection exercise should apply. Do not take into consideration any current or outstanding disciplinary investigations.

Stage 3

If selection is still necessary, timekeeping records will be considered from the previous 12 months. The frequency of and reasons for poor timekeeping will be taken into account.

Stage 4

If it has not been possible to select by Stage 3 then an interview or assessment will be carried out.

- 3.2 The personal circumstances of employees at risk of redundancy must not be taken into account at any stage of the selection process. At all stages the employees concerned should be given details of any records to be used.

- 3.3 Where selection criteria have been applied those selected must be notified as soon as possible and in a sensitive manner which fully recognises the difficulties faced by the employee. Those not selected should also be told of the decision as soon as possible.
- 3.4 Where someone has been selected for compulsory redundancy, they must be given the reasons for their selection in writing and notifying them of their right to appeal (refer to section 11).

Redundancy Appeals Procedure Appendix B

1 Process to be followed prior to the Appeal

- 1.1 The Appeal will be heard by the Chief Executive, or a delegated Director, and the Head of HR will appoint a Clerk to the Appeal.
- 1.2 The Clerk to the Appeal will write to the employee informing of them of the date and time of the appeal hearing which will usually be held within three weeks of receipt of the notification of appeal. However, if this will not be possible the employee will be notified of the likely timescale. Acknowledgement of receipt will be required from the employee and the employee must also provide any written evidence they intend to use in the hearing to the clerk of the Appeal at least seven days in advance of the hearing.
- 1.4 Seven days prior to the Appeal, the manager who made the redundancy decision will prepare a statement of case and send it to the Clerk of the Appeal. The statement of case will need to explain the following:
 - The papers (often including committee reports) which provide information on the need for the redundancy
 - The selection criteria used (where applicable)
 - Details of the employees in all posts included in the pool for redundancy selection broken down by gender, age, start date, ethnic origin, disability and length of service in current post.
 - Any measures taken to try and avoid compulsory redundancy
 - Details of consultation arrangements
 - The reasons provided by the employee appealing against redundancy.
- 1.5 Although the employee is likely to have seen the documentation contained within the statement a copy should be sent to the employee seven days before the hearing by the Clerk of the Appeal.

2 Process to be followed at the Appeal

- 2.1 An employee has the right to be accompanied, at the Appeal, by a Trade Union representative or work colleague.
- 2.2 At the Appeal it will be the responsibility of the manager who made the redundancy decision to demonstrate to the Redundancy Selection Appeals Panel that the redundancy selection criteria have been applied fairly. It will be for the employee or his/her Trade Union representative, or work colleague, to demonstrate to the Redundancy Selection Appeals Panel that the redundancy selection criteria have been applied inappropriately and/or the information considered had been incorrect resulting in the employee being selected wrongly for redundancy.
- 2.3 The Chief Executive, having considered submissions from both parties, can determine that the redundancy selection criteria had:
 - Been applied correctly and dismiss the appeal;
 - Not been applied correctly and/or the information upon which it was based was incorrect but that the resultant amendments would have made no difference to

the outcome of the redundancy selection and on these grounds dismiss the appeal;

- Not been applied correctly and/or the information upon which it was based was incorrect but it was unclear what impact this would have on the redundancy selection and so refer the matter back to the Redundancy Selection Panel for reassessment;
- Been applied incorrectly and/or the information upon which it was based was incorrect with the result that the employee had been selected wrongly for redundancy and so uphold the appeal;
- Not been applied to the correct group of employees and so refer the matter back to the Redundancy Selection Panel for re-assessment.

3. Process to be followed after the Appeal

- 3.1 The decision of the Chief Executive will be final.
- 3.2 The Chief Executive will give the outcome to the appeal in writing as soon as reasonably practicable and normally within 14 working days.
- 3.3 Where the appeal is unsuccessful and a redundancy decision is confirmed, employment will terminate on the date specified in the original written notification of redundancy.
- 2.5 In the event that an appeal against redundancy selection is allowed this may mean that another employee will have to be selected for redundancy, provided that the alternatives to redundancy have been considered in respect of the selected employee and the employee has subsequently been afforded the right of appeal. In these circumstances the employee concerned should be advised as soon as is practicable and the opportunity to appeal afforded.

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Committee and Date

Council
29th February 2024

Item

Public



Fees and Charges 2024/25

Responsible Officer:	James Walton		
email:	james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	Tel:	01743 258915
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder):	Cllr Gwilym Butler, Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities		

1. Synopsis

Councils receive income from three sources: local taxation, government grants, and fees and charges received for services we provide. This report presents the budgeted income to be received and proposes the level of fees and charges to be applied by Shropshire Council in 2024/25.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1. Like other councils, we receive income from three sources – local taxation, government grants, and a range of fees and charges we can levy for services we provide (e.g. in libraries or car parking). Together, this funding is used to create a budget for the Council to provide all Council services, through which we will deliver the Council's outcomes for residents. The use of charging reflects service delivery costs and is closely regulated by Government. Application of charges can also help nudge resident behaviour in support of council objectives.
- 2.2. The need to generate funds locally, at the point of service delivery rather than from local or national taxation, is encouraged by Government. The level and scope of fees and charges are often locally defined and are excluded from the calculation of 'Core Spending Power'.
- 2.3. The Council can raise income from several sources and this report identifies the areas for charging and includes details of the individual fees and charges proposed. The attached schedule of fees and charges sets out the tariffs to be applied during 2024/25. The actual income the Council secures in the next year will be the result of the tariffs

and the level of transactions against different tariff types. So, in some areas, the tariff may be much higher than in others, but the overall level of income remains low due to the volume of transactions that take place. It should also be noted that approximately 50% of the tariff list is defined via statute and so cannot be amended locally. The Council has the ability to set the local tariff where that is a local discretion. Overall discretionary income is reported in the quarterly finance report (appendix 2). As at 31 December 2023, discretionary income represented £44m of £86.9m overall fees and charges budgets. The Quarter 3 Finance Report sets out that the current forecast against discretionary fees and charges income is on budget.

- 2.4. Key areas for overall fees and charges income include the items below (shown as current forecast values, totalling £61.6m or 70% of the £91.9m fees and charges forecast income):
- Adult social care, client contributions (£24m forecast in the current year)
 - Rental income against council property (£8m forecast)
 - Other external income (£7.2m)
 - Car parking income (£6.9m)
 - Services buy-back by academy schools (£6.6m)
 - Events (£3.9m)
 - Road closures and street work permits (£3.1m)
 - Planning (£1.9m)
- 2.5. It is important to note that the council does not have full discretion, in many cases, over what it is able to charge. Some fees are set nationally, whilst others are governed by certain restrictions e.g. linking increases to changes in inflation.
- 2.6. This report recommends the level of fees and charges to be applied in 2024/25 and a full schedule of 2024/25 charges is contained in Appendix 3.
- 2.7. The Council undertook an Equality, Social Inclusion and Health Impact Assessment (ESHIA) on the budget proposals for 2024/25 and this is included within the Financial Strategy 2024/25-2028/29 being considered by Council on this agenda. The ESHIA includes specific reference to considering the cumulative impact of cross council increases in fees and charging.
- 2.8. This report also recommends the approach to be followed to calculate rent levels and service charges for the Council's retained housing stock and shared ownership homes for the 2024/25 financial year. The recommendations are made in compliance with the rent standard for social housing providers that will apply to local authorities from April 2024.
- 2.9. This report should be read in conjunction with the Financial Strategy 2024/25-2028/29 report, elsewhere on this agenda.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1. Council are asked to approve the recommendations below.
- i. To note the breakdown of the total income for 2023/24 and 2024/25 and in particular that the proposed 2024/25 charges for discretionary services represent £52.822m of the £98.525m of income derived from Fees and Charges.

- ii. To approve the charges for 2024/25 as detailed in Appendix 3 to be implemented from 1 April 2024.
- iii. To note that as previously agreed, any changes to fees and charges proposed by Shropshire Community Leisure Trust Ltd. in relation to the outsourced leisure facilities will only be referred to Cabinet and Council for approval if the proposed increases exceed Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the preceding November.
- iv. To note that the proposals to increase car parking fees and charges (arising from the traffic management policies and strategies of the Council) further to the recent decision of Cabinet has been called in for further scrutiny by Councillors. This report does not supersede the call in process; rather, the outcome of the call in process will determine the eventual charges to be levied in 2024/25.
- v. To note that proposals in adult social care services for applying charges for telecare services and appointeeships are new proposals and will require further discussion and consultation. Proposed charges will be set on a 'cost recovery' basis, in line with best practice in other councils.
- vi. To revise housing rents as follows (subject to restrictions or exemptions identified in the Welfare Reform and Work Bill):
 - a. Social Housing rents for 2024/25 are increased by 7.7% from 3rd April 2024.
 - b. Affordable rents for 2024/25 are increased by 7.7% from 3rd April 2024.
 - c. Shared Ownership rents continue to be set at 2.75% of the outstanding capital value of the home at the time of sale and thereafter increased each April in accordance with the terms specified in the lease agreements.
 - d. All accommodation charges for 2024/25 are increased by 7.7% from 3rd April 2024.
 - e. Service charges continue to be set on the basis of actual cost.
- vii. To review the total estimated income from different fees and charges items, to identify which items generate the most income, and to consider whether the benchmarking already undertaken for those sources of income is placing the council in the upper quartile for charges, based on comparison with similar local authorities.

Report

4. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 4.1. Income from fees and charges is a key part of the Council's financial strategy, and represents £86.863m of planned income in the current year and is proposed to increase to £98.525m in the coming year. At these levels the average overall increase is 13% (although actual changes will vary both across different fees and charges and depending on the overall volumes of receipts achieved). This is informed by September CPI being 6.7% and consideration of the wider impact of inflation across the Council's services, discussed more fully in the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

- 4.2. Securing additional income where appropriate across the Council's activities provides opportunities to reduce the Council's reliance on other forms of funding. This is part of our financial risk management strategy.
- 4.3. The key risks associated with income generation relate to the potential for under-recovery through several factors such as elasticity of demand, changing economic circumstances and emergence of competition.
- 4.4. Consideration of any new charges (i.e. where charges currently do not exist as opposed to increases in charges which are already established) will require appropriate application of the Human Rights Act, necessary environmental appraisals, Equalities Impact Needs Assessments, and service user consultation. These are policy decisions and will require subsequent member decisions (put another way, approval of these proposed fees and charges would not be the final approval for a proposed new charge due to the considerations listed above – rather, it would be the first step toward possible adoption).
- 4.5. It is recognised that there will be instances when changes are required to the fees and charges approved as part of this report. The charging policy approved by cabinet in 2014 recommended officer delegation in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder, to allow in year changes to fees and charges to be agreed and implemented in a timely manner. The delegation is as follows;

Where, in exceptional circumstances, it is necessary to amend fees and charges within a year from that agreed by full Council and any such amendments follow the principles set out in the approved charging policy, Executive Directors in consultation with the appropriate Portfolio Holder for the service where fees and charges are being amended will have delegated authority to agree these changes subject to any changes to the levels of fees and charge including the introduction of new charges resulting in a budget adjustment must be approved in line with the Council's Virement rules (financial size).

- 4.6. Preparation of the proposed fees and charges schedule for 2024/25 is informed by current performance against the targets set for this year (2023/24). Performance on fees and charges income is set out in the Q3 Finance Monitoring report. Appendix 2 of the Q3 Finance Monitoring report covers income from government grants and fees and charges, and shows that the levels of fees and charges set for 2023/24 are being achieved. Triangulating proposed income with current levels of receipts helps mitigate the risk of underachievement of planned income, and helps inform decisions on pricing and fee levels.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1. The Council's proposed 2024/25 gross revenue budget includes £447.775m of income. Much of this income is specific grants (£300.846m) and the amount to be received in the year is generally known and fixed. The balance, which for the Council is £146.928m, can vary significantly and requires careful management and monitoring throughout the year. Variations in income can significantly affect the Council's financial position. By detailed consideration of income streams and factors which affect the levels of income the Council receives, the risk of significant budget variations caused by a shortfall in income levels will be reduced.

- 5.2. In common with other councils, the overall number of fees and charges at this council is substantial (they are set out in appendix 3, covering over 50 pages).
- 5.3. The budget saving proposals in the Medium Term Financial Strategy include an increase in income to be generated from fees and charges. These proposals are included in the income budgets detailed in the MTFs estimates report. The charges set out in appendix 3 have been uplifted to reflect an increase in the tariffs to assist with delivery of additional income. Any subsequent changes required during the course of the year will be approved via the process detailed in section 4.5.

6. Climate Change Appraisal

- 6.1. There is a potential to promote positive changes in resident behaviour through the application of fees and charges. This approach can be an influential factor in making meaningful changes towards the impact of climate change.
- 6.2. Strategic alignment around the Corporate Climate Strategy and the creation of effective strategies towards this is an area being progressed across the Council. Service areas currently consider the impact on Climate Change when Fees and Charges are reviewed, and new charges set.

7. Background

- 7.1. The financial landscape for local authorities continues to be very challenging as we look towards 2024/25. To meet the challenges of reduced government funding and additional service pressures the Council needs to continue to explore all options to reduce net expenditure, by both reducing gross expenditure and/or increasing income. Increases in charges may deliver savings or may only be an approach to offset existing service pressures.
- 7.2. The Council has the power to charge for some services under various legislation dating back many years e.g. 1949 Prevention of Damage by Pests Act. The Local Government Act 2003 provides clarity over charging powers and is clear that a local authority can charge for discretionary services on the basis of recovering the full costs of providing the service but that it should not make a profit year on year. The same Act also covers the Council's power to trade whereby a profit/surplus can be made as long as trading is carried out through a company. This report concentrates on charging for discretionary services. A key point is that charges should be set at the right level to balance the subsidy between service user and taxpayer.

8. Additional Information

- 8.1. The Council's proposed gross revenue budget for 2024/25 is £709.472m. This budget is part funded by government grants and other income such as fees and charges to give the Council's net budget of £261.697m which is funded by revenue support grant, non domestic rates and council tax. A large proportion of funding of the Council's gross budget comes from national government in the form of specific and/or ringfenced grants. This report looks at the remaining income figures with a view to understanding how this figure is made up and how much control the Council has over this figure in terms of seeking to increase it.

8.2. The total gross income for the Council is shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Gross Income 2023/24 and 2024/25

	2023/24 Revised Budget	2024/25 Proposed Budget
	£m	£m
RSG (including returned amounts)	7.479	7.974
Top up Grant	11.120	10.925
Business Rates	39.424	41.306
Council Tax and Collection Funds	197.891	201.492
Net Budget Requirement	255.914	261.697
Specific Grants (incl. DSG)	259.469	300.846
Other Grants and Contributions	36.644	36.829
Fees & Charges	86.863	98.525
Internal Recharges	11.121	11.574
Total Gross Income	650.011	709.472

8.3. The income figure shown above for fees and charges can be further categorised into income arising from fees and charges for the provision of services which can be set at the discretion of the Council (discretionary) and income where the levels are set by statute or restricted by regulations or guidance. The latter includes planning fees, which are set at a statutory level and other fees, the level of which must follow statutory guidance (for example charges within Adult Social Care which are governed by Department of Health and Social Care guidelines).

8.4. The report, although detailing all fees and charges in Appendix 3, concentrates on discretionary income where there is a decision to be made by the Council on the level of charge.

2024/25 Fees and Charges Analysis

8.5. The latest budget for fees and charges income for 2023/24 is £86.863m and the proposed budget for 2024/25 is £98.525m. Table 2 below provides details of this income by Directorate and also details the breakdown of the proposed 2024/25 income figure as discretionary and non-discretionary income.

Table 2: Analysis of 2023/24 and 2024/25 proposed Income by Service Area

Service Area	2023/24 Revised Budget			2024/25 Proposed Budget		
	Total Income £m	Discretionary Income £m	Non-Discretionary Income £m	Total Income £m	Discretionary Income £m	Non-Discretionary Income £m
Corporate	2.645	-	2.645	2.645	-	2.645

Service Area	2023/24 Revised Budget			2024/25 Proposed Budget		
	Total Income £m	Discretionary Income £m	Non-Discretionary Income £m	Total Income £m	Discretionary Income £m	Non-Discretionary Income £m
Health and Wellbeing	1.128	1.085	0.044	1.085	1.041	0.044
People	27.439	4.271	23.168	31.630	4.748	26.882
Place	50.484	37.075	13.409	57.905	44.374	13.531
Resources	5.168	2.567	2.601	5.260	2.659	2.601
Strategic Management Board	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Fees and Charges	86.863	44.997	41.866	98.525	52.822	45.703

- 8.6. Further detail on individual services provided under the heading discretionary income, totalling £52.822m, is provided in Appendix 1.
- 8.7. The Council does not have discretion to set fees for all the income it receives. Further details of the non-discretionary income figure is provided in Appendix 2.
- 8.8. Appendix 3 provides details of the recommended charges for 2024/25.

Housing Revenue Account Rent Levels

- 8.9. The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a ring fenced account separate from the General Fund that records the financial transactions relating to the management and maintenance of the Council's retained housing stock, and the primary source of income (approximately 98%) comes from tenants' housing rent.
- 8.10. Over recent years the Government's policy regarding the level of rent for social housing has been subject to significant changes, the most recent being those introduced by the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 and the Government announcement in October 2017 that from April 2020 local authority rent would be subject to the rent standard for social housing providers. More detail on this is provided in Appendix 4 with recommendations at section 3.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Local Member: All

Appendices

Appendix 1 Discretionary Income - Service Summaries

Appendix 2 Non-discretionary Income - Service Summaries

Appendix 3 2024/25 Fees and Charges

Appendix 4 Housing Revenue Rent Level 2024/25

DISCRETIONARY INCOME – SERVICE SUMMARIES

- 1.1 The table below provides a summary of the Fees and Charges income for the Council by Directorate. More detail per directorate is provided in the relevant sections below, concentrating on discretionary income (£54.522m).

Service Area	2024/25 Proposed Budget		
	Total Income £m	Discretionary Income £m	Non- Discretionary Income £m
Corporate	2.645	-	2.645
Health and Wellbeing	1.085	1.041	0.044
People	31.630	4.748	26.882
Place	57.905	44.374	13.531
Resources	5.260	2.659	2.601
Strategic Management Board	-	-	-
Total Fees and Charges	98.525	52.822	45.703

Corporate

- 1.2 The total Fees and Charges proposed for 2024/25 in the Corporate service area are £2.645m which is all non-discretionary.

Health and Wellbeing

- 1.3 The total Fees and Charges for Health & Wellbeing proposed for 2024/25 is £1.085m of which £1.041m is discretionary.
- 1.4 The main source of discretionary income within Health & Wellbeing is from Social Prescribing Services provided to GP surgeries. This income is budgeted to be £0.960m for 2024/25.

People

- 1.5 The total Fees and Charges for the People Directorate proposed for 2024/25 are £31.630m of which £4.748m is discretionary. Total discretionary income has increased by £0.477m from 2023/24.
- 1.6 Discretionary income of £4.748m is made up of charges for the following services;

Service - People	Discretionary Income 2024-25 £m
Work Placement	£2.855
Shropshire Music Service	£0.880
Education Support Services	£0.671
Social Care	£0.125
Joint Training to Care Providers	£0.121
Day Care	£0.096
Total Discretionary Income	£4.748

1.7 The discretionary income within education support service includes Education Access and School Library Service. These are services which are traded with academy schools and are subject to annual service level agreements (SLAs).

1.8 Shropshire Music Service income has discretion to determine the fees and charges schedule for services provided and sets these fees in relation to music tuition and instrument hire charges in order to recover the costs of the service. Fees and charges are set on an academic year basis.

1.9 Work Placement income relates to contacts with external clients.

1.10 Further details on specific fees and charges can be found in appendix 3.

Place

1.11 The total Fees and Charges for Place proposed for 2024/25 are £57.905m of which £44.374m is discretionary. Total discretionary income has increased by £7.299m from 2023/24.

1.12 Discretionary income of £44.374m is made up of charges for the following services;

Service - Place	Discretionary Income 2024-25 £m
Car Parking	£7.059
Commercial Services	£8.149
Theatre Services	£6.141
Shire Services	£5.892
Waste Management	£4.431
Economy & Place	£4.207
Streetworks	£2.355
Registrars	£1.001
Housing Development	£0.753
Leisure Services	£0.842
Museums and Archives	£0.485
Outdoor Partnerships	£0.411
Trading Standards & Licensing	£0.388

Service - Place	Discretionary Income 2024-25 £m
Other Services including- Cemetery Burial Rights, Choice Based Letting Advertising, Environment & Transport, Handyperson Services, Highways (Operations), Independent Living, Libraries	£2.261
Total Discretionary Income	£44.374

1.13 Further details on specific fees and charges can be found in appendix 3.

Resources

1.14 The total Fees and Charges for Resources proposed for 2024/25 are £5.260m of which £2.659m is discretionary. Total discretionary income has increased by £0.092m from 2023/24.

1.15 Discretionary income of £2.659m is made up of charges for the following;

Service - Resources	Discretionary Income 2024-25 £m
Finance & Technology	£1.777
Workforce and Improvement	£0.558
Communications & Engagement	£0.180
Legal and Governance	£0.123
Pension Services	£0.021
Total Discretionary Income	£2.659

1.16 The discretionary income within Legal and Governance includes income from external organisations for services such as Audit and the provision of legal advice. Details of fees charged by Legal Services are provided in Appendix 3.

1.17 The discretionary income within Workforce and Improvement includes income from Town Councils, charities, academies and other external organisations for services such as payroll provision and human resources services which are covered by annual contracts and charges for First Aid and Occupational Health Services.

1.18 The discretionary income within Finance & Technology includes income from external organisations for the provision of finance and ICT services which are covered by annual contracts.

1.19 The main source of discretionary income for Communications & Engagement is contributions from partners towards the Safer Community Coordination Service.

NON-DISCRETIONARY INCOME – SERVICE SUMMARIES

2.1 The table below provides a summary of the non-discretionary Fees and Charges income for the Council by Directorate

Service Area	2024/25 Budget £m	Non-Discretionary Income - Statutory £m	Non-Discretionary Income - Other £m
Corporate	2.645	-	2.645
Health & Wellbeing	0.044	0.044	-
People	26.882	26.301	0.581
Place	13.532	12.546	0.986
Resources	2.601	0.001	2.600
Strategic Management Board	-	-	-
Total	45.703	38.892	6.812

2.2 The non-discretionary statutory income figure in People mainly relates to charges to service users that are set by individual assessments and are governed by Department of Health and Social Care guidelines. The Council's policy for charging, the 'Adult Social Care Charging And Financial Assessment' policy, is updated annually and is contingent upon information from the Department of Health and Social Care, which has not yet been circulated.

2.3 The policy includes the Council's Minimum Income Guarantee, which is the amount that a recipient of Adult Social Care must be left with to pay for everyday living costs when a financial assessment for non-residential services is made. From April 2015 the minimum level of Minimum Income Guarantee has been determined by Government statute. The statutorily required Minimum Income Guarantee for 2024/25 is yet to be announced by the Department of Health and Social Care, but, historically it is usually published in late February or early March. The DHSC circular also determines the Personal Expenses Allowance for service users in a residential care setting, and the capital threshold that determines whether the Council is required to assist in funding a service user's care and support. Following its publication, the Council will be in a position to determine its Minimum Income Guarantee for 2024/25, and the Adult Social Care Charging And Financial Assessment Policy will be updated accordingly.

2.4 The majority of the remaining non-discretionary statutory income is in Place. This relates to income in Development Management (planning and land charges search fees), Highways & Transport (highways development control and New Road & Street Works Act), trading standards and licensing. The non-discretionary income for Corporate Services is interest, including interest earned on the Council's investments. Within Resources non-discretionary Other Income relates to recovery of Housing Benefit overpayments.

PROPOSED FEES AND CHARGES 2024/25
Health & Wellbeing- Regulatory Services

APPENDIX 3

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Health & Wellbeing- Regulatory Services						
Environmental Protection						
LAPPC (part B) charges						
Application Fee	Standard process (includes solvent emission activities)	£1,650.00	£1,650.00	0.0%	S	Fees set by statutory instrument. (Fees for 2024/25 have not been published)
	Additional fee for operating without a permit	£1,188.00	£1,188.00	0.0%	S	
	PVRI, SWOBs and Dry Cleaners	£155.00	£155.00	0.0%	S	
	PVR I & II combined	£257.00	£257.00	0.0%	S	
	VRs and other Reduced Fee Activities	£362.00	£362.00	0.0%	S	
	Reduced fee activities: Additional fee for operating without a permit	£71.00	£71.00	0.0%	S	
	Mobile plant, for first and second applications (not using simplified permits)	£1,650.00	£1,650.00	0.0%	S	
	for the third to seventh applications	£985.00	£985.00	0.0%	S	
	For the eighth and subsequent applications	£498.00	£498.00	0.0%	S	
	Additional charges- where an application for any of the above is for a combined Part B and waste application	£297.00	£297.00	0.0%	S	
Annual Subsistence Charge	Standard process Low	£772.00	£772.00	0.0%	S	
	Standard process Medium	£1,161.00	£1,161.00	0.0%	S	
	Standard process High	£1,747.00	£1,747.00	0.0%	S	
	Standard process Low- additional charge (where a permit is for a combined Part B and waste installation)	£104.00	£104.00	0.0%	S	
	Standard process Medium- additional charge (where a permit is for a combined Part B and waste installation)	£156.00	£156.00	0.0%	S	
	Standard process High- additional charge (where a permit is for a combined Part B and waste installation)	£207.00	£207.00	0.0%	S	
	PVRI, SWOBs and Dry Cleaners- Low	£79.00	£79.00	0.0%	S	
	PVRI, SWOBs and Dry Cleaners- Medium	£158.00	£158.00	0.0%	S	
	PVRI, SWOBs and Dry Cleaners- High	£237.00	£237.00	0.0%	S	
	PVR I & II combined- Low	£113.00	£113.00	0.0%	S	
	PVR I & II combined- Medium	£226.00	£226.00	0.0%	S	
	PVR I & II combined- High	£341.00	£341.00	0.0%	S	
	VRs and other Reduced Fees- Low	£228.00	£228.00	0.0%	S	
	VRs and other Reduced Fees- Medium	£365.00	£365.00	0.0%	S	
	VRs and other Reduced Fees- High	£548.00	£548.00	0.0%	S	
	Mobile plant, for first and second permits- Low (not using simplified permits)	£626.00	£626.00	0.0%	S	
	Mobile plant, for first and second permits- Medium (not using simplified permits)	£1,034.00	£1,034.00	0.0%	S	
	Mobile plant, for first and second permits- High (not using simplified permits)	£1,551.00	£1,551.00	0.0%	S	
	Mobile plant, for the third to seventh permits- Low	£385.00	£385.00	0.0%	S	
	Mobile plant, for the third to seventh permits- Medium	£617.00	£617.00	0.0%	S	
	Mobile plant, for the third to seventh permits- High	£924.00	£924.00	0.0%	S	
	Mobile plant, for the eighth and subsequent permits- Low	£198.00	£198.00	0.0%	S	
	Mobile plant, for the eighth and subsequent permits- Medium	£314.00	£314.00	0.0%	S	
	Mobile plant, for the eighth and subsequent permits- High	£473.00	£473.00	0.0%	S	
	Late payment Fee	£52.00	£52.00	0.0%	S	
	Additional charge- Where a Part B installation is subject to reporting under the E-PRTR Regulation	£99.00	£99.00	0.0%	S	
Transfer and Surrender	Standard process transfer	£169.00	£169.00	0.0%	S	
	Standard process partial transfer	£497.00	£497.00	0.0%	S	
	Surrender: all Part B activities	FOC	FOC	N/A	S	
	Reduced fee activities: transfer	FOC	FOC	N/A	S	
	Reduced fee activities: partial transfer	£47.00	£47.00	0.0%	S	
Temporary transfer for Mobiles	First transfer	£53.00	£53.00	0.0%	S	
	Repeat following enforcement or warning	£53.00	£53.00	0.0%	S	
Substantial Change	Standard process	£1,050.00	£1,050.00	0.0%	S	
	Standard process where the substantial change results in a new PPC activity	£1,650.00	£1,650.00	0.0%	S	
	Reduced fee activities	£102.00	£102.00	0.0%	S	

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Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Health & Wellbeing- Regulatory Services						
LA-IPPC (part A2) charges						
<i>NB – every subsistence charge in the table below includes the additional £99 charge to cover local authority extra costs in dealing with reporting under the E PRTR Regulation.</i>						
Charges	Application	£3,363.00	£3,363.00	0.0%	S	Fees set by statutory instrument. (Fees for 2024/25 have not been published)
	Additional fee for operating without a permit	£1,188.00	£1,188.00	0.0%	S	
	Annual Subsistence LOW	£1,343.00	£1,343.00	0.0%	S	
	Annual Subsistence MEDIUM	£1,507.00	£1,507.00	0.0%	S	
	Annual Subsistence HIGH	£2,230.00	£2,230.00	0.0%	S	
	Late Payment Fee	£52.00	£52.00	0.0%	S	
	Substantial Variation	£3,363.00	£3,363.00	0.0%	S	
	Transfer	£235.00	£235.00	0.0%	S	
	Partial transfer	£898.00	£898.00	0.0%	S	
Surrender	£898.00	£898.00	0.0%	S		
<i>Key- Subsistence charges can be paid in four equal quarterly instalments paid on 1st April, 1st July, 1st October and 1st January. Where paid quarterly the total amount payable to the local authority will be increased by £36.</i>						
<i>Reduced fee activities are listed in the Schedule to the Part B scheme</i>						
<i>Newspaper adverts may be required under EPR at the discretion of the LA as part of the consultation process when considering an application (see Chapter 9 of the General Guidance Manual). This will be undertaken and paid for by the LA and the charging scheme contains a provision for the LA to recoup its costs.</i>						
Petroleum storage certificates	Storage certificate, where premises to be used to store petrol of a quantity— not exceeding 2,500 litres	£46.00	£46.00	0.0%	S	Fees set by statutory instrument. (Fees for 2024/25 have not been published)
	exceeding 2,500 litres but not exceeding 50,000 litres	£62.00	£62.00	0.0%	S	
	exceeding 50,000 litres	£131.00	£131.00	0.0%	S	
Environmental Information Regulations (pollution information)	- Information request (minimum charge for up to 1 hour)	£80.00	£90.00	12.5%	D	
	- Additional charge per hour for more than 1 hours work	£80.00	£90.00	12.5%	D	
Natural Resources and Public Health						
Private water supply	Risk Assessment(each assessment)	£390.00	£429.00	10.0%	D	
	Risk Assessment(each assessment)additional hours	£80.00	£90.00	12.5%	D	
	Auditing risk assessments carried out by others	£140.00	£150.00	7.1%	D	
	Auditing risk assessments carried out by others additional hours	£80.00	£90.00	12.5%	D	
	Sampling fee per visit	£120.00	£130.00	8.3%	D	
	Investigation (each investigation)	£120.00	£130.00	8.3%	D	
	Analysis for check and audit sampling of supplies	Price on request	Price on request	N/A	D	
	Analysis of samples taken during check monitoring	Price on request	Price on request	N/A	D	
	Analysis for samples taken during auditing monitoring	Price on request	Price on request	N/A	D	
	Swimming pool sampling - (plus analysis costs at direct cost)	£110.00	£120.00	9.1%	D	
Biodiversity Net Gain	Monitoring costs secured via S106 agreement to ensure that development within the administrative boundary provides an increase in biodiversity post development	N/A	Price on request	N/A	D	
Health Protection						
Primary Authority Fees	Charges- Bespoke based on cost recovery	POA	POA	N/A	D	
Pollution Prevention & Control Act/Environmental Protection Act	Register Copy per entry	£15.00	£16.50	10.0%	D	
	Copy documents relating to authorisation (per hour, plus the cost of any materials)	£80.00	£88.00	10.0%	D	
Factual Statements	Civil Proceedings re accidents in Retail Premises (plus the cost of any materials). Fee includes up to 3 hours work.	£240.00	£264.00	10.0%	D	
Food Safety Act 1990 (register copies)	Copy of total register (based on hourly rate) per hour	£80.00	£88.00	10.0%	D	
	Copy of individual entry	£16.50	£18.25	10.6%	D	
Health Certificates	Export Health Certificate	£100.00	£110.00	10.0%	D	
	Voluntary Surrender Certificate (does not include other charges such as disposal)	£80.00	£88.00	10.0%	D	
	Safety at sports grounds	£100.00	£110.00	10.0%	D	
Inspections	NFHS Re-rating Inspection	£275.00	£303.00	10.2%	D	

HOMES & COMMUNITIES- MUSEUMS & ARCHIVES

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Museums & Archives						
Shropshire Museums Collections Centre						
Room Hire- Ludlow Education Room	Personal/Voluntary group/ Charity Group	£80.00	£88.00	10.0%	D	Fees are subject to review
	Business Use	£90.00	£99.00	10.0%	D	
	Conservation Lab	£80.00	£88.00	10.0%	D	
	Freezer (materials pre-packed)	£80.00	£88.00	10.0%	D	
	Freezer plus packing service	£90.00	£99.00	10.0%	D	
Store Tours	45 Minute Store Tour	£9.00	£10.00	11.1%	D	
	Group Tour and Talk	£90.00	£99.00	10.0%	D	
	Store Tour and Handling Session	£15.00	£16.50	10.0%	D	
	Handling Specimens for self lead session	£40.00	£44.00	10.0%	D	
Object Loans	Not for Profit Venue Assessment	£50.00	£55.00	10.0%	D	
	Not for Profit Loan Assessment, Packing & Administration	£10.00	£11.00	10.0%	D	
	Not for Profit (outside Shropshire) Venue Assessment	£80.00	£88.00	10.0%	D	
	Not for Profit (outside Shropshire) Loan Assessment, Packing & Administration	£50.00	£55.00	10.0%	D	
	Commercial Loan Assessment and Condition Check	TBC	TBC	N/A	D	
	Commercial Packing and Transportation	TBC	TBC	N/A	D	
	Commercial Administration fee	£110.00	£121.00	10.0%	D	
Archaeology Archive Deposition	Findspots: local authority area of Shropshire (Standard Finds Box)	£90.00	£99.00	10.0%	D	
	Findspots: local authority area of Shropshire (Standard Archive Box)	£80.00	£88.00	10.0%	D	
	Findspots: local authority area of Shropshire (Plan Tube)	£15.00	£16.50	10.0%	D	
	Findspots: local authority area of Telford & Wrekin (Standard Finds Box)	£120.00	£132.00	10.0%	D	
	Findspots: local authority area of Telford & Wrekin (Standard Archive Box)	£90.00	£99.00	10.0%	D	
	Findspots: local authority area of Telford & Wrekin (Plan Tube)	£20.00	£22.00	10.0%	D	
Processing on non-compliant depositions	£80.00	£88.00	10.0%	D		
Consultancy	Commercial consultancy work (Daily rate dependant on staff)	£170-£350	£187-£385	10.0%	D	
Image Use	Books, periodicals, magazines etc. (per image)	£50.00	£55.00	10.0%	D	
	Non-Profit Making Publications (per image)	£30.00	£33.00	10.0%	D	
	Use of Supplied Image in film and moving media (per image)	£80.00	£88.00	10.0%	D	
	Facility Filming Fee	TBC	TBC	N/A	D	
	High resolution images for educational websites (per image)	£30.00	£33.00	10.0%	D	
	High resolution images for commercial websites (per image)	£50.00	£55.00	10.0%	D	
	Temporary Not for Profit Exhibitions	£20.00	£22.00	10.0%	D	
	Temporary Commercial Exhibitions (per image)	£50.00	£55.00	10.0%	D	
	5 Years Plus Not for Profit Exhibitions (per image)	£45.00	£50.00	11.1%	D	
	5 Years Plus Commercial Exhibitions (per image)	£90.00	£99.00	10.0%	D	
	Advertising (per image)	£200.00	£220.00	10.0%	D	
	Gifts (per image)	£90.00	£99.00	10.0%	D	
	Design and Décor (per image)	£80.00	£88.00	10.0%	D	
	Non-Profit Making Public Presentations (Up to 5 Images)	£5.00	£5.50	10.0%	D	
	Commercial Public Presentations (Up to 5 Images)	£10.00	£11.00	10.0%	D	
	High Resolution images for personal study / Research (Up to 10 Images)	£10.00	£11.00	10.0%	D	
	High Resolution Images new digitisation	N/A	£16.50	N/A	D	
	On site photography permit- per day	£5.00	£11.00	120.0%	D	
	Archival Quality Print (A4) (per image)	£15.00	£19.25	28.3%	D	
	Archival Quality Print (A3) (per image)	£20.00	£22.00	10.0%	D	
Much Wenlock Museum						
Room Hire	Room Hire (Per Hour)	£13.00	£15.00	15.4%	D	Fees are subject to review
	Room Hire (Per Hour Partner Organisations)	£7.00	£7.50	7.1%	D	

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Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Museums & Archives						
Shrewsbury Castle						
Weddings/ Civil Partnership Ceremonies (Circular Room & Castle Grounds)	- Per Ceremony (2 hours - Saturdays, Sundays & Bank Holidays)	£975.00	£1,073.00	10.1%	D	Fees are subject to review
	- Per Ceremony (2 hours - Monday - Friday)	£880.00	£968.00	10.0%	D	
Naming Ceremony Castle	- Per Ceremony (Saturday, Sunday & Bank Holidays)	£975.00	£1,073.00	10.1%	D	
	- Per Ceremony (Monday -Friday)	£880.00	£968.00	10.0%	D	
Admissions	Adult(18+)	£5.50	£5.50	0.0%	D	
	Concession Senior 60+	£4.50	£4.50	0.0%	D	
	Child (5-17)	£3.00	£3.00	0.0%	D	
	Child (0-4)	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
	Child Education Visit (5-17)	POA	POA	N/A	D	
Room hire	Room Hire (Circular Room per hr.)	£38.50	£53.50	39.0%	D	
	Castle Ground Event Hire per hour - guide price	£165.00	£182.00	10.3%	D	
	Castle Grounds Hire Per Day - guide Price	£550.00	£600.00	9.1%	D	
	Shropshire Regimental Trust Grounds Hire - per hour	£88.00	£97.00	10.2%	D	
	Shropshire Regimental Trust Hire per day	£275.00	£303.00	10.2%	D	
	Education Session (2 hr. Session)	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Advertising (Per Week)	£40.00	£44.00	10.0%	D	
Shrewsbury Visitor Information Centre						
	Ticket Sales	no less than 10%	no less than 10%	N/A	D	Fees are subject to review
	Arts and Crafts Cabinet commission	VARIOUS	VARIOUS	N/A	D	
	Guided Walks (public) Adult	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Guided Walks (public) Child	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Guided Walks (private)	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Guided Walks Themed (private)	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Language supplement	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Talks	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Coach Tours full day	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Coach Tours half day	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Supplement Caerfael Tour	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Online Booking Transaction Fee	£0.50	£0.55	10.0%	D	
	Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery					
Admissions	Adult 18+	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	Fees are subject to review
	Senior Citizens	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
	Children (5-17)	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
	Children (0-4))	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
	Essential Companion to a disabled person	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
	Student	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
	Family Day Ticket (2 Adults and up to 3 children)	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
	Family Day Ticket (1 Adult and up to 3 children)	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
	Museum Guided Tour (minimum 12)	VARIOUS	VARIOUS	N/A	D	
	Themed Events - Various	VARIOUS	VARIOUS	N/A	D	
Guided Tours	Temporary Exhibitions	VARIOUS	VARIOUS	N/A	D	
	Pre-school, Playgroup & Nursery Education Sessions	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Primary Education Sessions- Various (1/2/Full Day and Specialist Sessions)	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Secondary Education Admissions- Child (without session)	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
	Secondary Education Sessions/Talks- per session	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Secondary Education Sessions/Talks- per class	POA	POA	N/A	D	
Events						

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Museums & Archives						
Room Hire (POA - dependant on numbers)	Special Exhibitions Gallery (10.00 - 16.00 - Half Day Rate min 3 hours)	£200.00	£220.00	10.0%	D	Fees are subject to review
	Special Exhibitions Gallery (16.00 - 23.00 Minimum 3 hours -Hourly Rate)	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Special Exhibitions Gallery Full Day (7 hours)	£385.00	£424.00	10.1%	D	
	Balcony (10.00-16.00)* Limited Availability - Hourly Rate	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Balcony (16.00- 23.00) (min 2 hrs) - Hourly Rate	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Balcony Half Day Limited Availability (3 hours)	£175.00	£193.00	10.3%	D	
	Balcony Gallery Full Day Limited Availability (7 hours)	£350.00	£385.00	10.0%	D	
	Vaughans (10.00-16.00 minimum 2 hours - Hourly Rate)	£38.50	£42.50	10.4%	D	
	Vaughans (16.00 - 23.00 Minimum 2 hours -Hourly Rate)	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Vaughans Half Day (3 hours)	£88.00	£97.00	10.2%	D	
	Vaughans Gallery Full Day (7 hours)	£165.00	£182.00	10.3%	D	
	Walker Education [education use up to 18 years per hour]	£15.00	£16.50	10.0%	D	
	Walker (10.00-16.00 minimum 2 hours - Hourly Rate)	£38.50	£42.50	10.4%	D	
	Walker (16.00 - 23.00 Minimum 2 hours -Hourly Rate)	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Walker Half Day (3 hours)	£88.00	£97.00	10.2%	D	
	Walker Gallery Full Day (7 hours)	£165.00	£182.00	10.3%	D	
	Projector/Whiteboard	£15.00	£16.50	10.0%	D	
	Flip Chart	£7.50	£8.25	10.0%	D	
	*Staffing charges may need to be applied for evening events or where multiple rooms/spaces are being hired	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Weddings/ Civil Partnership Ceremonies - Per Ceremony (2 hours - Saturdays)	£975.00	£1,073.00	10.1%	D	
	Weddings/ Civil Partnership Ceremonies - Per Ceremony (2 hours - exc. Saturday)	£880.00	£968.00	10.0%	D	
	Special Exhibitions Gallery- Per Ceremony 2 hours - Saturdays	£1,300.00	£1,430.00	10.0%	D	
	Special Exhibitions Gallery- Per Ceremony 2 hours - exc. Saturdays	£1,000.00	£1,100.00	10.0%	D	
	- Steward Service	POA	POA	N/A	D	
Naming Ceremony - Per Ceremony (Saturday)	£975.00	£1,073.00	10.1%	D		
Naming Ceremony - Per Ceremony (exc. Saturday)	£880.00	£968.00	10.0%	D		
The Square						
Room Hire	Reg Charities (any day)	£80.00	£85.00	8.3%	D	Fees are subject to review
	Non Trading	£100.00	£110.00	10.0%	D	
	Trading	£250.00	£275.00	10.0%	D	
	Tech Support per Hour (min 4 Hours)	£30.00	£33.00	10.0%	D	
	Electricity (up to 4 hours)	£120.00	£132.00	10.0%	D	
Commercial Trading	Whole Square Trading (Per day)	£600.00	£660.00	10.0%	D	
	Whole Square Market Trading (Per day)	N/A	£450.00	N/A	D	
	Whole Square Non trading (Per day)	£300.00	£330.00	10.0%	D	
	Single Non Trading Pitch (Per day) - (local Business only) 12.5 m3	£120.00	£132.00	10.0%	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Museums & Archives						
Archives and archaeology						
Consultancy, room hire	Consultancy, bespoke training, workshops, archives/archaeology (per half day)	£143.00	£158.00	10.5%	D	Fees are subject to review
	Commercial research (per hour)	£71.50	£79.00	10.5%	D	
	Conservation work, basic cleaning etc. (per hour)	£38.50	£42.50	10.4%	D	
	Conservation work, repair work (per hour)	£49.50	£60.00	21.2%	D	
	Room hire (max 22)	N/A	£30.00	N/A	D	
	Group visits/outside talks	£60.50	£90.00	48.8%	D	
Photography/ printing	Photography permit-Daily	£10.00	£11.00	10.0%	D	
	Photography permit-Weekly	£15.00	£16.50	10.0%	D	
	Photography permit-Monthly	£50.00	£55.00	10.0%	D	
	Photography permit-Annual	£80.00	£88.00	10.0%	D	
	Photography permit-Group	£120.00	£132.00	10.0%	D	
	Research/consultancy- Research/photography service (per hour)	£45.00	£49.50	10.0%	D	
	Research/consultancy- Consultancy/commercial research/photography (per hour)	£70.00	£77.00	10.0%	D	
	Research/consultancy- Short search (one item)	£12.00	£13.25	10.4%	D	
	Photocopying- Printed up to A4	£0.20	£0.25	25.0%	D	
	Photocopying- Printed up to A3	£0.40	£0.60	50.0%	D	
	Photocopying- Archives A4	£1.00	£1.10	10.0%	D	
	Photocopying- Archives A3	£2.00	£2.20	10.0%	D	
	Microform printouts- Printed A4(self service)	£0.50	£0.55	10.0%	D	
	Microform printouts- Printed A4 (staff)	£1.00	£1.10	10.0%	D	
	Microform printouts- Printed up to A3	£1.50	£1.65	10.0%	D	
	Colour - Archives A4	£2.00	£2.20	10.0%	D	
	Colour - Archives A3	£3.00	£3.30	10.0%	D	
	Internet printouts	£0.20	£0.25	25.0%	D	
	Image services- Print up to A4 including digitisation fee	£17.50	£19.25	10.0%	D	
	Image services- Print up to A3 including digitisation fee	£20.00	£22.00	10.0%	D	
Image services- Existing Digital file (minimum fee)	£10.00	£11.00	10.0%	D		
Image services- new digitisation (minimum fee)	£15.00	£16.50	10.0%	D		
Modern Records Management						
Records Management	External customers, storage and retrieval service (per box)	£8.35	£9.25	10.8%	D	Per Box
Museum Learning						
Events						
Schools education sessions	Themed Events - Various	VARIOUS	VARIOUS	N/A	D	Fees are subject to review
	Pre-school, Playgroup & Nursery Education Sessions	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Primary Education Sessions- Various (1/2/Full Day and Specialist Sessions)	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Secondary Education Sessions/Talks- per session	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Secondary Education Sessions/Talks- per class	POA	POA	N/A	D	

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HOMES & COMMUNITIES- REGISTRARS AND CORONERS

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Registrars and Coroners						
Registrars						
Venue fees	Civil Weddings / Partnerships at Approved venues	£288.00	N/A	N/A	D	
	Civil Weddings/Civil Partnerships at Council Ceremony Room	£122.00	£125.00	2.5%	D	
	Civil Weddings/Civil Partnerships at Licenced Venue	£310.00	£313.00	1.0%	D	
	Additional charge for use of Ceremony room for photographs only	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	D	
	Reaffirmation of vows & Civil naming ceremonies	£125.00	£125.00	0.0%	D	
Customised Ceremony additions:	Basic statutory 2+2- (registrars office in Shrewsbury on a Wednesday)	£88.00	£88.00	0.0%	D	
	Traditional- at Castle View or in The Paul Ainscough Room, Shirehall	£372.00	£372.00	0.0%	D	
	Traditional- at an approved venue	£560.00	£560.00	0.0%	D	
	Enhanced- at Castle View or in The Paul Ainscough Room, Shirehall	£572.00	£572.00	0.0%	D	
	Enhanced- at an approved venue	£760.00	£760.00	0.0%	D	
	Enhanced bespoke- at Castle View or in The Paul Ainscough Room, Shirehall	£772.00	£772.00	0.0%	D	
	Enhanced Bespoke Ceremony	£960.00	£960.00	0.0%	D	
	Blended Ceremony	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	0.0%	D	
Rehearsals	Rehearsals at any Registration Office Mon-Fri normal office hours	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	D	
	Rehearsals at any Registration Office Sat pre 12.30	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%	D	
Other venue fees	Completion of PD2	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%	D	
	Notice of marriage - additional charge for late appointment 16:30-18:30	£20.00	£20.00	0.0%	D	
Non refundable ceremony deposit	Deposit for a ceremony booking (All Civil Ceremonies, Reaffirmations and Naming Ceremonies)- Non refundable	£250.00	£250.00	0.0%	D	
Admin fee	Administration fee for changes to dates or venues	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	D	
Funeral services	Reservation Fee	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%	D	
	Final Fee	£125.00	£125.00	0.0%	D	
Private Citizenship ceremonies	At the Shropshire Register Office, Mon - Fri	£180.00	£180.00	0.0%	D	
	Group Citizenship ceremonies	FOC	FOC	N/A	S	
Approved Venue Licences	First time applications (up to 2 rooms) - 3 year duration	£1,700.00	£1,700.00	0.0%	D	
	Renewals (up to 2 rooms) - 3 year duration	£1,700.00	£1,700.00	0.0%	D	
	Renewals (up to 2 rooms) - 5 year duration	£2,550.00	£2,550.00	0.0%	D	
	Renewals (up to 2 rooms) - 7 year duration	£3,400.00	£3,400.00	0.0%	D	
	Renewals (up to 2 rooms) - 10 year duration	£4,800.00	£4,800.00	0.0%	D	
	Addition of extra room	£250.00	£250.00	0.0%	D	
	Appeals against revocation or refusal to issue approval (non-refundable charge)	£1,300.00	£1,300.00	0.0%	D	
Certificates	Standard birth certificates	£11.00	£11.00	0.0%	S	
	Death certificates	£11.00	£11.00	0.0%	S	
	Marriage certificates	£11.00	£11.00	0.0%	S	
	Extract from civil partnership register	£11.00	£11.00	0.0%	S	
	Standard certificate from civil partnership register	£11.00	£11.00	0.0%	S	
	Marriage Certificates following Conversion from a Civil Partnership. Issued on the day	£11.00	£11.00	0.0%	S	
Gold - priority service	Expediated service charge - next day delivery (including certificate fee)	£35.00	£35.00	0.0%	S	
Silver - premium service	Recorded delivery (including certificate fee)	£16.50	£16.50	0.0%	S	
Bronze - standard service	Bronze Service Handling and postage (including certificate fee)	£12.50	£12.50	0.0%	S	
Notice of Marriage	Notice of marriage (per person)	£35.00	£35.00	0.0%	S	
	Home Office Referral (if necessary)	£24.00	£24.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee payable for a statutory basic marriage ceremony in a registrar's office	£46.00	£46.00	0.0%	S	
Civil Partnership Registrations	Notice of civil partnership registration (per person)	£35.00	£35.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee payable for a statutory basic civil partnership formation in a registrar's office	£46.00	£46.00	0.0%	S	
Conversion of Civil Partnership to Marriage	Conversion of Civil Partnership to Marriage (BASIC SINGLE STAGE)	£45.00	£45.00	0.0%	S	
	Conversion of Civil Partnership to Marriage (2 stage)	£27.00	£27.00	0.0%	S	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Registrars and Coroners						
Local Register Office Fees	Space 17- Insertion/ Removal of Forenames within 12 months of registration	£40.00	£40.00	0.0%	S	
	Consideration by Registrar of Divorce/dissolution/nullity outside the British Isles	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	S	
	Consideration by Registrar General of Divorce/dissolution/nullity outside the British Isles	£75.00	£75.00	0.0%	S	
	Applications to waiver 28 days waiting period	£60.00	£60.00	0.0%	S	
Corrections:	Consideration by registrar of a correction application	£75.00	£75.00	0.0%	S	
	Consideration by Registrar General of a correction application	£90.00	£90.00	0.0%	S	
Fees payable for registrars to attend at a church or other place	SR's attendance at a building registered for the marriage of same sex couples, or at a conversion at according to the usages of the Jews or Society of Friends, or at a military, naval or air force chapel registered for the marriage of same sex couples.	£91.00	£91.00	0.0%	S	
	Superintendent Registrar or Deputy Attending outside his/her office to be given notice of marriage of a house-bound person	£47.00	£47.00	0.0%	S	
	Superintendent Registrar or Deputy Attending outside his/her office to be given notice of marriage of a detained person	£68.00	£68.00	0.0%	S	
	Total cost for Registrar and Superintendent Registrar to attend a marriage at the residence of a house-bound person	£165.00	£165.00	0.0%	S	
	Total cost for Registrar and Superintendent Registrar to attend a marriage at the residence of a detained person	£182.00	£182.00	0.0%	S	
	Registrar to attend a marriage at a registered building or the residence of a house-bound or detained person	£108.00	£108.00	0.0%	S	
	Conversion of civil partnership in accordance with the procedure for housebound persons	£99.00	£99.00	0.0%	S	
	Conversion of civil partnership in accordance with the procedure for detained persons	£117.00	£117.00	0.0%	S	
	Emergency Marriage/Civil Partnerships by Registrar Generals Licence/Special Procedure	£28.00	£28.00	0.0%	S	
	Certification of a place of meeting for religious worship	Certification of a place of meeting for religious worship	£29.00	£29.00	0.0%	S
Application for registration of a building for the solemnisation of marriages between a man and a woman:	a) where the building is already registered under S43A Mge Act 1949	£64.00	£64.00	0.0%	S	
	b) where the building is not already registered under S43A Mge Act 1949	£123.00	£123.00	0.0%	S	
Application for registration of a building for the solemnisation of marriages of same sex couples:	a) where the building is already registered under S41 Mge Act 1949	£64.00	£64.00	0.0%	S	
	b) where the building is not already registered under S41 Mge Act 1949	£123.00	£123.00	0.0%	S	
	Joint application for the registration of a building for the solemnisation of marriages between a man and a woman and of same sex couples	£123.00	£123.00	0.0%	S	
Commemorative Certificates	Commemorative Certificate-e.g. for siblings	£4.50	£4.50	0.0%	D	
	Commemorative Certificate-e.g. anniversaries	£8.00	£8.00	0.0%	D	
	Commemorative Certificate Laminating	£1.00	£1.00	0.0%	D	
Other	Confetti	£1.00	£1.00	0.0%	D	

HOMES AND COMMUNITIES- OUTDOOR PARTNERSHIPS

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Outdoor Partnerships						
Countryside Access						
Guided walks	Guided walk adult	£4.30	£4.75	10.5%	D	
	Guided walk Child (under 16's)	£2.50	£2.75	10.0%	D	
Events	Children's school holiday events	£4.00	£4.50	12.5%	D	
	Wild Toddlers	£5.00	£5.50	10.0%	D	
Car parking	Car parking charges countryside sites (all day)	£2.50	£2.75	10.0%	D	
Hire charges	Individual Canoe Membership at The Mere per year	£30.00	£33.00	10.0%	D	
	Child (16) Canoe Membership at The Mere per year	£15.00	£16.50	10.0%	D	
	Family Canoe Membership at The Mere per year	£75.00	£83.00	10.7%	D	
	Group Canoe charges per boat per day	£6.00	£6.75	12.5%	D	
	Community room hire at Mere Wardens Bungalow (per hour)	£17.00	£18.75	10.3%	D	
	Community room hire at Mere Wardens Bungalow (per day)	£80.00	£88.00	10.0%	D	
	Bags of firewood at SVCP	£3.80	£4.00	11.1%	D	
	School visits	School Visits 1 activity	£4.00	£4.50	12.5%	D
	School Visits 2 activities	£7.00	£7.75	10.7%	D	
Other charges	Memorial bench softwood SVCP	£550.00	£605.00	10.0%	D	
	Memorial bench softwood (North)	£300.00	£330.00	10.0%	D	
	Adopt a bench	£82.60	£89.00	10.2%	D	
	Use of Countryside Sites for commercial filming (1 day)	£300.00	£330.00	10.0%	D	
	Use of Countryside Sites for commercial filming (per hour)	£85.00	£94.00	10.6%	D	
	Sponsor a fruit tree	£82.50	£91.00	10.3%	D	
	Hire of Countryside Sites for commercial events per day (not incl facilities)	£300.00	£330.00	10.0%	D	
	Hire of Countryside Sites for community events per day (not incl facilities)	£85.00	£94.00	10.6%	D	
Rights Of Way (Mapping & Enforcement)						
Membership Scheme	Shropshire's Great Outdoors Membership Scheme	£37.60	£41.50	10.4%	D	
	Shropshire's Great Outdoors Membership Scheme (Monthly Direct Debit)	£3.10	£3.45	11.3%	D	
	Shropshire's Great Outdoors Membership Scheme (Joint membership)	£46.80	£51.50	10.5%	D	
	Shropshire's Great Outdoors Membership Scheme (Family membership)	£50.70	£56.00	10.5%	D	
Diversions						
Pre-publication	Initial investigative work	£179.70	£207.55	15.5%	D	
	Site visit	£239.50	£276.62	15.5%	D	
	Formal consultation letter	£275.50	£318.20	15.5%	D	
	Officer time	£423.35	£488.96	15.5%	D	
	Assessment of legal implications	£89.75	£103.66	15.5%	D	
	Research into history and Status (Increase, Decrease, New, Unchanged) of right of way	£83.80	£96.79	15.5%	D	
	Preparation of committee reports / delegated powers report	£299.35	£345.74	15.5%	D	
Publication	Drawing up map / legal notice	£221.55	£255.88	15.5%	D	
	Letters to consultees	£257.40	£297.29	15.5%	D	
	Consideration and response to statutory consultation	£299.35	£345.74	15.5%	D	
	Drawing up statement of reasons for order	£89.75	£103.66	15.5%	D	
	Site visit	£179.70	£207.55	15.5%	D	
	Admin cost for advert	£47.90	£55.32	15.5%	D	
	Confirmation of Order	Negotiations of objections	£185.64	£214.41	15.5%	D
	Forward order to DEFRA	£149.62	£172.81	15.5%	D	
	Final site visit	£179.70	£207.55	15.5%	D	
	Confirmation of order	£257.40	£297.29	15.5%	D	
	Admin costs for advertisement	£47.90	£55.32	15.5%	D	
	Site visit	£179.70	£207.55	15.5%	D	
Additional Charges	Officer time including extra time at site visits (per hour). Varies depending on staff time required (see below contracting labour rates).	Variable	Variable	N/A	D	
	Additional Letters not covered by above (per letter)	£83.80	£96.79	15.5%	D	
	Additional Visits for first hour.	£179.70	£207.55	15.5%	D	
	Temporary & Permanent Closures	£1,198.55	£1,384.32	15.5%	D	
	Extension to Temporary Closure (excluded advertising)	£801.10	£914.27	15.5%	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Outdoor Partnerships						
Additional Charges	Motor Rallies	£183.55	£473.83	158.1%	D	
	Landowner Statements (Including Village Green) notices required	£410.25	£452.00	10.2%	D	
	Landowner Statements (only) -no notices required	£286.10	£315.00	10.1%	D	
	Landowner Statements - additional notices/site visits (per additional location)	£180.30	£199.00	10.4%	D	
	ROW Search	£66.90	£74.00	10.8%	D	
	Copies of legal orders	£7.35	£8.10	10.2%	D	
Mapping Services (per copy)	A4 Map	£10.50	£11.75	11.9%	D	
	A3 Map	£11.55	£12.75	10.4%	D	
	A1 Plotter	£63.00	£69.50	10.3%	D	
	A0 Plotter	£84.00	£93.00	10.7%	D	
	Copies of ROW documents requiring research/extraction	£42.00	£46.50	10.7%	D	
Rights Of Way (Maintenance)						
Contracting labour rates (per hour)	Countryside Maintenance Manager	£65.01	£48.61	-25.2%	D	
	Contract & Depot Manager	£52.20	£43.10	-17.4%	D	
	Contracts Development Officer	£48.29	£37.89	-21.5%	D	
	Area Officer	£45.54	£34.95	-23.3%	D	
	Countryside Maintenance Supervisor	N/A	£30.96	N/A	D	
	Countryside Maintenance Officer	£33.11	£26.25	-20.7%	D	

HOMES AND COMMUNITIES- TRADING STANDARDS & LICENSING

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes	
Homes and Communities- Trading Standards & Licensing							
Transactional Management & Licensing							
Licensed Premises							
Personal licences, temporary events and other fees	Application for a grant or renewal of personal licence	£37.00	£37.00	0.0%	S		
	Temporary event notice	£21.00	£21.00	0.0%	S		
	Theft, loss etc. of premises licence or summary	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%	S		
	Application for a provisional statement where premises being built etc.	£315.00	£315.00	0.0%	S		
	Notification of change of name or address	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%	S		
	Application to vary licence to specify individual as premises supervisor	£23.00	£23.00	0.0%	S		
	Application for transfer of premises licence	£23.00	£23.00	0.0%	S		
	Interim authority notice following death etc. of licence holder	£23.00	£23.00	0.0%	S		
	Theft, loss etc. of certificate of summary	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%	S		
	Notification of change of name or alteration of rules of club	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%	S		
	Change of relevant registered address of club	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%	S		
	Theft, loss etc. of temporary event notice	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%	S		
	Theft, loss etc. of personal licence	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%	S		
	Duty to notify change of name or address	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%	S		
	Right of freeholder etc. to be notified of licensing matters	£21.00	£21.00	0.0%	S		
	Minor Variation	£89.00	£89.00	0.0%	S		
	Removal of DPS at Community Premises	£23.00	£23.00	0.0%	S		
	Copy of public register entry (per individual entry)	£39.00	£41.00	5.1%	D		
	Licensing Exceptionally Large Events	Additional Application Fee (5,000 - 9,999)	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%	S	
		Additional Annual Fee (5,000 - 9,999)	£500.00	£500.00	0.0%	S	
Additional Application Fee (10,000 - 14,999)		£2,000.00	£2,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Annual Fee (10,000 - 14,999)		£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Application Fee (15,000 - 19,999)		£4,000.00	£4,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Annual Fee (15,000 - 19,999)		£2,000.00	£2,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Application Fee (20,000 - 29,999)		£8,000.00	£8,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Annual Fee (20,000 - 29,999)		£4,000.00	£4,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Application Fee (30,000 - 39,999)		£16,000.00	£16,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Annual Fee (30,000 - 39,999)		£8,000.00	£8,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Application Fee (40,000 - 49,999)		£24,000.00	£24,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Annual Fee (40,000 - 49,999)		£12,000.00	£12,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Application Fee (50,000 - 59,999)		£32,000.00	£32,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Annual Fee (50,000 - 59,999)		£16,000.00	£16,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Application Fee (60,000 - 69,999)		£40,000.00	£40,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Annual Fee (60,000 - 69,999)		£20,000.00	£20,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Application Fee (70,000 - 79,999)		£48,000.00	£48,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Annual Fee (70,000 - 79,999)		£24,000.00	£24,000.00	0.0%	S		
Additional Application Fee (80,000 - 89,999)	£56,000.00	£56,000.00	0.0%	S			
Additional Annual Fee (80,000 - 89,999)	£28,000.00	£28,000.00	0.0%	S			
Additional Application Fee (90,000 and over)	£64,000.00	£64,000.00	0.0%	S			
Additional Annual Fee (90,000 and over)	£32,000.00	£32,000.00	0.0%	S			
Premises Licenses and Club Premises Certificates					N/A		
No rateable value to £4,300 (Band A)	Application Fee (Initial/Variation)	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%	S		
	Annual Fee	£70.00	£70.00	0.0%	S		
Rateable value £4,301 - £33,000 (Band B)	Application Fee (Initial/Variation)	£190.00	£190.00	0.0%	S		
	Annual Fee	£180.00	£180.00	0.0%	S		
Rateable value £33,001 - £87,000 (Band C)	Application Fee (Initial/Variation)	£315.00	£315.00	0.0%	S		
	Annual Fee	£295.00	£295.00	0.0%	S		

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Trading Standards & Licensing						
Rateable value £87,001 - £125,000 (Band D) - All premises other than where primary business is the sale of alcohol	Application Fee (Initial/Variation)	£450.00	£450.00	0.0%	S	
	Annual Fee	£320.00	£320.00	0.0%	S	
Rateable value £125,001 and above (Band E) - All premises other than where primary business is the sale of alcohol	Application Fee (Initial/Variation)	£635.00	£635.00	0.0%	S	
	Annual Fee	£350.00	£350.00	0.0%	S	
Rateable value £87,001 - £125,000 (Band D) - where primary business is the sale of alcohol	Application Fee (Initial/Variation)	£900.00	£900.00	0.0%	S	
	Annual Fee	£640.00	£640.00	0.0%	S	
Rateable value £125,001 and above (Band E) - where primary business is the sale of alcohol	Application Fee (Initial/Variation)	£1,905.00	£1,905.00	0.0%	S	
	Annual Fee	£1,050.00	£1,050.00	0.0%	S	
Licences- Gambling						
<i>For all casino premises licences refer to the Gambling Act 2005 Policy Statement 2016 to 2019 paragraphs 36.1 and 36.2.</i>						
GAMBLING ACT 2005 POLICY STATEMENT 2016 TO 2019 PARAGRAPHS 36.1 AND 36.2						
36.1 The Council has not passed a resolution not to issue casino premises licences under Section 166 (1) of the Act. Should the Council decide to do so in the future details of the resolution will be included in this Policy, including the date on which such a resolution will take effect.						
36.2 Despite the fact that the Council has not passed such a resolution, the Council is currently not enabled by the Secretary of State (in accordance with regulations made under Section 175 of the Act) to grant a premises licence for a small or large casino. In practice, this means that the Council cannot grant such a licence.						
Regional Casino Premises Licence	Fee in respect of other premises	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Annual Fee	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Fee for application to vary licence	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Fee for application to transfer a licence	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Fee for application to reinstate a licence	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Fee for application for provisional statement	POA	POA	N/A	S	
Large Casino Premises	Fee in respect of other premises	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Annual Fee	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Fee for application to vary licence	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Fee for application to transfer a licence	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Fee for application to reinstate a licence	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Fee for application for provisional statement	POA	POA	N/A	S	
Small casino premises	Fee in respect of other premises	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Annual Fee	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Fee for application to vary licence	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Fee for application to transfer a licence	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Fee for application to reinstate a licence	POA	POA	N/A	S	
	Fee for application for provisional statement	POA	POA	N/A	S	
Bingo Licences- Bingo is equal chance gaming and is commonly either cash bingo or prize bingo. The Commission has published its view of what bingo is and how it differs from other forms of gambling. This can be found in the Commission's advice note 'What Constitutes Bingo'.						
Bingo premises licence	Fee in respect of other premises	£1,888.00	£2,020.00	7.0%	S	
	Annual Fee	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application to vary licence	£1,747.00	£1,750.00	0.2%	S	
	Fee for application to transfer a licence	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application to reinstate a licence	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application for provisional statement	£1,877.00	£2,007.00	6.9%	S	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Trading Standards & Licensing						
Adult Gaming Centre Premises Licence	Fee in respect of other premises	£1,888.00	£2,000.00	5.9%	S	
	Annual Fee	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application to vary licence	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application to transfer a licence	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application to reinstate a licence	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application for provisional statement	£1,877.00	£2,000.00	6.6%	S	
Betting Premises (track) licence	Fee in respect of other premises	£1,888.00	£2,020.00	7.0%	S	
	Annual Fee	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application to vary licence	£1,250.00	£1,250.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application to transfer a licence	£950.00	£950.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application to reinstate a licence	£950.00	£950.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application for provisional statement	£1,877.00	£2,007.00	6.9%	S	
Family Entertainment Centre Premises Licence	Fee in respect of other premises	£1,888.00	£2,000.00	5.9%	S	
	Annual Fee	£750.00	£750.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application to vary licence	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application to transfer a licence	£950.00	£950.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application to reinstate a licence	£950.00	£2,028.00	113.5%	S	
	Fee for application for provisional statement	£1,877.00	£2,000.00	6.6%	S	
Betting Premises (other) licence	Fee in respect of other premises	£1,888.00	£2,020.00	7.0%	S	
	Annual Fee	£600.00	£600.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application to vary licence	£1,500.00	£1,500.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application to transfer a licence	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for application to reinstate a licence	£1,200.00	£2,028.00	69.0%	S	
	Fee for application for provisional statement	£1,877.00	£2,007.00	6.9%	S	
Applicable for all gaming licences	Change of circumstances fee - for all gaming licences	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	S	
	Fee for copy licence - for all gaming licences	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%	S	
	Copy of public register entry (per individual entry)	£39.00	£41.00	5.1%	D	
Temporary Use of Premises	Temporary Use Notice	£500.00	£500.00	0.0%	S	
	Replacement of an endorsed copy of a Temporary Use Notice	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%	S	
	Occasional Use Notice	FOC	FOC	N/A	S	
Licensed premises gaming machine permits	Gaming Machine - Up to 2 Machines	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	S	
	Gaming Machine Permits - New	£150.00	£150.00	0.0%	S	
	Gaming Machine Permits - Variation	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%	S	
	Gaming Machine Permits - Change of name	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%	S	
	Gaming Machine Permits - Transfer of permit	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%	S	
	Gaming Machine Permits - Copy (lost, stolen, damaged)	£15.00	£15.00	0.0%	S	
	Gaming Machine Permits - annual fee	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	S	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Trading Standards & Licensing						
Club gaming/ club machine permits	Club Gaming / Club Machine Permits - New or Renew	£200.00	£200.00	0.0%	S	
	Club Gaming / Club Machine Permits for holders of club premises certificates - New or Renew	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%	S	
	Club Gaming / Club Machine Permits - Annual Fee	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	S	
	Club Gaming / Club Machine Permits - Variation	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%	S	
	Club Gaming / Club Machine Permits - Copy (lost, stolen, damaged)	£15.00	£15.00	0.0%	S	
Prize gaming permits	Prize Gaming Permits - New or Renewal	£300.00	£300.00	0.0%	S	
	Prize Gaming Permits - Change of Name	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%	S	
	Prize Gaming Permits - Copy (lost, stolen or damaged)	£15.00	£15.00	0.0%	S	
Unlicensed family entertainment gaming centre gaming machine permits	Family Entertainment Gaming Centre Gaming Machine Permits - New or Renewal	£300.00	£300.00	0.0%	S	
	Family Entertainment Gaming Centre Gaming Machine Permits - Change of Name	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%	S	
	Family Entertainment Gaming Centre Gaming Machine Permits - Copy (lost, stolen, damaged)	£15.00	£15.00	0.0%	S	
Gambling Licence - Small Lottery						
LOTTERIES	Lottery - new registration	£40.00	£40.00	0.0%	S	
	Lottery - renewal of existing registration	£20.00	£20.00	0.0%	S	
Animal Licences						
Zoo Licences- New (plus vet fees)	Zoo Licences- New (plus vet fees). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£934.00	£981.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£420.30	£438.00	4.4%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£513.70	£542.10	5.5%	D	
Zoo Licences- Renewal (plus vet fees)	Zoo Licences- Renewal (plus vet fees). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£877.00	£921.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£324.40	£339.21	4.5%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£552.51	£581.79	5.3%	D	
Dog day care- New (<10 dogs)	Dog day care- New (<10 dogs). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£535.00	£562.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£256.60	£280.38	9.2%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£278.20	£281.62	1.2%	D	
Dog day care- Renewal (<10 dogs)	Dog day care- Renewal (<10 dogs). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£464.00	£487.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£278.40	£294.19	5.7%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£185.60	£192.81	3.9%	D	
Dog day care- Additional activity (<10 dogs)	Dog day care- Additional activity (<10 dogs)	£173.00	£182.00	5.2%	D	
Dog day care- New (>10 dogs)	Dog day care- New (>10 dogs). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£604.00	£634.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£298.92	£303.62	1.6%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£305.08	£330.38	8.3%	D	
Dog day care- Renewal (>10 dogs)	Dog day care- Renewal (>10 dogs). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£511.00	£537.00	5.1%	D	
	Initial application	£290.38	£309.10	6.3%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£214.62	£227.90	6.2%	D	
Dog day care- Additional activity (>10 dogs)	Dog day care- Additional activity (>10 dogs)	£230.00	£242.00	5.2%	D	
Breeding for dogs- New (<10 dogs)	Breeding for dogs- New (<10 dogs). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£569.00	£597.00	4.9%	D	
	Initial application	£309.85	£300.25	-3.1%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£199.15	£296.75	48.0%	D	

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Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basia of Charge (statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Trading Standards & Licensing						
Breeding for dogs- Renewal (<10 dogs)	Breeding for dogs- Renewal (<10 dogs). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£466.00	£489.00	4.9%	D	
	<i>Initial application</i>	£270.00	£295.40	5.7%	D	
	<i>Fee due after licence granted</i>	£186.40	£193.60	3.9%	D	
Breeding for dogs- Additional activity (<10 dogs)	Breeding for dogs- Additional activity (<10 dogs)	£222.00	£233.00	5.0%	D	
Breeding for dogs- New (>10 dogs)	Breeding for dogs- New (>10 dogs). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£642.00	£674.00	5.0%	D	
	<i>Initial application</i>	£353.10	£399.48	4.6%	D	
	<i>Fee due after licence granted</i>	£288.90	£304.52	5.4%	D	
Breeding for dogs- Renewal (>10 dogs)	Breeding for dogs- Renewal (>10 dogs). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£489.00	£513.00	4.9%	D	
	<i>Initial application</i>	£283.02	£295.27	4.1%	D	
	<i>Fee due after licence granted</i>	£205.98	£217.73	6.0%	D	
Breeding for dogs- Additional activity (>10 dogs)	Breeding for dogs- Additional activity (>10 dogs)	£270.00	£284.00	5.2%	D	
Boarding for cats- New (<10 cats)	Boarding for cats- New (<10 cats). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£535.00	£562.00	5.0%	D	
	<i>Initial application</i>	£284.50	£280.38	-1.4%	D	
	<i>Fee due after licence granted</i>	£250.50	£281.62	12.4%	D	
Boarding for cats- Renewal (<10 cats)	Boarding for cats- Renewal (<10 cats). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£464.00	£487.00	5.0%	D	
	<i>Initial application</i>	£278.40	£294.19	5.7%	D	
	<i>Fee due after licence granted</i>	£185.60	£192.81	3.9%	D	
Boarding for cats- Additional activity (<10 cats)	Boarding for cats- Additional activity (<10 cats)	£173.00	£182.00	5.2%	D	
Boarding for cats- New (>10 cats)	Boarding for cats- New (>10 cats). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£604.00	£634.00	5.0%	D	
	<i>Initial application</i>	£289.92	£303.02	4.7%	D	
	<i>Fee due after licence granted</i>	£314.08	£330.98	5.2%	D	
Boarding for cats- Renewal (>10 cats)	Boarding for cats- Renewal (>10 cats). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£511.00	£537.00	5.1%	D	
	<i>Initial application</i>	£291.27	£309.19	6.1%	D	
	<i>Fee due after licence granted</i>	£219.73	£227.80	3.7%	D	
Boarding for cats- Additional activity (>10 cats)	Boarding for cats- Additional activity (>10 cats)	£230.00	£242.00	5.2%	D	
Kennel Boarding- New (<10 animals)	Kennel Boarding- New (<10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£536.00	£563.00	5.0%	D	
	<i>Initial application</i>	£273.36	£287.30	5.1%	D	
	<i>Fee due after licence granted</i>	£262.64	£275.70	5.0%	D	
Kennel Boarding- Renewal (<10 animals)	Kennel Boarding- Renewal (<10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£460.00	£483.00	5.0%	D	
	<i>Initial application</i>	£225.40	£231.88	2.9%	D	
	<i>Fee due after licence granted</i>	£234.60	£251.12	7.0%	D	
Kennel Boarding- Additional activity (<10 animals)	Kennel Boarding- Additional activity (<10 animals)	£173.00	£182.00	5.2%	D	
Kennel Boarding- New (>10 animals)	Kennel Boarding- New (>10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£606.00	£636.00	5.0%	D	
	<i>Initial application</i>	£296.94	£312.78	5.3%	D	
	<i>Fee due after licence granted</i>	£309.06	£323.22	4.6%	D	
Kennel Boarding- Renewal (>10 animals)	Kennel Boarding- Renewal (>10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£505.00	£530.00	5.0%	D	
	<i>Initial application</i>	£237.35	£242.05	2.4%	D	
	<i>Fee due after licence granted</i>	£267.65	£287.95	7.2%	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Home and Communities- Trading Standards & Licensing						
Kennel Boarding- Additional activity (>10 animals)	Kennel Boarding- Additional activity (>10 animals)	£231.00	£243.00	5.2%	D	
Home Boarding- New (<10 animals)	Home Boarding- New (<10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£535.00	£562.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£207.50	£280.38	4.8%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£207.50	£281.02	5.3%	D	
Home Boarding- Renewal (<10 animals)	Home Boarding- Renewal (<10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£464.00	£487.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£278.40	£307.53	10.5%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£185.60	£179.47	-3.3%	D	
Home Boarding- Additional activity (<10 animals)	Home Boarding- Additional activity (<10 animals)	£173.00	£182.00	5.2%	D	
Home Boarding- New (>10 animals)	Home Boarding- New (>10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£604.00	£634.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£289.02	£303.02	4.7%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£314.08	£330.98	5.2%	D	
Home Boarding- Renewal (>10 animals)	Home Boarding- Renewal (>10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£511.00	£537.00	5.1%	D	
	Initial application	£291.27	£309.10	6.1%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£219.73	£227.90	3.7%	D	
Home Boarding- Additional activity (>10 animals)	Home Boarding- Additional activity (>10 animals)	£233.00	£245.00	5.2%	D	
Selling animals as pets- New (<10 animals)	Selling animals as pets- New (<10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£537.00	£564.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£284.61	£297.84	4.6%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£252.39	£266.16	5.5%	D	
Selling animals as pets- Renewal (<10 animals)	Selling animals as pets- Renewal (<10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£467.00	£490.00	4.9%	D	
	Initial application	£270.80	£282.04	4.1%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£196.14	£207.96	6.0%	D	
Selling animals as pets- Additional activity (<10 animals)	Selling animals as pets- Additional activity (<10 animals)	£198.00	£208.00	5.1%	D	
Selling animals as pets- New (>10 animals)	Selling animals as pets- New (>10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£608.00	£638.00	4.9%	D	
	Initial application	£322.24	£335.71	4.2%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£285.76	£302.29	5.8%	D	
Selling animals as pets- Renewal (>10 animals)	Selling animals as pets- Renewal (>10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£514.00	£540.00	5.1%	D	
	Initial application	£292.08	£307.31	4.0%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£221.02	£232.69	5.3%	D	
Selling animals as pets- Additional activity (>10 animals)	Selling animals as pets- Additional activity (>10 animals)	£234.00	£246.00	5.1%	D	
Keeping or training animals for exhibition- New (<10 animals)	Keeping or training animals for exhibition- New (<10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£537.00	£564.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£263.13	£277.37	5.4%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£273.87	£286.63	4.7%	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Trading Standards & Licensing						
Keeping or training animals for exhibition- Renewal (<10 animals)	Keeping or training animals for exhibition- Renewal (<10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£534.00	£561.00	5.1%	D	
	Initial application	£320.40	£338.80	5.8%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£213.60	£222.11	4.0%	D	
Keeping or training animals for exhibition- Additional activity (<10 animals)	Keeping or training animals for exhibition- Additional activity (<10 animals)	£160.00	£168.00	5.0%	D	
Keeping or training animals for exhibition- New (>10 animals)	Keeping or training animals for exhibition- New (>10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£608.00	£638.00	4.9%	D	
	Initial application	£270.68	£292.51	4.6%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£328.32	£345.49	5.2%	D	
Keeping or training animals for exhibition- Renewal (>10 animals)	Keeping or training animals for exhibition- Renewal (>10 animals). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£604.00	£634.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£350.32	£364.03	4.2%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£253.68	£269.97	6.1%	D	
Keeping or training animals for exhibition- Additional activity (>10 animals)	Keeping or training animals for exhibition- Additional activity (>10 animals)	£230.00	£242.00	5.2%	D	
Hiring out horses- New (<10)	Hiring out horses- New (<10). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£573.00	£602.00	5.1%	D	
	Initial application	£303.60	£316.23	4.1%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£269.31	£285.77	6.1%	D	
Hiring out horses- Renewal (<10)	Hiring out horses- Renewal (<10). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£504.00	£529.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£322.50	£336.05	4.4%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£181.44	£192.35	6.0%	D	
Hiring out horses- Additional activity (<10)	Hiring out horses- Additional activity (<10)	£287.00	£301.00	4.9%	D	
Hiring out horses- New (>10)	Hiring out horses- New (>10). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£643.00	£675.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£315.07	£332.04	5.4%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£327.93	£342.96	4.6%	D	
Hiring out horses- Renewal (>10)	Hiring out horses- Renewal (>10). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£550.00	£578.00	5.1%	D	
	Initial application	£335.50	£353.50	5.4%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£214.50	£224.50	4.7%	D	
Hiring out horses- Additional activity (>10)	Hiring out horses- Additional activity (>10)	£312.00	£328.00	5.1%	D	
Other licences	Horses annual inspection	£81.00	£85.00	4.9%	D	
	Variation of the licence with inspection	£81.00	£85.00	4.9%	D	
	Licence variation with no inspection	£60.00	£63.00	5.0%	D	
	Licence variation with inspection <10	£134.00	£141.00	5.2%	D	
	Licence variation with inspection >10	£154.00	£162.00	5.2%	D	
	Re-inspection request < 10 no vet	£139.00	£146.00	5.0%	D	
	Re-inspection request > 10 no vet	£160.00	£168.00	5.0%	D	
	Re-inspection request < 10 with a vet	£204.00	£214.00	4.9%	D	
	Re-inspection request > 10 with a vet	£217.00	£228.00	5.1%	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Trading Standards & Licensing						
Dangerous Animals	Dangerous Wild Animals (plus Veterinary Surgeon's fee) - where total licensing procedure takes up to 9 hrs	£281.00	£295.00	5.0%	D	
	Dangerous Wild Animals (plus Veterinary Surgeon's fee) - charge per hour where total licensing procedure exceeds 9 hrs	£25.00	£26.00	4.0%	D	
	Dangerous Wild Animals (plus Veterinary Surgeon's Fee) (renewal) - where total licensing procedure takes up to 3.75 hrs	£260.00	£273.00	5.0%	D	
	Dangerous Wild Animals (plus Veterinary Surgeon's Fee) (renewal) - charge per hour when licensing procedure exceeds 3.75 hours	£25.00	£26.00	4.0%	D	
Public Health Licences						
Acupuncture	Acupuncture - Each Person submitted separately (not including premises)	£152.00	£160.00	5.3%	D	
	Acupuncture Premises - Premises including one person	£317.00	£333.00	5.0%	D	
	Additional persons included on same application	£29.00	£30.00	3.4%	D	
Electrolysis	Electrolysis- Each Person submitted separately (not including premises)	£152.00	£160.00	5.3%	D	
	Electrolysis Premises - Premises including one person	£317.00	£333.00	5.0%	D	
	Additional persons included on same application	£29.00	£30.00	3.4%	D	
Cosmetic piercing	Cosmetic piercing techniques - Each Person submitted separately (not including premises)	£152.00	£160.00	5.3%	D	
	Cosmetic piercing techniques - Premises including one person	£317.00	£333.00	5.0%	D	
	Additional persons included on same application	£29.00	£30.00	3.4%	D	
Tattooing	Tattooing - Each Person (not including premises) - submitted separately	£152.00	£160.00	5.3%	D	
	Tattooing Premises - Premises including one person	£317.00	£333.00	5.0%	D	
	Additional persons included on same application	£29.00	£30.00	3.4%	D	
Scrap metal licences						
Scrap metal dealers- site licences (new)	Scrap Metal Dealers - Site (New). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£748.00	£785.00	4.9%	D	
	Initial application	£110.08	£135.20	13.0%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£628.32	£649.74	3.4%	D	
Scrap metal dealers- site licences (renewal)	Scrap Metal Dealers - Site (Renewal). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£2,917.00	£3,063.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£495.89	£577.07	16.4%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£2,421.11	£2,485.93	2.7%	D	
Scrap metal dealers- collectors licences (new)	Scrap Metal Dealers - Collectors (New). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£219.00	£230.00	5.0%	D	
	Initial application	£135.78	£140.00	8.0%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£83.22	£83.31	0.1%	D	
Scrap metal dealers- collectors licences (renewal)	Scrap Metal Dealers - Collectors (Renewal). Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£472.00	£496.00	5.1%	D	
	Initial application	£245.44	£328.00	33.0%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£226.56	£168.00	-25.8%	D	
Scrap metal dealers- collectors licences (variation)	Scrap Metal Dealer - collector to site variation. Total payable- please see breakdown of payment amounts below.	£507.00	£532.00	4.9%	D	
	Initial application	£81.72	£93.68	15.5%	D	
	Fee due after licence granted	£425.88	£438.32	2.9%	D	
Other scrap metal licences	Scrap Metal Dealer Site Manager Variation	£100.00	£105.00	5.0%	D	
	Scrap Metal Dealer - Site/Collector Licensee Name - Variation (not transfer of licensee)	£55.00	£58.00	5.5%	D	
	Scrap Metal Dealer - site to collector variation	£115.00	£121.00	5.2%	D	
Vehicle Hire- Hackney						
Vehicle Hire- Hackney	Hackney Carriage Vehicle - New	£192.00	£193.00	0.5%	D	
	Hackney Carriage Vehicle - Renewal	£193.00	£194.00	0.5%	D	
	Hackney Carriage Licence Transfer (Transfer of existing licence to a new vehicle)	£193.00	£194.00	0.5%	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Trading Standards & Licensing						
Taxi Private Hire Vehicles						
Vehicle Hire- Private	Private Hire Vehicle - New	£201.00	£203.00	1.0%	D	
	Private Hire Vehicle - Renewal	£207.00	£209.00	1.0%	D	
	Private Hire Vehicle Licence Transfer (Transfer of existing licence to a new vehicle)	£201.00	£203.00	1.0%	D	
Vehicle Hire- Novelty	Novelty Vehicle - New	£188.00	£190.00	1.1%	D	
	Novelty Vehicle - Renewal	£201.00	£201.00	0.0%	D	
	Novelty Vehicle Licence Transfer (Transfer of existing licence to a new vehicle)	£183.00	£186.00	1.6%	D	
Vehicle Hire- Executive	Executive Vehicle - New	£192.00	£195.00	1.6%	D	
	Executive Vehicle - Renewal	£213.00	£213.00	0.0%	D	
	Executive Vehicle Licence Transfer (Transfer of existing licence to a new vehicle)	£192.00	£195.00	1.6%	D	
Other Vehicle	Exterior Plate replacement following damage or loss	£45.00	£45.00	0.0%	D	
	Internal Plate replacement following damage or loss	£45.00	£45.00	0.0%	D	
	Fare Card replacement following damage or lost	£3.00	£3.00	0.0%	D	
	Private hire door signs replacement (pair)	£45.00	£45.00	0.0%	D	
	Vehicle Licence holder (Licensee) transfer	£98.00	£98.00	0.0%	D	
	Licence Holder Change of Details	£25.00	£26.00	4.0%	D	
Drivers Joint Badge						
Drivers Joint Badge- New	Driver's Joint Badge New - 3 year (Inc. DVLA, DBS Check, first knowledge test and first driver training assessment) Including Safeguarding	£309.00	£317.00	2.6%	D	
	Driver's Joint Badge New - 3 year (Inc. DVLA, DBS Check, first knowledge test and first driver training assessment) excluding Safeguarding	£254.00	£260.00	2.4%	D	
Drivers Joint Badge- Renewal	Driver's Badge Renewal - 3 Years (Including DVLA and DBS check). Including safeguarding	£267.00	£273.00	2.2%	D	
	Driver's Badge Renewal - 3 Years (Including DVLA and DBS check). excluding safeguarding	£213.00	£219.00	2.8%	D	
Drivers Joint Badge- other	Driver Training Assessment	£70.00	£70.00	0.0%	D	
	Driver's Knowledge Test	£59.00	£59.00	0.0%	D	
	Driver's Knowledge Test Resit	£52.00	£52.00	0.0%	D	
	Additional DBS	N/A	£59.00	N/A	D	
	Driver's Badge Replacement following damage or loss	£45.00	£45.00	0.0%	D	
	Licence Holder Change of Details	£25.00	£26.00	4.0%	D	
	Safeguarding Training	£48.00	£48.00	0.0%	D	
Private Hire Operators						
Private Hire Operators - 5 Years (Formerly 3 years) - New	Private Hire Operator - up to and including 30 vehicles and one base	£328.00	£328.00	0.0%	D	
	Private Hire Operator - 31 vehicles and more and/or more than one base	£850.00	£874.00	2.8%	D	
Private Hire Operators - 5 Years (Formerly 3 years) - Renewal	Private Hire Operator - up to and including 30 vehicles and one base	£349.00	£371.00	6.3%	D	
	Private Hire Operator - 31 vehicles and more and/or more than one base	£832.00	£851.00	2.3%	D	
Private Hire Operators - 5 Years (Formerly 3 years) - other	Licence Holder Change of Details	£25.00	£26.00	4.0%	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Trading Standards & Licensing						
Street trading						
Street trading	Street Trading Consent/ Licence- minimum charge for up to 7 days(the 7 days may be used at any time within a 12 month period commencing from the date the consent is issued, but the dates must be confirmed on the application)	£405.00	£425.00	4.9%	D	
	Street Trading Consent/Licence- each additional day or part thereof (the dates must be confirmed on application)	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%	D	
	Street Trading Consent/Licence- Annual	£1,078.00	£1,144.00	6.1%	D	
	Street Trading Consent/Licence- Annual-Renewal	£1,081.00	£1,147.00	6.1%	D	
	Street Trading Event - Daily. Minimum charge for up to 7 days (the 7 days may be used at any time within a 12 month period commencing from the date the consent is issued, but the dates must be confirmed on application)	£226.00	£243.00	7.5%	D	
	Street Trading Event - Each additional day or part thereof (the dates must be confirmed on application)	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%	D	
	Street Trading Event - Annual	£804.00	£862.00	7.2%	D	
Miscellaneous Licences						
Sex establishment licences	Sex establishments (application) New	£2,592.00	£2,638.00	9.5%	D	
	Sex establishments Renewal	£1,837.00	£2,015.00	9.7%	D	
	Sex establishments Transfer	£1,838.00	£2,013.00	9.5%	D	
Pleasure boats and vessels						
Pleasure boats and vessels	Per Annum (plus Marine Inspector's fees)	£241.00	£253.00	5.0%	D	
Distribution of free printed matter						
Distribution of free printed matter	Weekly permit	£87.00	£91.00	4.6%	D	
	Monthly	£122.00	£128.00	4.9%	D	
	Annual permit	£156.00	£164.00	5.1%	D	
Other permits						
Blue badge permits		£10.00	£10.00	0.0%	S	
Fit and Proper Person Relevant Protected Site						
Fit and Proper Person Relevant Protected Site	Mobile Homes (Requirement for Manager of Site to be Fit and Proper Person) 2014 New Application	£194.00	£204.00	5.2%	D	
	Mobile Homes (Requirement for Manager of Site to be Fit and Proper Person) 2014 Annual fee up to 5 conditions	£136.00	£143.00	5.1%	D	
	Mobile Homes (Requirement for Manager of Site to be Fit and Proper Person) 2014 Annual fee 6-10 conditions	£203.00	£213.00	4.9%	D	
	Mobile Homes (Requirement for Manager of Site to be Fit and Proper Person) 2014 Annual fee > 10 conditions	£262.00	£296.00	5.0%	D	
Relevant Protected Sites						
Relevant Protected Sites	New Relevant Protected Site 1- 20	£752.00	£792.00	5.3%	D	
	New Relevant Protected Site 21- 50	£826.00	£869.00	5.2%	D	
	New Relevant Protected Site 51- 100	£874.00	£918.00	5.0%	D	
	New Relevant Protected Site >100	£923.00	£969.00	5.0%	D	
	Relevant Protected Site - Alteration of conditions	£831.00	£874.00	5.2%	D	
	Relevant Protected Site - Transfer	£733.00	£773.00	5.5%	D	
	Relevant Protected Site - Deposit of site rules or deletion notice	£51.00	£54.00	5.9%	D	
Financial penalties relating to letting agents etc						
Financial penalties relating to letting agents etc	Penalty for breach of duty to publicise fees (maximum amount)	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	0.0%	S	These penalties are now covered in the Council's "Policy for the enforcement and determination of financial penalties for breaches of relevant letting agency requirements", which has been separately approved by Cabinet.
	Penalty for failing to comply with transparency requirements pertaining to a client money protection scheme (maximum amount)	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	0.0%	S	
	Penalty for breach of requirement to belong to a Client Money Protection scheme (maximum amount)	£30,000.00	£30,000.00	0.0%	S	
	Penalty for breach of requirement to belong to a redress scheme (maximum amount)	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	0.0%	S	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Trading Standards & Licensing						
Fireworks and explosives (Explosives Regulations 2014)						
Licence to store explosives where, by virtue of regulation 27 of, and Schedule 5 to, the 2014 Regulations, a minimum separation distance of greater than 0 metres is prescribed	1 year	£189.00	£193.00	2.1%	S	
	2 years	£248.00	£253.00	2.0%	S	
	3 years	£311.00	£317.00	1.9%	S	
	4 years	£382.00	£390.00	2.1%	S	
	5 years	£432.00	£441.00	2.1%	S	
Renewal of licence to store explosives where a minimum separation distance of greater than 0 metres is prescribed	1 year	£88.00	£90.00	2.3%	S	
	2 years	£150.00	£153.00	2.0%	S	
	3 years	£211.00	£215.00	1.9%	S	
	4 years	£272.00	£277.00	1.8%	S	
	5 years	£333.00	£340.00	2.1%	S	
Licence to store explosives where no minimum separation distance or a 0 metres minimum separation distance is prescribed	1 year	£111.00	£113.00	1.8%	S	
	2 years	£144.00	£147.00	2.1%	S	
	3 years	£177.00	£181.00	2.3%	S	
	4 years	£211.00	£215.00	1.9%	S	
	5 years	£243.00	£248.00	2.1%	S	
Renewal of licence to store explosives where no minimum separation distance or a 0 metres minimum separation distance is prescribed	1 year	£55.00	£56.00	1.8%	S	
	2 years	£88.00	£90.00	2.3%	S	
	3 years	£123.00	£125.00	1.6%	S	
	4 years	£155.00	£158.00	1.9%	S	
	5 years	£189.00	£193.00	2.1%	S	
Other	Varying the name of licensee or address of site	£37.00	£38.00	2.7%	S	
	Transfer of licence	£37.00	£38.00	2.7%	S	
	Replacement of licence if lost	£37.00	£38.00	2.7%	S	
	Licensing of Firework Suppliers - one years duration	£500.00	£500.00	0.0%	S	
	Any other kind of variation (Not varying name of licensee or address of site)	£721.00	£757.00	5.0%	D	
	Explosives Assent Procedure	£470.00	£494.00	5.1%	D	
	Copy of public register entry (per individual entry)	£46.00	£48.00	4.3%	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Trading Standards & Licensing						
Trading Standards and Parking Enforcement						
Penalty Charge Notices						
Civil parking enforcement fines	Higher Level	£70.00	£70.00	0.0%	S	
	Lower Level	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	S	
Pavement permits/ licences						
Pavement permits	New Application	£230.00	£245.00	6.5%	D	
	Renewal	£107.00	£162.00	51.4%	D	
Pavement licences	New Pavement Licence (maximum 12 months duration)	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%	S	New legislation pending where Licence fee will become a two year licence at a cost of £500. The Council will charge these increased maximum fees, in accordance with the provisions of the new legislation.
	Renewal Pavement Licence (maximum 12 months duration)	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%	S	New legislation pending where Licence fee will become a two year licence at a cost of £350. The Council will charge these increased maximum fees, in accordance with the provisions of the new legislation.
Trading Standards						
Weights & measures: testing weighing equipment	Up to 15kg	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Over 15kg and up to 60kg	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Over 60kg and up to 500 kg	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Over 500kg and up to 1 tonne	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Over 1 tonne and up to 2 tonne	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Over 2 tonne and up to 50 tonne	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Over 50 tonne and up to 60 tonnes	POA	POA	N/A	D	
Weights & measures: testing liquid fuel	Containers Un-subdivided	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Single and multi-outlets - First Nozzle	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Each additional nozzle	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Peripheral equipment and credit card acceptor	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Bulk Fuel Meter Systems	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Certificate of errors	POA	POA	N/A	D	
Will be a minimum charge of £85.00 for a W&M Inspector and £48.00 for a Technical/Support Officer; and each job priced individually to ensure full cost recovery. Fees for statutory verification purposes do not incur VAT. Fees for "request tests" will incur VAT on top of the hourly fees referred to above.						
Housing Enforcement and Service Support						
Housing Licences						
Private sector housing	Mandatory HMO Licence (Homes in Multiple Occupancy) up to 5 units	£1,145.00	£1,200.00	4.8%	D	
	Additional per unit	£163.00	£170.00	4.3%	D	
	Inspection of dwellings for Immigration	£250.00	£275.00	10.0%	D	
Student accommodation accreditation scheme	Inspection of property- up to 3 hours (fee payable every 3 years)	£250.00	£262.50	5.0%	D	
	Inspection of property- hourly charge when inspection exceeds 3 hours	£79.00	£83.33	5.5%	D	
	Half day briefing for Landlords (fee payable every 3 years)	£44.00	£45.83	4.2%	D	

HOMES AND COMMUNITIES- LIBRARIES

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Libraries						
Talking books/ courses	Up to 2 tapes	£1.30	£1.35	3.8%	D	
	CD & larger tape packs	£2.95	£3.05	3.4%	D	
Computer charges	Charge for non members	£1.40	£1.50	7.1%	D	
	Members	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
Printing & Photocopying	Printing & Photocopying - A4 sheet	£0.22	£0.25	13.6%	D	
	Printing & Photocopying - A4 sheet colour	£0.55	£0.60	9.1%	D	
	Printing & Photocopying - A3 sheet black & white	£0.33	£0.35	6.1%	D	
	Printing & Photocopying - A3 sheet colour	£0.77	£0.80	3.9%	D	
Laminating	Laminating copies - A4 sheet	£1.75	£1.85	5.7%	D	
	Laminating copies - A3 sheet	£2.85	£3.00	5.3%	D	
Fines	Adult items per item per day	£0.25	£0.25	0.0%	D	
	Children's items per item per day	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
	Music/drama sets returned late or incomplete	£24.00	£25.00	4.2%	D	
Cards	New library membership card	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
	Replacement library membership card	£1.65	£1.75	6.1%	D	
Requests	per item	£1.10	£1.10	0.0%	D	
	per item through inter-lending scheme	£22.00	£23.00	4.5%	D	
	Sets of vocal scores through inter-lending scheme - per copy	£1.20	£1.25	4.2%	D	
	Orchestral sets through inter-lending scheme	£26.50	£27.50	3.8%	D	
	Drama sets through inter-lending scheme - per copy	£1.20	£1.25	4.2%	D	
Shrewsbury Library room hire per session (Morning or Afternoon)	Personal/Voluntary group/ Charity Group	£40.00	£42.00	5.0%	D	
	Business Use	£80.00	£84.00	5.0%	D	
Oswestry Library Room Hire per session (Morning or Afternoon) - without projector	Personal/Voluntary group/ Charity Group	£36.00	£37.50	4.2%	D	
	Business Use	£70.00	£75.00	7.1%	D	
Hire of gallery hanging space at Oswestry Library per month	Personal/Voluntary group/ Charity Group	£28.00	£29.50	5.4%	D	
	Business Use	£55.00	£59.00	7.3%	D	
Room Hire - Bridgnorth Library per session (Morning or Afternoon)	Personal/Voluntary group/ Charity Group	£36.00	£37.50	4.2%	D	
	Business Use	£70.00	£75.00	7.1%	D	
Interview Room Hire - Bridgnorth Library per Hour	Personal/Voluntary group/ Charity Group	£9.00	£9.50	5.6%	D	
	Business Use	£16.50	£19.00	15.2%	D	
Hire of window display space at Bridgnorth Library per month	Personal/Voluntary group/ Charity Group	£28.00	£29.50	5.4%	D	
	Business Use	£55.00	£59.00	7.3%	D	
Room Hire - Church Stretton Library per session (Morning or Afternoon)	Personal/Voluntary group/ Charity Group	£23.00	£24.00	4.3%	D	
	Business Use	£46.00	£48.00	4.3%	D	
Room Hire - Gobowen Library per session (Morning or Afternoon)	Personal/Voluntary group/ Charity Group	£13.00	£13.50	3.8%	D	
	Business Use	£26.00	£27.00	3.8%	D	
Room Hire - Wem Library per session (Morning or Afternoon)	Personal/Voluntary group/ Charity Group	£16.00	£16.50	3.1%	D	
	Business Use	£31.00	£33.00	6.5%	D	
Room Hire - Ludlow Education Room per session (Morning or Afternoon)	Room Hire - Ludlow Library gallery space per session (Morning or Afternoon)	£28.00	£29.00	3.6%	D	
	Room Hire - Ludlow Library gallery- Personal/Voluntary group/ Charity Group	£14.00	£14.50	3.6%	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Libraries						
Hire of gallery hanging space at Market Drayton Library per month	Personal/Voluntary group/ Charity Group	£28.00	£29.50	5.4%	D	
	Business Use	£56.00	£59.00	5.4%	D	
Reading group fees	Reading Group admin fee:	£50.00	£60.00	20.0%	D	
Commission	Ludlow Library and Museum Resource Centre Gallery Commission	25.00%	25.00%	0.0%	D	
Filming	Flat rate filming fee per day	£390.00	£390.00	0.0%	D	
	Provision of staff member per hour (Dependent on member of staff)	POA	POA	N/A	D	
Events	Dependent on costs of event, audience, venue, partner arrangements etc.	POA	POA	N/A	D	

HOMES AND COMMUNITIES- LEISURE

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Leisure						
Meole Brace Golf Course						
Green Fees 12 Holes	Adult - up to midday	£10.50	N/A	N/A	D	
	Adult - 12 noon - 4pm	£9.50	N/A	N/A	D	
	Adult - 4pm to close	£8.50	N/A	N/A	D	
	Junior	£7.50	N/A	N/A	D	
	Concessionary Rate	£7.50	N/A	N/A	D	
Temporary Green Fees 12 Holes	Adult	£7.50	N/A	N/A	D	
	Junior	£7.50	N/A	N/A	D	
	Afternoon Special rates (as and when required)	POA	POA	N/A	D	
Green Fees 18 Holes	Official Meole Brace Golf Club comps	N/A	£15.00	N/A	D	
	Official Meole Brace Golf Club comps - concessionary	N/A	£13.00	N/A	D	
Green Fees 9/12 Holes	Adults - Weekdays, Mon-Fri	N/A	£10.00	N/A	D	
	Junior & Concessionary - Weekdays, Mon-Fri	N/A	£8.00	N/A	D	
	Adults - Weekend	N/A	£11.00	N/A	D	
	Junior & Concessionary - Weekend	N/A	£9.00	N/A	D	
	Non pre-booked supplement	N/A	£12.00	N/A	D	
Adult membership		£580.00	£580.00	0.0%	D	
Much Wenlock Leisure Centre						
Artificial Turf Pitch (not floodlit)	Whole pitch adult - off-peak	£88.60	£72.00	5.0%	D	
	Half pitch adult - off-peak	£34.30	£38.00	5.0%	D	
	1/3 pitch adult - off-peak	£28.60	£27.90	4.9%	D	
Athletics Track (not floodlit)	Whole Track Adult	£46.20	£48.50	5.0%	D	
	Whole Track Junior	£22.40	£23.50	4.9%	D	
	Pay & Play Adult (per person)	£5.50	£5.80	5.5%	D	
	Pay & Play Junior (per person)	£2.50	£2.60	4.0%	D	
Multi Use Games Area (floodlit)	Full MUGA adult	£85.00	£88.30	5.1%	D	
	Full MUGA junior	£32.50	£34.10	4.9%	D	
	Full MUGA adult with lights	£83.00	£87.20	5.1%	D	
	Full MUGA junior with lights	£41.50	£43.60	5.1%	D	
	Netball/5-a-side Court adult	£22.70	£23.80	4.8%	D	
	Netball/5-a-side Court junior	£11.40	£12.00	5.3%	D	
	Netball/5-a-side Court adult with lights	£33.50	£35.20	5.1%	D	
	Netball/5-a-side Court junior with lights	£18.70	£17.50	4.8%	D	
	7-a-side Court adult	£42.90	£45.00	4.9%	D	
	7-a-side Court junior	£21.50	£22.60	5.1%	D	
	7-a-side Court adult with lights	£53.50	£56.20	5.0%	D	
	7-a-side Court junior with lights	£26.70	£28.00	4.9%	D	
	Tennis Court adult	£10.70	£11.20	4.7%	D	
	Tennis Court junior	£5.50	£5.80	5.5%	D	
	Tennis Court adult with lights	£13.40	£14.10	5.2%	D	
Tennis Court junior with lights	£6.70	£7.00	4.5%	D		
Sports hall	Whole Main Sports Centre	£52.90	£55.60	5.1%	D	
	Half Main Sports Hall	£26.70	£28.00	4.9%	D	
	Badminton Court	£13.20	£13.90	5.3%	D	
	Cricket Nets	N/A	£55.60	N/A	D	
	Cricket Net - single	N/A	£28.00	N/A	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Leisure						
Gymnasium	Gymnasium room hire	£28.00	£27.90	4.9%	D	
Fitness suite	Adult Induction	£13.00	£13.00	0.0%	D	
	Youth Induction (16 yrs - 18 yrs)	£8.70	£8.70	0.0%	D	
	Adult Session	£5.90	£5.90	0.0%	D	
	Adult Session - Concessionary	£3.00	£3.00	0.0%	D	
	Youth Session (16yrs - 18 yrs)	£3.00	£3.00	0.0%	D	
	60+ Session	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%	D	
Swimming	Adult Swim	£5.50	£5.80	5.5%	D	
	Adult Swim - Concessionary	£2.80	£2.90	3.6%	D	
	Junior Swim	£2.80	£2.90	3.6%	D	
	60+ Casual Session	£4.30	£4.50	4.7%	D	
	Inflataplay Adult	£8.00	£8.00	4.5%	D	
	Inflataplay Junior	£4.40	£4.60	4.5%	D	
	60+ Inflataplay	£5.50	£5.80	5.5%	D	
	Pool hire only Adult	£110.00	£115.50	5.0%	D	
	Lane Hire	£22.00	£23.10	5.0%	D	
	Learn to Swim Programme	Junior Lessons	£8.00	£8.90	4.5%	D
Junior Lessons - Concessionary		£3.30	£3.50	6.1%	D	
60+		£63.30	£66.50	5.1%	D	
Private Lessons - 1 to 1		£17.00	£17.90	5.3%	D	
Private Lessons - 1 to 2		£25.00	£26.30	5.2%	D	
Lessons - Direct Debit (per month)		£24.00	£25.20	5.0%	D	
Lessons - Direct Debit (per month) - Concessionary		£15.40	£16.20	5.2%	D	
Pool hire	Pool Party - 1 hour Atlantis run only	£120.00	£128.00	5.0%	D	
	Pool Party 1 hour Atlantis obstacle course	£230.00	£241.50	5.0%	D	
Room hire	Room Hire after pool party - 1 hour	£55.00	£57.80	5.1%	D	
Memberships	Individual Monthly D/D	£33.00	£33.00	0.0%	D	
	Individual Monthly D/D - swimming OR f/suite	£22.00	£22.00	0.0%	D	
	Individual Monthly D/D (corporate)	£24.75	£24.75	0.0%	D	
	Individual Monthly D/D - swimming OR f/suite (corporate)	£18.50	£18.50	0.0%	D	
	Joint Monthly D/D	£58.30	£58.30	0.0%	D	
	Annual Individual Fee - swimming & f/suite	£300.00	£300.00	0.0%	D	
Swim badges	Student Monthly Card	£24.00	£24.00	0.0%	D	
		£3.90	£4.10	5.0%	D	
SpArC Bishops Castle						
Pitch hire	Whole Pitch Adult	£41.50	£43.60	5.1%	D	
Hall hire	Whole Hall	£38.80	£40.50	4.9%	D	
	2/3 Sports Hall	£25.70	£27.00	5.1%	D	
	1/3 Sports Hall	£15.40	£16.20	5.2%	D	
	Badminton/Pickleball Court (1 court)	£13.20	£13.90	5.3%	D	
	Table Tennis - per table	£9.90	£10.40	5.0%	D	
Play and Pay	Junior	£2.00	£2.10	5.0%	D	
	Adult	£4.00	£4.20	5.0%	D	
Theatre charges	Theatre	£22.00	£25.00	13.6%	D	
	Green Room	£11.00	£12.00	9.1%	D	
	Theatre Package	£28.00	£30.00	4.9%	D	
	Club storage - per month	£5.50	£6.00	9.1%	D	
Fitness Suite- Adult/Junior	Adult Session	£8.20	£8.50	4.8%	D	
	Junior Session	£3.30	£3.50	6.1%	D	
	60+ Concessionary	£5.50	£5.80	5.5%	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Leisure						
Personal Training	8 x sessions	£201.30	£211.40	5.0%	D	
	Single session	£35.50	£37.30	5.1%	D	
	Induction	£17.80	£18.70	5.1%	D	
Exercise Class	Adult	£8.60	£8.90	4.5%	D	
	Junior	£4.00	£4.20	5.0%	D	
Fitness Suite- GP	GP Consultation	£27.50	£28.90	5.1%	D	
	GP Session	£5.00	£5.30	6.0%	D	
	GP Pass x 12 sessions	£50.00	£52.50	5.0%	D	
	GP Package (consultation + 3 months membership)	£82.50	£86.60	5.0%	D	
Court fees	Adult Court	£7.50	£7.90	5.3%	D	
	Junior Court	£6.00	£6.30	5.0%	D	
	Guest Fee - adult	£4.00	£4.20	5.0%	D	
	Guest Fee - junior	£3.00	£3.20	6.7%	D	
	Coach Hire Fee (40 mins)	£10.00	£10.50	5.0%	D	
Public Swimming	Adult	£5.00	£5.30	6.0%	D	
	Junior Swim (U16)	£3.50	£3.70	5.7%	D	
	60+ (concessionary)	£4.00	£4.20	5.0%	D	
	Student	£3.90	£4.10	5.0%	D	
	U3's	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
	Junior Fun Splash	£3.90	£4.10	5.0%	D	
	Adult - 12 x sessions	£50.00	£53.00	6.0%	D	
	Junior - 12 x sessions	£35.00	£37.00	5.7%	D	
	60+ - 12 x sessions	£40.00	£42.00	5.0%	D	
	Swim Badges	£3.90	£4.10	5.0%	D	
	Birthday parties	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Pool hire	Pool hire	£64.00	£67.20	5.0%	D
Swim lessons	Junior Lessons - (30 mins)	£6.10	£6.40	4.9%	D	
	Junior Lessons - (45 mins)	£7.20	£7.60	5.6%	D	
	Junior Lessons - (1hr)	£8.80	£9.20	4.6%	D	
	Adult Lessons - (1hr)	£10.00	£10.50	5.0%	D	
	Private Lessons - 1 to 1 - 30 mins	£21.00	£22.00	4.8%	D	
Sauna (20 mins)	Sauna	£3.60	£3.80	5.6%	D	
	Sauna & Swim	£6.50	£6.80	4.6%	D	
Memberships	Individual Monthly DD	£33.00	£34.70	5.2%	D	
	Individual Monthly DD (Corporate)	£24.75	£26.00	5.1%	D	
	Annual Individual Fee	£346.50	£363.80	5.0%	D	
	Joint Monthly D/D	£80.50	£83.50	5.0%	D	
	Annual Joint Fee	£632.50	£664.10	5.0%	D	
	Concession Monthly D/D	£30.00	£31.50	5.0%	D	
	Annual Concession Fee	£321.20	£337.30	5.0%	D	
	Joint Concession Monthly D/D	£55.00	£58.00	5.5%	D	
	Annual Joint Concession Fee	£595.00	£625.00	5.0%	D	
	Swim only annual	£220.00	£231.00	5.0%	D	
	Squash only annual	£240.00	£252.00	5.0%	D	
	Squash - bolt-on	£132.00	£138.60	5.0%	D	
	Junior Squash annual	£180.00	£188.00	5.0%	D	
	Junior Gym & Swim monthly (13-17 years)	£17.50	£18.40	5.1%	D	
Coached Session (football, basketball, squash)	Junior Group	£4.00	£4.20	5.0%	D	
	Junior 1:1	£20.00	£21.00	5.0%	D	
	Adult 1:1	£28.00	£29.40	5.0%	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Leisure						
Church Stretton						
Court hire	Netball Court	£19.50	£20.50	5.1%	D	
	Tennis Court - Adult	£11.00	£11.80	5.5%	D	
	Tennis Court - Junior	£5.50	£5.80	5.5%	D	
Main sports hall	Whole Main Sports Hall	£48.20	£55.80	20.3%	D	
	Half Main Sports Hall	£25.70	£27.00	5.1%	D	
	Badminton Court	£13.20	£13.90	5.3%	D	
	Cricket - 1 hr	£53.35	£58.00	5.0%	D	
	Cricket - 2 hrs	£83.80	£88.00	5.0%	D	
Children parties	Sports Hall Party	£62.40	£65.50	5.0%	D	
	Pool Party	£64.00	£67.20	5.0%	D	
Play and Pay	Junior	£2.00	N/A	N/A	D	
Passes	Adult Session	£8.30	£8.80	4.8%	D	
	Junior Session	£3.30	£3.50	6.1%	D	
	60+ Concessionary	£5.80	£5.90	5.4%	D	
	GP Consultation	£27.50	£28.90	5.1%	D	
	GP Session	£5.00	£5.30	6.0%	D	
	GP Pass x 12 sessions	£49.50	£52.00	5.1%	D	
	GP Package (consultation + 3 months membership)	£82.50	£86.80	5.0%	D	
Personal Training	8 x sessions	£201.30	£211.40	5.0%	D	
	Single session	£35.50	£37.30	5.1%	D	
	Induction	£17.80	£18.70	5.1%	D	
Exercise Class	Class charge	£8.80	£8.90	4.5%	D	
Room hire	Dance Studio (per hour)	£33.00	£34.70	5.2%	D	
	Meeting Room (per hour)	£18.50	£17.30	4.8%	D	
Public Swimming	Adult	£5.00	£5.30	6.0%	D	
	Junior Swim (U16)	£3.50	£3.70	5.7%	D	
	60+ Concessionary	£4.00	£4.20	5.0%	D	
	Student	£3.90	£4.10	5.0%	D	
	Junior Fun Splash	£3.90	£4.10	5.0%	D	
	Adult - 12 x sessions	£50.00	£52.50	5.0%	D	
	Junior - 12 x sessions	£35.00	£38.80	5.1%	D	
	60+ Concessionary - 12 x sessions	£40.00	£42.00	5.0%	D	
Swim badges	Badges	£3.90	£4.10	5.0%	D	
Pool Hire	Pool hire	£64.00	£67.20	5.0%	D	
Learn to Swim Programme	Junior Lessons - (30 mins)	£8.10	£8.40	4.9%	D	
	Junior Lessons - (45 mins)	£7.20	£7.80	5.8%	D	
	Junior Lessons - (1hr)	£8.80	£9.20	4.5%	D	
	Adult Lessons	£5.80	£5.90	5.4%	D	
	Private Lessons - 1 to 1 - 30 mins	£21.00	£22.00	4.8%	D	
Memberships	Individual Monthly DD	£33.00	£34.70	5.2%	D	
	Individual Monthly DD (Corporate)	£24.75	£26.00	5.1%	D	
	Annual Individual Fee	£348.50	£363.80	5.0%	D	
	Joint Monthly D/D	£60.50	£63.50	5.0%	D	
	Annual Joint Fee	£832.50	£864.10	5.0%	D	
	Concession Monthly D/D	£30.00	£31.50	5.0%	D	
	Annual Concession Fee	£321.20	£337.30	5.0%	D	
	Joint Concession Monthly D/D	£55.00	£58.00	5.5%	D	
	Annual Joint Concession Fee	£595.00	£625.00	5.0%	D	
	Swim annual	£220.00	£231.00	5.0%	D	
	Junior Gym & Swim monthly (13-17 years)	£17.50	£18.40	5.1%	D	

HOMES AND COMMUNITIES- THEATRE SERVICES

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Theatre Services						
Memberships	Friend- Annual	£29.00	£32.00	10.3%	D	
	Friend Plus- Annual	£49.00	£54.00	10.2%	D	
Not for Profit Organisations						
<u>Auditorium (All charges subject to a 7% commission)</u>						
Hire Per Day (Mon to Thur)	1 Performance Daily rate	£1,709.40	£1,880.50	10.0%	D	
	2 Performances (same day)	£2,183.70	£2,380.50	10.0%	D	
Hire Per Day (Fri to Sun)	1 Performance	£2,229.70	£2,452.75	10.0%	D	
	2 Performances	£2,939.20	£3,233.50	10.0%	D	
Setting Up/Rehearsal Charges	4 hours	£479.95	£528.00	10.0%	D	
	8 hours	£959.75	£1,055.75	10.0%	D	
	Per hour after midnight	£141.10	£155.25	10.0%	D	
<u>Studio Theatre (All charges subject to a 7%</u>						
Hire Per Day (Mon to Thur)	1 Performance	£858.00	£944.00	10.0%	D	
	2 Performances (same day)	£1,222.65	£1,345.00	10.0%	D	
Flat Floor	Daily rate :Mon Thurs	£1,378.95	£1,514.75	10.0%	D	
	Daily rate : FriSun	£1,454.20	£1,600.00	10.0%	D	
Hire Per Day (Fri to Sun)	1 Performance	£1,115.20	£1,228.75	10.0%	D	
	2 Performances	£1,469.60	£1,617.00	10.0%	D	
Setting Up/Rehearsal Charges	Flat Floor	£1,454.20	£1,600.00	10.0%	D	
	4 hours	£240.90	£265.00	10.0%	D	
	8 hours	£481.65	£530.00	10.0%	D	
	Per hour after midnight	£80.85	£89.00	10.1%	D	
<u>Dance Studio, Term Time Only</u>						
Hire per hour	Hire Per Hour (with minimum hire being 2 hours)	£38.30	£40.00	10.2%	D	
	Hire Per Hour for 1017 hours per week (with minimum hire being 2 hours)	£33.55	£37.00	10.3%	D	
	18 or more hours per week	£28.35	£31.25	10.2%	D	
<u>Haydn Smith Room</u>						
Hire charges	Per day (8 hours)	£266.20	£293.00	10.1%	D	
	Per Hour (Minimum 2 hours)	£41.10	£45.25	10.1%	D	
<u>Other charges Not for Profit Organisations</u>						
Additional Charges	Payment Processing Commission	3.50%	4.00%	14.3%	D	
	Merchandise Commission	15.00%	16.50%	10.0%	D	
	Programme Commission	10.00%	15.00%	50.0%	D	
	Merchandise / Programme Commission using Theatre Staff	25.00%	27.50%	10.0%	D	
	Performing Rights Society Charges	POA	POA	N/A	D	
Staffing (per Hour):	Extra Staff before midnight	£23.65	£26.25	11.0%	D	
	Extra Staff after midnight	£34.10	£37.75	10.7%	D	
	Extra Staff bank holidays	£47.30	£52.25	10.5%	D	
	Security Staff (at discretion of Theatre Management when security staff required)	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Marketing Services	POA	POA	N/A	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Theatre Services						
Commercial Organisations						
- Auditorium (All charges subject to 10% Box Office)						
- Hire Per Day (Mon to Thur)	- 1 Performance	£3,300.00	£3,631.00	10.0%	D	
	- 2 Performances (same day)	£4,400.00	£4,841.00	10.0%	D	
- Hire Per Day (Fri to Sun)	- 1 Performance	£3,850.00	£4,236.00	10.0%	D	
	- 2 Performances	£4,950.00	£5,448.00	10.0%	D	
- Setting Up/Rehearsal Charges	- 4 hours	£745.00	£821.00	10.2%	D	
	- 8 hours	£1,489.95	£1,639.00	10.0%	D	
	Per hour after midnight	£212.05	£234.00	10.4%	D	
- Studio Theatre (All charges subject to 10% Box Office)						
- Hire Per Day (Mon to Thur)	- 1 Performance	£1,650.00	£1,816.00	10.1%	D	
	- 2 Performances (same day)	£2,200.00	£2,421.00	10.0%	D	
	- Flat Floor	£2,200.00	£2,421.00	10.0%	D	
- Hire Per Day (Fri to Sun)	- 1 Performance	£1,925.00	£2,119.00	10.1%	D	
	- 2 Performances	£2,750.00	£3,026.00	10.0%	D	
	- Flat Floor	£2,750.00	£3,026.00	10.0%	D	
- Setting Up/Rehearsal Charges	- 4 hours	£373.10	£411.00	10.2%	D	
	- 8 hours	£746.15	£822.00	10.2%	D	
	Per hour after midnight	£116.60	£129.00	10.6%	D	
- Dance Studio, Term Time Only (Commercial)						
	- Hire Per Hour (with minimum hire being 2 hours)	£40.70	£45.00	10.6%	D	
	- Hire Per Hour for 10 -17 hours per week (with minimum hire being 2 hours)	£36.85	£40.75	10.6%	D	
	18 hours or more per week	£31.90	£35.25	10.6%	D	
Haydn Smith Room						
	- Per day (8 hours)	£447.15	£492.00	10.0%	D	
	- Per Hour (Minimum 2 hours)	£64.15	£70.75	10.3%	D	
Other charges- Commercial Organisations						
Additional Charges	Payment Processing Commission	3.50%	4.00%	14.3%	D	
	Merchandise Commission	15.00%	16.50%	10.0%	D	
	Programme Commission	10.00%	15.00%	50.0%	D	
	Merchandise / Programme Commission using Theatre Staff	25.00%	27.50%	10.0%	D	
	Performing Rights Society Charges	POA	POA	N/A	D	
Staffing (per Hour):-	Extra Staff before midnight	£32.35	£35.75	10.5%	D	
	Extra Staff after midnight	£42.75	£47.25	10.5%	D	
	Extra staff bank holidays	£61.60	£68.00	10.4%	D	
	Security Staff (at discretion of Theatre Management when security staff required)	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Marketing Services	POA	POA	N/A	D	
Hire of the whole building, longer lets and / or special events - charges by negotiation						
Old market hall						
Film Ticket Admission Fees		The OMH has the discretion to vary admission charges	The OMH has the discretion to vary admission charges	N/A	D	

HOMES AND COMMUNITIES- BEREAVEMENT SERVICES

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Bereavement Services						
Cemeteries						
Burial Fees		£1,869.00	£1,836.00	10.0%	D	

HOMES AND COMMUNITIES- HOUSING SERVICES

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Housing Services						
Housing Solutions Team						
Advertising Income	Advertising charges to Housing Associations for vacant properties on the Homepoint website	£75.00	£83.00	10.7%	D	Subject to negotiation with Landlords
Home Improvement Team						
Handyperson rates	Hourly rate	£27.50	£30.50	10.9%	D	
	Mileage rate per mile	£0.42	£0.46	10.0%	D	
Independent Living Team						
DFG Fee	DFG fee - total work costs up to, and including £20,000 (pre VAT)	14% of works	14% of works	0.0%	D	
	DFG fee - total work costs above £20,000 (pre VAT), for those without Planning requirements	9% of works	9% of works	0.0%	D	
	DFG fee - total work costs above £20,000 (pre VAT), for those with Planning requirements	11% of works	11% of works	0.0%	D	
Temporary Accommodation for Homelessness						
Temporary Accommodation (52 week basis)	Shared accommodation or most single aged under 35	£99.50	£104.50	5.0%	S	
	1 bedroom	£106.00	£111.50	5.2%	S	
	2 bedrooms	£130.00	£136.50	5.0%	S	
	3 bedrooms	£156.00	£164.00	5.1%	S	
	4 bedrooms	£203.00	£213.50	5.2%	S	
Hostel accommodation (Service charge per week)		£10.00	£11.00	10.0%	D	

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HOMES AND COMMUNITIES- WASTE MANAGEMENT

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Homes and Communities- Waste Management						
Bulky waste charges	Up to 3 items of bulky household waste	£43.00	£48.00	11.6%	D	
	4-6 items of bulky household waste	£64.00	£71.00	10.9%	D	
	7-9 items of bulky household waste	£84.00	£93.00	10.7%	D	
	10-12 items of bulky household waste	£103.00	£114.00	10.7%	D	
	13-15 items of bulky household waste	£125.00	£138.00	10.4%	D	
	up to 10 sacks of residual waste	£66.00	£73.00	10.6%	D	
Other Charges- Second green bin	Second Garden Bin	£78.00	£86.00	10.3%	D	
Schedule 2 contract rates per fortnightly collection (based on waste type and container size)						
Schedule 2 waste collection Admin Fee		£51.00	£57.00	11.8%	D	
No Disposal (excludes admin fee)	Residual Sack (cost per sack)	£49.00	£54.00	10.2%	D	
	Residual 240	£112.00	£124.00	10.7%	D	
	Residual 360	£156.00	£172.00	10.3%	D	
	Residual 660	£266.00	£293.00	10.2%	D	
	Residual 750	£280.00	£308.00	10.0%	D	
	Residual 1100	£384.00	£423.00	10.2%	D	
With Disposal (excludes admin fee)	Residual Sack (cost per sack)	£66.00	£73.00	10.6%	D	
	Residual 240	£186.00	£205.00	10.2%	D	
	Residual 360	£262.00	£289.00	10.3%	D	
	Residual 660	£462.00	£508.00	10.0%	D	
	Residual 750	£510.00	£561.00	10.0%	D	
	Residual 1100	£712.00	£783.00	10.0%	D	
With or without Disposal (excludes admin fee)	Recycling 240	£85.00	£94.00	10.6%	D	
	Recycling 360	£118.00	£130.00	10.2%	D	
	Recycling 660	£196.00	£216.00	10.2%	D	
	Recycling 750	£210.00	£231.00	10.0%	D	
	Recycling 1100	£266.00	£293.00	10.2%	D	
Annual Schedule 4 collection contract rates (based on waste type and container size)						
With Disposal (excludes admin fee)	Residual Sack (cost per sack)	£148.00	£163.00	10.1%	D	
	Residual 240	£445.00	£490.00	10.1%	D	
	Residual 360	£494.00	£544.00	10.1%	D	
	Residual 660	£682.00	£750.00	10.0%	D	
	Residual 1100	£911.00	£1,002.00	10.0%	D	

COMMERCIAL SERVICES- CORPORATE LANDLORD YOUTH CENTRES

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes	
Commercial Services- Corporate Landlord Youth Centres							
Bridgnorth Youth Centre							
Commercial Charges	Hall (30ft x 30ft)/kitchen area/ computers	£86.45	£73.25	10.2%	D		
	Hall (Elections)- charge for full day	£156.55	£172.25	10.0%	D		
	Small Room (Chill out room) (up to 15 x 15 ft)	£40.30	£44.50	10.4%	D		
	Whole building (Public areas)	£84.75	£93.25	10.0%	D		
Voluntary / Charity Rate	Hall (30ft x 30ft)/kitchen area/ computers	£27.40	£30.25	10.4%	D		
	Small Room (Chill out room) (up to 15 x 15 ft)	£27.40	£30.25	10.4%	D		
	Whole building (Public areas)	£52.30	£57.75	10.4%	D		
Ludlow Youth Centre							
Small Room	Commercial Rate (per hour)	£39.65	£43.75	10.3%	D		
	Charity / Community Rate (per hour)	£26.80	£29.50	10.1%	D		
Hall/Kitchen/Computers	Commercial Rate (per hour)	£65.30	£72.00	10.3%	D		
	Charity / Community Rate (per hour)	£26.80	£29.50	10.1%	D		
Whole Building	Commercial Rate (per hour)	£83.00	£91.50	10.2%	D		
	Charity / Community Rate (per hour)	£51.10	£56.25	10.1%	D		
The Centre, Oswestry							
Commercial Charges	Main Hall	£49.65	£54.75	10.3%	D		
	Art Room	£32.45	£35.75	10.2%	D		
	Kitchen	£41.80	£46.00	10.0%	D		
	Café	£32.45	£35.75	10.2%	D		
	Meeting Room 1	£12.95	£14.00	8.1%	D		
	Meeting Room 2	£12.95	£14.00	8.1%	D		
	Meeting Room 3	£36.70	£40.50	10.4%	D		
	Meeting Room 4	£23.45	£26.00	10.9%	D		
	Meeting Room 10	£12.95	£14.00	8.1%	D		
	Recording Studio (x2 rooms)	£45.75	£50.50	10.4%	D		
	Charity Rate	Main Hall	£24.85	£27.50	10.7%	D	
		Art Room	£16.15	£17.90	10.8%	D	
Café		£16.15	£17.90	10.8%	D		
Kitchen		£20.90	£23.00	10.0%	D		
Meeting Room 1		£10.50	£11.60	10.5%	D		
Meeting Room 2		£10.50	£11.60	10.5%	D		
Meeting Room 3		£18.35	£20.25	10.4%	D		
Meeting Room 4		£11.70	£12.50	6.8%	D		
Meeting Room 10		£10.50	£11.60	10.5%	D		
Recording Studio (x2 rooms)		£22.90	£24.50	7.0%	D		
<p><i>Discounts are at the discretion of the centre.</i> <i>Only one discount (to a maximum of 20%) is available to non-constituted groups per booking.</i> <i>Constituted groups may be entitled to a 50% reduction in room hire cost at the discretion of The Centre.</i> <i>Proof of eligibility may be required.</i></p>							

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COMMERCIAL SERVICES- FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes	
Commercial Services- Facilities Management							
Shirehall							
Monday - Friday	Council Chamber - Full day	£162.85	£179.25	10.1%	D		
	Council Chamber - Full day (concessionary)	£81.45	£89.75	10.2%	D		
	Council Chamber - Half day	£91.25	£100.50	10.1%	D		
	Council Chamber - Half day (concessionary)	£45.75	£50.50	10.4%	D		
	Council Chamber - Evening	£117.25	£129.00	10.0%	D		
	Council Chamber - Evening (concessionary)	£58.65	£64.75	10.4%	D		
	Committee Rooms - Full day	£98.05	£108.00	10.1%	D		
	Committee Rooms - Full day (concessionary)	£49.10	£54.25	10.5%	D		
	Committee Rooms - Half day	£58.65	£64.75	10.4%	D		
	Committee Rooms - Half day (concessionary)	£29.30	£32.25	10.1%	D		
	Committee Rooms - Evening	£84.90	£71.50	10.2%	D		
	Committee Rooms - Evening (concessionary)	£32.45	£35.75	10.2%	D		
	Shrewsbury & Oswestry Room - Full Day	£147.20	£162.00	10.1%	D		
	Shrewsbury & Oswestry Room - Full Day (concessionary)	£73.60	£81.00	10.1%	D		
	Shrewsbury & Oswestry Room - Half Day	£88.00	£97.00	10.2%	D		
	Shrewsbury & Oswestry Room - Half Day (concessionary)	£44.00	£48.50	10.2%	D		
	Shrewsbury & Oswestry Room - Evening	£97.35	£107.25	10.2%	D		
	Shrewsbury & Oswestry Room - Evening (concessionary)	£48.70	£53.75	10.4%	D		
	Gallery - Full day	£78.20	£86.25	10.3%	D		
	Gallery - Full day (concessionary)	£39.05	£43.00	10.1%	D		
	Gallery - Half day	£58.65	£64.75	10.4%	D		
	Gallery - Half day (concessionary)	£29.30	£32.25	10.1%	D		
	Gallery - Evening	£84.90	£71.50	10.2%	D		
	Gallery - Evening (concessionary)	£32.45	£35.75	10.2%	D		
	Saturday	Council Chamber - Full day	£228.70	£251.75	10.1%	D	
		Council Chamber - Full day (concessionary)	£114.35	£126.00	10.2%	D	
		Council Chamber - Half day	£117.25	£129.00	10.0%	D	
		Council Chamber - Half day (concessionary)	£58.65	£64.75	10.4%	D	
Committee Rooms - Full day		£130.50	£143.75	10.2%	D		
Committee Rooms - Full day (concessionary)		£65.30	£72.00	10.3%	D		
Committee Rooms - Half day		£78.20	£86.25	10.3%	D		
Committee Rooms - Half day (concessionary)		£39.05	£43.00	10.1%	D		
Gallery - Full day		£110.65	£121.75	10.0%	D		
Gallery - Full day (concessionary)		£55.35	£61.00	10.2%	D		
Gallery - Half day		£84.90	£71.50	10.2%	D		
Gallery - Half day (concessionary)		£32.45	£35.75	10.2%	D		
Castle View - Oswestry							
Monday - Friday		Council Chamber - Full day	£130.50	£143.75	10.2%	D	
	Council Chamber - Full day (concessionary)	£65.30	£72.00	10.3%	D		
	Council Chamber - Half day	£65.30	£72.00	10.3%	D		
	Council Chamber - Half day (concessionary)	£32.45	£35.75	10.2%	D		
	Council Chamber - Evening	£64.90	£71.50	10.2%	D		
	Council Chamber - Evening (concessionary)	£32.45	£35.75	10.2%	D		
	Meeting Rooms - Full day	£84.90	£71.50	10.2%	D		
	Meeting Rooms - Full day (concessionary)	£32.45	£35.75	10.2%	D		
	Meeting Rooms - Half day	£52.00	£57.25	10.1%	D		
	Meeting Rooms - Half day (concessionary)	£26.00	£28.75	10.6%	D		
	Meeting Rooms - Evening	£52.00	£57.25	10.1%	D		
	Meeting Rooms - Evening (concessionary)	£26.00	£28.75	10.6%	D		

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Commercial Services- Facilities Management						
The Lantern						
The Lantern- All charges are per hour						
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Community Hall 1	£10.30	£11.00	6.7%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Community Hall 1	£15.35	£16.50	7.5%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Saturday & Sunday - Community Hall 1	£21.65	£24.00	10.9%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Community Hall 1	£21.65	£24.00	10.9%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Community Hall 1	£40.85	£45.00	10.2%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Saturday & Sunday - Community Hall 1	£60.05	£66.25	10.3%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Community Hall 2	£10.30	£11.00	6.7%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Community Hall 2	£15.35	£16.50	7.5%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Saturday & Sunday - Community Hall 2	£21.65	£24.00	10.9%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Community Hall 2	£21.65	£24.00	10.9%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Community Hall 2	£40.85	£45.00	10.2%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Saturday & Sunday - Community Hall 2	£60.05	£66.25	10.3%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Community Hall 1 & 2	£18.05	£20.00	10.8%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Community Hall 1 & 2	£27.00	£29.75	10.2%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Saturday & Sunday - Community Hall 1 & 2	£36.05	£39.75	10.3%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Community Hall 1 & 2	£36.05	£39.75	10.3%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Community Hall 1 & 2	£72.20	£79.50	10.1%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Saturday & Sunday - Community Hall 1 & 2	£108.25	£119.25	10.2%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - IT Suite	£10.30	£11.00	6.7%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - IT Suite	£14.15	£15.65	10.6%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Saturday & Sunday - IT Suite	£20.45	£22.50	10.0%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - IT Suite	£20.45	£22.50	10.0%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - IT Suite	£39.70	£43.75	10.2%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Saturday & Sunday - IT Suite	£58.90	£65.00	10.4%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Interview/Meeting Room	£10.30	£11.00	6.7%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Interview/Meeting Room	£11.45	£12.65	10.5%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Saturday & Sunday - Interview/Meeting Room	£18.05	£20.00	10.8%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Interview/Meeting Room	£18.05	£20.00	10.8%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Interview/Meeting Room	£36.95	£40.75	10.3%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Saturday & Sunday - Interview/Meeting Room	£56.25	£62.00	10.2%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Ground Floor Meeting Room	£10.30	£11.00	6.7%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Saturday & Sunday - Ground Floor Meeting Room	£12.60	£13.50	7.1%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Ground Floor Meeting Room	£19.30	£21.25	10.1%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Ground Floor Meeting Room	£38.45	£42.50	10.5%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Saturday & Sunday - Ground Floor Meeting Room	£57.75	£63.75	10.4%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Large Meeting Room	£10.30	£11.00	6.7%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Large Meeting Room	£12.60	£13.50	7.1%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Saturday & Sunday - Large Meeting Room	£19.30	£21.25	10.1%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Large Meeting Room	£19.30	£21.25	10.1%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Large Meeting Room	£38.45	£42.50	10.5%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Saturday & Sunday - Large Meeting Room	£57.75	£63.75	10.4%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Small Meeting Room	£10.30	£11.00	6.7%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Small Meeting Room	£12.60	£13.50	7.1%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Saturday & Sunday - Small Meeting Room	£19.30	£21.25	10.1%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Small Meeting Room	£19.30	£21.25	10.1%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Small Meeting Room	£38.45	£42.50	10.5%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Saturday & Sunday - Small Meeting Room	£57.75	£63.75	10.4%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Community Kitchen	£6.40	£7.00	9.4%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Monday to Friday - Community Kitchen	£6.95	£7.50	7.9%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
	Charity / Community Rate Saturday & Sunday - Community Kitchen	£7.55	£8.35	10.6%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Community Kitchen	£12.00	£13.00	8.3%	D	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Commercial Rate Monday to Friday - Community Kitchen	£15.60	£17.25	10.6%	D	6:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Commercial Services- Facilities Management						
	Commercial Rate Saturday & Sunday - Community Kitchen	£17.35	£19.20	10.7%	D	9:00 am to 11:00 pm
Louise House						
Meeting Rooms 1 & 2	Charity / Community Rate (per hour)	£6.40	£7.00	9.4%	D	
	Commercial Rate (per hour)	£12.60	£13.50	7.1%	D	
Reception Interview Room	Charity / Community Rate (per hour)	£6.40	£7.00	9.4%	D	
	Commercial Rate (per hour)	£12.60	£13.50	7.1%	D	
IT Suite	Charity / Community Rate (per hour)	£6.40	£7.00	9.4%	D	
	Commercial Rate (per hour)	£12.60	£13.50	7.1%	D	
Physio Suite	Charity / Community Rate (per hour)	£6.40	£7.00	9.4%	D	
	Commercial Rate (per hour)	£12.60	£13.50	7.1%	D	

COMMERCIAL SERVICES- SHIRE SERVICES

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Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Commercial Services- Shire Services						
Shire Services						
Cleaning	Average charge per hour	£20.09	£22.16	10.3%	D	
Catering	Primary (Reception to Year 2) - average per meal	£2.41	£2.53	5.0%	D	
	Primary (Year 3 onwards) - average per meal	£2.40	To be determined in 2024/25 to ensure a break even level.	N/A	D	
	Secondary - average per meal	£2.52		N/A	D	
	Worcester schools Primary- average per meal	£2.43		N/A	D	
	Worcester schools Secondary - average per meal	£2.52		N/A	D	

HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Infrastructure- Highways & Transport						
Streetworks Charges						
Section 14 Road Closures	Road Closure by Temporary Notice	£1,300.00	£1,400.00	7.7%	D	
	Extension to Temporary Notice Road Closure	£850.00	£935.00	10.0%	D	
	Road Closure by Temporary Order	£1,820.00	£2,002.00	10.0%	D	
	Extension to Temporary Order Road Closure	£850.00	£935.00	10.0%	D	
	Event TTRO not involving a temporary road closure (i.e., a temporary rescind of a permanent TRO)	N/A	£100.00	N/A	D	
	Event TTRO only affecting a footway or cul-de-sac	N/A	£100.00	N/A	D	
	All other event TTRO's affecting an unclassified road only that is not a bus route or traffic sensitive at the time of the event.	N/A	£170.00	N/A	D	
	All other event TTRO's affecting a classified road, a designated bus route, a pedestrianized zone, or a traffic sensitive route at traffic sensitive times.	N/A	£250.00	N/A	D	
Section 50 Street Licences- Apparatus	New apparatus	£500.00	£550.00	10.0%	D	
	Existing apparatus	£500.00	£550.00	10.0%	D	
Skips	Skip permit	£140.00	£150.00	7.1%	D	
	Extension to skip permit	£130.00	£140.00	7.7%	D	
	Illegal Skip permit	£310.00	£341.00	10.0%	D	
	Skip bags	£140.00	£150.00	7.1%	D	
	Scaffold	Scaffold permit	£170.00	£187.00	10.0%	D
Signs	Scaffold permit	£130.00	£140.00	7.7%	D	
	Illegal Scaffold Permit	£340.00	£374.00	10.0%	D	
	Temporary signage	N/A	£250.00	N/A	D	
Other streetwork permits	Temporary signage extension	£110.00	£121.00	10.0%	D	
	Temporary excavations	£500.00	£550.00	10.0%	D	
	Building materials	£140.00	£150.00	7.1%	D	
<p><i>The S184 application fees are set to reflect the location, size, layout and vehicular use of the access, taking into account the assessment and supervision required by the Highway Authority. The Authority reserves the right to assess "special situations", i.e. where the level of resource required from the Highway Authority differs greatly from the norm. In these instances applications will be assessed on an individual basis, and the fee will be adjusted accordingly. Any illegal VA's may incur a fine of £500, plus have to undertake a retrospective application and appropriate payment as above.</i></p>						
S184 - Vehicular Access	Conveyancing queries / Notice of conformity	£130.00	£140.00	7.7%	D	
	Single Residential Access	£200.00	£220.00	10.0%	D	
	Commercial or Agricultural Access	£520.00	£572.00	10.0%	D	
	Commercial bell-mouth access (U or C Road)	£1,350.00	£1,485.00	10.0%	D	
	Commercial bell-mouth access (A or B Road or Traffic Sensitive)	£1,820.00	£2,002.00	10.0%	D	
	Residential dropped kerb access up to 3 properties (or equivalent traffic use)	£860.00	£920.00	7.0%	D	
	Residential dropped kerb access 4-10 properties (or equivalent traffic use)	£1,160.00	£1,240.00	6.9%	D	
	Residential bell-mouth access up to 3 properties (or equivalent traffic use)	£1,380.00	£1,518.00	10.0%	D	
	Residential bell-mouth access 4-10 properties (or equivalent traffic use)	£1,600.00	£1,710.00	6.9%	D	
	Residential bell-mouth access >10 properties (or equivalent traffic use)	£1,820.00	£2,002.00	10.0%	D	
	Housing development (>10 properties U or C Road)	£1,870.00	£2,000.00	7.0%	D	
	Commercial bell-mouth access (in lieu of S278)	£2,200.00	£2,350.00	6.8%	D	
	Housing development (>10 properties A or B Road)	£2,310.00	£2,541.00	10.0%	D	
	Construction Access to facilitate the start of development sites with a S278 or S38 agreed in principle	£2,420.00	£2,662.00	10.0%	D	
	Streetworks Permits		POA	POA	N/A	S

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Infrastructure- Highways & Transport						
Streetworks Enforcement						
New Roads and Street Works Act - Inspection Defects	Sample inspection defects	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	S	
New Roads and Street Works Act - Coring Defects	Standard core charge	£330.00	£363.00	10.0%	D	
	Core charge with air void test	£460.00	£506.00	10.0%	D	
	Core charge with TM	£1,140.00	£1,254.00	10.0%	D	
	Core charge with TM and air void test	£1,230.00	£1,340.00	8.9%	D	
Section 74 contractor overrun charges		As per Statutory Guidance	As per Statutory Guidance	N/A	S	
Utility Fixed penalty Notices		As per Statutory Guidance	As per Statutory Guidance	N/A	S	
Public transport						
Operator fee per departure from Bus Station	-Shrewsbury	£0.62	£0.69	11.3%	D	
	-Oswestry	£0.62	£0.69	11.3%	D	
	-Market Drayton	£0.43	£0.48	11.6%	D	
Railcards	Sale of railcards (each)	£11.60	£12.80	10.3%	D	
Bus Passes	Replacement Bus pass	£10.00	£11.00	10.0%	D	
Street Cleansing & Grounds Maintenance						
Alterations to the Highway	Advisory disabled bay	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	H bar markings	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Double H bar markings	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Mirrors	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Brown tourism signs	POA	POA	N/A	D	
	Advertising Banners (Shrewsbury approaches)	POA	POA	N/A	D	
Dog Control	Release Fee	£46.00	£50.75	10.3%	D	
	Re-Offending Penalty Charge- No.2	£18.00	£20.00	11.1%	D	
	Re-Offending Penalty Charge- No.3	£32.00	£35.50	10.9%	D	
	Re-Offending Penalty Charge- No.4	£47.00	£51.75	10.1%	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/Discretionary)	Notes	
Infrastructure- Highways & Transport							
Abandoned Vehicles- Set by Department for Transport							
On road, upright, not damaged	- Removal of Vehicle-On road (less than 3.5 tonnes)	£150.00	£150.00	0.0%	S		
	- Removal of Vehicle-On road (3.5 to 7.5 tonnes)	£200.00	£200.00	0.0%	S		
	- Removal of Vehicle-On road (7.5 to 18 tonnes)	£350.00	£350.00	0.0%	S		
On road, damaged or not upright	- Removal of Vehicle-On road (more than 18 tonnes)	£350.00	£350.00	0.0%	S		
	- Removal of Vehicle-On road, damaged (less than 3.5 tonnes)	£250.00	£250.00	0.0%	S		
	- Removal of Vehicle-On road, damaged (3.5 to 7.5 tonnes)	£650.00	£650.00	0.0%	S		
On road, damaged or not upright	- Removal of Vehicle-On road, damaged (7.5 to 18 tonnes)	Unladen £2000 Laden £3000	Unladen £2,000 Laden £3,000	N/A	S		
	- Removal of Vehicle-On road, damaged (more than 18 tonnes)	Unladen £3000 Laden £4500	Unladen £3,000 Laden £4,500	N/A	S		
	- Removal of Vehicle-off road (less than 3.5 tonnes)	£200.00	£200.00	0.0%	S		
Off road, upright not damaged	- Removal of Vehicle-off road (3.5 to 7.5 tonnes)	£400.00	£400.00	0.0%	S		
	- Removal of Vehicle-off road (7.5 to 18 tonnes)	Unladen £1000, Laden £1500	Unladen £1,000, Laden £1,500	N/A	S		
	- Removal of Vehicle-off road (more than 18 tonnes)	Unladen £1500, Laden £2000	Unladen £1,500, Laden £2,000	N/A	S		
Off road, damaged or not upright	- Removal of Vehicle-off road, damaged (less than 3.5 tonnes)	£300.00	£300.00	0.0%	S		
	- Removal of Vehicle-off road, damaged (3.5 to 7.5 tonnes)	£850.00	£850.00	0.0%	S		
	- Removal of Vehicle-off road, damaged (7.5 to 18 tonnes)	Unladen £3000, Laden £4500	Unladen £3,000, Laden £4,500	N/A	S		
Off road, damaged or not upright	- Removal of Vehicle-off road, damaged (more than 18 tonnes)	Unladen £4500, Laden £6000	Unladen £4500, Laden £6000	N/A	S		
	Storage	Storage of Vehicle (per day) two wheeled	£10.00	£10.00	0.0%	S	
		Storage of Vehicle (per day) less than 3.5 tonnes	£20.00	£20.00	0.0%	S	
Storage of Vehicle (per day) 3.5 to 7.5 tonnes		£25.00	£25.00	0.0%	S		
Storage of Vehicle (per day) 7.5 to 18 tonnes		£30.00	£30.00	0.0%	S		
Disposal	Storage of Vehicle (per day) more than 18 tonnes	£35.00	£35.00	0.0%	S		
	Disposal of Vehicle - two wheeled	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	S		
	Disposal of Vehicle - less than 3.5 tonnes	£75.00	£75.00	0.0%	S		
	Disposal of Vehicle - 3.5 to 7.5 tonnes	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%	S		
	Disposal of Vehicle - 7.5 to 18 tonnes	£125.00	£125.00	0.0%	S		
	Disposal of Vehicle - more than 18 tonnes	£150.00	£150.00	0.0%	S		

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Infrastructure- Highways & Transport						
Car Parking Charges						
Car parking fees are currently under review. Further details can be found in the 'Parking Tariffs, Operations and Development Report'. A link to the report is provided below *1						
Band 1	Shrewsbury On Street (Per hour)	£ 2.80	£ 2.80		D	
Band 2 Ludlow On-Street (Red Zone), Bridge St- Shrewsbury, Raven Meadows Shrewsbury , St Austin Street- Shrewsbury , Quarry Swimming Centre	Band 2 Parking (per hour)	£ 2.00	£ 2.00		D	
	Sunday and Bank/Public holidays (excluding Raven Meadows MSCP) per hour	£ 1.00	£ 1.00		D	
	Sunday and Bank/Public holidays (Raven Meadows MSCP) a flat rate (up to 10 hours)	£ 2.00	£ 2.00		D	
A cap is applied to the tariff rates after 8 hours at Raven Meadows MSCP.						
A 2-hour cap on the linear tariff of 2 hours for parking periods between the hours of 8.00pm and 8.00am at Raven Meadows excluding Sunday and Bank Holidays						
Band 3 Mereseide, Ellesmere On-Street, Listley Street Northside, Listley Street Southside, Sainsburys, Castle Street Ludlow, Festival Square Oswestry, St Julian's Friars-Shrewsbury	Band 3 Parking (per hour)	£ 1.20	£ 1.20		D	
	Sunday and Bank/Public holidays	£ 0.60	£ 0.60		D	
	Off Street Resident Permit - 12 months - St Julian's Friars only	£ 512.00	£ 512.00		D	
Band 4 Ludlow On-Street (Blue Zone), Adj 31 Riverside Bridgnorth, Back Lane-Much Wenlock, Frankwell Shrewsbury	Band 4 Parking (per hour)	£ 0.80	£ 0.80		D	
	Sundays and Bank/Public holidays	FOC	FOC		D	
	Off Street Weekly Ticket - 7 days	£ 27.00	£ 27.00		D	
	Off Street Season Ticket - 1 month	£ 94.00	£ 94.00		D	
	Off Street Season Ticket - 3 months	£ 240.00	£ 240.00		D	
	Off Street Season Ticket - 6 months	£ 400.00	£ 400.00		D	
	Off Street Season Ticket - 12 months	£ 640.00	£ 640.00		D	
Off Street Resident Permit - 12 months	£ 512.00	£ 512.00		D		
Band 5 St Marys Lane Much Wenlock, Easthope Road Church Stretton, Galdeford Ludlow (Zone A), Queen Street Market Drayton, Pepper Street Whitchurch, Castle Hill Whitchurch, Abbey Foregate Car Park, Frogmore Rd Market Drayton	Band 5 Parking (per hour)	£ 0.60	£ 0.60		D	
	Sundays and Bank/Public holidays	FOC	FOC		D	
	Off Street Weekly Ticket - 7 days	£ 20.00	£ 20.00		D	
	Off Street Season Ticket - 1 month	£ 70.00	£ 70.00		D	
	Off Street Season Ticket - 3 months	£ 180.00	£ 180.00		D	
	Off Street Season Ticket - 6 months	£ 300.00	£ 300.00		D	
	Off Street Season Ticket - 12 months	£ 480.00	£ 480.00		D	
Off Street Resident Permit - 12 months	£ 384.00	£ 384.00		D		

*1 <https://shropshire.gov.uk/committee-services/documents/s36523/NEW%20REPORT%20Parking%20Tariffs%20Operations%20Development%20003.pdf>

ECONOMY & PLACE

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Economy & Place						
Development Management						
Fees for Processing Planning Applications	Please see website for current charges *2 https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/planning-and-development/planning/applications/submit-an-application/				S	
Fees for Processing Planning Mineral & Waste Applications	Please see website for current charges *3 https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/planning-and-development/planning/applications/submit-an-application/				S	
Planning performance agreement fees		POA	POA	N/A	D	
Other planning charges	Informal enquiry- per hour	£55.00	£61.00	10.9%	D	
	Administrative fee for invalid applications that are returned- per hour	£33.00	£36.50	10.6%	D	
	Compliance Checking Service- per hour	£73.00	£80.50	10.3%	D	
Photocopying Planning Permissions (and other documents requiring research and/or extraction of info)	Copies of documents per hour (plus cost of copying)	£69.90	£77.00	10.2%	D	
Pre planning application advice	Hourly rate for requests for information	£109.20	£120.50	10.3%	D	
	Category A (Largescale Major)	£2,420.00	£5,000.00	106.6%	D	Same fee applies for Natural and Historic Team Pre-Application advice
	Category A1 (Follow-up)	N/A	£2,500.00	N/A	D	
	Category A2 (Discharge of Condition)	N/A	£500.00	N/A	D	
	Category B (Smallscale Major 50-199)	£1,452.00	£3,500.00	141.0%	D	
	Category B1 (Follow-up)	N/A	£2,000.00	N/A	D	
	Category B2 (Discharge of Condition)	N/A	£350.00	N/A	D	
	Category B3 (Smallscale Major 25 - 49 units)	N/A	£2,500.00	N/A	D	
	Category B4 (Follow-up)	N/A	£1,250.00	N/A	D	
	Category B5 (Discharge of Condition)	N/A	£350.00	N/A	D	
	Category B6 (Smallscale Major 10-24 units)	N/A	£1,500.00	N/A	D	
	Category B7 (Follow-up)	N/A	£750.00	N/A	D	
	Category B8 (Discharge of Condition)	N/A	£350.00	N/A	D	
	Category C (Minor)	£726.00	£1,000.00	37.7%	D	
	Category C1 (Follow-up)	N/A	£500.00	N/A	D	
	Category C2 (Discharge of Condition)	N/A	£250.00	N/A	D	
	Category D (Other proposals)	£121.00	£150.00	24.0%	D	
	Category D1 (Site Visit)	N/A	£500.00	N/A	D	
	Category D2 (Discharge of Condition)	N/A	£100.00	N/A	D	
	Minerals proposals EIA Proposals	£3,025.00	£5,000.00	65.3%	D	
	Minerals proposals EIA Proposals - Follow-up	N/A	£2,500.00	N/A	D	
	Minerals proposals EIA Proposals - Discharge of Condition	N/A	£500.00	N/A	D	
	Minerals proposals Major Non EIA Proposals exceeding 1ha	£1,815.00	£3,000.00	65.3%	D	
	Minerals proposals Major Non EIA Proposals exceeding 1ha - Follow-up	N/A	£1,500.00	N/A	D	
	Minerals proposals Major Non EIA Proposals exceeding 1ha - Discharge of conditions	N/A	£500.00	N/A	D	
	Minerals proposals all other proposals	£429.00	£1,000.00	133.1%	D	
	Minerals proposals all other proposals - Follow-up (large)	N/A	£500.00	N/A	D	
	Minerals proposals all other proposals - Follow-up (small)	N/A	£250.00	N/A	D	
	Change of use / Single dwelling	£308.00	£500.00	62.3%	D	
	Change of use / Single dwelling - Follow-up	N/A	£250.00	N/A	D	
	Change of use / Single dwelling - Discharge of Condition	N/A	£150.00	N/A	D	

*2,3 <https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/planning-and-development/planning/applications/submit-an-application/>

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/Discretionary)	Notes
Economy & Place						
Building control						
Building regulations fees	Please See Building Control section of the Council's Website for detailed table of charges *4 https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/building-control/applications/					
Dangerous Buildings and Structures hourly rates (Office Hours 08:00 to 17:00):-	Business support (administration)- per hour	£90.00	£95.00	5.6%	Fees are set in accordance with CIPFA accounting guidelines	
	Business support (specialist)- per hour	£112.00	£118.00	5.4%		
	Building Control Surveyor- per hour	£112.00	£118.00	5.4%		
Dangerous Buildings and Structures hourly rates (Out of Office Hours):-	Building Control Surveyor- per hour	£225.00	£238.00	5.8%		
	Completion Inspection (projects completed and occupied over 3 years). Inspection of outstanding items and issuing of completion certificate.	£266.00	£281.00	5.6%		
	Completion Inspection (projects completed and occupied over 3 years, incomplete inspections records or application exceeds 10 years old).	£532.00	£562.00	5.6%		
	Certificate of Lawfulness (enquiries which request advice confirming if works are exempt).	£106.00	£112.00	5.7%		
Energy Ratings & water Calculations		POA	POA	N/A	D	
Search and copy fee.	Copying	£32.00	£35.50	10.9%	D	
	Certificates (per copy)	£28.00	£30.00	7.1%	D	
	Certificate of exemption.	£55.00	£61.00	10.9%	D	
Demolition Notice (issue section 81 Notice, neighbour letters and site inspection)	- minimum fee	£220.00	£242.00	10.0%	D	
<i>This is the minimum fee to cover admin, issue of Section 81 Notice and inspection. This may be increased depending on the size and scale of the project to allow full recovery of all reasonable costs incurred by the authority.</i>						
Land Charges						
Search fees	Please see website for current charges https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/land-charges/land-charges-fees/			N/A	S	
Street Naming/Numbering/Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG)						
Fees for Processing Applications for the creation and amendment of addresses	Creation of a new individual address	£46.00	£50.00	8.7%	D	
	Creation of new addresses on developments up to 25 plots (per plot)	£46.00	£50.00	8.7%	D	
	Creation of new addresses on developments up to 50 plots (per plot), plots 26 to 50	£40.00	£45.00	12.5%	D	
	Creation of new addresses on developments over 50 plots (per plot), plots 51 and above	£28.00	£32.00	14.3%	D	
	Individual property renaming or renumbering	£46.00	£52.00	13.0%	D	
	Addition of a name to a numbered property	£46.00	£52.00	13.0%	D	
	Alterations to development after initial notification - per affected address	£40.00	£50.00	25.0%	D	
	Confirmation of postal addresses for solicitors or conveyancers and all consultees	£36.00	£45.00	25.0%	D	
Highways Development Control						
Developing highways	Extent of Highway search	£83.00	£90.00	8.4%	D	
	Extent of Highway search (extensive searches, charge per hour)	£50.00	£54.00	8.0%	D	
	Copy of Section 38/278 legal agreement and associated highway advice	N/A	£36.00	N/A	D	
	Copy of Section 38/278 legal agreement Deed of variation/novation	N/A	£24.00	N/A	D	
	Copy of Section 38/278 legal agreement bond	N/A	£18.00	N/A	D	
Section 38/278 Fees	Section 38/278 Checking and Inspection fees	10% of bond value	10% of bond value	N/A	D	

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*4 <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/building-control/applications/>

*5 <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/land-charges/land-charges-fees/>

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/Discretionary)	Notes	
Economy & Place							
Natural & Historic Environment							
Trees/hedges	Tree Preservation Orders - Copy of TPO (electronic)	£25.00	£27.50	10.0%	D		
	Tree and hedgerow decision notices - Copy of tree and hedgerow decision notices:	£25.00	£27.50	10.0%	D		
	High Hedge Complaints	£730.00	£803.00	10.0%	D		
HER	Officer time for Historic Environment Record (HER) single site searches (commercial clients)- per hour	£66.00	£73.00	10.6%	D		
	Officer time for Historic Environment Record (HER) searches (commercial clients)- per hour	£132.00	£145.50	10.2%	D		
	Officer time for Historic Environment Record (HER) priority searches (commercial clients)- per hour	£264.00	£290.50	10.0%	D		
HER (searches for woodland planting grants)	Local historic environment declines to comment	N/A	£0.00	N/A	D		
	Proposal area 0-4.99ha (Fee for Information)	N/A	£100.00	N/A	D		
	Proposal area 0-4.99ha (Fee for advice)	N/A	£95.00	N/A	D		
	Proposal area 5ha-50ha (Fee for Information)	N/A	£130.00	N/A	D		
	Proposal area 5ha-50ha (Fee for advice)	N/A	£130.00	N/A	D		
	Proposal area 50ha+ (Fee for Information)	N/A	£130.00	N/A	D		
	Proposal area 50ha+ (Fee for advice)	N/A	£195.00	N/A	D		
Provision of Countryside Stewardship consultation advice - middle tier responses	Band 1 Application area 0 - 30 ha	£35.00	See note	N/A	S	Rates are agreed as part of a national Service Standard agreed by Natural England, Historic England and ALGAO (Rate for 2024/25 to be agreed)	
	Band 2 Application area 31 - 75 ha	£70.00	See note	N/A	S		
	Band 3 Application area 76 - 150 ha	£140.00	See note	N/A	S		
	Band 4 Application area 150 ha upwards	£280.00	See note	N/A	S		
Provision of Countryside Stewardship consultation advice - higher tier responses	Band 1 Application area 0 - 30 ha	£52.00	See note	N/A	S		
	Band 2 Application area 31 - 75 ha	£105.00	See note	N/A	S		
	Band 3 Application area 76 - 150 ha	£210.00	See note	N/A	S		
	Band 4 Application area 150 ha upwards	£420.00	See note	N/A	S		
HER consultation for Natural England Conservation Enhancement Schemes (CES)	Officer time for Historic Environment Record (HER) information and advice - per hour	£132.00	£145.50	10.2%	D		
Environmental Screening Report consultation for EIA Agriculture Regulations	Officer time for Historic Environment Record (HER) information and advice - per hour	£132.00	£145.50	10.2%	D		
Provision of Pre-Purchase advice on Listed Buildings (hourly rates)	Copy of LBC Decision Notices or associated documents (electronic)	£22.00	£24.25	10.2%	D		
	Officer time for provision of pre-purchase advice	£116.00	£128.00	10.3%	D		
	Officer time and expenses for pre-purchase site visit	£231.00	£254.50	10.2%	D		

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Economy & Place						
Planning Policy						
Shropshire CIL - Levy Rates per Square Metre- Shrewsbury, the market towns and other key Centres	Residential Developments (use class C3) excluding affordable housing	£63.39	£68.04	7.3%	S	Charge applicable to calendar year index linked
Shropshire CIL - Levy Rates per Square Metre- Rural - Rest of Shropshire	Residential Developments (use class C3) excluding affordable housing	£126.79	£138.07	7.3%	S	Charge applicable to calendar year index linked
Self-build and Custom House building Register	Initial annual fee (to be included in the register)	£35.00	£38.50	10.0%	D	
	Renewal fee	£18.00	£20.00	11.1%	D	
	Workshop (to include self build guidance, support and signposting) per delegate	£139.00	£153.00	10.1%	D	
Local plan related fees	Core Strategy	£47.00	£52.00	10.6%	D	
	Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev Plan)	£174.00	£191.50	10.1%	D	
	Annual Monitoring report	£35.00	£39.00	11.4%	D	
	Objectively Assessed Need for Housing	£110.00	£121.00	10.0%	D	
	Supplementary Planning Documents	£23.00	£25.50	10.9%	D	
	Statement of Community Involvement	£12.00	£13.00	8.3%	D	
	Housing Enabling	Eligibility letters for re sales (Standard)	N/A	£50.00	N/A	D
Eligibility letters for re sales (Complex)		N/A	£100.00	N/A	D	
Mortgage consents (Standard)		N/A	£50.00	N/A	D	
Mortgage consents (Complex)		N/A	£100.00	N/A	D	
Consents for transfers/ sales (Standard)		N/A	£50.00	N/A	D	
Consents for transfers/ sales (Complex)		N/A	£100.00	N/A	D	
Amendments to Title information (Standard)		N/A	£50.00	N/A	D	
Amendments to Title information (Complex)		N/A	£100.00	N/A	D	
Land registry forms (Standard)		N/A	£50.00	N/A	D	
Land registry forms (Complex)		N/A	£100.00	N/A	D	
Highway Policy & Strategy						
Traffic Data	Traffic data - historic data on record	£187.00	£205.75	10.0%	D	
	Automatic traffic count data	£789.80	£869.00	10.0%	D	
	Highway accident data	£185.90	£204.50	10.0%	D	

RESOURCES- LEGAL & GOVERNANCE

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Resources- Legal & Governance						
Legal Services						
Legal fees	All legal advice and transactions (excluding disbursements) - level of charge dependent on charge out rate of respective fee earner. (charge per hour)	£84-£126	£104-£151	19.2%/16.6%	D	
	S106 Agreements Generally (per hour)	£84-£126	£104-£151	19.2%/16.6%	D	
	S106 Agreement - Single Plot	£520.20	£973.00	87.0%	D	
	S106 Agreement - For Off-site Affordable Housing Contributions	£231.20	£556.00	140.5%	D	
	S 38 Agreements- per hour	£84-£126	£104-£151	19.2%/16.6%	D	
	S 278 Agreements- per hour	£84-£126	£104-£151	19.2%/16.6%	D	
	Deed of Grant for surface water drainage (per hour plus disbursements)	£84-£126	£104-£151	19.2%/16.6%	D	
	Consents for sublease / charge on Battlefield/Oxon business park	£46.20	£55.44	20.0%	D	
	Deeds of covenant for assignments on Battlefield/ Oxon	£202.30	£242.76	20.0%	D	
	Deeds of covenant for assignments on former smallholdings	£404.50	£485.40	20.0%	D	
Committee Services						
Admissions Appeals	If the Chairman of the Appeals Panel considers that further legal advice is necessary then the Appeals Clerk will seek advice from the Council's legal services (charge per hour) (pro rata)	£115.60	£128.00	10.7%	D	
Exclusion Appeals	Recharge school at cost separately for any legal services, if required, which will be charged per hour depending upon the solicitor instructed. (NB: It is highly likely that a Solicitor will be required to attend for the entire Panel hearing.)	£92-£139	£128.00	N/A	D	
Education Appeals - Academy Schools	First appeal held per day	£266.00	£293.00	10.2%	D	Recharge school at cost separately for any interpreter services, if required. Recharge school at cost separately should Council's Admissions Team be requested to present.
	Second and every other appeal held per day	£185.00	£203.00	9.7%	D	
	Per appeal lodged but subsequently withdrawn before hearing	£58.00	£64.00	10.3%	D	
	Recharge school at cost separately for an legal services, if required, which will be charged per hour depending upon the solicitor instructed (NB: It is highly likely that a Solicitor will be required to attend for the entire Panel hearing).	£80-£120	£128.00	N/A	D	
Permanent Exclusion Appeals - Academy Schools	Per permanent exclusion appeal	£301.00	£331.00	10.0%	D	Recharge school at cost separately for any interpreter services, if required. Recharge school at cost separately for any SEN expert services, if required by parent.
	Per hour of the actual panel sitting	£23.00	£25.00	8.7%	D	
	Per permanent exclusion appeal lodged but subsequently withdrawn before hearing	£81.00	£89.00	9.9%	D	
	Recharge school at cost separately for any legal services, if required, which will be charged per hour depending upon the solicitor instructed. (NB: It is highly likely that a Solicitor will be required to attend for the entire Panel hearing.)	£80-£120	£128.00	N/A	D	
Commons Register Amendments		£1,156.00	£1,272.76	10.1%	D	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Resources- Legal & Governance						
Elections Team						
Sale of Full or Edited Register of Electors	In Data Form	£20.00	£20.00	0.0%	S	Additional £1.50 per 1000 entries (or part)
		£1.50	£1.50	0.0%	S	
	In Printed Form	£10.00	£10.00	0.0%	S	Additional £5.00 per 1000 entries (or part)
		£5.00	£5.00	0.0%	S	
Sale of Full list of Overseas Electors	In Data Form	£20.00	£20.00	0.0%	S	Additional £1.50 per 100 entries (or part)
		£1.50	£1.50	0.0%	S	
	In Printed Form	£10.00	£10.00	0.0%	S	Additional £5.00 per 100 entries (or part)
		£5.00	£5.00	0.0%	S	
Parish Council Elections						
Elections Charges to Parish and Town Councils	Uncontested Elections	£110.10	£121.22	10.1%	D	Per election (if warded or grouped, the charge is for each ward or parish as they are classed as separate elections)
	Contested Elections	Actual cost of election.	Actual cost of election.	N/A	D	

LEARNING & SKILLS- CHILDRENS SERVICES

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Learning & Skills- Childrens services						
Music Service (Charges Based on Academic Year). Fees are subject to change subject to grant confirmation.						
Parent Billed- lessons, Remissions and Instrument Hire						
Lessons	Billed Lessons	£52.00	£52.00	0.0%	D	
	School of Music - Orchestra/Ensembles/Choirs	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
Remissions	Income Support (Free School Meals) (Refund per term)- Fee plus free instrument	50% per term (max. £50) + free instrument	50% per term (max. £50) + free instrument	0.0%	D	
	Child Tax Credit & Working Tax Credit (contact Service for criteria) (Refund per term)- Fee plus 25% off instrument hire	25% per term (max £25) + free instrument	25% per term (max £25) + free instrument	0.0%	D	
Instrument Hire (Violin/Ukulele) (per term)		£8.50	£8.50	0.0%	D	
Instrument Hire (Popular) (per term)	Popular - bassoon, double bass, euphonium, french horn, tuba, tenor horn, viola, oboe, baritone	£15.00	£15.00	0.0%	D	
Instrument Hire (Other) (per term)	Other - cello, clarinet, cornet, flute, trombone, trumpet, snare drum, saxophone, harp	£20.00	£20.00	0.0%	D	
School Billed- lessons, Remissions and Instrument Hire						
Music lessons	Instrumental Lessons (per hour)	£52.00	£52.00	0.0%	D	
	Whole Class Tuition (per hour)	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	D	
	Curriculum Support (per hour)	£56.00	£56.00	0.0%	D	
	School Ensembles	£56.00	£56.00	0.0%	D	
Remissions & Billed lessons	Income Support (Free School Meals) (Refund per term)- Fee plus free instrument	50% per term (max. £50) + free instrument	50% per term (max. £50) + free instrument	0.0%	D	
	Child Tax Credit & Working Tax Credit (contact Service for criteria) (Refund per term)- Fee plus 25% off instrument hire	25% per term (max £25) + free instrument	25% per term (max £25) + free instrument	0.0%	D	
Instrument Hire (Violin/Ukulele/Guitar) (per term)		£8.50	£8.50	0.0%	D	
Instrument Hire (Popular) (per term)	Popular - bassoon, double bass, euphonium, french horn, tuba, tenor horn, viola, oboe, baritone	£15.00	£15.00	0.0%	D	
Instrument Hire (Other) (per term)	Other - cello, clarinet, cornet, flute, trombone, trumpet, snare drum, saxophone, harp	£20.00	£20.00	0.0%	D	
Festivals and Workshops - Charges to Schools						
Festivals and Workshops - Charges to Schools	Area Festivals (per pupil)	FOC	FOC	N/A	D	
	Instrumental Workshop (per hour)	£56.00	£56.00	0.0%	D	
Education Welfare Service						
Special Education						
EWO Penalty Charges	- Per pupil (if paid within 21 days)	£60.00	£60.00	0.0%	S	The Statutory Instrument prescribing these charges has not been updated
	- Per pupil (if paid within 22 - 28 days)	£120.00	£120.00	0.0%	S	

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Learning & Skills- Childrens services						
Home to School / College Transport Charges (Charges Based on Academic Year)						
Parental contributions						
Post 16 (Mainstream & SEND)	Autumn	£315.00	£315.00	0.0%	D	
	Spring	£315.00	£315.00	0.0%	D	
	Summer	£303.00	£303.00	0.0%	D	
	Annual	£933.00	£933.00	0.0%	D	
	Benefits (Admin Fee)	£299.00	£299.00	0.0%	D	
In Catchment Pupils (Full Term)	Post 16	£315.00	£315.00	0.0%	D	
	Primary & Secondary	£193.00	£193.00	0.0%	D	
	2nd Child	£167.00	£167.00	0.0%	D	
	Half Term / AM or PM	£130.00	£130.00	0.0%	D	
	2nd Child	£117.00	£117.00	0.0%	D	
Out of Catchment Pupils (Full Term)	Free School Meals	£15.00	£15.00	0.0%	D	
	Post 16	£315.00	£315.00	0.0%	D	
	Primary / Secondary	£267.00	£267.00	0.0%	D	
	Free School Meals	£15.00	£15.00	0.0%	D	

ADULT SERVICES

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Adult Services						
Adult Social Care & Transport						
Transport Daily Charges	5 mile radius (up to 10 miles per day)	£5.60	£6.00	7.1%	D	
	10 mile radius (up to 20 miles per day)	£8.40	£9.00	7.1%	D	
	Over 10 miles radius (over 20 miles per day)	£11.20	£12.10	8.0%	D	
Day Centre Attendance Charge per day (includes refreshments and some activities)						
Helena Lane- Day centre charges- Older People	Per day	£83.35	£88.20	7.7%	D	
	1/2 day	£31.70	£34.10	7.6%	D	
	Sessional rate (2 hours)	£17.15	£18.50	7.9%	D	
Helena Lane- Day centre charges- Learning Disabilities	Per day	£69.60	£74.90	7.6%	D	
	1/2 day	£34.80	£37.40	7.5%	D	
	Sessional rate (2 hours)	£18.80	£20.20	7.4%	D	
Abbotswood	Per day	£60.80	£65.40	7.6%	D	
	1/2 day	£30.40	£32.70	7.6%	D	
	Sessional rate (2 hours)	£16.45	£17.70	7.6%	D	
Greenacres	Per day	£50.00	£53.80	7.6%	D	
	1/2 day	£25.00	£26.90	7.6%	D	
	Sessional rate (2 hours)	£13.50	£14.50	7.4%	D	
Albert Road	Per day	£55.45	£59.70	7.7%	D	
	1/2 day	£27.75	£29.90	7.7%	D	
	Sessional rate (2 hours)	£15.00	£16.10	7.3%	D	
Wayfarers	Per day	£52.85	£56.90	7.7%	D	
	1/2 day	£26.45	£28.50	7.8%	D	
	Sessional rate (2 hours)	£14.30	£15.40	7.7%	D	
Avalon	Per day	£75.90	£81.70	7.6%	D	
	1/2 day	£38.00	£40.90	7.6%	D	
	Sessional rate (2 hours)	£20.50	£22.10	7.8%	D	
Maesbury Metals	Per day	£73.20	£78.80	7.7%	D	
	1/2 day	£36.60	£39.40	7.7%	D	
	Sessional rate (2 hours)	£19.80	£21.30	7.6%	D	
Aquamira- Attendance charge	Per day	£115.00	£123.70	7.6%	D	
	1/2 day	£57.50	£61.90	7.7%	D	
	Sessional rate (2 hours)	£31.10	£33.50	7.7%	D	
Aquamira- Hydrotherapy charges	30 minute Hydro session using Hirer's staff	£18.80	£20.20	7.4%	D	
	30 minute Hydro session weekday (using Aquamira supervision)	£28.50	£30.70	7.7%	D	
	30 minute Hydro session evening (using Aquamira supervision)	£31.00	£33.40	7.7%	D	
	30 minute Hydro session weekend (using Aquamira supervision)	£33.40	£35.90	7.5%	D	
	1 hour pool hire	£37.60	£40.50	7.7%	D	
	1 hour Hydro session weekday (using Aquamira supervision)	£54.70	£58.90	7.7%	D	
	1 hour Hydro session evening (using Aquamira supervision)	£59.00	£63.50	7.6%	D	
	1 hour Hydro session weekend (using Aquamira supervision)	£63.20	£68.00	7.6%	D	
	Aquamira- Multi-sensory room with new equipment and staff induction	Multi-sensory room Aquamira (for a half hour session)	£16.02	£17.20	7.4%	D
	Multi-sensory room Aquamira (for a half hour session) EVENING	£18.50	£19.90	7.6%	D	
	Multi-sensory room Aquamira (for a half hour session) WEEKEND	£20.90	£22.50	7.7%	D	
	Multi-sensory room Aquamira (for one hour session)	£29.60	£31.80	7.4%	D	
	Multi-sensory room Aquamira (for one hour session) EVENING	£33.90	£36.50	7.7%	D	
	Multi-sensory room Aquamira (for one hour session) WEEKEND	£38.15	£41.00	7.5%	D	

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Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Basis of Charge (Statutory/ Discretionary)	Notes
Adult Services						
Four Rivers Nursing Home						
Residential Nursing Related Charges for Older people	Four Rivers existing residents (excluding FNC)	It is recommended that fees for clients be increased by 10% inflation from 1st April 2023	It is recommended that fees for clients be increased by 7.6% from 1st April 2024	7.6%	D	The % increase to be charged will be confirmed once agreed
	Four Rivers new residents (excluding FNC)	It is recommended that fees for clients be increased by 10% inflation from 1st April 2023	It is recommended that fees for clients be increased by 7.6% from 1st April 2024	7.6%	D	The % increase to be charged will be confirmed once agreed
Court of protection client property charges						
	Work up to court decision appointing a deputy	£745.00	£745.00	0.0%	S	
	Annual management fee -first year	£775.00	£775.00	0.0%	S	
	Annual management fee -after 1st year	£850.00	£850.00	0.0%	S	
	Annual property management fee	£300.00	£300.00	0.0%	S	
	Completing Annual Report	£218.00	£218.00	0.0%	S	
	Completion of Tax Return	£70.00	£70.00	0.0%	S	
	Completion of Tax Return - Complex	£140.00	£140.00	0.0%	S	
	Finalising of Accounts for Deceased Clients (Appointeeship and Deputyships)	£325.00	£357.50	10.0%	D	
	Fixed travel costs of £40 per hour	£40.00	£40.00	0.0%	S	
<i>We also charge 3.5% of P's Assets below £16K, as instructed by the COP - Practice Direction B - Fixed Costs</i>						
Community services joint training courses						
<i>Full breakdown of individual course fees can be found in the current Joint Training booklet. Revised fees will be published in the next Joint Training Booklet and customers will be advised via E-gov newsletter in advance of increase.</i>						
Face to face delivery (Pricing varies according to length of course)	Group 1 (2hrs to 5hrs) - Shropshire Adult Care & Health Services, Shropshire Council non-ASC.	£23-£47.50	£25.50-£52.25	10.0%	D	Training courses charges are currently under review. Further changes may occur as a result of this review.
	Group 1 Full Day - Shropshire Adult Care & Health Services, Shropshire Council non-ASC.	£80.50	£87.00	10.7%	D	
	Group 2 (2hrs - 5hrs) - Other	£29-£65	£32-£71.50	10.0%	D	
	Group 2 Full Day - Other	£94.50	£104.00	10.1%	D	
Webinar Delivery (Pricing varies according to length of course)	Group 1 (2hrs - 5hrs) - Shropshire Adult Care & Health Services, Shropshire Council non-ASC.	£17.50-£42	£19.25-£46.25	10.0%	D	
	Group 1 Full day - Shropshire Adult Care & Health Services, Shropshire Council non-ASC.	£55.00	£61.00	10.9%	D	
	Group 2 (2hrs-5hrs) - Other	£26.50-£66	£29.25-£72.75	10.0%	D	
	Group 2 Full day - Other	£89.00	£98.00	10.1%	D	
In House Training Face to Face & Webinar (Pricing varies according to length of course)	Group 1 (2hrs to 8hrs) (Shropshire Adult Care & Health Services, Shropshire Council non-ASC.)	£170-£429	£187-£472	10.0%	D	
	Group 1 Training Full Day (Shropshire Adult Care & Health Services, Shropshire Council non-ASC.	£500.00	£550.00	10.0%	D	
	- Group 2 (2hrs - 8hrs) (Other organisations)	£207-£528	£228-£581	10.0%	D	
	In House Training - Group 2 Full Day (Other organisations)	£616.00	£678.00	10.1%	D	

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

Fee/charge type	Description of fee/charge	Fee for 2023/24 £	Fee for 2024/25 £	% Change	Notes
Housing Revenue Account					
Housing rents (48 week basis)	Housing Rents-Increased by Formula rent calculation	Subject to separate recommendation	Subject to separate recommendation	N/A	
Heating charges (per week - 48 week basis)	Greenfields	£4.59	£4.94	7.7%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Sheldon Court	£14.34	£15.44	7.7%	Per week (48 weeks)
Service charges (per week - 48 week basis)	Admirals Flats	£6.82	£7.35	7.7%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Broseley Flats	£1.04	£1.12	7.7%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Red House	£1.99	£2.14	7.7%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Greenfields	£10.98	£11.83	7.7%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Sheldon Court	£14.61	£15.73	7.7%	Per week (48 weeks)
	New Century Court Licence Fee	£67.06	£72.22	7.7%	
	Intensive Housing Management - South (standard sheltered support)	£16.35	£19.30	18.0%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Intensive Housing Management - North (standard sheltered support)	£16.35	£19.30	18.0%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Intensive Housing Management - (General Needs)	£12.50	£14.75	18.0%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Intensive Housing Management - New Century Court	£25.30	£62.78	148.1%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Intensive Housing Management - Temporary Accommodation (dispersed units)	£48.82	£64.29	31.7%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Communal Cleaning - Oswestry	£2.16	£2.33	7.7%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Communal TV Aerial	£0.88	£0.95	7.7%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Caretaking Service	£2.65	£2.85	7.7%	Per week (48 weeks)
Community Alarms					
Leased Services	Leased Service (Council tenants) - service charge set by STAR Housing	£45.24 + VAT	£48.75 + VAT	7.8%	Charge per quarter
	Leased Service (Non-Council tenants) - charge set by STAR Housing	£45.24 + VAT	£48.75 + VAT	7.8%	Charge per quarter
Other charges	Monitoring charge on non-leased unit charge set by STAR Housing	£13.00 + VAT	£14.00 + VAT	7.7%	Charge per quarter
	Former Grant Supported - Council Tenant Sheltered Schemes	£2.17 + VAT	£2.34 + VAT	7.8%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Former Grant Supported - Other	£2.17 + VAT	£2.34 + VAT	7.8%	Per week (48 weeks)
Installation Charge:	Alarm Installation Charge - set by STAR Housing	£25.00	£45.00	80.0%	
Replacement Pendants:	Per pendant. Charge set by STAR Housing	£50.00	£55.00	10.0%	Per item
	Other peripheral equipment e.g. key safe (cost plus installation & admin charge)	Cost plus installation & admin charge (+VAT where due)	Cost plus installation & admin charge (+VAT where due)	N/A	
Garden Maintenance - HRA Properties (48 week basis)	Lawn Cut - Annual Maintenance (20mm to 60mm)	£2.17 (+VAT where due)	£2.33 (+VAT where due)	7.4%	Front or rear garden
	Hedge Cutting - Annual Maintenance	£1.08 (+VAT where due)	£1.16 (+VAT where due)	7.4%	Front or rear garden
Parking Bays	Secured Parking Bays (Tenant)	£2.50per wk (+VAT where due)	£2.70per wk (+VAT where due)	8.0%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Secured Parking Bays (Non-Tenant)	£3 per wk (+VAT where due)	£3.25 per wk (+VAT where due)	8.3%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Replacement padlock (drop down bollards)	£10 plus cost of new lock + VAT	£11 plus cost of new lock + VAT	10.0%	Per item
Repairs recharged to current & former tenants	Charges payable to STAR Housing for various works such as missed appointment, tenant damage and house clearance.	Cost recovery plus 15% admin if applicable	Cost recovery plus 15% admin if applicable	N/A	
Garage Rents	Bridgnorth & Oswestry (VAT charged to Council tenants on third or more garages and all non-tenants)	£7.50 per week (+VAT where due)	£8 per week (+VAT where due)	6.7%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Oswestry - non-tenant	£9 per wk +VAT	£9.50 per wk +VAT	5.6%	Per week (48 weeks)
	Garage base (48-week basis)	£1.32per wk (+VAT where due)	£1.40per wk (+VAT where due)	6.1%	Per week (48 weeks)

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT RENT LEVEL 2024/25 – POLICY CONTEXT

Introduction

- 1.1 This appendix sets out the recommended approach to rent levels, accommodation charges and service charges for the Council's retained housing stock, temporary accommodation and shared ownership homes for the 2024/25 financial year.
- 1.2 The recommendations are made in compliance with the Government's policy change in respect of new Shared Ownership leases that took effect from 12th October 2023 and also take into account Shropshire Council's revised [draft] Tenancy Strategy which is currently scheduled for consideration in early 2024.

Recommendations

- 1.3 It is recommended that:
 - Social Housing rents for 2024/25 are increased by 7.7% from 3rd April 2024.
 - Affordable rents for 2024/25 are increased by 7.7% from 3rd April 2024.
 - Shared Ownership rents continue to be set at 2.75% of the outstanding capital value of the home at the time of sale and thereafter increased each April in accordance with the terms specified in the lease agreements.
 - All accommodation charges for 2024/25 are increased by 7.7% from 3rd April 2024.
 - Service charges continue to be set on the basis of actual cost.

Background

- 1.4 The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a ring-fenced account separate from the General Fund that records the financial transactions relating to the management and maintenance of the Council's retained housing stock. The primary source of income (98%) comes from tenants' housing rent.
- 1.5 Since 2002 Council house rents in Shropshire were increased annually based on the Government's recommended formula rent calculation. This approach was followed by the former District and Borough Councils in Bridgnorth and Oswestry from 2002 and by subsequently Shropshire Council from 2009.
- 1.6 In May 2014 the coalition Government issued new Guidance on Rents for Social Housing. This guidance ended the previously complex formula rent calculation and replaced it with a simple annual inflationary uplift determined by the preceding September Consumer Price Index (CPI) plus 1%. The new guidance took effect from April 2015 and was intended to apply for 10 years.
- 1.7 Following the general election in May 2015 the Chancellor announced in his Budget Statement made on the 8th July 2015 that the new Government intended to abandon the 10 year guidance and instead impose a requirement for local authorities and housing associations to cut rent by 1% for 4 consecutive years commencing in April 2016. This policy was subsequently incorporated in the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 and was applied to rents up to and including 2019/20. This change in policy meant that actual rent levels were 15.2% below the original expectation which represented an annual loss of income to the HRA of around £2.5m.
- 1.8 Prior to the 4-year period of imposed rent reductions, the Government had used the Rent Rebate Subsidy Limitation scheme as a mechanism to prevent local authorities from applying rent increases above their recommendation, however the move towards Universal Credit meant this control could no longer be applied. Consequently, in October 2017 the Government announced that from April 2020 local authority rent would be subject to the rent standard for social housing providers that had previously only applied to housing

- associations. This permitted a return to the previous policy of annual increases on both social and affordable rent of up to the preceding September CPI plus 1%.
- 1.9 CPI in September 2022 stood at 10.1% which gave rise to a potential increase of 11.1% from April 2023. In recognition of the significant adverse impact on tenants of an increase of this amount, the Government undertook a consultation exercise in Autumn 2022 on proposals to cap the increase permissible for 2023/24. The consultation identified 3 options for a cap of either 3%, 5% or 7% and sought the views from housing providers on the financial impact of this proposal. On 17th November 2022 the Government announced that following consideration of the responses to the consultation, the rent increase from April 2023 would be subject to a 7% cap. The rationale behind this was that a below inflation increase protected the most vulnerable tenants whilst recognising the financial pressures on housing providers to deliver service and address the need to provide new housing supply in the face of rising costs.
- 1.10 CPI data in September 2023 stood at 6.7% which gives rise to a potential increase of 7.7%. The Government has not sought to impose a cap on rent increases from April 2024 as was the case for the 2023/24 year and accordingly this permits a return to the previous policy of annual increases on both social and affordable rent of up to the preceding September CPI plus 1%.
- 1.11 Flexibility exists to set rents up to 5% above the formula rent (10% in the case of supported housing) calculation – this is known as the ‘rent flexibility level’, however this approach has not been implemented by Shropshire Council since the Government’s formula rent calculation was adopted in 2002. Whilst a continuation of the existing approach is recommended for 2024/25 the impact of adopting these permitted allowances will be considered when formulating the HRA 30-year Business Plan, the implementation of which is currently in progress.

Affordable Rent

- 1.12 The HRA new homes building programme delivers affordable homes for rent or shared ownership. These programmes have been part funded by Homes and Communities Agency/Homes England grant which has enabled the conversion of homes from social rent to affordable rent as an additional contribution to the funding. Suitable properties are converted and re-let. All rented new build homes are let on an affordable rent. Affordable rents are set at 80% of the market rent for a similar property in the area and have historically averaged c£20 per week higher than the comparable social rent. Up to and including 2023/24 there has been a local safeguard to the extent that the affordable rent for Shropshire Council homes cannot exceed the Local Housing Allowance (LHA).
- 1.13 Rents are increased in accordance with the Government’s Rent Standard which allows rent to rise by the preceding September CPI plus 1%. For 2023/24 rent increases were restricted to a maximum of 7% in line with the Government’s rent cap for social housing above. CPI in September 2023 was 6.7% which gives rise to a proposed increase of 7.7% for 2024/25. Shropshire Council has historically applied an additional policy ensuring affordable rents do not exceed the Local Housing Allowance (LHA), resulting in increases being capped to the LHA level for a similar sized property.

Shared Ownership Rent

- 1.14 Under Shared Ownership the purchaser buys a share of the home (typically between 40% and 60%) and pays rent to the Council initially set at 2.75% of the unsold equity market value. Each subsequent April the rent is increased in accordance with the terms specified in the lease agreement which will be either the preceding September CPI plus 1% or the preceding September RPI plus 0.5%. These terms are specified in the lease agreements between the 1.15 Council and the purchaser and are not affected by the requirements of

the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 or the Government Rent Standard. Whilst the 2023/24 Government rent cap did not apply to shared ownership properties, in recognition of the high level of inflation in September 2022 and the resulting impact on residents the 2023/24 increase was capped at 7% in line with social and affordable rents.

- 1.16 On 12th October 2023 the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) announced a change from RPI to CPI as the basis of the annual rent review for all new Shared Ownership leases. The change in policy, which takes effect from 12th October 2023, changes the basis of the annual rent review for relevant leases from a maximum of RPI plus 0.5% to CPI plus 1%, thereby aligning Shared Ownership rents with the maximum annual rent increase for both Social and Affordable rented homes. For existing homes and homes where funding has been agreed prior to 12th October 2023 continuation of RPI-based leases is permitted.
- 1.17 September 2023 CPI was 6.7% and RPI was 8.9% resulting in a proposed uplift from April 2024 of 7.7% or 9.4% depending on the specific lease agreements.

New Century Court

- 1.18 In line with the level of increases proposed for Social and Affordable rents, an uplift of 7.7% is proposed for all accommodation charges from April 2024. This policy of alignment is consistent with prior years.

Service Charges

- 1.19 Service charges are applied to a number of tenancies in respect of specific services relating to either the property (such as cleaning in communal areas) or provided specifically for the tenant (such as help alarms or Intensive Housing Management). Service charges are applied in addition to the rent charge and are subject to an individual calculation based on recovery of costs incurred in the provision of the service.

Local Housing Allowance (LHA) and [draft] Revised Tenancy Strategy

- 1.20 The LHA rates are used to determine housing benefit allowance and are calculated by the Valuation Office Agency based on private market rents for properties in a local area with a similar number of bedrooms. Historically Shropshire Council has adopted a local policy that Council rents will not exceed the local LHA rate – for the avoidance of doubt, the LHA cap has only ever covered general needs Affordable Rents (not social rents or supported housing). Whilst prior to April 2023 very few of our rents were subject to this limitation, the impact of a 7% rise from April 2023, together with the fact that LHA rates have not been increased since February 2020 at the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic, meant that a greater number of properties were impacted in 2023/24 – 56 rents were initially expected to be subject to the cap resulting in an annual estimated cost to the HRA of £15k in lost rental income. A proposed increase of 7.7% in Affordable Rents for 2024/25 would only result in an increase in the level of lost income for the HRA were the LHA cap to be retained.

1.21 *Revised Tenancy Strategy*

Shropshire Council is seeking to adopt a revised Tenancy Strategy which is currently on the Forward Plan for Cabinet consideration in early 2024. The proposal is to no longer have a policy in place which caps rents at the relevant LHA, thus the draft revised Tenancy Strategy results in a revised Tenancy Policy which:

- no longer states how the Council sets and re-bases Affordable Rents at no higher than the LHA;

- no longer states that where Registered Providers charge Affordable Rents for all other new build housing and acquisitions, that wherever possible rents should be initially set below or in line with the relevant LHA and look to re-base below or in-line with this figure on re-let; and
- states, that, “When setting and rebasing Affordable Rents not subject to planning policy, Shropshire Council will not only have regard to the relevant LHA for the Broad Rental Market Area in which the dwelling is located as per the Government’s Policy Statement on Rents for Social Housing, but also have regard to lower quartile workplace-based earnings. If rents are set at a level which would be unaffordable to those paid at the lower quartile workplace-based earnings, this being above 30% of gross earnings, the Council will need to evidence a significant need for other households in housing need, including those to whom it owes a statutory duty.” The rationale for this is that under the Localism Act 2011, when preparing or modifying a tenancy strategy the Council must have regard to its allocations scheme and its current homeless strategy.

Based on the latest annual workplace-based earnings for Shropshire in 2022, if total rents are uplifted by 7.7% 59 properties (1.49% of total stock) would fall above the maximum 30% of gross earnings ceiling noted above. On average, the properties impacted would be 5.24% above the ceiling level.

On the basis that the revised Tenancy Strategy is approved and the LHA cap no longer applies with effect from April 2024 and the rent increase is as proposed at 7.7%, the estimated additional income to the HRA is c£28k for 2024/25.

Financial Implications

1.22 The proposed rent, service charge and accommodation charge uplifts are expected to increase total HRA income by c£1.5m from c£20.1m in 2023/24 to c£21.6m in 2024/25.

1.23 A more detailed impact of the recommended rent increase on:

- the 52-week average social rent and the average affordable rent;
- rent for Shared Ownership properties; and
- the overall impact on the HRA after adjustment for estimated changes on stock numbers

will be assessed and communicated following completion of the rent calculations.

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Committee and Date
 Cabinet
 21st February 2024

 Audit Committee
 22nd February 2024

 Council
 29th February 2024

Item

Public



Treasury Strategy 2024/25

Responsible Officer:	James Walton		
email:	james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	Tel:	01743 258915
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder):	Cllr Gwilym Butler, Finance, Corporate Resources and Communities		

1. Synopsis

The report proposes the Treasury Strategy for 2024/25. It sets out the arrangements for how the council will appropriately manage its arrangements for banking, cash flow management, investments, and borrowing, supporting the delivery of the MTFs and The Shropshire Plan.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1. Treasury management refers to work undertaken ‘in the background’. It is the way the authority manages cash flow, banking, investments and borrowings. Effective treasury management is an essential foundation for the services the Council provides.
- 2.2. CIPFA has defined treasury management activities as ‘the management of the organisation’s investments and cash flows - banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.’ The amounts in these different areas of activity fluctuate, but, at the time of preparing the report, the council had

- gross cashflows in and out registering in the hundreds of millions of pounds each year
 - future planned capital investments (capital financing requirement or 'CFR'), funded from a variety of sources, approaching £0.5bn
 - debt (external borrowings) just under £0.3bn (this is all fixed rate; no borrowings held with variable rates). The majority of this (£0.24bn) is government loans (Public Works Loan Board, 'PWLB'). The profile of debt maturity is spread across future years (PWLB loans mature between 2029/30 and 2056/57). Provision to meet the finance cost of this debt and to repay the principal is included in the annual budget process.
 - Investments (of cash held for various purposes, which can be safely invested for a period based on projected cash flow requirements) of £39.9m as at 31 December 2023.
- 2.3. This is a complex and significant area of the Council's financial operations and is therefore delivered within an appropriately robust framework of legislative and best practice safeguards.
- 2.4. To enable an efficient approach to delivery of treasury management functions across partner organisations, the Council also provides this function for other organisations as below. (NB – this report relates specifically to the Treasury Management Strategy for the Council.)
- West Mercia Energy (WME)
 - Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing (STARH)
 - Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority
 - The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)
 - The Shropshire County Pension Fund (SCPF)
- 2.5. Given the scale of these activities, it is essential that best practice is applied, and local activity is amended as best practice evolves. The Council achieves this in two ways – by retaining Link Group as specialist treasury management advisors, and by adopting recommended best practice from sector leaders such as CIPFA.
- 2.6. In December 2021, CIPFA published the revised Treasury Management Code and Prudential Code. As noted last year, formal adoption is included for the 2024/25 financial year. This Treasury Management Strategy has also been prepared in compliance with CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management 2017 and covers the following:-
- A high-level long-term overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of services
 - An overview of how the associated risk is managed
 - The implications for future financial sustainability
- 2.7. Key points to note in the strategy are:-
- Borrowing is driven by the requirements of the approved Capital Programme.
 - Currently the approved borrowing requirement identified within the approved Capital Programme 2024/25 to 2026/27 is prudential borrowing of £68.7m. In addition to this there is an anticipated prudential borrowing

requirement for future prioritised schemes in the Capital Strategy 2024/25 to 2029/30 of £136.8m.

- Investment limits are also set out within the strategy, to ensure that counterparties are credit worthy and that investments are undertaken in line with internal funds requirements.

- 2.8. Outside the approved Capital Programme there are a number of further capital investment schemes which are being prepared but have not yet been approved to be included in the capital programme. Once these decisions are made (either to accept and progress, or to reject), the funding including the borrowing requirement will also be revised.
- 2.9. The Council's lending is restricted to highly credit rated Banks, Building Societies, Money Market Funds and Part Nationalised Institutions which meet Link Asset Services creditworthiness policy, as well as other Local Authorities and the UK Government (for example, lending to the Debt Management Office, 'DMO').
- 2.10. The Finance Team will continue to look for opportunities to make savings by actively managing the cash and debt portfolio in accordance with the Treasury Strategy. Savings may be secured by increasing the interest earned through investment of cash balances, or by reducing the cost of external borrowing (for example, by paying back higher interest loans and replacing them with lower interest loans – 'rescheduling').

3. Recommendations

- 3.1. This treasury strategy is required to be received at three committee meetings;
- Cabinet receive it and recommend its adoption to Council from the perspective of this setting out the policy Cabinet wish to adopt;
 - Audit Committee also receive the report as part of their consideration of the probity and regularity of the council's financial affairs, and
 - Full Council receive the strategy for its formal approval and adoption as a reserved decision.

Specific recommendations for each meeting are set out below.

Cabinet

- 3.2. That Cabinet recommends that Council:-
- a. Approve, with any comments, the Treasury Strategy for 2024/25
 - b. Approve, with any comments, the Prudential Indicators, set out in Appendix 1, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003.
 - c. Approve, with any comments, the Investment Strategy, set out in Appendix 2 in accordance with the DLUHC Guidance on Local Government Investments.
 - d. Approve, with any comments, the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement, set out in Appendix 3.
 - e. Authorise the Section 151 Officer to exercise the borrowing powers contained in Section 3 of the Local Government Act 2003 and to manage the Council's debt portfolio in accordance with the Treasury Strategy.
 - f. Authorise the Section 151 Officer to use other Foreign Banks which meet Link's creditworthiness policy as required.

- g. Authorise the Section 151 Officer to progress and finalise the restatement and amendment of Cornovii Development Ltd loan agreements.

Audit Committee

- 3.3. That the Audit Committee
 - h. Consider and endorse, with appropriate comment, the Treasury Strategy 2024/25.

Council

- 3.4. That Full Council
 - i. Approve, with any comments, the Treasury Strategy for 2024/25, set out in appendix 1 (parts 1-3).
 - j. Approve, with any comments, the Investment Strategy, set out in Appendix 1 (part 4) in accordance with the DLUHC Guidance on Local Government Investments.
 - k. Approve, with any comments, the Prudential Indicators, set out in Appendix 1 (part 5), in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003.
 - l. Approve, with any comments, the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement, set out in Appendix 1 (part 6).
 - m. Authorise the Section 151 Officer to exercise the borrowing powers contained in Section 3 of the Local Government Act 2003 and to manage the Council's debt portfolio in accordance with the Treasury Strategy.
 - n. Authorise the Section 151 Officer to use other Foreign Banks which meet Link's creditworthiness policy as required.
 - o. Authorise the Section 151 Officer to progress and finalise the restatement and amendment of Cornovii Development Ltd loan agreements.

Report

4. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 4.1. The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.
- 4.2. There are no direct environmental, equalities or climate change consequences arising from this report.
- 4.3. Compliance with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management, the Council's Treasury Policy Statement and Treasury Management Practices and the Prudential Code for Capital Finance together with the rigorous internal controls will enable the Council to manage the risk associated with Treasury Management activities and the potential for financial loss.
- 4.4. The Council's Audit Committee is the committee responsible for ensuring effective consideration of the Council's Treasury Management Strategy and policies.
- 4.5. Risk table:

<i>Risk</i>	<i>Mitigation</i>
Security of funds	<p>The Council maintains an Annual Investment Strategy which ensures that minimum acceptable credit criteria is applied for all investments to ensure that only highly creditworthy counterparties are used which enables diversification across all investments.</p> <p>The Council uses a treasury advisor, Link Asset Services to provide a creditworthiness service of all potential investment counterparties, which is continuously monitored and updated as needed.</p>
Managing liquidity	<p>The Council undertakes cash flow monitoring which highlights anticipated cash transactions for the upcoming 18 months. All departments are requested to provide details of large value income and expenditure transactions that may impact on the authority's cash flow position. This is tracked on a daily basis and continuously updated to ensure that cash is held appropriately liquid should there be a need to use the funds.</p>
Achievement of investment benchmark, particularly in months of February and March.	<p>Investments undertaken by the Finance team are benchmarked against the 3 Month Sterling Overnight Index Average (SONIA). The key factors in tracking performance of investments, is the cash balance available to invest and the return that is achieved on investments made. When interest rates are rising in the economy, it may be that previous investments that were fixed have now become less favourable, and so there is a higher risk that the benchmark may not be achieved.</p> <p>The availability of cash for investing has also become a key factor, especially in a period where reserves and hence cash balances have reduced. Also during the months of February and March the Council does not collect Council Tax and so cash balances reduce during these months in particular. In order to manage this period, cash is held in call accounts or highly liquid investments rather than being placed into longer term fixed interest investments. The main priority for the Council is always to maintain liquidity and the security of funds over chasing investment returns.</p>

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1. The financial implications arising from the Treasury Strategy are detailed in this report. The Council makes assumptions about the levels of borrowing and investment income over the financial year to facilitate financial planning.
- 5.2. Reduced borrowing either as a result of capital receipt generation or due delays in delivery of the capital programme will have a positive impact of the council's cash position. Similarly, higher than benchmarked returns on available cash will also help the Council's financial position. For monitoring purposes, assumptions are made early in year about borrowing and returns based on the strategies agreed by

Council in the preceding February. Performance outside of these assumptions results in increased or reduced income for the Council.

- 5.3. As at 31 December 2023 the Council held £39.9 million in investments and borrowing of £286 million at fixed interest rates.

6. Climate Change Appraisal

- 6.1. The Council's Financial Strategy includes proposals to deliver a reduced carbon footprint for the Council therefore the Finance Team is working with the Council in order to achieve this. There are no direct climate change impacts arising from this report. Shropshire Council's investment portfolio has no level 1, 2 or 3 emissions. It comprises of straightforward cash deposits with financial institutions and other Local Authorities.
- 6.2. The Council is actively working with Link Group to secure approved investment counterparties who prioritise sustainable investments. Where opportunities arise and these counterparties meet necessary security, liquidity and yield requirements, the council will then also be able to invest in activities specifically focused on sustainability and referenced to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and wider Economic and Social Responsibility ('ESR') objectives.

7. Loans to Cornovii Developments Ltd (CDL)

- 7.1. Cornovii Development Ltd (CDL) and Shropshire Council have agreed to renegotiate the existing finance and borrowing arrangements for the company, subject to the appropriate approvals. Currently CDL have loan facilities of £14m and £35m from Shropshire Council for investment in new housing within Shropshire. To ensure CDL have the capacity to deliver a number of key developments which have been recently identified, CDL and Shropshire Council are proposing to collapse the two facilities in to a single £49m funding arrangement.
- 7.2. Within the CDL Business Plan for 2023, the company are now looking to develop a Private Rented Sector (PRS) scheme and the Business Plan was approved by the Housing Supervisory Board on 16th March 2023. As part of the plans to finance the PRS scheme, CDL are looking to use £7m of the £49m local facility specifically for the PRS scheme. Therefore the funding agreements will need to be revised further once CDL are in a position to progress with the PRS scheme.
- 7.3. Members approve the Executive Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) to progress and finalise the restatement and amendments of the loan agreement.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

[Treasury Strategy 2023/24](#)

[Treasury Strategy 2023/24 - Mid Year Review](#)

[Finance Strategy 2023/24 - 2027/28](#)

Local Member: All

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Treasury Strategy

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TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2024/25



Introduction

The Council depends upon a strong foundation of proper management of its financial affairs in order to provide needed and valued services to the our community and to pursue the objectives set out in the Shropshire Plan.

This Treasury Management strategy sets out how we will proactively manage our banking and cash arrangements (including borrowing and investment activity) through 2024/25 in order to ensure that funding is available to the council when it is required, but also that the cost of managing this is kept as low as possible.

This strategy is fully aligned to the updated Medium Term Financial Strategy, which articulates how the Shropshire Plan objectives will be delivered in financial terms.



Gwilym Butler

Cabinet Member
Finance,
Corporate
Resources and
Communities



James Walton

Executive
Director of
Resources

1. Overview



1. The objectives and contents of the Treasury Management Strategy

The Council operates a balanced budget. Amongst other things, this means that cash received during the year is used to fund its cash expenditure – our cashflow. Primarily, council tax and business rates received from the local area, and grants received from government, are then used to pay for council activity in delivering services. Treasury Management operations ensure this cashflow is properly planned and managed.

The Council defines its treasury management activities as “the management of the authority’s borrowing, investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions, the effective control of the risks associated with the activities, and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks”.

Cash flow management involves forecasting in- and out-flows of cash and ensuring that funds are available to meet expenditure needs. Any temporarily surplus monies can be invested in low-risk counterparties, sometimes providing a return on investment. In doing so, we prioritise

- Security first (that is, the investment will be repaid), then
- Liquidity (that is, we can afford to lose access to the sum invested for the period of the investment, without negatively impacting on wider council operations), and lastly
- Yield (securing a beneficial return on investments made).

Treasury Management also ensures that funds are available to support the Council’s capital investment plans, whether using government grants, developer contributions, or external borrowing. These plans forecast the borrowing requirements of the Council - essentially, longer-term cash flow planning.

Whilst any commercial initiatives or loans to third parties will be informed by the treasury strategy and appropriate advice, these activities are generally classed as non-treasury activities, and are separated from the day-to-day treasury management activities.

This Treasury Management Strategy includes the following sections

1. Overview of the strategy
2. Economic update
3. Annual investment strategy
4. Prudential and treasury indicators
5. Minimum Revenue Provision statement
6. Specified and non-specified investments

The CIPFA Code requires the responsible officer to ensure that members with responsibility for treasury management receive adequate training. This especially applies to members responsible for scrutiny. The training needs of treasury management officers are periodically reviewed.

The Council will adopt the following reporting arrangements in accordance with the requirements of the Code:-

Area of Responsibility	Council/Committee/Officer	Frequency
Treasury Management Policy Statement	Full Council/Cabinet	As required
Treasury Strategy/Annual Investment Strategy/MRP Policy	Full Council/Cabinet	Annually before the start of the financial year
Capital Strategy	Full Council/Cabinet	Annually before the start of the financial year
Treasury Strategy/Annual Investment Strategy/MRP Policy – mid year report	Full Council/Cabinet	Mid-year
Treasury Strategy/Annual Investment Strategy/MRP Policy – updates of revisions at other times	Full Council/Cabinet	As required
Annual Treasury Report	Full Council/Cabinet	Annually by 30 September after the end of the financial year
Quarterly Treasury Management Update Reports	Executive Directors/Cabinet	Quarterly
Treasury management Monitoring Reports	Reports prepared by Treasury Officer within the Finance Team	Monthly
Treasury Management Practices/Investment Management Practices	Section 151 Officer	As required
Scrutiny of Treasury Strategy	Audit Committee	Annually before the start of the financial year
Scrutiny of the Treasury Management Performance	Audit Committee	Half yearly

Compliance with best practice

Best practice guidance is regularly reviewed and updated as necessary. This strategy has been prepared in accordance with CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management, and is approved annually by Full Council. In December 2021, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, (CIPFA), issued Prudential and Treasury Management Codes.

The codes have clarified CIPFA's position on the role of the treasury management team and that there is a clear separation between treasury and non-treasury investments. Accordingly, periodic reporting by the treasury management team to members will focus solely on treasury investments. If non treasury investments are considered, a separate report will be presented for approval and any changes required to Prudential indicators incorporated within an updated Treasury Strategy if necessary.

The Local Government Act 2003 and supporting Regulations requires the Council to have regard to the CIPFA Prudential Code and the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice to set Prudential and Treasury Indicators for the next three years to ensure that capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable. This report incorporates the indicators to which regard should be given when determining the Council's Treasury Management Strategy for the next financial year.

As the Council is responsible for housing, Prudential Indicators relating to Capital Expenditure, financing costs and the Capital Financing Requirement will be split between the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and the General Fund.

Annual investment strategy

The Act also requires the Council to set out its Treasury Strategy for borrowing and to prepare an Annual Investment Strategy. This sets out the Council's policies for managing its investments and for giving priority to the security and liquidity of those investments. This is attached in appendix 2 and includes a list of additional responsibilities for the Section 151 Officer role following the issue of the Treasury Management Code of Practice and Prudential Code.

The proposed Strategy for 2024/25 in respect of the following aspects of the treasury management function is based upon the Section 151 Officer's view on interest rates, supplemented with leading market forecasts provided by the Council's Treasury Advisor, Link Asset Services.

Relationship of the Treasury Management Strategy to the Capital strategy

All local authorities are required to prepare a Capital Strategy which is intended to provide the following: -

- A high-level overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of services
- An overview of how associated risk is managed
- The implications for future financial sustainability

The aim of the Capital Strategy is to ensure that all elected members on the full council fully understand the overall long-term policy objectives and resulting capital strategy requirements, governance procedures and risk appetite. The Capital Strategy is separate from the Treasury Management Strategy. This ensures the separation of the core treasury function under security, liquidity and yield principles, and the policy objectives realised in investments in local capital assets. The capital strategy sets out:

- The corporate governance arrangements for capital investments
- Any service objectives relating to the investments
- The expected income, costs and resulting contribution
- The debt related to the activity and the associated interest costs
- The payback period (implementing the MRP policy contained in the treasury management strategy)
- For non-loan type investments, the cost against the current market value
- The risks associated with each activity

2. Economic Context



2. Economic Update

2.1 Overview

Treasury management needs to be undertaken with a clear understanding of the economic context. Factors such as the bank rate and inflation rates have a clear impact on likely interest charged on future borrowing and interest earned on potential investments.

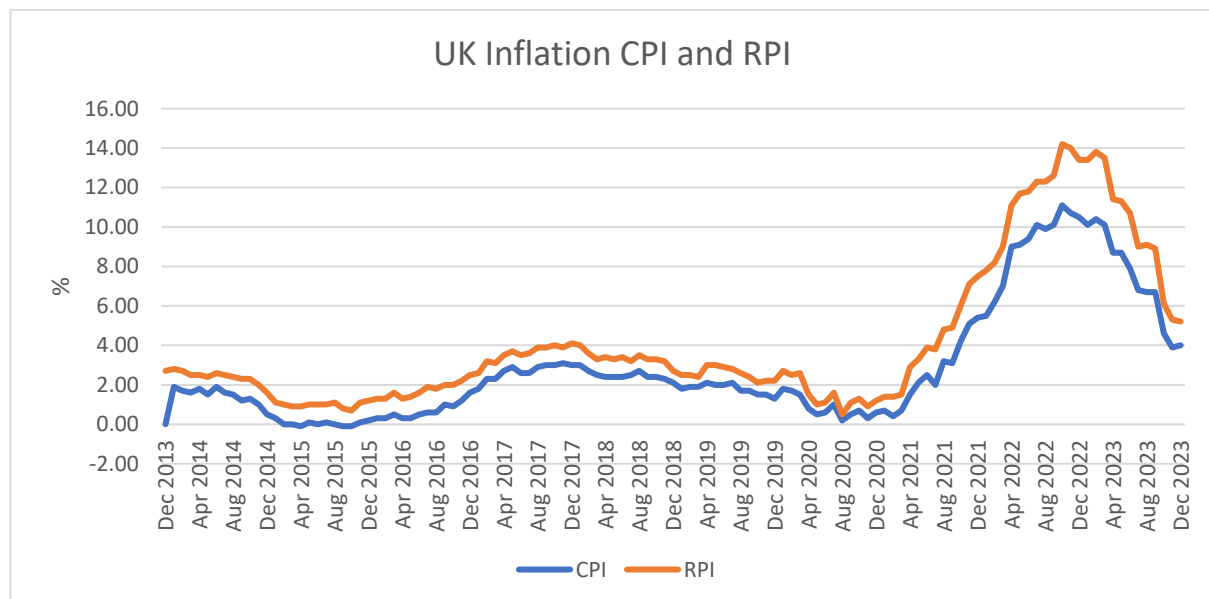
The inflation outlook indicates a degree of increasing positivity – the outlook is for rates to fall across the next 12-18 months. This is positive because although inflation pressures increase the cost of council services delivery, those costs are not expected to continue rising in the medium term.

UK Government finances provide the framework in which HM Treasury will frame future public spending decisions, including funding for councils. In the short term, this looks to be positive, but the extent of borrowing indicates that the government is likely to seek to recover that borrowing position within the medium term – which may lead to reductions in planned spending and so reductions in grant allocations (or less real-terms growth than would otherwise be the case).

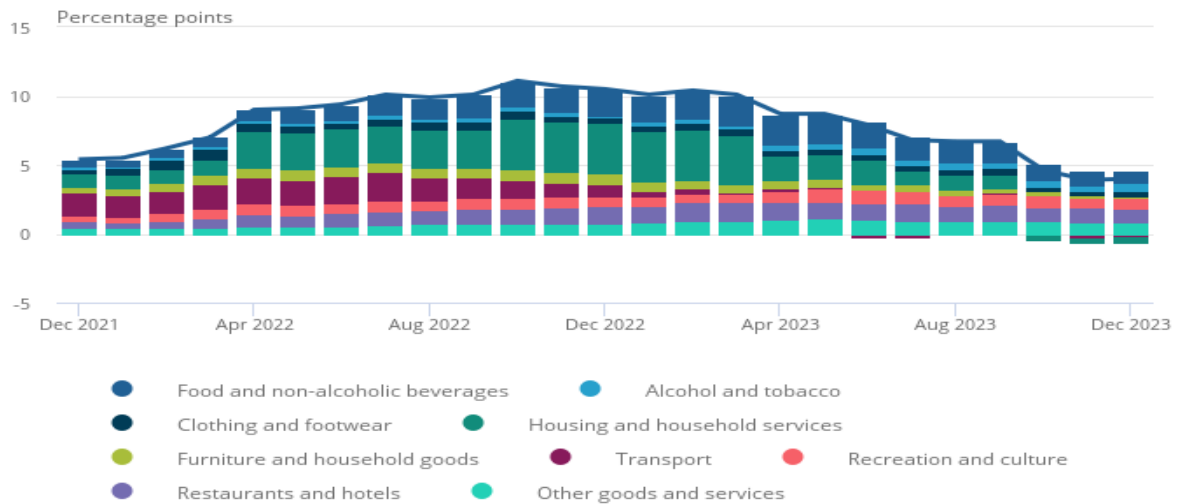
Bank rates are a key driver of the cost of borrowing. The Bank of England held bank rates at 5.25% for the second time in a row, which would suggest that rates have now peaked. It is anticipated that rate will reduce in late 2024, and then continue to reduce to around 3% by the end of 2025. This is important to consider by the council when they need to secure external borrowing – and advice will be sought in that event to ensure that the most economic option is identified.

2.2 Inflation

Annual inflation rate in the UK fell significantly over the last twelve months, and more recently from 6.7% in September to 4.0% in December. This reduction was bigger than expected, and means that the UK is no longer an international outlier.



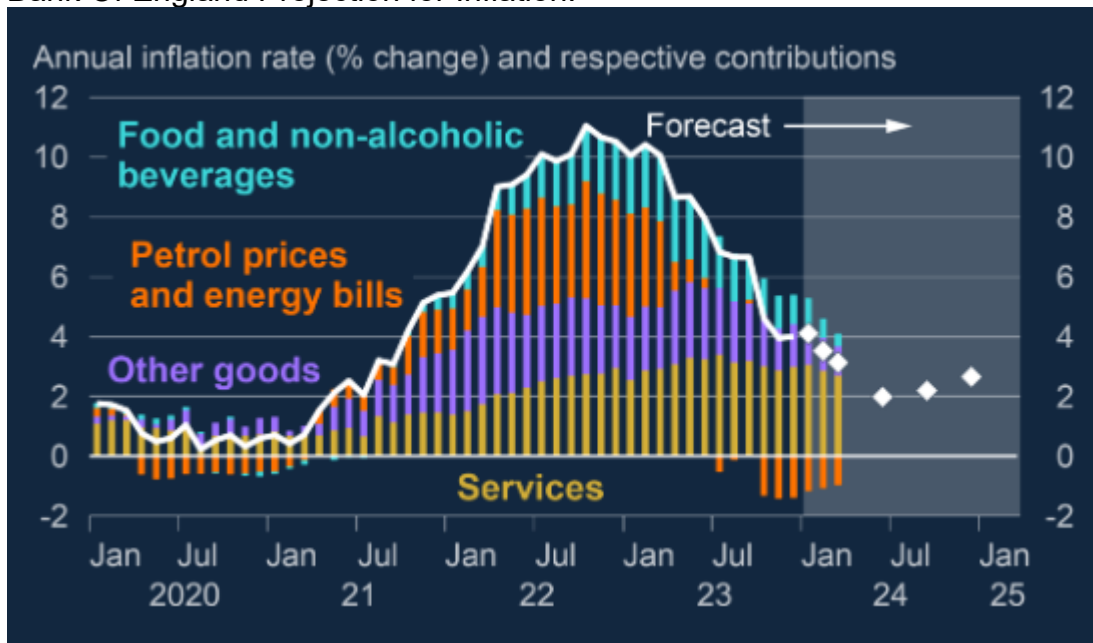
Largest Contributions to annual CPI inflation rate



Source: Consumer price inflation from the Office for National Statistics

The fall in core CPI inflation from 5.7% to 5.1% in November was bigger than expected (consensus forecast 5.6%). That's the lowest rate since January 2022. Some of the decline in core inflation was due to the global influence of core goods inflation, which slowed from 4.3% to 3.3%. But some of it was due to services inflation falling from 6.6% to 6.3%. The Bank views the latter as a key barometer of the persistence of inflation and it came in further below the Bank's forecast of 6.9% in its November Monetary Policy Report. This will give the Bank more confidence that services inflation is now on a firmly downward path.

Bank Of England Projection for Inflation:



2.3 UK Government finances

Public sector net borrowing excluding public sector banks in the UK was £7.8 billion in December, around half or £8.4 billion less than that borrowed in December 2022 and the lowest December borrowing since 2019.

The £7.8 billion borrowed in December 2023, combined with a downward revision of £5.0 billion to our previously published financial year-to-November 2023 borrowing estimate, brings the provisional estimate for the total borrowed in the financial year-to-December 2023 to £119.1 billion. This was £5.0 billion lower borrowing than the £124.1 billion forecast by the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR).

Public sector net debt excluding public sector banks (PSND ex) was £2,437.9 billion at the end of December 2023, or around 88.7% of gross domestic product (GDP).

2.4 Bank of England forecasts

At the December monetary policy committee (MPC) meeting, the Bank of England left interest rates at 5.25% for the third time in a row and pushing back against the prospect of near-term interest rate cuts. The Bank continued to sound hawkish, with the MPC maintaining its tightening bias saying that “further tightening in monetary policy would be required if there were evidence of more persistent inflationary pressures”. And it stated that policy will be “sufficiently restrictive for sufficiently long” and that “monetary policy is likely to need to be restrictive for an extended period of time”. In other words, the message is that the MPC is not yet willing to endorse investors’ expectations that rates will be cut as soon as May 2024.

with UK CPI inflation now at 3.9%, and core inflating beginning to moderate (5.1%), markets are voicing a view that rate cuts should begin in Q1 2024/25, some way ahead of the indications from MPC members. Of course, the data will be the ultimate determinant, so upcoming publications of employment, wages and inflation numbers will be of particular importance, and on-going volatility in Bank Rate expectations and the gilt yield curve can be expected.

UK Interest Rate Forecast

Link Group Interest Rate View 08.01.24													
	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25	Sep-25	Dec-25	Mar-26	Jun-26	Sep-26	Dec-26	Mar-27
BANK RATE	5.25	5.25	4.75	4.25	3.75	3.25	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
3 month ave earnings	5.30	5.30	4.80	4.30	3.80	3.30	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
6 month ave earnings	5.20	5.10	4.60	4.10	3.70	3.30	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.10
12 month ave earnings	5.00	4.90	4.40	3.90	3.60	3.20	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.20	3.20
5 yr PWLB	4.50	4.40	4.30	4.20	4.10	4.00	3.80	3.70	3.60	3.60	3.50	3.50	3.50
10 yr PWLB	4.70	4.50	4.40	4.30	4.20	4.10	4.00	3.90	3.80	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70
25 yr PWLB	5.20	5.10	4.90	4.80	4.60	4.40	4.30	4.20	4.20	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10
50 yr PWLB	5.00	4.90	4.70	4.60	4.40	4.20	4.10	4.00	4.00	3.90	3.90	3.90	3.90

3. Annual Investment Strategy



3.1 Annual Investment Strategy

The Council's investment policy has regard to the DLUHC Guidance on Local Government Investments and the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice which requires the Council to formulate a strategy each year regarding the investment of its revenue funds and capital receipts. Authorities are required to take the guidance into account under the terms of section 12 of the Local Government Act 2003.

In accordance with the guidance from DLUHC and CIPFA, and in order to minimise the risk to investments, the Council applies minimum acceptable credit criteria in order to generate a list of highly creditworthy counterparties which also enables diversification and thus avoidance of concentration risk. The key ratings used to monitor counterparties are the Short Term and Long Term ratings.

Ratings will not be the sole determinant of the quality of an institution; it is important to continually assess and monitor the financial sector on both a micro and macro basis and in relation to the economic and political environments in which institutions operate. The assessment will also take account of information that reflects the opinion of the markets. To this end the Council will engage with its advisors to maintain a monitor on market pricing such as credit default swaps and overlay that information on top of the credit ratings.

The income and expenditure flow of the Council is such that funds are temporarily available for investment. Under the Annual Investment Strategy the Council may use, for the prudent management of its treasury balances, any of the investments highlighted under the headings of Specified Investments and Non-Specified Investments as detailed in the final section of this strategy.

3.2 Creditworthiness Policy

The Council uses the creditworthiness service provided by its treasury advisor, Link Asset Services. This service employs a sophisticated modelling approach utilising credit ratings from the three main credit rating agencies Fitch, Moody's and Standard and Poor's. In addition, in line with the Treasury Management Code of Practice, it does not rely solely on the current credit ratings of counterparties but also uses the following overlays:-

- Credit watches and credit outlooks from credit rating agencies.
- Credit Default Swap (CDS) spreads to give an early warning of likely changes in credit ratings.
- Sovereign ratings to select counterparties from only the most creditworthy countries.

This modelling approach combines credit ratings, credit watches and credit outlooks in a weighted scoring system which is then combined with an overlay of CDS spreads for which the end product is a series of colour coded bands which indicate the relative creditworthiness of counterparties. These colour codes are used by the Council to determine the duration of investments and are therefore referred to as durational bands. The Council is satisfied that this service gives the required level of

security for its investments. It is also a service which the Council would not be able to replicate using in house resources.

The selection of counterparties with a high level of creditworthiness will be achieved by a selection of institutions down to a minimum durational band with Link's weekly credit list of worldwide potential counterparties.

The Link Asset Services creditworthiness service uses ratings from all three agencies and uses a wider array of information than just primary credit ratings to determine creditworthy counterparties. By using this approach and applying it to a risk weighted scoring system, it does not give undue over reliance to just one agency's ratings.

3.3 Monitoring of Credit Ratings

All credit ratings will continue to be monitored continuously and formally updated monthly if any changes are required. The Council is alerted to interim changes in ratings from all three agencies by Link Asset Services.

If a counterparty's or investment scheme's rating is downgraded with the result that it no longer meets the Council's minimum criteria, the further use of that counterparty will be withdrawn immediately. If a counterparty is upgraded so that it fulfils the Council's criteria, its inclusion will be considered for approval by the S151 Officer.

In addition to credit ratings the Council will be advised of information in movements in CDS against the iTraxx benchmark and other market data on a daily basis via the Passport website. Extreme market movements may result in the downgrade of an institution or the removal from the Council's lending list.

Sole reliance will not be placed on the use of this external service. In addition the Council will monitor the financial press and also use other market data and information e.g. information on external support for banks.

3.4 UK banks – ring fencing

The largest UK banks, (those with more than £25bn of retail / Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME) deposits), are required, by UK law, to separate core retail banking services from their investment and international banking activities from the 1st January 2019. This is known as "ring-fencing". Whilst smaller banks with less than £25bn in deposits are exempt, they can choose to opt up. Several banks are very close to the threshold already and so may come into scope in the future regardless.

Ring-fencing is a regulatory initiative created in response to the global financial crisis. It mandates the separation of retail and SME deposits from investment banking, in order to improve the resilience and resolvability of banks by changing their structure. In general, simpler, activities offered from within a ring-fenced bank, (RFB), will be focused on lower risk, day-to-day core transactions, whilst more complex and "riskier" activities are required to be housed in a separate entity, a non-

ring-fenced bank, (NRFB). This is intended to ensure that an entity's core activities are not adversely affected by the acts or omissions of other members of its group.

While the structure of the banks included within this process may have changed, the fundamentals of credit assessment have not. The Council will continue to assess the new-formed entities in the same way that it does others and those with sufficiently high ratings, (and any other metrics considered), will be considered for investment purposes.

The Council currently has investments with HSBC, Barclays & Lloyds. HSBC and Lloyds are classified as ring fenced banks and Barclays as non ring fenced. All these institutions appear on Link Asset Services approved lending list and meet the council's creditworthiness criteria.

3.5 Country Limits

The Council will only use approved counterparties from the UK and from other countries with a minimum sovereign credit rating of AA- from Fitch Ratings (or equivalent from other agencies). It is recommended that UK institutions continue to be used unless the sovereign credit rating falls below A. Following the problems with Icelandic Banks lending is currently restricted to the UK which currently has a sovereign credit rating of AA and Sweden which has the highest possible sovereign rating of AAA. The S151 Officer has delegated authority to revert back to placing investments in countries with a minimum sovereign credit rating of AA- in line with Link's revised creditworthiness policy if required.

3.6 Security of Capital

The Council's current policy is to not place investments with any Foreign banks. The only exception to this is a call account set up with the Swedish bank, Handelsbanken, but this is a highly rated institution and the sovereign rating of Sweden is AAA. Funds are also repayable immediately if required.

Following approval of the S151 Officer, lending to AAA rated Money Market Funds has also been recommenced. Lending to other Foreign banks which comply with Link's creditworthiness policy may be considered again but only with the express approval of the S151 Officer.

In addition, in order not to solely rely on an institution's credit ratings there have also been a number of other developments which require separate consideration, set out below.

Part Nationalised banks in the UK effectively take on the creditworthiness of the Government itself i.e. deposits made with them are effectively being made to the Government. This is because the Government owns significant stakes in the banks and this ownership is set to continue. Link are still supportive of the Council using these institutions with a maximum 12 month duration. For this reason Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) and National Westminster Bank which are part of the RBS Group are included on the approved counterparty list.

Local Authorities are not credit rated but where the investment is a straightforward cash loan, statute suggests that the credit risk attached to local authorities is an acceptable one (Local Government Act 2003 s13). Local Authorities are therefore included on the approved list.

The total permitted investment in any one organisation at any one time varies with the strength of the individual credit rating. For the highest rated and Part Nationalised Institutions the maximum amount is currently limited to £20m. This limit will be reviewed however against the level of cash balances that are available to invest, to ensure that the limits are amended accordingly. Any changes to the maximum limit must be approved by the S151 Officer.

3.7 DLUHC Investment Guidance

Guidance from the DLUHC requires Councils to give priority to the security and portfolio liquidity of investments over yield whilst still aiming to provide good returns. This is in line with the Council's current practice and it is recommended that the policy should be reaffirmed.

The guidance also requires Councils to categorise their investments as either "specified" or "non-specified" investments.

3.8 Specified Investments

Specified investments are deemed as "safer" investments and must meet certain conditions, i.e. they must:-

- be denominated in sterling
- have less than 12 months duration
- not constitute the acquisition of share or loan capital
- either: be invested in the UK government or a local authority or a body or investment scheme with a "high" credit quality.

The Council is required to specify its creditworthiness policy and how frequently credit ratings should be monitored. It must also specify the minimum level of such investments.

Of the investments currently authorised by the Council, deposits in the Debt Management Office Account and with other Local Authorities automatically qualify as specified investments as they are of less than 12 months duration and are denominated in sterling.

The classification of the other investments is dependent on the counterparty having high credit quality in line with Link's creditworthiness policy. The Council is alerted to any changes in an institutions credit rating by Link Asset Services.

3.9 Non Specified Investments

These are any investments which do not meet the specified investment criteria outlined above. The Council is required to look at non-specified investments in more detail. It must set out:

- procedures for determining which categories of non-specified investments should be used
- the categories deemed to be prudent
- the maximum amount to be held in each category

The Strategy must also set out procedures for determining the maximum period for committing funds.

It is recommended that the following procedure be adopted for determining which categories of non-specified investments should be used:

- the Cabinet/Council should approve categories on an annual basis
- advice should be provided by the S151 Officer
- priority should be given to security and portfolio liquidity ahead of yield

It is recommended that for specified investments the range of maximum limits is set between £5m and £20m for the internal treasury team. For non specified investments it is recommended that the limit for the internal treasury team should be restricted to £70m of the total investment portfolio. Any changes to the maximum limits must be approved by the S151 Officer.

Full details of the specified and non-specified investments are set out in section 6 of the Treasury Strategy.

3.10 Temporary Investment Strategy

The market is continually monitored for opportunities to lock in to higher, longer term rates in order to bring some stability to the returns going forward and add value. However, based on the interest rate assumptions outlined above, we do not expect to lock into longer term deals unless exceptionally attractive rates are available which make longer term deals worthwhile.

For the cash flow generated balances, we will seek to utilise instant access accounts, Money Market Funds and short dated deposits (1-3 months) in order to benefit from the compounding of interest. The present strategy is to diversify investments so as to spread risk over a range of investment types and periods and provide the opportunity to enhance returns. All investments will continue to be made in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003, and with those institutions on the authorised lending list. The credit status of institutions on the approved list is monitored continuously.

3.11 Policy on the use of external service providers

The Council currently uses Link Asset Services, as its external treasury management advisers. The Council recognises that the responsibility for treasury management decisions remains with the Council at all times and will ensure that undue reliance is not placed upon our external service providers. The Council also recognises that there is value in employing external providers of treasury management services in order to acquire access to specialist skills and resources. The Council will ensure that the terms of their appointment and the methods by which their value will be assessed are properly agreed and documented and subjected to review.

3.12 Scheme of Delegation

Full Council

- Approval of Treasury Strategy.
- Receiving and reviewing reports on treasury management policies, practices and activities including the Annual Treasury Report and Mid-Year Strategy Report.
- Budget consideration and approval

Cabinet

- Receiving & reviewing Treasury Strategy, Mid-Year Strategy Report, Annual Treasury Report and Quarterly Treasury Management Update Reports

Audit Committee

- Reviewing the treasury management policy and procedures and making recommendations to the responsible body.
- Receiving & reviewing Treasury Strategy, Mid Year Report, Annual Treasury Report.

3.13 Role of the Section 151 Officer

The role of the S151 Officer in relation to treasury management is as follows:-

- Recommending clauses, treasury management policy/practices for approval, reviewing the same regularly and monitoring compliance.
 - Approval of segregation of responsibilities.
 - Approval of the Treasury Policy Statement and Treasury Management Practices.
 - Submitting regular treasury management policy reports.
 - Submitting budgets and budget variations.
 - Receiving and reviewing management information reports.
 - Reviewing the performance of the treasury management function.
 - Ensuring the adequacy of treasury management resources and skills and the effective division of responsibilities within the treasury management function.
- Medium Term Financial Strategy Summary
- Ensuring the adequacy of internal audit and liaising with external audit.
 - Recommending the appointment of external service providers.

The above list of specific responsibilities of the s151 Officer in the 2017 Treasury Management Code has not changed. However, implicit in the changes in both Codes, is a major extension of the functions of this role, especially in respect of non-financial investments:-

- preparation of a capital strategy to include capital expenditure, capital financing, non-financial investments and treasury management, with a long term timeframe.
- ensuring that the capital strategy is prudent, sustainable, affordable and prudent in the long term and provides value for money
- ensuring that due diligence has been carried out on all treasury and non-financial investments and is in accordance with the risk appetite of the authority
- ensure that the authority has appropriate legal powers to undertake expenditure on non-financial assets and their financing

- ensuring the proportionality of all investments so that the authority does not undertake a level of investing which exposes the authority to an excessive level of risk compared to its financial resources
- ensuring that an adequate governance process is in place for the approval, monitoring and ongoing risk management of all non-financial investments and long term liabilities
- provision to members of a schedule of all non-treasury investments including material investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures, loans and financial guarantees
- ensuring that members are adequately informed and understand the risk exposures taken on by an authority
- ensuring that the authority has adequate expertise, either in house or externally provided, to carry out the above
- creation of Treasury Management Practices which specifically deal with how non treasury investments will be carried out and managed, to include the following: -
 - Risk management (TMP1 and schedules), including investment and risk management criteria for any material non-treasury investment portfolios;
 - Performance measurement and management (TMP2 and schedules), including methodology and criteria for assessing the performance and success of non-treasury investments;
 - Decision making, governance and organisation (TMP5 and schedules), including a statement of the governance requirements for decision making in relation to non-treasury investments; and arrangements to ensure that appropriate professional due diligence is carried out to support decision making;
 - Reporting and management information (TMP6 and schedules), including where and how often monitoring reports are taken;
 - Training and qualifications (TMP10 and schedules), including how the relevant knowledge and skills in relation to non-treasury investments will be arranged.

3.14 Pension Fund Cash

The Council complies with the requirements of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2009 and does not pool pension fund cash with its own balances for investment purposes.

4. Prudential and Treasury Indicators



4.1 Specified and Locally Adopted Prudential Indicators

The Prudential Code and CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management require the Council to set a number of Prudential and Treasury Indicators. In addition to the specified indicators, we have set further internal indicators for Treasury Management, regarding lower limits on interest rate exposure for both borrowing and investments.

These are summarised below, and details are set out in the following paragraphs.

Capital Prudential Indicators:

1. Capital Expenditure and Financing
2. Borrowing Need
3. Liability Benchmark

Treasury Indicators:

4. External debt – Operational Boundary
5. External debt – Authorised Limit
6. External debt - Interest rate exposure; Borrowing (fixed rate and variable rate debt)
7. External investment - Interest rate exposure; investments (fixed rate and variable rate investments)
- 8 External debt – maturity structure (profile of when debts become due in coming years)
- 9.Maturity limits – investments

It should be noted that these indicators should not be used for comparison with indicators from other local authorities as Treasury Management policies and practices vary with local circumstances.

Prudential Indicator 1 – Capital Expenditure and Financing

The estimated capital expenditure has been split between Non HRA and HRA and represents commitments from previous years to complete ongoing schemes, the expenditure arising from the proposed new schemes within the capital programme for 2022/23, and the estimated expenditure for 2023/24, 2023/24 and 2024/25. This indicator also includes details on the financing of capital expenditure.

	2022/23 Actual £m	2023/24 Estimate £m	2024/25 Estimate £m	2025/26 Estimate £m	2026/27 Estimate £m
Capital Expenditure					
Non HRA Capital expenditure	74.2	88.3	88.2	104.9	39.9
HRA Capital expenditure	8.1	16.2	29.3	14.2	9.0
Total Capital expenditure	82.3	99.4	117.5	119.1	48.9
Financing of capital expenditure					
	2022/23 Actual £m	2023/24 Estimate £m	2024/25 Estimate £m	2025/26 Estimate £m	2026/27 Estimate £m
Capital receipts	(7.2)	(12.5)	(9.8)	(8.4)	(4.1)
Capital grants	(35.2)	(51.3)	(57.2)	(79.4)	(29.6)
Other Contributions	(14.3)	(7.3)	(5.5)	(6.2)	(0.5)

Major Repairs Allowance	(4.2)	(7.1)	(4.8)	(5.0)	(5.0)
Revenue Contributions	(1.4)	(3.6)	(0.2)	(0.7)	(0.4)
Net Financing need for the year	20.0	17.6	40.0	19.4	9.3

Prudential Indicator 2 – Borrowing Need

The capital financing requirement (CFR) is the maximum we would expect to borrow based on the total historic outstanding capital expenditure which has not been paid for from either revenue or capital resources. Therefore it is essentially a measure of the Authority's underlying borrowing need. The CFR does not increase indefinitely as the minimum revenue provision (MRP) is a statutory annual revenue charge which broadly reduces the indebtedness in line with each asset's life, and so charges the economic consumption of capital assets as they are used.

Compliance with the indicator will mean that this limit has not been breached. Gross borrowing includes debt administered on behalf of Telford and Wrekin Council, Magistrates Courts and Probation Service. It also includes the debt transferred from Oswestry Borough Council and North Shropshire District Council on the 1st April 2009. In accordance with the Code the HRA Capital Financing requirement has been calculated separately and has been updated due to the HRA reform which took place on the 28 March 2012.

Gross borrowing less than CFR	2022/23 Actual £m	2023/24 Estimate £m	2024/25 Estimate £m	2025/26 Estimate £m	2026/27 Estimate £m
Capital Financing Requirement:					
Non HRA Capital Financing Requirement	304	325	345	337	325
HRA Capital Financing Requirement	92	97	111	119	122
Total CFR	396	422	456	456	447
Movement in CFR	38	26	33	0	(8)
Movement in CFR represented by					
Net financing need for the year (above)	31	27	32	4	1
Less MRP/VRP and other financing movements	7	(1)	1	(4)	(9)
Movement in CFR	38	26	33	0	(8)
Gross Borrowing (including HRA)	292	286	285	285	285
Investments	84	50	50	50	50
Net Borrowing	208	236	235	235	235

Prudential Indicator 3 – Liability Benchmark

This identifies the net borrowing requirement of a local authority plus a liquidity allowance. There are four components to the Liability benchmark:

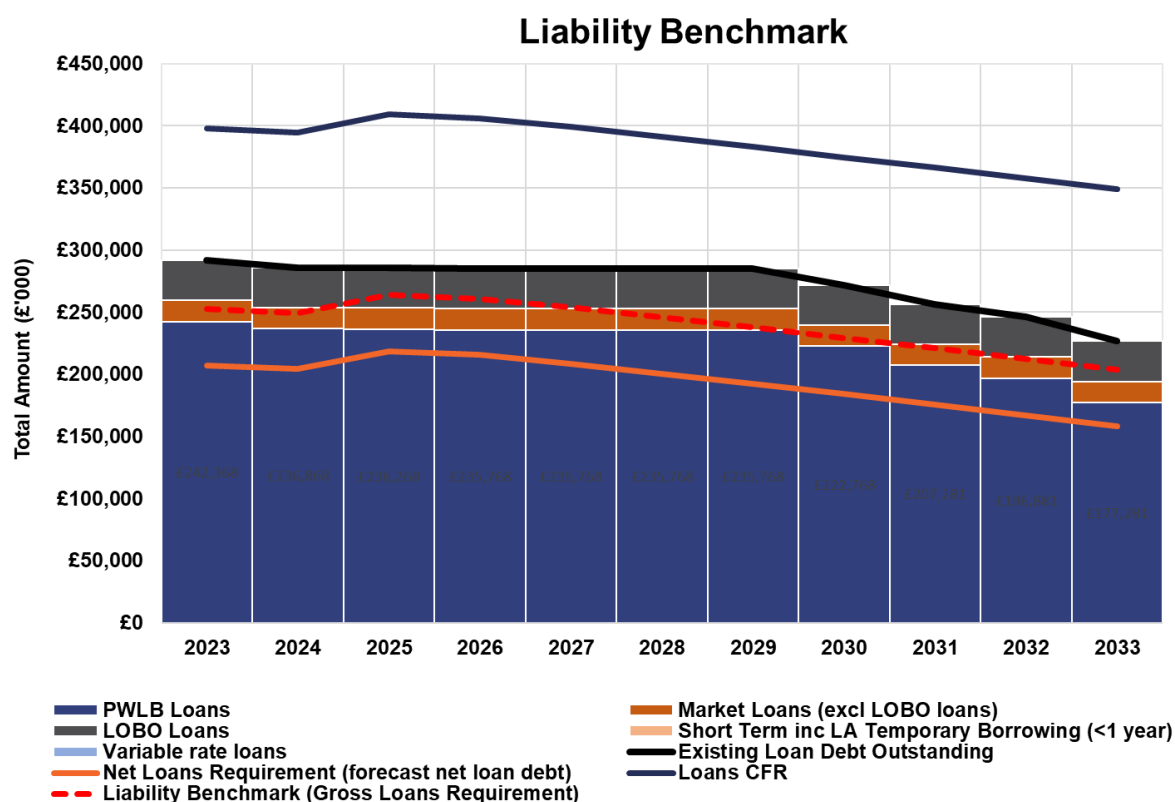
Existing loan debt outstanding: the Authority's existing loans that are still outstanding in future years.

Loans CFR: this is calculated in accordance with the loans CFR definition in the Prudential Code and projected into the future based on approved prudential borrowing and planned MRP.

Net loans requirement: this will show the Authority’s gross loan debt less treasury management investments at the last financial year-end, projected into the future and based on its approved prudential borrowing, planned MRP and any other major cash flows forecast.

Liability benchmark (or gross loans requirement): this equals net loans requirement plus short-term liquidity allowance.

Calculation of the Liability Benchmark is a complex calculation and has been undertaken by officers with assistance from the Council’s Treasury Advisors, LINK to produce the information using a complex model.



Shropshire’s calculated Liability Benchmark has been determined for ten years, 2023/24 to 2032-33, in accordance with CIPFA’s recommendation. As an absolute minimum CIPFA requires the Liability Benchmark to be estimated and measured for the forthcoming financial year and the following two financial years and strongly recommends that the Liability Benchmark is produced for at least ten years.

The data shows that when the Loans Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) falls but remains positive and the Existing Loan Debt Outstanding also begins to fall, the Liability Benchmark and the Net Loan Requirement remain below the Existing Loan Debt Outstanding, so boosting the level of potential external investment.

This may not actually reflect what happens over time however, as the modelling suggested by CIPFA does not take account of any new approved capital expenditure / CFR increases beyond the extent of the currently approved Capital Programme (financial years 2024-25 to 2027-28), i.e. CFR increases projected in the Capital

Strategy are not included in the model. Similarly, the data does not take account of the replacement of any existing loans that mature over the life of the model.

We continue to forecast that internal borrowing will form part of the financing mix for the CFR and that is represented in the chart by the gap between the Loans CFR and the Existing Loan Debt Outstanding (PWL, Market and LOBO loans). The indicator does suggest we could run greater net borrowing by taking the existing loans down to the Liability Benchmark, but that would require early repayment of some of the current external loans held by the Authority.

Prudential Indicator 4 – External Debt – Operational Boundary

This is the maximum borrowing limit set for Shropshire Council and includes the HRA borrowing. This indicator shows the maximum permitted amount of outstanding debt for all purposes. It includes three components:

1. The maximum amount for capital purposes;
2. The maximum amount for short term borrowing to meet possible temporary revenue shortfalls;
3. The maximum permitted for items other than long term borrowing i.e. PFI & leasing.

Operational Boundary	2024/25 Estimate £m	2025/26 Estimate £m	2026/27 Estimate £m
Debt	394	395	387
Other long term liabilities	86	89	85
Total	480	484	473

Prudential Indicator 5 – External Debt – Authorised Limit

This is a key prudential indicator and represents a control on the maximum level of borrowing. This represents a legal limit beyond which external debt is prohibited, and this limit needs to be set or revised by the Full Council. It reflects the level of external debt which, while not desired, could be afforded in the short-term, but is not sustainable in the longer-term.

- This is the statutory limit determined under section 3 (1) of the Local Government Act 2003. The Government retains an option to control either the total of all local authority plans, or those of a specific authority, although this power has not yet been exercised.
- The Authority is asked to approve the following Authorised Limit:

Authorised Limit	2024/25 Estimate £m	2025/26 Estimate £m	2026/27 Estimate £m
Debt	460	450	443
Other long term liabilities	86	89	85
Total	546	539	528

Prudential Indicator 6 – Interest Rate Exposure – Borrowing Limits

The Prudential Code requires the Council to set interest rate exposure limits for borrowing and investments.

Interest Rate Exposure	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Borrowing Limits	£m	£m	£m
Upper Limit for Fixed Interest Rate Exposure	546	539	528
Upper Limit for Variable Interest Rate Exposure	273	270	264
Lower Limit for Fixed Interest Rate Exposure	273	270	264
Lower Limit on Variable Interest Rate Exposure	0	0	0

These indicators seek to control the amount of debt exposed to fixed and variable interest rates. Variable rate debt carries the risk of unexpected increases in interest rates and consequently increases in cost. The upper limit for variable rate exposure has been set following advice from Link, however, this limit is unlikely to be reached due to authority's objective to have no more than 25% of outstanding debt at variable interest rates.

Calculation of indicators is set out below

- Upper limit for fixed rate exposure; A maximum of 100% of the Authorised Limit (£546m in 2024/25) exposed to fixed rates is consistent with the Authority's objective to have a long term stable debt portfolio.
- Upper limit for variable rate exposure; For efficient management of the debt portfolio it is considered prudent by Link to permit up to 50% (£273m in 2024/25) of the Authorised Limit to be borrowed at variable interest rates.
- Lower limit for fixed rate exposure; Upper limit for fixed rate exposure less the maximum permitted borrowing at variable interest rates
- Lower limit for variable rate exposure; Calculation: To be consistent with the Authority's objective to have a long term stable portfolio all of the debt portfolio could be at a fixed rate therefore the lower limit for variable rate exposure should be nil.

Prudential Indicator 7 – Interest Rate Exposure – Investment Limits

Interest Rate Exposure	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Investment Limits	£m	£m	£m
Upper Limit for Fixed Interest Rate Exposure	250	250	250
Upper Limit for Variable Interest Rate Exposure	250	250	250
Lower Limit for Fixed Interest Rate Exposure	0	0	0
Lower Limit on Variable Interest Rate Exposure	0	0	0

These indicators seek to control the amount of investments exposed to fixed and variable interest rates. Variable rate investments are subject to changes in interest

rates, but have a higher degree of liquidity and action can be taken at short notice in response to interest rate changes.

- Upper limit for fixed rate exposure: Maximum amount of fixed rate investments in order to maintain a stable investment portfolio.
- Upper limit for variable rate exposure: For the purposes of efficient portfolio management in response to interest rate conditions a maximum potential exposure to variable rates of £250m in 2024/25 is recommended.
- Lower limit for fixed rate exposure: A lower limit of zero is locally set so as to enable full advantage to be taken of market conditions.
- Lower limit for variable rate exposure: A lower limit of zero is locally set so as to enable full advantage to be taken of market conditions.

Prudential Indicator 8 – Upper and lower limits for the maturity structure of debts (borrowings)

Limits for the maturity structure of debts (borrowing)	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Maturity Structure of Fixed/Variable Rate Borrowing During 2024/25*	%	%
Under 12 months	15	0
12 months & within 24 months	15	0
24 months & within 5 years	45	0
5 years & within 10 years	75	0
10 years & within 20 years	100	0
20 years & within 30 years	100	0
30 years & within 40 years	100	0
40 years & within 50 years	100	0
50 years and above	100	0

* Internal limit is to have no more than 15% of total outstanding debt maturing in any one financial year. This is to ensure that the risk of having to replace maturing debt at times of high interest rates is controlled.

Prudential Indicator 9 – Maturity Limits - Investments

The Council is required to set maximum levels for investments over 365 days for both the internal treasury team and an external fund manager if appointed

Maturity Limits > 365 days	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Investment Limits	£m	£m	£m
Upper Limit for Total Principal Sums Invested for over 365 days:			
Externally Managed (if appointed)	50	50	50
Internally Managed	70	70	70

5. Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement



The Council's Annual Minimum Revenue Provision Statement

5.1 Statutory Requirements

The Council is required by statute to set aside a minimum revenue provision (MRP) to repay external debt. The calculation of the minimum revenue provision (MRP) is as per the Local Authority (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 [SI 2008/414]. In regulation 28, detailed rules were replaced with a simple duty for an authority to make an amount of MRP which it considers to be "prudent".

The broad aim of a prudent provision is to ensure that debt is repaid over a period that is either reasonably commensurate with that over which the capital expenditure provides benefits, or, in the case of borrowing supported by Government Revenue Support Grant, reasonably commensurate with the period implicit in the determination of that grant. The guidance includes four options (and there are two alternatives under Option three) for the calculation of a prudent provision.

There is no requirement to charge MRP where the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) is nil or negative at the end of the preceding financial years. There is also no requirement to charge MRP on the Housing Revenue Account share of the CFR.

The legislation recommends that before the start of each financial year the Council prepares a statement of its policy on making MRP in respect of that financial year and submits it to the Full Council for approval.

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC) issued "Consultation on changes to the capital framework: Minimum Revenue Provision" on 30th November 2021. The consultation paper primarily covered the concerns that the government has in respect of compliance with the duty to make a prudent revenue provision, which in their view, results in an underpayment of Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). The consultation document states that the DLUHC are not intending to change the statutory MRP guidance, but to clearly set out in legislation the practices that authorities should already be following.

The government is proposing additional text to be added to the 2003 Regulations to make explicit that:

1. Capital receipts may not be used in place of the revenue charge. The intent is to prevent authorities avoiding, in whole or part, a prudent charge to revenue. It is not the intention to prevent authorities using capital receipts to reduce their overall debt position, which may have the effect of reducing the MRP made with respect to the remaining debt balance.
2. Prudent MRP must be determined with respect to the authority's total capital financing requirement. The intent is to stop the intentional exclusion of debt from the MRP determination because it relates to an investment asset or capital loan. Authorities should still be able to charge MRP over the period in which their capital expenditure provides benefits and begin charging MRP in the year

following capital expenditure, in accordance with proper accounting practices set out in the government's statutory guidance on Minimum Revenue Provision.

The consultation identified two main issues:

- Some authorities use capital receipts in lieu of all or part of the revenue charge (MRP).
- Some authorities exclude investment assets from the MRP determination.

The government's view is that both practices are not permitted under the Framework.

The government have not yet issued a final response to the consultation though and so members will be updated on any implications for the Council's MRP policy once the regulation changes are finalised.

5.2 Policy for Calculation of Prudent Provision

The options for the calculation of a Prudent Provision are detailed in section 5.11 of this report. Authorities must always have regard for the guidance and the decision on what is prudent is for the authority to conclude, taking into account detailed local circumstances, including specific project timetables and revenue-earning profiles.

Following a review of the MRP policy from 2018/19 the prudent provision for Supported Borrowing has been calculated based on the expected useful life of the asset on an annuity calculation basis.

Option 3a - Asset life method (Unsupported Borrowing) - equal instalment method will continue to be used for unsupported borrowing agreed prior to 2018/19 and specific treatment for PFI Assets and assets held under Finance Leases and long-term capital loans. For any approved unsupported borrowing from 2018/19 the prudent provision will be calculated on an annuity basis linked to the expected useful life of the asset for consistency with the Supported Borrowing calculation, Option 3b.

5.3 Supported Borrowing

From 2016/17 the approach for calculating the MRP was on a straight line (equal instalments) calculation basis on the remaining asset life of the assets linked to the borrowing. An analysis of the average remaining asset life of the assets financed from previous supported borrowing, determined the average remaining life to be around 45 years and this was used as the basis of calculation.

From 2018/19 Council approved to adopt the annuity calculation method for supported borrowing whilst retaining the link to the average remaining useful life of the assets it was used to finance. The annuity calculation method results in lower MRP payments in the early years, but higher payments in later years. This method has the advantage of linking MRP to the flow of benefits from an asset where these are expected to increase in later years.

CIPFA puts forward the following reasons for using the annuity method in CIPFA's "The Practitioner's Guide to Capital Finance in Local Government" (2008) which states:

- The annuity method provides a fairer charge than equal instalments as it takes account of the time value of money, whereby paying £100 in 10 year's time, is less of a burden than paying £100 now.
- The schedule of charges produced by the annuity method results in a consistent charge over an asset's life, taking into account the real value of the amounts when they fall due.
- The annuity method is a prudent basis for providing for assets that provide a steady flow of benefits over their useful life.

For 2018/19 and onwards the Council has adopted the annuity-based calculation on a 45- year basis.

5.4 Unsupported Borrowing - Asset Life Method

For new borrowing under the Prudential system for which no Government support is being given and is therefore self-financed (unsupported borrowing) the MRP has been calculated in accordance with Option 3 Asset Life Method. Option 3 is to make provision over the estimated life of the asset for which the borrowing is undertaken.

Freehold land cannot properly have a life attributed to it, so for the purposes of Option 3 it should be treated as equal to a maximum of 50 years. But if there is a structure on the land which the authority considers to have a life longer than 50 years, that same life estimate may be used for the land.

To the extent that expenditure is not on the creation of an asset and is of a type that is subject to estimated life periods that are referred to in the guidance, these periods will generally be adopted by the Council. However, the Council reserves the right to determine useful life periods and prudent MRP in exceptional circumstances where the recommendations of the guidance would not be appropriate. For energy efficiency schemes the payback period of scheme is used as the basis for calculating the period over which MRP is calculated.

This method is a straightforward calculation of MRP for unsupported borrowing which calculates MRP based on asset life.

Provision for debt under Option 3 will normally commence in the financial year following the one in which the expenditure is incurred. But the guidance highlights an important exception to the rule. In the case of a new asset, MRP would not have to be charged until the asset came into service and would begin in the financial year following the one in which the asset became operational. This "MRP holiday" would be perhaps two or three years in the case of major projects, or possibly longer for some complex infrastructure schemes, and could make them more affordable.

Prior to 2018/19 the Council adopted the Option 3a Straight Line calculation for unsupported borrowing. From 2018/19 Council approved to adopt the Option 3b annuity calculation method for new unsupported borrowing whilst retaining the link to the average remaining useful life of the assets it was used to finance. The annuity

calculation method results in lower MRP payments in the early years, but higher payments in later years. This method has the advantage of linking MRP to the flow of benefits from an asset where these are expected to increase in later years.

The authority can still make voluntary extra provision for MRP in any year.

5.5 Adjustment A

This is an accounting adjustment to the MRP calculation that ensures consistency with previous capital regulations. Once calculated, the amount remains constant within the MRP calculations.

Between 2016/17 and 2017/18 the adjustment A was not included in the MRP calculation but continues to be a legitimate part of the calculation under the 2003 Regulations (Regulation 28) and can therefore continue to be used to reduce the supported borrowing CFR for MRP purposes. It has been considered to be prudent to include the Adjustment A value from 2018/19 onwards to calculate the CFR value. For Shropshire the fixed Adjustment A calculation is £4,446,483.75.

5.6 PFI Assets and Assets Held Under Finance Leases

For assets under on-balance sheet PFI contracts and finance leases, the annual principal payment amount in the PFI or finance lease model is used as the MRP payment amount, with no additional charges above those within the contract.

5.7 Long Term Capital Loans

The Council has made available a small number of capital loans to Housing Associations and Village Halls and also to the Council's wholly owned housing company, Cornovii Developments Limited (CDL), financed from the Council's balances.

The revenue MRP charge for long term capital loans is calculated using the Asset Life Method and the loan term.

5.8 Housing Revenue Account MRP

As at 31/03/23 the HRA CFR is £92m, this includes the £83.35m transferred to the Council as part of housing self-financing. In managing the HRA debt and considering the HRA business plan there is no mandatory requirement to make provision in the HRA for annual MRP payments. However, the Council will make annual voluntary provision for debt repayment in the HRA based on affordable levels in the HRA against the need for investment and delivering services in the HRA. The annual level of provision will be determined annually as part of the closure of the HRA.

5.9 2024/25 Annual MRP Statement

Section 5.11 provides the MRP statement for the 2024/25 financial year.

5.10 Capital Receipts Set Aside

The current regulations, Local Authority (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 [SI 2008/414] state that the minimum revenue provision is calculated using the previous year's closing Capital Financing Requirement for supported borrowing.

In 2009/10 Shropshire Council got DCLG approval to allow the new council to voluntarily set aside capital receipts as at 1st April 2009 to reduce the CFR and consequently reduce the MRP charge for 2009/10. This approach was discussed with our Treasury Advisors and External Auditors and was approved by Members in a report to Council in December 2009.

As the extent of new borrowing is not subject to any limitation the sum of capital receipts set aside are still available to support capital expenditure in future years. This will increase the CFR to its previous level and the MRP charge in future years will increase, but not beyond the level had the saving not been generated in 2009/10. Thus, the saving in MRP is therefore temporary, albeit very helpful to the short-term financial position.

As the full level of capital receipts set aside were not required to finance capital expenditure between 2009/10 and 2020/21, a balance was retained as set aside as at the end of each financial year to enable a further MRP saving in the following financial years. In the 2024/25 MRP Statement it has been assumed all the capital receipts retained as set aside as at 31 March 2024 to reduce the CFR will be offset by an increase in the CFR in 2024/25 from capital expenditure incurred in 2024/25. In the event that the level of capital expenditure in 2024/25 to be financed from the capital receipts set aside is below the level of capital receipts set aside, it is proposed to retain the balance in capital receipts as set aside in order to achieve a further MRP saving in 2025/26. This will be reported for approval as part of the Capital Outturn report 2024/25.

5.11 Options for Prudent Provision

Option 1: Regulatory Method (Supported borrowing)

MRP is equal to the amount determined in accordance with the former regulations 28 and 29 of the 2003 Regulations, as if they had not been revoked by the 2008 Regulations. For the purposes of that calculation, the Adjustment A should normally continue to have the value attributed to it by the authority in the financial year 2004-05. However, it would be reasonable for authorities to correct any perceived errors in Adjustment A, if the correction would be in their favour.

Option 2: CFR Method (Supported borrowing)

MRP is equal to 4% of the non-housing CFR at the end of the preceding financial year without any adjustment for Adjustment A, or certain other factors which were brought into account under the previous statutory MRP calculation. Option 3: Asset Life Method (Unsupported borrowing) Where capital expenditure on an asset is financed wholly or partly by borrowing or credit arrangements, MRP is to be determined by reference to the life of the asset. There are two main methods by

which this can be achieved, as described below. Under both variations, authorities may in any year make additional voluntary revenue provision, in which case they may make an appropriate reduction in later years' levels of MRP.

(a) Equal Instalment Method

MRP is the amount given by the following formula:

$$\frac{A - B}{C}$$

Where:

A is the amount of the capital expenditure in respect of the asset financed by borrowing or credit arrangements

B is the total provision made before the current financial year in respect of that expenditure

C is the inclusive number of financial years from the current year to that in which the estimated life of the asset expires.

For the purpose of the above formula in the initial year of making the MRP the variable "C" should be given the maximum values set out in the following table:

Expenditure Type	Maximum value of "C" in initial year
Expenditure capitalised by virtue of a direction under s16(2)(b)	"C" equals 20 years
Regulation 25(1)(a) Expenditure on computer programs	"C" equals the value it would have for computer hardware
Regulation 25(1)(b) Loans and grants towards capital expenditure by third parties	"C" equals the estimated life of the assets in relation to which the third-party expenditure is incurred
Regulation 25(1)(c) Repayment of grants and loans for capital expenditure	"C" equals 25 years, or the period of the loan, if longer
Regulation 25(1)(d) Acquisition of share or loan capital	"C" equals 20 years
Regulation 25(1)(e) Expenditure on works to assets not owned by the authority	"C" equals the estimated life of the assets
Regulation 25(1)(ea) Expenditure on assets for use by others	"C" equals the estimated life of the assets
Regulation 25(1)(f) Payment of levy on Large Scale Voluntary Transfers (LSVTs) of dwellings	"C" equals 25 years

(b) Annuity Method

MRP is the principal element for the year of the annuity required to repay over the asset life the amount of capital expenditure financed by borrowing or credit arrangements. The authority should use an appropriate interest rate to calculate the amount. Adjustments to the calculation to take account of repayment by other methods during the repayment period (e.g. by the application of capital receipts) should be made as necessary.

Option 4: Depreciation Method (Unsupported borrowing)

MRP is to be equal to the provision required in accordance with depreciation accounting in respect of the asset on which expenditure has been financed by borrowing or credit arrangements. This should include any amount for impairment chargeable to the Income and Expenditure Account.

For this purpose, standard depreciation accounting procedures should be followed, except in the following respects.

- a. MRP should continue to be made annually until the cumulative amount of such provision is equal to the expenditure originally financed by borrowing or credit arrangements. Thereafter the authority may cease to make MRP.
- b. On disposal of the asset, the charge should continue in accordance with the depreciation schedule as if the disposal had not taken place. But this does not affect the ability to apply capital receipts or other funding sources at any time to repay all or part of the outstanding debt.
- c. Where the percentage of the expenditure on the asset financed by borrowing or credit arrangements is less than 100%, MRP should be equal to the same percentage of the provision required under depreciation accounting.

Minimum Revenue Provision Statement 2024/25

	£
General Fund	
Closing CFR 2022/23	186,074,365
Proposed use of capital receipts voluntarily set aside to be applied in 2023/24	17,465,369
Adjustment A	-4,446,484
Less transfer of asset from GF to HRA	0
	<u>199,093,251</u>
Less LGR (98) Debt	-30,184
	<u>199,063,067</u>
Less MRP 2023/24	-2,698,778
Add Back LGR (98) Debt	30,184
	<u>196,394,473</u>
CFR for Supported Borrowing MRP Calculation	
Add Back Adjustment A	4,446,484
	<u>200,840,957</u>
Closing CFR 31/03/24 - Supported Borrowing (GF)	<u>200,840,957</u>
Housing Revenue Account	
Closing CFR 2022/23	92,251,785
Add profiled prudential borrowing 2023/24	12,541,579
Add transfer of asset from GF to HRA	0
Less MRP 2023/24 (none budgeted as per HRA MRP policy)	0
	<u>104,793,363</u>
Closing CFR 31/03/24 - Supported Borrowing (GF & HRA)	<u>305,634,320</u>
<u>Unsupported Borrowing - Asset Life (based on individual assets)</u>	
Unsupported Borrowing brought forward	118,417,022
Add profiled prudential borrowing 2023/24	20,602,961
Less MRP - 2022/23	-3,503,481
Closing CFR 31/03/24 - Unsupported Borrowing	<u>135,516,502</u>
Closing CFR (GF & HRA)31/03/24 - Unsupported Borrowing	<u>441,150,823</u>
Additional items included:	
Village Hall Loans	258,446
Housing Associations Loans	14,665,822
Cornovii Developments Ltd	13,250,000
	<u>469,325,091</u>
<u>Summary MRP</u>	
MRP 2024/25 on Annuity Basis at 45 year life from 2018/19	2,768,360
LGR (98) Debt MRP	6,329
Prudential Borrowing MRP	3,926,166
TOTAL MRP 2024/25	<u>6,700,855</u>

6. Specified Investments



LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENTS (England)
SPECIFIED INVESTMENTS

All investments listed below must be sterling-denominated.

Investment	Share/ Loan Capital?	Repayable/ Redeemable within 12 months?	Security/ Minimum Credit Criteria	Capital Expenditure?	Circumstance of use	Maximum period
Term deposits with the UK government (e.g. DMO Account) or with local authorities (i.e. local authorities as defined under Section 23 of the 2003 Act) with maturities up to 1 year	No	Yes	High security although most LAs not credit rated.	No	In-house and by external fund manager	1 year
Term deposits with credit-rated deposit takers (banks and building societies), including callable deposits, with maturities up to 1 year	No	Yes	Yes – Minimum colour band green	No	In-house and by external fund manager	1 year
Certificates of Deposit issued by credit-rated deposit takers (banks and building societies) up to 1 year. Custodial arrangement required prior to purchase	No	Yes	Yes – Minimum colour band green	No	In house buy and hold and External fund managers	1 year
Banks nationalised by high credit rated (sovereign rating) countries – non UK	No	Yes	Minimum Sovereign Rating AA	No	In house and external fund managers	1 year
UK Nationalised & Part Nationalised banks	No	Yes	Yes – Minimum colour band green	No	In house and external managers	1 year
Government guarantee (explicit) on all deposits by high credit rated (sovereign rating) countries	No	Yes	Yes – Minimum Sovereign Rating AA- / UK Sovereign Rating	No	In house and external fund managers	1 year
Bonds issued by multilateral development banks (Euro Sterling Bonds as defined in SI 2004 No 534) Bond issuance issued by a financial institution which is explicitly guaranteed by the UK Government e.g. National Rail Custodial arrangement required prior to purchase	No	Yes	AAA	No	In-House on a buy and hold basis after consultation/advice from Link also for use by External fund manager	1 year
Gilt Funds and Bond Funds (including Ultra-Short Dated Bond Funds)	No	Yes	UK sovereign rating	No	In House and by external fund managers	1 year
	No	Yes	AAA	No	In House and by external fund managers	1 year

Investment	Share/ Loan Capital?	Repayable/ Redeemable within 12 months?	Security/ Minimum Credit Criteria	Capital Expenditure?	Circumstance of use	Maximum period
Gilts : up to 1 year Custodial arrangement required prior to purchase	No	Yes	Govt-backed UK Sovereign Rating	No	In House on a buy and hold basis and for trading by external fund manager subject to the guidelines and parameters agreed with them	1 year
Money Market Funds (CNAV), Enhanced Money Market Funds (LVNAV & VNAV) & Government Liquidity Funds (including CCLA Fund)	No	Yes	Yes AAA rated & UK sovereign rating. Enhanced MMFs minimum colour Dark Pink/Light Pink & AAA rated	No	In-house and by external fund managers subject to the guidelines and parameters agreed with them	the period of investment may not be determined at the outset but would be subject to cash flow and liquidity requirements. Deposits are repayable at call.
Treasury bills [Government debt security with a maturity less than one year and issued through a competitive bidding process at a discount to par value] Custodial arrangement required prior to purchase	No	Yes	Govt-backed UK Sovereign Rating	No	In House or external fund managers subject to the guidelines and parameters agreed with them	1 year

Monitoring of credit ratings:

All credit ratings will be monitored continuously and formally updated on a monthly basis if required. If a counterparty or investment scheme is downgraded with the result that it no longer meets the Council's minimum credit criteria, the use of that counterparty / investment scheme will be withdrawn.

Any intra-month credit rating downgrade which the Council has identified that affects the Council's pre-set criteria will also be similarly dealt with.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENTS (England)
NON-SPECIFIED INVESTMENTS

All investments listed below must be sterling-denominated (with the exception of the WME US dollar account).

Investment	a) Why use it? b) Associated risks?	Share/ Loan Capital?	Repayable/ Redeemable within 12 months?	Security/ Minimum Credit Criteria	Capital Expenditure?	Circumstance of use	Max % of overall investments	Maximum maturity of investment
Certificates of Deposit with credit rated deposit takers (banks and building societies) with maturities greater than 1 year <i>Custodial arrangement required prior to purchase</i>	(A) tradable more liquid than fixed term deposits (B) (i) 'Market or interest rate risk': Yield subject to movement during life of CD which could negatively impact on price of the CD. (ii) Although in theory tradable, are relatively illiquid.	No	Yes	UK Sovereign rating	No	In house on a buy and hold basis after consultation/advice from Link & external cash fund manager(s) subject to the guidelines and parameters agreed with them.	50%	Suggested limit: Average duration in the portfolio not to exceed 5 years
Collateralised deposit	Deposits are backed by collateral of AAA rated local authority	No	Yes	UK Sovereign rating	No	In house & External Manager	25%	5 years
UK government gilts with maturities in excess of 1 year <i>Custodial arrangement required prior to purchase</i>	(A)((i) Excellent credit quality. (ii)Very Liquid). (iii) If held to maturity, known yield (rate of return) per annum ~ aids forward planning. (iv) If traded, potential for capital gain through appreciation in value (i.e. sold before maturity) (v) No currency risk (B) (i) 'Market or interest rate risk' : Yield subject to movement during life of sovereign bond which could negatively impact on price of the bond i.e. potential for capital loss.	No	Yes	UK Sovereign rating	No	In house on a buy & hold basis following advice from Link and for trading by external cash fund manager subject to the guidelines and parameters agreed with them	50%	Suggested limit : Average duration in the portfolio not to exceed 5 years

Investment	a) Why use it? b) Associated risks?	Share/ Loan Capital?	Repayable/ Redeemable within 12 months?	Security/ Minimum Credit Criteria	Capital Expenditure?	Circumstance of use	Max % of overall investments	Maximum maturity of investment
Term deposits with UK government, other Local Authorities, and credit rated deposit takers (banks and building societies) including callable deposits with maturities greater than 1 year	A) (i) Certainty of rate of return over period invested. (ii) No movement in capital value of deposit despite changes in interest rate environment. (B) (i) Illiquid: as a general rule, cannot be traded or repaid prior to maturity. (ii) Return will be lower if interest rates rise after making the investment. (iii) Credit risk: potential for greater deterioration in credit quality over longer period	No	No	Minimum colour band purple	No	In-House For trading by external cash fund manager subject to the guidelines and parameters agreed with them	£40 million 50%	Suggested limit: 3 years
Sovereign bond issues ex UK Government Gilts: any maturity	A. (i) Excellent credit quality. (ii) Liquid. (iii) If held to maturity, known yield (rate of return) per annum – aids forward planning. (iv) If traded, potential for capital gain through appreciation in value (i.e. sold before maturity) (v) No currency risk B. (i) “Market or interest rate risk” : Yield subject to movement during life of sovereign bond which could negatively impact on price of the bond i.e. potential for capital loss	No	Yes	AAA	No	For trading by external cash fund manager only subject to the guidelines and parameters agreed with them	50%	Suggested limit: 5 years
Bonds issued by multilateral development banks (Euro-Sterling Bonds) or issued by a financial institution guaranteed by UK government Custodial	(A) (i) Excellent credit quality. (ii) Liquid. (iii) If held to maturity, known yield (rate of return) per annum – aids forward planning. (iv) If traded, potential for capital gain through appreciation in value (i.e. sold before maturity) (v) No currency risk	Yes	Yes	AAA	No	In house on a buy and hold basis after consultation/advice from Link. Also for use by external fund managers	10% 50%	5 years

Investment	a) Why use it? b) Associated risks?	Share/ Loan Capital?	Repayable/ Redeemable within 12 months?	Security/ Minimum Credit Criteria	Capital Expenditure?	Circumstance of use	Max % of overall investments	Maximum maturity of investment
arrangement required prior to purchase	(B) (i) "Market or interest rate risk" : Yield subject to movement during life of bond which could negatively impact on price of the bond i.e. potential for capital loss							
Corporate Bonds & Corporate Bond funds (the use of these investments would constitute capital expenditure although this is currently under review)	(A)(i) Excellent credit quality. (ii) Liquid. (iii) If held to maturity, known yield (rate of return) per annum – aids forward planning. (iv) If traded, potential for capital gain through appreciation in value (i.e. sold before maturity) (v) No currency risk (B)(i) "Market or interest rate risk" : Yield subject to movement during life of sovereign bond which could negatively impact on price of the bond i.e. potential for capital loss	Yes	Yes	Minimum Sovereign rating AA	Yes	To be used by external fund managers only	50%	Suggested limit: 5 years
Pooled property funds – including CCLA Local Authorities Property Fund	Enhanced return but increased risk, only to be used following advice from Link	No	Yes	No Minimum Credit rating need to assess underlying assets within fund following advice taken from Link	No	In House Use & External Fund managers following advice from Link	20%	5 years
Floating Rate notes	(A)(i) Rate of return tied to some measure of current interest rates, so when interest rates are expected to go up they offer protection to investors against such rises (ii) In some	Yes	Yes	Minimum Colour band green	No	In House Use & External Fund managers following advice from Link	10%	3 years

Investment	a) Why use it? b) Associated risks?	Share/ Loan Capital?	Repayable/ Redeemable within 12 months?	Security/ Minimum Credit Criteria	Capital Expenditure?	Circumstance of use	Max % of overall investments	Maximum maturity of investment
	<p>circumstances may have access to banks which meet minimum credit criteria but generally don't take small fixed term deposit cash amounts</p> <p>(B)(i) Credit quality : if financial health of issuer deteriorates, investors will demand a greater yield and the price of the bond will fall</p>							
US Dollar Deposits (WME Only)	<p>US dollar account to be utilised as a part of West Mercia Energy prudent management of income and expenditure, ensuring that ongoing US dollar commitments can be hedged, thus extinguishing any adverse risk of exposure to movements in the exchange rate and guaranteeing a known cashflow for West Mercia Energy. The account is only to be used for this purpose and not for the purpose of speculative or trading transactions.</p>	No	Yes	Minimum Colour band green	No	West Mercia Energy only	N/A	3 months



Committee and Date
Full Council - 29 Feb 2024

Item

Public



Shrewsbury North West Relief Road – Funding Delegation

Responsible Officer:	Prof. Mark Barrow		
email:	Mark.Barrow@shropshire.gov.uk	Tel:	01743 2586763
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder):	Cllr Dan Morris		

1. Synopsis

This report seeks authority to spend a further £16.981m Capital funding towards delivery of the Shrewsbury North West Relief Road (NWRR), and updates previous forecasts around costs and required delegations up to the completion of the Full Business Case (FBC)

2. Executive Summary

2.1 The NWRR Scheme is a strategic transport project that aims to provide a new single carriageway road linking the northern and western parts of Shrewsbury, reducing congestion, improving air quality, and supporting economic growth and allocated housing delivery in the area. It will also act as an enabler to Shrewsbury Town Centre projects around Riverside, LUF2 and the provision of enhanced active Travel measures under the Big Town Plan Movement Strategy

Additional Forecast benefits include

- Reducing congestion and journey times on the existing road network, especially in the town centre, by providing a new and more efficient route for local and strategic traffic.

- Improving air quality and public health by reducing emissions and noise from traffic, and by encouraging the use of sustainable modes of transport, such as walking, cycling, and public transport.
- Supporting economic growth and regeneration by improving the accessibility and the connectivity of Shrewsbury and the surrounding areas, and by creating new opportunities for business, employment, housing, and tourism.
- Enhancing the quality of life and the well-being of the local community by reducing the negative impacts of traffic on the historic and natural environment, and by providing new green spaces and recreational facilities.
- As such, the project will align in part or fully with the Healthy Economy, People and Environment pillars within the Shropshire Plan.

2.2 The full NWRR alignment comprises two discrete elements. The Oxon Link Road (OLR), funded in part by the Marches Local Enterprise (section from Churncote Roundabout, A5, to Holyhead Road), and the wider DfT part funded section (Holyhead Road to Battlefield Island).

2.3 The budget for the Oxon Link Road section in isolation was approved by Council in 2016/17 at a total of £12.9m, funded from £4.2m LEP and £8.7m from Section 106 Developer Contributions. In 2019/20 Council approved a delegated budget of £15m for programme entry into the Department for Transport’s Large Local Majors funding for the NWRR section. Both projects remain in the Capital Programme as separately funded schemes due to the requirements of the funding partners.

2.4 For the purposes of Planning and the Main Construction Contract, these two elements are managed as a single project, and referred to holistically as the NWRR.

2.5 Since May 2019 (NWRR) and Feb 2017 (OLR), the NWRR has been in delivery, following Outline Business Case endorsements by both funders and budget requirements being built into the Council’s Capital Programme. Background Papers listed at the end of this report lay out the Council decisions and approvals that support this position.

2.6 Previous financial delegations (below) cover activities across the whole NWRR alignment, particularly where activities (Environmental mitigation, advance works and Carbon assessments for example) are scheme wide.

NWRR	£15.0m
OLR	£12.9m
Total	£27.9m

2.7 The current delegation was set around the expected timetable to FBC for the NWRR to DfT and included the forecast costs around completion of other activities in parallel including, Planning Application, Advance Utility Works, Detailed Design and Main Contractor Procurement.

2.8 Following the grant of Planning Permission (subject to finalisation of proposed Conditions and the signing of required S.106 agreements) on the 15th of

February 2024, the Council now needs to move to completion of the Final Business Case (FBC) for consideration by the Council and DfT.

- 2.9 The protracted planning permission process has given rise to the need to continue to incur expenditure on key activities. Whilst some delay was anticipated by the project and costed accordingly at the time of the originally requested £27.9m delegation, the size of this delay was unexpected. This period has also seen unprecedented market inflation, which has also impacted the project at a higher rate, and for longer than was envisaged, and has caused considerable cost pressures around the 2017 OBC cost estimate.
- 2.10 To maintain progress around the agreed programme with funders, the Project also needs to continue to deliver several other parallel activities in advance of the Main Contractor mobilisation.
- 2.11 This report presents the basis for allocating additional budget to fund the process of producing the FBC for the North West Relief Road (NWRR) Scheme, along with other required activities programmed for delivery in this time frame.
- 2.12 The FBC is the final stage of preparation, and it requires a detailed assessment of the scheme's costs, benefits, risks, and delivery plan. The FBC is expected to be submitted to the DfT by December 2024, once approved by Full Council.
- 2.13 The OLR FBC presented to the Marches LEP was endorsed by LEP Board in December 2023.
- 2.14 The current budget delegation to the Executive Director of place (granted May 2019) for the FBC process and associated activities is £27.9m, which was based on a preliminary estimate. However, due to the complexity and the scale of the scheme, and nearly two years extension around the Planning process, the FBC and associated advance works process is projected to incur additional spend of £16.981m up to December 2024. Included within this additional spend is £6.667m expected from the DfT as part of the drawdown of the Large Local Majors Grant for 24/25.
- 2.15 The additional budget delegation will enable Shropshire Council to complete the FBC process on time and to the required quality and standards, ensuring that the scheme's costs, benefits, risks, and delivery plan are robustly and transparently assessed and presented. This will enable full Council to make a properly informed decision on whether to submit this proposal to the DfT for approval.
- 2.16 The additional delegation will increase the likelihood of securing the DfT's approval and funding for the NWRR Scheme, and of the project staying on its current programme, which is a critical and urgent project for the transport network and the economy of Shrewsbury and the wider region.

3 Recommendations

That Council:

- 3.1 Approves the delegation of programme development responsibility for the NWRR together with authority to spend up to an additional £16.981m (as set out in more detail within the table at paragraph 5.9 below) so as to enable the completion of the Full Business Case submission, to the Executive Director of Place in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transport, noting that £6.667m of this will be funded by the DfT Large Local Majors Grant. The breakdown of this delegation, including contingency, is £16.499m advance works costs, £181,500 to deliver the FBC, and £300,000 to cover exceedance of current delegation.
- 3.2 Confirms, for the avoidance of doubt, that the previous total combined delegation of £27.9m was comprised of £15m (NWRR) and £12.9m (OLR).

4. Report

Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 4.1 The main risks of not securing the £16.981m of budget delegation to fund the FBC process and advance works include that the Council:
 - may not be able to complete the FBC process in line with the current programme requirements, and to the required quality and standards, resulting in a delay or a rejection of the DfT's approval and funding for the NWRR Scheme.
 - is unable to continue with critical works in advance of the FBC submission, that on completion will allow the project to remain on the agreed delivery programme with funders, with expected road opening in March 2027.
 - will be unable to undertake works required to discharge Pre-Commencement Planning Conditions as agreed at Planning Committee 15th Feb 2024, which will delay delivery of the overall project by up to a further 2 years.
 - may have to reduce the scope and the quality of the FBC process, compromising the robustness and the transparency of the scheme's costs, benefits, risks, and delivery plan.
 - may have to divert resources and funds from other essential services and projects to cover the funding gap of the FBC process, affecting the delivery and the performance of the council's functions and priorities.
 - may lose the confidence and the support of the stakeholders and the public for the NWRR Scheme, damaging the reputation and the credibility of the council and the scheme.
 - may miss the opportunity to deliver the NWRR Scheme, which is a vital and beneficial project for the transport network, the environment, and the economy of Shrewsbury and the wider region.

- 4.2 The following mitigation measures are proposed to reduce the costs and the uncertainties of the FBC process and secure the confidence of DfT in allocating funding. - the Council will:
- continue to monitor and control the costs and the risks of the FBC process and will report any changes or issues to the DfT and the project Governance structure on a regular basis.
 - review and optimise the FBC process and will identify and implement any potential savings or efficiencies, without compromising the quality and the standards of the process.
 - continue to engage with the stakeholders and the public throughout the FBC process and will demonstrate the value and the benefits of the NWRR Scheme for the local community and the region.
 - collaborate and communicate with the DfT and other relevant authorities and will provide clear and convincing evidence and justification for any additional budget request.
 - explore and secure any alternative or additional sources of funding or support for the FBC process and the NWRR Scheme, such as from the local Enterprise Partnership successor, the private sector, or the government's Levelling Up Fund.

5 Financial Implications

- 5.1 The preparation of the Full Business Case (FBC) and the delivery of essential early works (environmental discharge of planning conditions, environmental mitigation works, and advance utility diversion works etc) have been unavoidably delayed through the planning process for around 2 years beyond the initial programme expectations.
- 5.2 There has remained however a need to keep driving the project forward to meet external funder timescale requirements and local expectations around the year of opening. As such the original delegation limits to progress the project had been reached by October 23 Planning Committee. Following the unexpected requirement to again return to Planning Committee with Conditions prepared by the LPA following the decision to grant Full Planning Permission, there has been a further 4-month delay to Feb 2024. Within this time, the project has exceeded its current delegation, however in order to make an accurate updated request, it has been necessary to pause, pending the outcome of second Planning Committee on 15th Feb in order to accurately estimate the revised delegation value.
- 5.3 Due to the delay in the reconvening of the second Planning Committee, the project has now incurred costs of £28.2m as at end of Quarter 3 2023/24. The £0.3m variance over the £27.9m delegation can be accommodated within financial rules through the existing powers available to the Executive Director of Place, and allocated to the current period grant draw down from DfT. This allows the project to progress in line with programme, pending the approval of the further delegation.
- 5.4 As the project is externally funded as a Capital scheme, with Council match as required through developer contributions, there is no impact on, or use of, local taxpayers' money in continuing the progress of the scheme. Moreover, it is not

affected by, or taking from, allocations made in the most recent Medium Term Financial Strategy.

- 5.5 It should be noted that not all the £28.2m cost to date has been incurred by the Council itself, as both LEP and DfT funding has been used to offset this cost. The Council have drawn £4.2m from the LEP and £16.8m of DfT funds which total £21m, therefore only exposing the Council to £7.2m of costs within the total spend to date.
- 5.6 The Project is aware of the likelihood of external challenge to the Planning decision through a Judicial Review process or similar and will need to address these as they arise. It is hoped that these can be dealt with within the current procurement and FBC preparation window to December 2024.
- 5.7 The FBC is programmed for submission to DfT in December 2024, following Council approval, so triggering the release of the final construction funds.
- 5.8 All works to be undertaken in the period Feb to Dec 2024 are consistent with the project delivery approach prescribed in the accepted Outline Business Cases (OBC), but the sequencing of these has naturally had to flex to accommodate the extended planning process. As such, the revised delegation does not introduce an increased scope of works, rather a revised programme to accommodate the delayed FBC.
- 5.9 The required works and activities up to December 2024 are summarised below with the estimated costs reviewed in February 2024 to ensure current market rates are reflected. These works are also allocated a contingency value to manage risks around cost certainty.

NWRR - Advanced Works and FBC - Total Costs

Activity	Estimate	Contingency (10%)	Total
Archaeology Works	566,519.66	56,651.97	623,171.63
Test Pile	5,000.00	500.00	5,500.00
Borehole Installation & Monitoring	25,000.00	2,500.00	27,500.00
Basin 8 Infiltration Testing	50,000.00	5,000.00	55,000.00
Access to Sites – permanent access roads to be installed where possible	50,000.00	5,000.00	55,000.00
Potential CCTV Drainage Survey	10,000.00	1,000.00	11,000.00
Badger Sett Construction	82,307.09	8,230.71	90,537.80
Bat Box Installation	48,717.13	4,871.71	53,588.85
Demolition of West View	211,586.52	21,158.65	232,745.18
Environmental Scope - content	50,000.00	5,000.00	55,000.00
Additional Kier Advance Works	1,000,000.00	100,000.00	1,100,000.00
Utilities Diversion	8,982,958.53	898,295.85	9,881,254.38
Utilities Diversion - Kier	449,147.93	44,914.79	494,062.72
WSP Fees	3,468,663.00	346,866.30	3,815,529.30
FBC Production	165,000.00	16,500.00	181,500.00
Current Delegation Exceedance	300,000.00	0.00	300,000.00
	15,464,899.86	1,516,489.99	16,981,389.85

5.10 Due to the described delays and design revisions deemed necessary through engagement with statutory consultees through the Planning process, the impact of uncontrollable market inflation and the enhanced designs will see final costs appreciably higher than those forecast in the 2019 OBC.

5.11 The £16.981m delegated spend request shown at 5.9 however still sits within the overall agreed financial strategy accommodations made by Council at OBC (see below table). Included within this delegated spend is £6.667m expected from the DfT as part of the drawdown of the Large Local Majors Grant for 24/25, the remainder being currently allocated funding through Council capital receipts and developer contributions / CIL, contingent upon further announcements around increased central government funding (see 5.13)

Existing Approved Council Budget - OLR / NWRR - (At OBC)
DfT Funding £54.4m
LEP Funding - £4.2m
Balance funded by Shropshire Council ;
£19.8m (NWRR)
£8.7m (OLR)
Total Approved Budget- £87.1m
Spend to date - £28.2m
Delegation Request - £17.265m
Balance - £41.635m

5.12 A full open market procurement exercise is now underway with considerable market interest being shown by major supply chain companies, and this will ensure the best current market value for money at contract award. There also remain options to consider further Value Engineering approaches with the appointed contractor in due course, to further drive costs down in delivery. Any Value Engineering decisions will be overseen by existing Project Governance structures and will be made in the light of existing requirements as prescribed within Planning Conditions and will not impact on the projects ability to fully discharge these prior to and during Main Works construction. The FBC will identify and confirm the forecast final total project costs.

5.13 In October 2023, the Secretary of State for Transport Mark Harper said the government would 'fully fund' the scheme. No formal offer has yet been received by the Council. This offer however, explicitly states that it will address the recent uncontrollable inflationary pressures for LAs in delivering such projects. Senior Council Officers are in regular contact with the Department for Transport (DfT) and have been given no reason to believe that Government support for the NWRR will be anything other than that announced by the Secretary of State. Further guidance on this is expected imminently.

6 Climate Change Appraisal

6.1 During the development of the NWRR Project, Shropshire Council declared a 'climate emergency'. This has focused attention onto reducing carbon

emissions from the construction of the Project. The carbon management assessment of the NWRR Project aims to demonstrate any savings of carbon emissions will be delivered for the project wherever possible within the design. To achieve this, the design will continue to seek to reduce the carbon associated with the Project in accordance with PAS 2080 Carbon management in infrastructure verification. The NWRR has also undertaken a comprehensive Carbon Assessment as part of its impact assessment, covering both the build phase and future use impacts. This has been validated and endorsed by independent peer review at Birmingham University. Within the future costings model for the NWRR there is now a quantified Carbon reduction valuation, which offers the potential to place the NWRR at carbon neutrality within its operational lifetime.

- 6.2 In a wider context, the current development of the Local Transport Plan 4 by the Council will be fully aligned with the Carbon Mandate and modelling requirements within DfT guidance to be published shortly. As such, this will put carbon assessment and management at the heart of future transport, infrastructure and project delivery. The LTP4 is due to be published within the next 12 months, pending the publication of the relevant national guidance.
- 6.3 At Planning Committee 15th Feb 2024, the following Condition, proposed by the LPA, was accepted by the project.

Condition 41:

No development shall commence until the Carbon Assessment Plan has been submitted for approval to the Local Planning Authority. The Carbon Assessment Plan shall include in its scope, the built design, construction phase impacts and future use Page 6 scenarios for the project, how the project will demonstrate achievement of a net-zero carbon outcome, and location of carbon offsetting or removal activity within Shropshire or neighbouring local authority area. Particular attention should be paid to minimising the release of carbon embodied in the vegetation cleared from the route. Development shall not commence until the Carbon assessment plan has been approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved Carbon Assessment Plan.

Reason: To allow the Council to meet its declared climate change objectives in accordance with Policies SC6 "Sustainable Design and Development Principles" of the Shropshire Core Strategy, MD2 "Sustainable Design" and MD8 "Infrastructure Provision" of the Shropshire Council Site Allocations and Management of Development (SAMDev) Plan.

7.0 Background

- 7.1 The NWRR Scheme is a complex and large-scale project that involves multiple technical, environmental, and construction aspects, such as ecological mitigation, management of construction activities with potential impact on hydro-geological features and the Source Protection Zone, heritage protection, traffic modelling, economic appraisal, and community engagement.

- 7.2 The FBC process requires a high level of detail and accuracy in assessing and presenting these aspects, which entails significant resources and expertise.
- 7.3 The COVID-19 pandemic has had a negative impact on the delivery timetable and the supply chain of the FBC process, causing delays, disruptions, and cost increases. For example, the public consultation, which was originally planned for the summer of 2020, had to be postponed to the spring of 2021 due to the lockdown restrictions and the social distancing measures. The pandemic has also affected the availability and the prices of the contractors, consultants, and materials that are needed for the FBC and associated advance works requirements.
- 7.4 The Planning Application process has encountered some unforeseen issues and delays of around 2 years, that have required additional work and analysis, in particular the approach to construction within a Source Protection Zone, the need for a revised flood risk assessment, and the uncertainty over the future traffic demand and travel behaviour due to the pandemic.
- 7.5 The FBC process has to comply with the latest guidance and standards from the DfT and other relevant authorities, such as the Treasury, the Environment Agency, and the Highways England. These guidance and standards are subject to change and update, which may require additional data collection, modelling, and reporting.
- 7.6 The FBC process has to ensure that the scheme's design and delivery are aligned with the wider strategic objectives and policies of Shropshire Council and the DfT, such as the climate change agenda, the green recovery plan, and the levelling up agenda. These objectives and policies may require additional measures and enhancements to the scheme, such as the provision of active travel facilities, the use of low-carbon materials, and the support for local businesses and communities.

8.0 Additional Information (With reference to table at 5.9).

- 8.1 Due to the unforeseen delays at planning, the following activities have necessarily been paused until planning determination. With the decision of planning committee on 15th February, and to re-set the project in line with its agreed overall programme, the following will be delivered between February and December 2024 in parallel with the completion of the FBC. None of the below are additional to those already programmed in the OBC, however the sequencing is now adjusted in line with planning and FBC completion delays.
- 8.2 Utility Diversions. On an optimum construction programme, all utility diversions (gas, water telecoms, electricity) would be completed before the Main Construction phase. This allows planned sequencing of works across the two phases and can show efficiencies and cost savings overall. These works will be split across direct delivery by the Utility Companies themselves, and Kier, where appropriate and more cost effective

- 8.3 It remains the intention to complete all diversions in this way before the mobilisation of the Main Works contract (expected March 2025), however, programming constraints may mean that a pragmatic decision is made to incorporate undeliverable elements of these diversions within the Main Works phase itself. This will be reviewed through the project Governance structure in terms of cost and programme opportunities.
- 8.4 The forecast cost of completing the full utility diversions package is £9.432m (without contingency and based on 2024 year C4 estimates of costs from utility companies, and required additional works through Kier) and this is a component of the overall financial delegation. Based on further work on the amount of the full diversion works that can be delivered however, this figure may reduce as works are “ported” into the Main Works package due to time constraints. The amount of spend may therefore reduce in advance of FBC submission and therefore the level of spend against the delegation will also reduce.
- 8.5 WSP Design Fees, including Main Contractor Procurement costs (£3.46m), boreholes (£25k), test pile (£5k, all without contingencies). The WSP fees are incurred under the current BECC23 Contract with WSP, and the cost estimate is based on 2024 rates to ensure value for money. Borehole and test piling will be procured in the open market, again to ensure value for money. Ongoing detailed design, oversight of the discharge of planning conditions, test piling, installation of monitoring boreholes particularly around the viaduct Planning Condition up to the point of construction, and technical support in on boarding the Main Contractor, are all activities consistent with the OBC.
- 8.6 Environmental Advance Works and Planning Conditions discharge (including archaeology £566k, badger and bat accommodation works £131k total, West View demolition £211k). To comply with the requirements of the Planning Permission, and in advance of the Main Works, the project will need to ensure satisfactory completion of a number of environmental works (license applications, habitat establishment, wildlife accommodation and species relocation works that are seasonal in nature). The programme impacts of non-delivery of these within the February to December seasonal 2024 window will add up to 12 months delay to the overall programme. The project will also have to undertake infiltration testing activities (£59k) in the area of the proposed viaduct within the same timeframe in order to satisfy groundwater data and modelling Planning conditions in advance of the main works commencing.
- 8.7 The £0.3m excess spend is as described at 5.3.

9.0 Conclusions

- 9.1 Due to unforeseen delays through the Planning process, the NWRR project has had to increase spend under its initial delegation to deal with planning responses, additional design and stakeholder engagement. It has also had to pause key activities alongside the FBC until planning determination. In doing so it has added inflationary costs and programme risk.

- 9.2 The project now requires a further delegation on spend and actions, in advance of the submitting of the FBC, that will allow time critical activities to be completed in advance of the Main Works to ensure the delivery of the project in line with funder expectations. This will also mitigate any further inflationary impacts on activity that would be incurred by further delay.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Cabinet 26/06/13 Marches Local Transport Body – Scheme Proposals

<V:\Finance\Finance Business Partners\Capital 202324 - Capital\Projects Information\NWRR\9 Marches Local Transport Body Scheme Proposals.pdf>

Council 23/02/17 Financial Strategy 2017/18 – 2019/20

Cabinet 13/12/17 Shrewsbury North West Relief Road Submission of OBC to DfT

<V:\Finance\Finance Business Partners\Capital 202324 - Capital\Projects Information\NWRR\Appendix 1 NWRR OBC Cabinet Report 6th Dec 2017.pdf>

Council 16/05/19 Shrewsbury North West Relief Road – Dft Programme Entry

<V:\Finance\Finance Business Partners\Capital 202324 - Capital\Projects Information\NWRR\Council 16052019 Shrewsbury North West Relief Road - DfT Programme Entry.pdf>

Local Member: Cllr Lezley Picton
Cllr Alex Wagner
Cllr Rob Wilson
Cllr Nat Green
Cllr Garry Burchett
Cllr Jeff Anderson

Appendices [Please list the titles of Appendices]

N/A

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COUNCIL 29 FEBRUARY 2024

MEMBER QUESTIONS

Question from Councillor Vivienne Parry

Ludford Bridge is one of the oldest in Ludlow it was not built to take heavy lorries and trucks of the size we have now.

Many people are asking if we can do something about this because we once again have lost four large top stones from the main part of the parapet which seem to have dropped into the river on one side. Is it possible to have signs erected further out on the end of the A49 into Overton Rd telling the drivers that the bridge is not suitable for HGV vehicles over a certain weight and signs on the other main roads into town giving the weight and other possible way that can be used.

I know that if this bridge should collapse this would make life hard for people driving around the town, locals and visitors use this way into the town centre this is an important route to other parts of the town a few years ago Overton Road was closed for a collapsed wall it meant long queues, traffic lights causing delays.

I know that the bridge is checked every year but the people who have approached me would like something done now, signs are cheaper than repairs if this beautiful bridge collapsed the town would suffer badly, shops, public houses and businesses would be affected.

Response from Councillor Dan Morris, Portfolio Holder for Highways

RESPONSE TO FOLLOW

Question from Councillor David Vasmer

At the Economy and Environment Scrutiny Committee Shrewsbury Pool Call-in on Friday 9th February, any real debate about what should or should not be included in a consultation was prevented as a result of an extremely rigid interpretation of the call-in notice.

Would the Leader of the Council support amendments to the constitution to allow full consideration of call-ins and the issues they raise? Secondly, would she support the setting up of a Task and Finish Group, under the aegis of the Transformation and Improvement Scrutiny Committee, to review provisions for the conduct of call-ins?

Response from Councillor Lezley Picton, Leader and Portfolio Holder for Policy and Strategy, Improvement and Communications

Overview and Scrutiny is of course not an executive function and therefore it is not something I want to overly interfere with. However, I, along with my fellow Group

Leaders are involved in the expanded Scrutiny Chairs meeting with has been a success in promoting a more collaborative approach to the scrutiny function and so I am willing to consider this request.

Before I do though I want to comment briefly on Cllr Vasmer's reference to "an extremely rigid interpretation of the call-in notice". I wasn't at the meeting, but as I understand the process generally an Overview and Scrutiny Committee can review an executive decision and request that it be reconsidered. The Constitution, agreed by full Council, requires that reasons are given in the call-in notice as to why the decision should be reconsidered and it is right that the debate of the Committee should be limited to those reasons so that it remains appropriately structured. It wasn't so much a "rigid interpretation" as a re-statement of what the call-in notice actually stated.

Currently the requirement for articulated reasons is the only limitation on the call-in process and I would be reluctant to see that removed. However, I do accept that it would be helpful for this issue to be considered in more detail and I intend to ask the Monitoring Officer in conjunction with the Statutory Scrutiny Officer to review the current arrangements, look at good practice elsewhere, consult with the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny and prepare a report to be considered, not by a Task and Finish Group, which I consider to be unnecessary, but by the Scrutiny Chairs Group before bringing a recommendation back to this Council."

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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