

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

NOTICE AND AGENDA

For a meeting to be held in the Penn Chamber, Three Rivers House, Northway, Rickmansworth on Monday, 9 September 2024 at 8.00 pm or on the rising of Council, whichever is later.

Councillors:

Christopher Alley
Sara Bedford
Oliver Cooper
Stephen Cox
Harry Davies
Steve Drury
Vicky Edwards
Andrea Fraser
Elinor Gazzard
Stephen Giles-Medhurst
Rue Grewal
Philip Hearn
Lisa Hudson
Tony Humphreys
Khalid Hussain
Raj Khiroya
Joan King
Stephen King
Chris Lloyd
David Major
Keith Martin

Abbas Merali
Chris Mitchell
Debbie Morris
Ian Morris
Sarah Nelmes
Louise Price
Kevin Raeburn
Reena Ranger
Ciaran Reed
Andrew Scarth
Narinder Sian
Mike Sims
Tom Smith
Jonathan Solomons
Cheryl Stungo
Jon Tankard
Chris Whately-Smith
Anne Winter

*Joanne Wagstaffe, Chief Executive
Friday, 30 August 2024*

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public on agenda items at the Policy and Resources Committee meetings. Details of the procedure are provided below:

For those wishing to speak:

Members of the public are entitled to register and identify which item(s) they wish to speak on from the published agenda for the meeting. Those who wish to register to speak are asked to register on the night prior to the start of the meeting. Please note that contributions will be limited to one person speaking for and one against each item for not more than three minutes.

In the event of registering your interest to speak on an agenda item but not taking up that right because the item is deferred, you will be given the right to speak on that item at the next meeting

of the Committee.

Those wishing to observe the meeting are requested to arrive from 7pm.

In accordance with The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 any matters considered under Part I business only of the meeting may be filmed, recorded, photographed, broadcast or reported via social media by any person.

Recording and reporting the Council's meetings is subject to the law and it is the responsibility of those doing the recording and reporting to ensure compliance. This will include the Human Rights Act, the Data Protection Legislation and the laws of libel and defamation.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. MINUTES

(Pages 5
- 8)

To confirm as being a correct record, the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee, held on 15 July 2024.

3. NOTICE OF URGENT BUSINESS

Items of other business notified under Council Procedure Rule 30 to be announced, together with the special circumstances that justify their consideration as a matter of urgency. The Chair to rule on the admission of such items.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest.

5. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT TO 30 JUNE 2024

(Pages 9
- 60)

This report shows the expected financial position over the three year medium term based on the Council's actual financial performance at the end of period 3 (30 June 2024) set against the latest budget.

Recommendation

To Council:

That the revenue budget virements as set out in appendices 1 to 3 be approved and incorporated into the three-year medium-term financial plan.

That the revenue budget supplementary estimates as set out in appendices 1 to 3 be approved and incorporated into the three-year medium-term financial plan.

That the revenue variances to be managed as set out in appendices 1 to 3 be noted.

That the capital variances as set out in appendices 1 to 3 be approved and incorporated into the three-year medium-term financial plan.

6. RIVER CHESS BED TRANSFER AT SCOTSBRIDGE

(Pages
61 - 82)

For the past 10 years there have been several flooding related issues at Scotsbridge. This is in part due to the alignment of the channel of the River Chess as it approaches Scotsbridge playing fields.

As a result, in partnership with the Environment Agency (EA), Hertfordshire County Council, who are the Lead Flood Authority, is leading on a project to enhance the River Chess channel. The project aims to reduce the impact of flooding in the Scotsbridge area. Three Rivers District Council are acting as a stakeholder in the project as one of the main landowners affected by the recurring flooding incidents.

For the project to succeed Three Rivers District Council is being asked to consider the acquisition of land from the Royal Masonic Trust to facilitate the construction of a new bypass channel.

Recommendation

That Policy and Resources:

Supports progression of the project and agrees to accept the land transfer as outlined within Appendix B. Members are also asked to note the implications of doing so as outlined at point 2.11. Further, detailed heads of terms will be developed as the project progresses.

Agrees for a letter to be written to support the project and that the transfer of land ownership takes place only once the project is due to commence on the ground and not before and that the commuted sum is calculated once detailed designs have been agreed in order to calculate the required additional, ongoing, maintenance.

7. LOW CARBON SKILLS FUNDS PERMISSION TO PROCURE

(To Follow)

To follow.

8. OTHER BUSINESS - if approved under item 3 above

9. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

If the Committee wishes to consider the remaining item in private, it will be appropriate for a resolution to be passed in the following terms:-

“that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined under paragraph X of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act. It has been decided by the Council that in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.”

(Note: If other confidential business is approved under item 3, it will also be necessary to specify the class of exempt or confidential information in the additional items.)

General Enquiries: Please contact the Committee Team at committeeteam@threerivers.gov.uk

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POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

THREE RIVERS DISTRICT COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held in the Penn Chamber, Three Rivers House, Rickmansworth, on Monday, 15 July 2024 from 7.30 - 8.00 pm

Present: Councillors Sarah Nelmes (Chair)

Jon Tankard, Chris Lloyd, Andrew Scarth, Philip Hearn, Oliver Cooper, Andrea Fraser, Stephen Cox, David Major, Chris Mitchell and Chris Whately-Smith

Officers in Attendance:

Kimberley Grout
Alison Scott
Joanne Wagstaffe
Stephen Rix
Marko Kalik
Aaron Roberts
Sharon Keenlyside

PR124 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Stephen Giles-Medhurst, Louise Price, Steve Drury and Jonathon Solomons with the substitutes being Councillors Chris Whately-Smith and David Major.

PR224 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2024 were confirmed as a correct record, subject to the following amendment:

PR6/24 – ‘Councillor Oliver Cooper proposed an amendment’ in place of ‘Councillor Oliver Cooper tabled an amendment’

and signed by the Chair of the meeting.

PR324 NOTICE OF URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

PR424 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Fraser declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 4, Batchwood Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 16 Consultation, as Chair of Batchwood Community Council.

PR624 TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION PLACEMENT POLICY - UPDATE

Kimberley Grout, Associate Director Corporate, Customer and Community, presented the report and informed Members that the report set out an update to the Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy. The Policy had been reviewed as it had been 3 years since the last one took place. There had been several minor amendments.

It was suggested by Councillor Scarth that any amendments were highlighted in bold or coloured script to make them obvious.

In response to Members questions, the Associate Director Corporate, Customer and Community informed Members that there were currently 70 households in temporary accommodation. The vast majority of those had been placed within the Three Rivers district but 9 households were out of district hence the need for this policy. Households were placed in accommodation on a case-by-case basis and would be placed out of district if there was a need due to domestic abuse and other reasons.

The Chair proposed to move the Officer's recommendation and this was seconded by Councillor Scarth.

RESOLVED: that the Policy and Resources Committee AGREED to approve the updated Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy.

PR724 BATCHWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REGULATION 16 CONSULTATION

Marko Kalik, Head of Planning Policy and Conservation, presented the report and explained that Batchworth Community Council had prepared a Neighbourhood Plan with assistance and guidance from officers at Three Rivers District Council (TRDC). The Plan had gone out for consultation with the local community and had now been submitted to TRDC for the next stage in the regulations; a statutory duty for TRDC to consult on the Regulation 16 under the Neighbourhood Plan Regulations. Officers were satisfied that the legal requirements had been met.

At the same time, TRDC was required to re-consult on the Sarratt Neighbourhood Plan.

Members commented that a lot of excellent work had been done by both the officers, Batchworth Community Council and Sarratt Parish Council.

A Member asked if any NPPF changes happening now, before the examination takes place, would have to be reflected in this Neighbourhood Plan.

The Head of Policy Planning and Conservation would investigate this and update Members.

After concerns raised by a Member about delays to the Batchwood Neighbourhood Plan being brought to the Policy and Resources Committee, the Head of Planning Policy and Conservation agreed to investigate the timeline.

The Chair proposed to move the officer's recommendation and this was seconded by Councillor Scarth.

RESOLVED: that the Policy and Resources Committee AGREED to

- i. note the report and agree the Batchworth NDP for consultation; and**
- ii. note that the Council will be reconsulting on the Sarratt Neighbourhood Plan.**

PR824 HOUSING DELIVERY TEST ACTION PLAN

Aaron Roberts, Senior Planning Officer presented the report.

Members referred to paragraph 4.26 in the officer's report regarding a review of Council owned land and asked if it was a valid plan. The Director of Finance explained that this was to achieve delivery. There was a programme in place to build on the garage sites and talks were taking place with Hertfordshire County Council.

Members asked officer's about the impact of Biodiversity Net Gain. The Head of Planning Policy and Conservation explained that it was a challenge across both policy and planning development management and officers were having to learn new areas of expertise, very quickly. It would also affect the number of dwellings that could be put on a specific site.

The Chair proposed to move the officer's recommendations and this was seconded by Counsellor Whateley-Smith.

RESOLVED: that the Policy and Resources Committee AGREED to

- i. note the Housing Delivery Test Result for 2022;**
- ii. agree the Action Plan and the series of actions that the Council will seek to implement;**
- iii. agree to the publication of the Action Plan on the Council's website.**

PR924 USE OF S106 FUNDING FOR BENCHES AT THE HORSES' FIELD, LEAVESDEN COUNTRY PARK

Alison Scott, the Director of Finance, presented the report.

A Member asked what "Replacement Land" meant in reference to paragraph 2.6 of the officers report. The Chair would confirm in writing, what this referred to.

There was an error in the title of the report which should read "S106" not "S016".

Councillor Lloyd proposed to move the officer's recommendation and this was seconded by Councillor Whately-Smith.

RESOLVED: that the Policy and resources Committee AGREED that the proposal to request to use £1,720 of S106 funding to install 2 benches at The Horses' Field, Leavesden Country Park, as outlined in section 2, is approved and that budget should be made available by Council as part of the next budget monitoring report.

CHAIR

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POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

9 SEPTEMBER 2024

PART I

BUDGET MONITORING REPORT TO 30 JUNE 2024 (DIRECTOR OF FINANCE)

1 Budget Monitoring Summary

- 1.1 Budget monitoring report is a key tool in scrutinising the Council’s financial performance and is designed to provide an overview to all relevant stakeholders. It is essential that the council monitors its budgets throughout the year to ensure that it is meeting its strategic objectives within its resource limits and, where necessary, corrective action is taken. A key principle of budgetary control is to align the budget holders’ financial responsibilities and their management responsibilities.
- 1.2 This report shows the expected financial position over the three year medium term based on the Council’s actual financial performance at the end of period 3 (30 June 2024) set against the latest budget.

1.3 Revenue Summary

- 1.3.1 The original 2024/25 budget as approved by Council 20 February 2024 was £14.159m. The latest budget which totals £14.436m includes the variances previously reported to Policy & Resources Committee in March 2024 (Period 10 Budget Monitoring) and Council in July 2024 (2023/24 year end report) The forecast year end position for 2024/25 at Period 3 is estimated to be £14.406m giving a favourable variance of (£0.030m).
- 1.3.2 The table below shows how the forecast year end position has been constructed:

Revenue Budget 2024/25	£000
Original Net Revenue Budget	14,159
Carry Forward from 2023/24 (Year end report July 2024)	277
Original Budget Plus Carry Forwards from 2023/24	14,436
Supplementary Estimates to budget reported at Period 3 (<i>to be approved</i>)	146
Variances to budget reported at Period 3 (<i>to be noted</i>)	(176)
Forecast Total Net Expenditure 2024/25	14.406

1.3.3 The main variances are shown in the table below:

Committee	2024/25 Revenue Account - General Fund Summary							
			(C)	(A)		(B)	(B-A)	(B-C)
	Original Budget	Original Budget Plus 2023/24 Carry Forwards	Latest Budget	Previous Forecast	Net Spend to Date	Latest Forecast	Supplimentary Estimates and Variances	Variation to Latest Budget
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
General Public Services, Community Safety & Infrastructure	4,481	4,535	4,535	4,535	(551)	4,881	346	346
Climate Change, Leisure & Housing	1,952	2,033	2,033	2,033	(1,355)	2,030	(3)	(3)
Policy & Resources	5,270	5,411	5,411	5,411	4,896	5,538	127	127
Total Service Budgets	11,703	11,980	11,980	11,980	2,990	12,449	470	470
Corporate Costs (Interest Earned/Paid) and Parish Precepts	2,456	2,456	2,456	2,456	1,236	1,956	(500)	(500)
Net General Fund	14,159	14,436	14,436	14,436	4,226	14,406	(30)	(30)

1.3.4 The significant supplementary estimates and variances above include inflationary increases in contracts, the cost or recycling materials and interest on investments..

1.4 Capital Summary

1.4.1 The original 2024/25 capital budget as approved by Council 20 February 2024 was £5.377m The latest budget which totals £12.904m for 2024/25 includes the variances previously reported to Policy & Resources Committee in March 2024 (Period 10 Budget Monitoring) and Council in July 2024 (2023/24 year end report) The forecast Year end position for 2024/25 is now estimated to be £18.588m, which reflects rephasing of £7.527m from 2023/24 and additional funding received for 2024/25.

1.4.2 The table below shows how the forecast Year end position has been constructed:

Capital Investment Programme 2024/25	£000
Original Budget	5,377
Rephasing from 2023/24	7,527
Latest Approved Budget (Council July 2024)	12,904
Variances to budget reported at Period 3 (<i>to be approved</i>)	5,684
Forecast Capital Expenditure 2024/25	18,588

1.4.3 The forecast variances to agreed budget are shown in the table below:

Description	£000
EV Charging Points Additional budget to be funded by a capital contribution from Department of Transport ORCS Funding	76
Waste Services Depot CIL spend approved at Full Council 9/7/24	456
CIL Community Grants CIL contribution paid to Sarratt Parish Council approved at Policy & Resources committee 17/7/23	184
Aquadrome Bridge Replacement CIL spend approved at Full Council 9/7/24	817
UK Shared Prosperity Capital grant received from UK Shared Prosperity Fund	211
Local Authority Housing Fund Payment made in March 2024 for acquisition of 11 units in South Oxhey which was delayed until April 2024. Accounting entries applied and unused budget now required to be transferred from 2023/24 to 2024/25	3,913
Others	27
Total Capital Variance	5,684

1.5 Reserves Summary

1.5.1 The potential effect of both the revenue and capital variances upon on each reserve at summary level is shown in the table below. A list of reserve balances is shown at Appendix 7.

Description	Balance at 1 April 2024	Movement	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£000	£000	£000
Capital Reserves	(15,249)	(1,470)	(16,719)
Earmarked Reserves	(20,417)	(563)	(20,980)
Economic Impact Reserve	(1,068)	148	(920)
General Fund	(4,964)	299	(4,665)
Total	(41,698)	(1,586)	(43,284)

2 Details

2.1 Revenue Budget

2.1.1 The Council's latest approved services budget (excluding corporate budgets) is £11.980m. The forecast year end position is now estimated to be £12.450m which results in an unfavourable service variance of £0.470m. After taking account of Corporate Costs, the total favourable variation is (£0.030m).

2.1.2 The table below shows the supplementary estimates and variances to be managed against each Committee. The position of each cost centre and an explanation of the main variances for each committee are set out in the detailed committee monitoring reports at Appendices 1 to 3 and within the Corporate Costs Medium Term Revenue Budget at appendix 4.

Committee	Supplementary Estimates	Variations to be managed	Total
	£000	£000	£000
General Public Services, Community Safety and Infrastructure	25	319	344
Climate Change, Leisure and Housing	0	0	0
Policy and Resources	121	5	126
Total	146	324	470
Corporate Costs (Interest Earned/ Paid) and Parish Precepts	0	(500)	(500)
Net General Fund	146	(176)	(30)

- 2.1.3 Within appendices 1 to 3, annex B sets out the supplementary estimates, variances to be managed, and budget virements requested for each committee.
- 2.1.4 The budget virements requested enable effective budget management by ensuring that budgets are aligned to service activity, management responsibilities, and reflect grant income and planned use of reserves. Budget virements must always net to zero across the Council's budget. Policy and Resources Committee is recommended to approve the budget virements at paragraph 10.1.
- 2.1.5 Supplementary estimates totalling £0.146m are requested at the end of Period 3. Supplementary estimates are requested when there is certainty that a budget pressure will arise, and the pressure cannot be managed within the service area. Supplementary estimates are funded by an increase in the contribution from General Balances and if agreed, result in the latest budget being updated to reflect the agreed expenditure. The impact of agreeing the additional budget is taken into account in the General Fund reserves forecast at paragraph 2.2.1. Policy and Resources Committee is recommended to approve the budget virements at paragraph 10.2.
- 2.1.6 At the end of Period 3, variances to be managed total (£0.176m). The Policy and Resources Committee is recommended to note these variances at paragraph 10.3.

2.2 Revenue Reserve Position -

- 2.2.1 The effect of all Period 3 variances on the Council's General Fund Reserve over the medium term is shown in the table below:

Movement on General Fund Balance	2024/25				2025/26	2026/27
	Original	Latest Budget	Previous Forecast	Latest Forecast	Latest	Latest
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance Brought Forward at 1 April	(4,964)	(4,964)	(4,964)	(4,964)	(4,665)	(4,524)
(Surplus)/Deficit for Year	201	477	477	299	140	202
Closing Balance at 31 March	(4,763)	(4,487)	(4,487)	(4,665)	(4,524)	(4,322)

- 2.2.2 A prudent minimum general fund balance of £2.000m is considered appropriate. The general fund balance is forecast to remain above this minimum level over the medium term.
- 2.2.3 The Council also has the Economic Impact Reserve which is held to manage the impact of economic fluctuations. The reserve will be used in 2024/25 to fund the shortfall on the SLM management contract income as a result of the impact of COVID-19 on the leisure contract and the reprofiling of the management fee in the following table:

Movement on Economic Impact Reserve	2024/25				2025/26	2026/27
	Original	Latest Budget	Previous Forecast	Latest Forecast	Latest	Latest
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£
Balance at 1 April	(1,068)	(1,068)	(1,068)	(1,068)	(920)	(773)
COVID-19 Impact for Year	0	0	0	148	148	0
Closing Balance at 31 March	(1,068)	(1,068)	(1,068)	(920)	(773)	(773)

2.2.4 After taking account of the Economic Impact Reserve, the Council's unrestricted reserves position is forecast to remain above the £2.0m risk assessed level across the MTFP at £5.095m as at 31 March 2027 see Appendix 6.

2.3 Investment Portfolio

2.3.1 The Council's Property Investment Board was allocated up to a total of £20.000m in 2017 to invest in acquiring property with a specific remit of achieving a 5% return (yield) on the investment. The table below shows those properties that the Council has acquired, the 2024/25 receivable rent, and the resulting yield.

2.3.2 The total rent due is forecast to be £1.044m which will achieve an average yield of 5.80%, above the 5% target.

2.3.3 The governance of property investments is covered in the Property Investment Strategy.

Investment Property	2024/25 rent £000	Total cost of property £000	Yield %	Comments
Nottingham	(205)	4,469	4.59%	Acquisition of freehold interest located in the city centre of Nottingham let to commercial tenants, for a combined rental of £227,600pa on a 10 year lease from Feb 2018 which is subject to upward only rent reviews in Feb 2023. With effect from the Feb 2023, Barclays Bank Plc rent has been negotiated and agreed at £145,000 pa. This will be to lease end Feb 2028. Due to financial difficulties which a number of high street brands have encountered, one tenant company was under a Company Voluntary Agreement (CVA). Effective from the 2/9/20 to 8/4/2023, paying only a concessionary rent of £12,000 pa as opposed to the contracted rent of £60,000 pa. Property Services have, with effect from the end of the CVA, reverted the rent back to £60,000 pa. A rent challenge has been lodged by the Tenant with TRDC, querying the reversion of rent to the original contracted rent of £60k after the CVA. The tenant is continuing to pay the concessionary rate until a market review is carried out. The projection will be reviewed after the market rent review and backdated to 8 April 2023.
Norwich	(523)	7,169	7.30%	Acquisition of a freehold interest located in the city centre of Norwich. Let to commercial sitting tenants for 20 year lease from December 2007. The rent due wef 21-12-21 was £468,670. The rent is reviewed annually in line with RPI, with a collar and cap arrangement of 3% and 5% respectively. However the lease requires that every 5th year a market rent review is undertaken. Rent review undertaken and it has been decided to uplift rent wef 21-12-22 by cap rate of 5%. This will result in an annual rental figure of £492103.58. A rent uplift by the cap of 5% has been assumed to be effective from 21-12-23, thus resulting in an annual rent of £516,709.
Lincoln Drive (South Oxhey)	(151)	2,740	5.51%	The purchase of a Temporary Accommodation hostel at Lincoln Drive, South Oxhey. This comprises of 20 units with a mixture of 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms. This represents the net rent after the deduction of the management fee payable to Watford Community

				Housing which includes voids and the provision for bad debts.
The Grapevine	(165)	0	0.00%	A joint venture development with Watford Community Housing on the ex-public house site 'The Grapevine'. Loan facilities provided by TRDC to Three Rivers Homes Ltd comprises of £5.182M with an interest payment at 4.8% for the market rate loan and 2.5% for the Social Loan. Principal repayments amounts will have now come into effect from 31-3-24 for both loans. These figures are according to the revised Principal Loan repayment schedules. The projected interest figures will be revised accordingly. Interest earned for both loans amount to £165k for the year 2024-25
Total	(1,044)	14,378	5.80%	Average Yield

2.4 Capital Programme

2.4.1 The Council's capital programme has been designed to support and enhance its core services and priorities. The Council's Medium Term Capital Investment Programme is shown by scheme by each Committee at Annex C in Appendices 1 to 3 and includes variances and commentary from officers.

2.4.2 The latest Capital budget including re-phasing from 2023/24 is £12.904m. The forecast year end position for capital expenditure by Services at Period 3 is £18.588m. This provides a variance to latest budget of £5.684m. The Policy and Resources Committee is recommended to approve a revised capital programme budget taking account of the budget variations as set out in appendices 1 to 3 at paragraph 10.4.

2.4.3 The table below shows the 2024/25 original budget, latest budget, forecast year end position, spend to date and variance for Period 3.

Committee	Original Budget £000	Original Budget Plus 2023/24 Rephasing	Latest Budget £000	Spend to Date £000	Year end Forecast £000	Variance £000
General Public Services, Community Safety & Infrastructure	2,036	3,012	3,012	315	3,728	717
Climate Change, Leisure & Housing	2,092	2,624	2,624	218	3,678	1,054
Policy & Resources	1,249	1,422	1,422	74	1,422	0
Total Service	5,377	7,059	7,069	607	8,830	1,771
Major Projects:						
Property Investment Board	0	0	0	1	0	0
Local Authority Housing Fund	0	5,845	5,845	3,920	9,758	3,913
Total Capital	5,377	12,904	12,904	4,527	18,588	5,684

2.4.4 As at the end of Period 3, the spend totalled £4.527m and represents 35.08% of the latest budget.

2.4.5 The capital programme is mainly supported by three income streams; capital receipts (derived from the sales of assets), grants and contributions, and the use of reserves. In addition, the Council may prudentially borrow to fund its capital programme. Decisions on borrowing (amount and duration) will be taken when the need arises. Funding of the capital investment programme over the medium term is shown at Appendix 5.

2.5 Key Risk Areas

2.5.1 Resources are allocated in the revenue and capital budgets to support the achievement of The Council's corporate plan. The Council's budget is exposed to risks that can potentially impact on service level provision. The key risks highlighted as part of this quarter's monitoring are;

- **Inflation**

The 12 month Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 2.0% for June 2024 and the Retail Price Index (RPI) was 2.9%. Inflation drives costs across the Council's budgets with the most significant impact on pay, fuel and energy costs. The impact on the Council's budget is set out section 2.6 below.

- **Pay Award**

The pay award for 2024/25 has not been agreed and negotiations are likely to continue into the Autumn. The central contingency is sufficient to meet the current employers offer with a small margin of headroom remaining should the offer be improved. Dependant on the final pay award the contingency may not be sufficient to meet this plus other inflationary figures in their entirety and some costs may fall against the reserves.

- **Business Rates & Council Tax**

The cost of living crisis, low economic growth and risk of recession will continue to place pressure on households and businesses throughout 2024/25 and may impact on the collection rates for Council Tax and Business Rates (NNDR - National Non Domestic Rates). The table below shows the impact on collection rates in the first three months of this year:

Fund	P3 2024/25 Target	P3 2024/25 Actual	Difference
Council Tax	24.51%	31.1%	6.59%
Business Rates (NNDR)	24.75%	24.06%	-0.69%

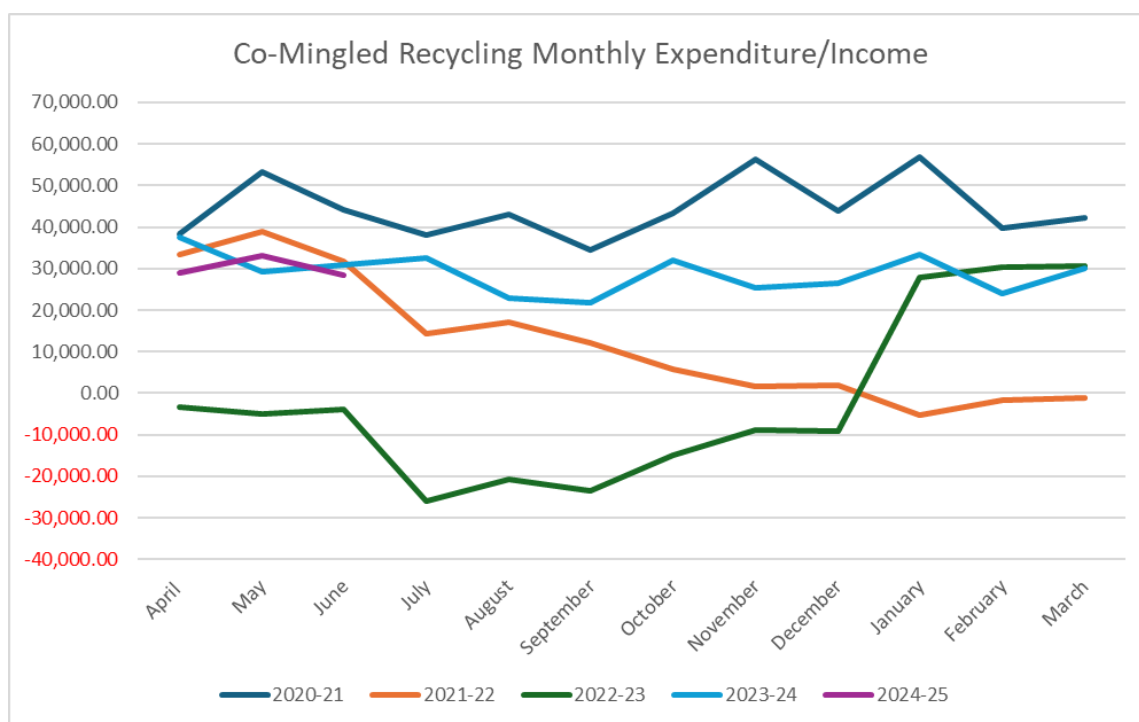
As at 30 June, collection rates for Council Tax are ahead of target and NNDR are slightly behind target, however, this reflects the profile of payment plan options such as the payment of Council Tax over 10 months of the year rather than 12. Year on year, the collection of Council Tax is marginally ahead of the position reported at 30 June 2023 when 30.3% (0.8%) of Council Tax due had been collected and Business Rate is behind when 34.57% (-10.51%) of Business Rates due had been collected.

Any impact on collection rates will feed through the Collection Fund to impact on council spending power in 2025/26 through the Collection Fund surplus or deficit.

- **Recycling Costs**

The Council has a contract for the disposal of recycling. The cost of the contract is variable and is linked to the global commodities market. The price can fluctuate significantly and when demand for recyclable materials is high the Council receives income for the recycling. Currently, the Council faces a cost to dispose of recycling as demand for materials has reduced. Recent economic performance data released from China, where the economy appears to have entered a recession, suggests that demand for recyclable materials could remain low for longer, increasing the cost to the Council.

At present the Council is being prudent in its forecasting and assuming that recyclable income will not recover. The graph below shows the cost of, or the income received for the last 4 years to/from our recycling contractor and illustrates how this position can change in year.



- **Interest Rates**

The Bank of England's response to high inflation has been to utilise monetary policy by increasing the Bank of England Base Rate. This has impacted on the cost at which government can borrow and has fed through to the rates at which Councils can borrow from HM Treasury through the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB), rates that can be achieved from deposits with HM Treasury through the Debt Management Office (DMO), local authority to local authority lending and borrowing, and the interest rates offered by banks on current accounts and fixed deposits. The Council's cashflow forecasts indicate that the Council does not have a borrowing requirement during 2024/25. Therefore, the risk to the Council is on the upside, as higher interest rates mean that the Council will be able to generate more income from investing cash balances. The Council's Treasury Management activity is reported to the Audit Committee and the performance against budget is contained within this report in Appendix 4.

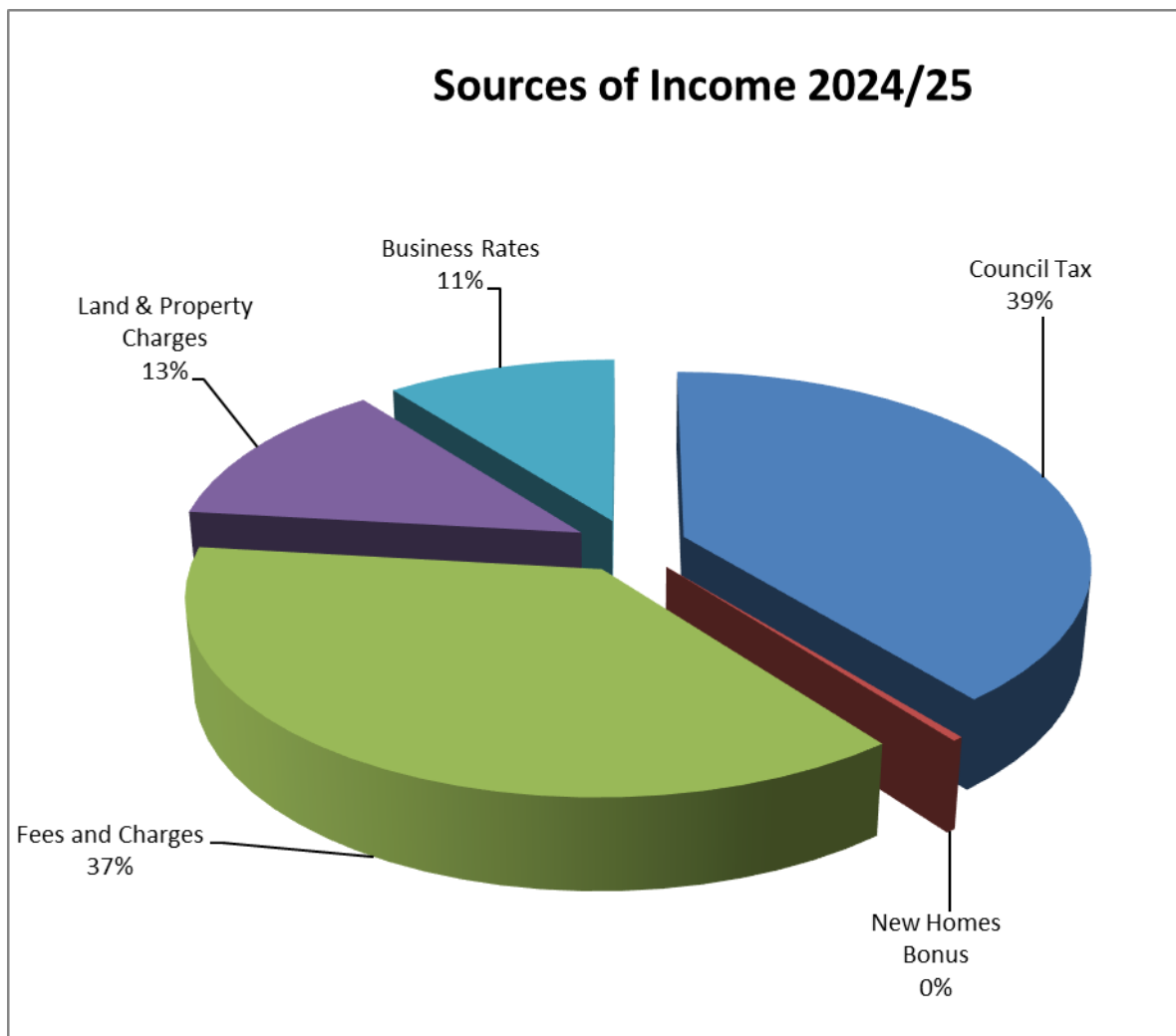
2.5.2 The Council's overall key financial risk matrix is shown at Appendix 7. These are reported and monitored and reviewed by the Council's Audit Committee on a quarterly basis. The latest matrix was presented to the Audit Committee on 30 May 2024.

2.6 Impact of inflation

2.6.1 Energy costs are expected to continue to place pressure on budgets in year although the pressure has not materialised in actual costs to 30 June 2024. As far as possible, services will be expected to absorb increased costs by managing other expenditure.

2.7 Council Income

2.7.1 The chart below shows the amount of income for each source as a percentage of total income.



2.7.2 Particular income generating items can fluctuate depending on the economic climate, popularity and affordability. The main risks that are considered the most critical and their financial position are shown in the table below. It should be noted that the income receivable from the Planning Services and Parking Enforcement are not linear and are subject to peaks and troughs throughout the financial year.

2.7.3 Environmental Services, trade waste is invoiced to customers half yearly in April and October and garden waste for existing customers is charged for in one instalment at the beginning of the financial year.

2.7.4 Garage rents are charged on a weekly basis and are collected by a monthly direct debit. Licensing income relates licences which are issued on a one, three or five year basis.

Service	Income Stream	2024/25 Original Budget £	2024/25 Latest Budget £	2024/25 Actual to date £	2024/25 Year end Forecast £	2024/25 Variance £
Regulatory Services	Application Fees	(846,420)	(846,420)	(249,429)	(846,420)	0
	Licenses	(207,135)	(207,135)	(56,737)	(207,135)	0
Parking	Penalty Charge Notices	(115,000)	(115,000)	(47,665)	(115,000)	0
	Pay and Display	(242,750)	(242,750)	(57,559)	(242,750)	0
Environmental Protection	Trade Refuse	(907,865)	(907,865)	(427,830)	(907,865)	0
	Garden Waste	(1,583,200)	(1,583,200)	(1,566,748)	(1,583,200)	0
	Clinical Waste	(123,825)	(123,825)	(61,786)	(123,825)	0
	Cemeteries	(242,243)	(242,243)	(79,650)	(242,243)	0
Property Services	Garages	(1,107,950)	(1,107,950)	(801,494)	(1,107,950)	0
	Shops	(210,000)	(210,000)	(106,753)	(210,000)	0
	Investment Properties	(950,499)	(950,499)	(367,726)	(950,499)	0

2.7.5 Further details on the Council's key budget indicators for revenue service income streams (including volumes and trends) are shown in the detailed Committee Monitoring Reports at Appendices 1 to 3.

2.8 Debtors (invoicing)

2.8.1 The Council charges its customers for various services by raising debtor invoices. If the debt remains outstanding, then a variety of recovery methods are employed including rearranging the payment terms, stopping the provision of the service or pursuing the debt through the legal recovery process.

2.8.2 As at the end of Period 3 (June), the total outstanding debt was £1.669m. This is equivalent to 6.23% of total budgeted income of £26.800m. Debts less than one month old total £1.053m (63.07% of total debt) and it is considered that this sum will be recovered. Outstanding debt over a year old is £0.171m (10.24% of the total debt) which mainly relate to rent on a Commercial Property where the tenant was subject to a CVA and Temporary Accommodation. The Council's debt recovery team will continue to chase these debts and initiate payment plans (instalments) wherever possible.

2.8.3 The table below shows a summary of the outstanding debt by the three main aged categories.

Aged debt	Services	Under 1 Month	Over 1 Month to year	Over a year	Total
Committee		£	£	£	£
General Public Services, Community Safety & Infrastructure	Community Partnerships	19,920	2,751	1,055	23,726
	Economic Development and Planning Policy	0	0	7,463	7,463
	Public Services	13,751	68,951	2,493	85,195
Climate Change, Leisure & Housing	Housing, Public Health and Wellbeing	5,117	26,243	58,680	90,040
	Leisure	11,712	75,813	0	23,726
	Sustainability & Climate	0	0	0	0
Policy & Resources	Resources	1,002,282	247,165	100,994	1,350,441
	Leader	0	24,742	220	24,962
Total		1,052,782	445,665	170,905	1,669,352

2.9 Treasury Management

2.9.1 The Council has managed its cash flows and adhered to its Treasury Management policy during the period to 30 June. The interest earned on the investments made by the Council supports the funding of the services it provides. The Council set an original budget of £0.390m on short-term investment interest for 2024/25, this is being revised to £0.890m at Period 3. The Bank of England base interest rate was 5.25% on 1st April 2024 and has not changed. The base rate was therefore 5.25% at the end of the period.

2.10 Staff Vacancy Monitoring

2.10.1 A major risk of non-delivery of service is where key staff leave the Council's employ and there is a delay or difficulty in recruiting suitable candidates to fill the vacant post. The table below summarises the level of vacancies at the end of June 2024 with a detailed analysis by service within appendices 1 to 3.

Committee	No of Vacancies
General Public Services, Community Safety & Infrastructure	3
Climate Change, Leisure & Housing	1
Policy & Resources	4
Total	8

2.10.2 The percentage of vacant posts at the end of the second quarter is 2.21% when compared against the total number of 362 Council posts. In some cases, vacant posts will be covered by agency staff to ensure service delivery.

3 Options and Reasons for Recommendations

3.1 The recommendations below enable the Committee to make recommendations to Council to agree the allocation of financial resources to delivery Council services.

4 Policy/Budget Reference and Implications

4.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution and Financial Procedure Rules, if the recommendations are accepted, this will amend the Council's budgets for 2024/25, and over the MTFP.

4.2 There are no substantial changes to Council policy resulting from this report.

5 Financial Implications

5.1 The following revenue and capital variations have been identified for all service committees at 30 June 2024:

Variance	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
Revenue - (Favourable)/ Unfavourable	(30,228)	136,229	136,229
Capital - Increase / (Decrease)	5,684,400	0	0

5.3 The explanations relating to these variations are set out in the main body of this report and supporting appendices.

5.4

6 Legal Implications

6.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

7 Equal Opportunities Implications

7.1 Relevance Test

Has a relevance test been completed for Equality Impact?	No
Did the relevance test conclude a full impact assessment was required?	No

8 Staffing, Environmental, Community Safety, Public Health, Customer Services Centre, Communications and Website Implications

8.1 There are no relevant implications directly arising from this report.

9 Risk and Health & Safety Implications

9.1 The Council has agreed its risk management strategy which can be found on the website at <http://www.threerivers.gov.uk>. In addition, the risks of the proposals in the report have also been assessed against the Council's duties under Health and Safety legislation relating to employees, visitors and persons affected by our operations. The risk management implications of this report are detailed below.

- 9.2 The Financial and Budgetary risks are set out in Appendix 8 and are also reported to each meeting of the Audit Committee. FIN07, which captures the risk that the medium term financial position worsens, is also reported within the Council’s Strategic Risk Register.
- 9.3 The risks set out in Appendix 8 are scored using the matrix below. The Council has determined its aversion to risk and is prepared to tolerate risks where the combination of impact and likelihood scores 6 or less.

10 Recommendation

To Council:

- 10.1 That the revenue budget virements as set out in appendices 1 to 3 be approved and incorporated into the three-year medium-term financial plan.
- 10.2 That the revenue budget supplementary estimates as set out in appendices 1 to 3 be approved and incorporated into the three-year medium-term financial plan.
- 10.3 That the revenue variances to be managed as set out in appendices 1 to 3 be noted.
- 10.4 That the capital variances as set out in appendices 1 to 3 be approved and incorporated into the three-year medium-term financial plan.

Data Quality

Data sources:

Council’s financial ledger

Data checked by:

Sally Riley, Finance Business Partner

Data rating:

1	Poor	
2	Sufficient	
3	High	✓

Background Papers

Budget papers to Council – February 2024

APPENDICES / ATTACHMENTS

- Appendix 1 General Public Services and Economic Development Committee Detailed Monitoring Report
 - Annex A - Medium term revenue budget by service
 - Annex B - Explanations of revenue variances reported this Period
 - Annex C - Medium term capital investment programme
 - Annex D - Explanations of capital variances reported this Period
 - Annex E – Key Income Streams
- Appendix 2 Climate Change, Leisure and Community Committee Detailed Monitoring Report
 - Annex A - Medium term revenue budget by service
 - Annex B - Explanations of revenue variances reported this Period
 - Annex C - Medium term capital investment programme
 - Annex D - Explanations of capital variances reported this Period
- Appendix 3 Policy and Resources Committee Detailed Monitoring Report
 - Annex A - Medium term revenue budget by service
 - Annex B - Explanations of revenue variances reported this Period
 - Annex C - Medium term capital investment programme
 - Annex D - Explanations of capital variances reported this Period
 - Annex E – Key Income Streams
- Appendix 4 Corporate Costs Medium Term Revenue Budget
- Appendix 5 Funding the capital programme
- Appendix 6 Medium Term Financial Plan 2024-2027
- Appendix 7 Reserves Forecast 2024/25
- Appendix 8 Budgetary Risks

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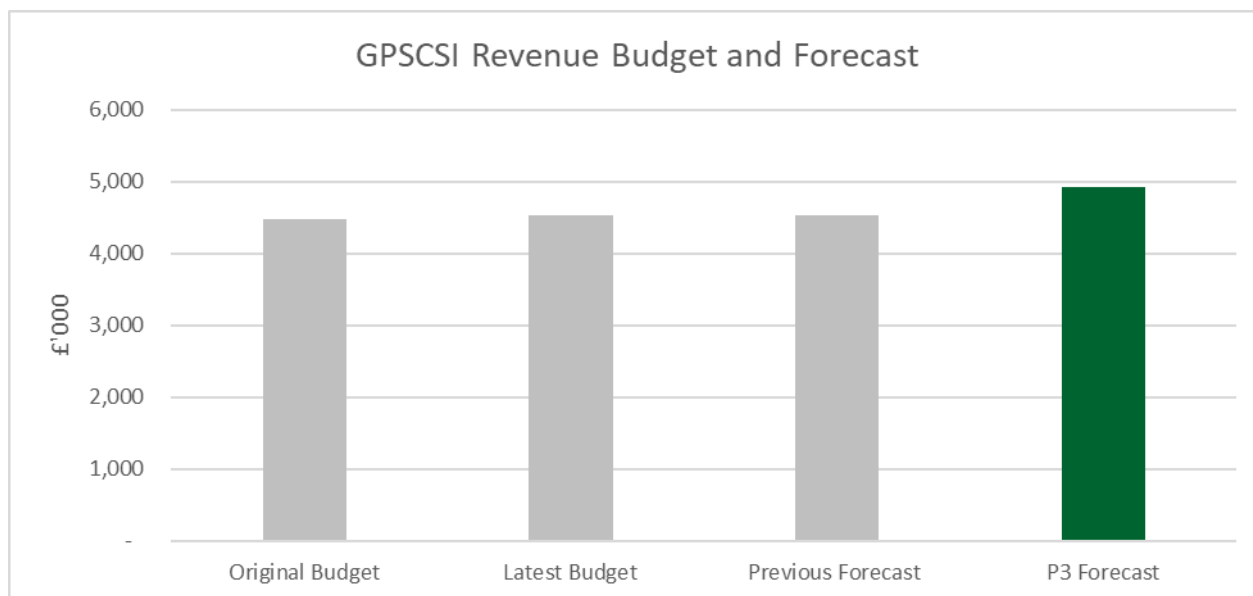
General Public Services, Community Safety and Infrastructure Committee Detailed Monitoring Report

Overview

1. This appendix sets out the detailed financial monitoring position for budgets within the scope of the General Public Services, Community Safety and Infrastructure (GPSCSI) Committee. The forecast is based on the position as at Period 3 which covers the period from 1 April 2024 to 30 June 2024.

Revenue

2. The latest forecast is net expenditure of £4.881m against the latest budget of £4.535m. This is an unfavourable variance of £0.346m. The detailed revenue budgets and MTFP forecast is set out in Annex A.



Service Area	Original Budget £000	Original Budget Plus 2023/24 Carry Forwards £000	Latest Budget £000	Previous Forecast £000	Latest Forecast £000	Variation to Previous Forecast £000	Variation to Latest Budget £000
Community Partnerships	1,022	1,030	1,030	1,030	1,030	0	0
Economic Development and Planning Policy	524	524	524	524	528	4	4
Public Services	2,935	2,982	2,982	2,982	3,324	342	342
Total	4,481	4,535	4,535	4,535	4,881	346	346

3. Annex B sets out the main variations to budget.

4. Income Streams

The key income streams are detailed in Annex E. All are currently on target to achieve budget income levels in 2023/24.

Capital Investment Programme

5. The latest capital investment programme for 2024/25 is £3.012m. A variation of £0.717m is reported.
6. Detailed Capital budgets and explanation of key variations are set out in Annex C and Annex D respectively.

Staff Vacancy Monitoring

7. A major risk of non-delivery of service is where key staff leave the Council's employ and there is a delay or difficulty in recruiting suitable candidates to fill the vacant post.

8. The following table sets out the vacancies as at 30 June 2024.

Department	Job Title	Comments	Total
Environmental Protection	Grounds Maintenance Trainee Operative	Subject to restructure	1.00
	Loader	Recently advertised	1.00
	HGV Driver	Currently advertised	1.00
Total General Public Services, Community Safety & Infrastructure			3.00

Annex A
 GPSCSI Committee Medium Term Revenue Budget Service

General Public Services, Community Safety and Infrastructure										
Community Partnerships	Original Budget 2024/25	Original Budget Plus 2023/24 Carry Forwards	Latest Budget 2024/25	Previous Forecast 2024/25	Spend to Date	Latest Forecast 2024/25	Variance @ P3	Forecast 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27	Officer Comments
	£		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Citizens Advice Bureaux	288,340	288,340	288,340	288,340	0	288,340	0	288,340	288,340	Budget will be spent - Awaiting first invoice
Community Development	4,500	12,000	12,000	12,000	(54,663)	12,000	0	4,500	4,500	Income and Expenditure budgets of £55,000 required for Ringfenced Household Support Fund grant
Community Safety	307,487	307,487	307,487	307,487	95,547	307,487	0	312,468	316,398	Budget will be spent
Community Partnerships	211,042	211,042	211,042	211,042	50,083	211,042	0	212,418	212,418	Budget will be spent
Env Health - Commercial Team	209,790	209,790	209,790	209,790	0	209,790	0	209,790	209,790	Budget will be spent
Licensing	(66,585)	(66,585)	(66,585)	(66,585)	(25,486)	(66,585)	0	(66,585)	(66,585)	Budget will be spent
Community & Leisure Grant	67,500	67,500	67,500	67,500	(499)	67,500	0	67,500	67,500	Budget will be spent
Total	1,022,074	1,029,574	1,029,574	1,029,574	64,982	1,029,574	0	1,028,431	1,032,361	

Economic Development and Planning Policy	Original Budget 2024/25	Original Budget Plus 2023/24 Carry Forwards	Latest Budget 2024/25	Previous Forecast 2024/25	Spend to Date	Latest Forecast 2024/25	Variance @ P3	Forecast 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27	Officer Comments
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Land & Property Info Section	(10,497)	(10,497)	(10,497)	(10,497)	6,193	(10,497)	0	(6,716)	13,986	Budget will be spent
Street Naming & Numbering	7,130	7,130	7,130	7,130	0	7,130	0	7,130	7,130	Budget will be spent
Development Management	110,943	110,943	110,943	110,943	(26,866)	115,143	4,200	122,952	95,865	Increased budget required due to variation and inflationary increase applied to ne Herts Ecology Service provision
Development Plans	324,504	324,504	324,504	324,504	112,198	324,504	0	325,925	327,800	Budget will be spent
Hertfordshire Building Control	37,500	37,500	37,500	37,500	26,146	37,500	0	37,500	37,500	Budget will be spent
HS2 Planning	0	0	0	0	(737)	0	0	0	0	Income received from HS2
GIS Officer	53,999	53,999	53,999	53,999	13,398	53,999	0	53,999	53,999	Budget will be spent
Total	523,579	523,579	523,579	523,579	130,332	527,779	4,200	540,790	536,280	

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GPSCSI Committee Medium Term Revenue Budget Service cont.

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Public Services	Original Budget 2024/25	Original Budget Plus 2023/24 Carry Forwards	Latest Budget 2024/25	Previous Forecast 2024/25	Spend to Date	Latest Forecast 2024/25	Variance @ P3	Forecast 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27	Officer Comments
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Decriminalised Parking Enf	209,165	251,240	251,240	251,240	(46,504)	272,561	21,321	230,486	190,486	Increase in budget required due to Inflationary increase of 4% to SLA with Hertsmere BC for parking enforcement service
Car Parking-Maintenance	110,466	110,466	110,466	110,466	(1,838)	110,466	0	110,466	110,466	Budget will be spent
Dial A Ride	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	10,000	40,000	0	40,000	40,000	Budget will be spent
Sustainable Travel Schemes	1,500	6,674	6,674	6,674	0	6,674	0	1,500	1,500	Budget will be spent
Associate Director of Environment	92,826	92,826	92,826	92,826	27,012	94,656	1,830	98,035	98,035	Staff Sickness absence budget of £1,830 re-allocated to the Senior Leadership Team
Refuse Domestic	(26,220)	(26,220)	(26,220)	(26,220)	4,056	(26,220)	0	(26,220)	(26,220)	Budget will be spent
Refuse Trade	(231,882)	(231,882)	(231,882)	(231,882)	(415,024)	(231,882)	0	(231,882)	(231,882)	Budget will be spent
Better Buses Fund	101,762	101,762	101,762	101,762	0	101,762	0	101,762	101,762	Budget will be spent
Recycling General	750	750	750	750	(5,794)	750	0	750	750	Budget will be spent
Garden Waste	(656,986)	(656,986)	(656,986)	(656,986)	(1,474,674)	(656,986)	0	(656,436)	(656,436)	Income is received at the beginning of the financial year and expenditure against the income is made throughout the year. Budget will be spent
Clinical Waste	(38,596)	(38,596)	(38,596)	(38,596)	(54,041)	(38,596)	0	(38,596)	(38,596)	Budget will be spent
Recycling Kerbside	(318,613)	(318,613)	(318,613)	(318,613)	62,671	(70)	318,543	(318,613)	(318,613)	Variance to be managed of £318,543 on Recycling Cans & Plastics. There are many factors that can affect the price of recycling materials. World events, economic disruption, supply and demand (leading to economic hardship) and an increase in energy prices can all lead to a reduction in the price paid for recycling materials. During the majority of 2022/23 we were receiving an income from the sale of our recycling materials however the situation changed in the final Quarter of 2022/23, to one in which we were being charged to dispose of our recycling materials. This situation continued during 2023/24, and is still continuing through 2024/25. The variance reported reflects the worst case scenario for 2024/25, with the hope that the situation will change and the amount being paid out will reduce, however this cannot be predicted with any certainty. Extender Producer Responsibility payments are expected to come in from 2025/26, although the full financial impact is not yet known.
Abandoned Vehicles	250	250	250	250	150	250	0	250	250	Demand led service
Public Conveniences	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	0	3,600	0	3,600	3,600	Budget will be spent
Hertfordshire Fly Tipping	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Environmental Protection	375,550	375,550	375,550	375,550	137,136	375,550	0	376,267	376,267	Budget will be spent
Depot-Batchworth	34,380	34,380	34,380	34,380	(2,881)	34,380	0	34,380	34,380	Budget will be spent
Waste Management	2,560,250	2,560,250	2,560,250	2,560,250	845,450	2,560,250	0	2,560,250	2,560,250	Budget will be spent
Street Cleansing	676,721	676,721	676,721	676,721	168,391	676,721	0	676,721	676,721	Budget will be spent
Total	2,934,923	2,982,172	2,982,172	2,982,172	(745,890)	3,323,866	341,694	2,962,720	2,922,720	
Total General Public Services, Community Safety and Infrastructure	4,480,576	4,535,325	4,535,325	4,535,325	(550,576)	4,881,219	345,894	4,531,941	4,491,361	

Annex B

GPSCSI Committee Explanations of revenue supplementary estimates, variances to be managed and virements reported this Period

Supplementary Estimates

General Public Services, Community Safety and Infrastructure					
Description	Main Group Heading	Details of Outturn Variances to Latest Approved Budget	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
Development Management	Supplies and services	Variation and inflationary increase applied to new Herts Ecology service provision	4,200	4,200	4,200
Total Economic Development and Planning Policy			4,200	4,200	4,200
Description	Main Group Heading	Details of Outturn Variances to Latest Approved Budget	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
Decriminalised Parking Enf SPA	Third Party Payments	Inflationary increase of 4% to SLA with Hertsmere BC for parking enforcement service	21,321	21,321	21,321
Total Public Services			21,321	21,321	21,321
Total General Public Services, Community Safety and Infrastructure			25,521	25,521	25,521

Variances to be managed

General Public Services, Community Safety and Infrastructure			2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Description	Main Group Heading	Details of Outturn Variances to Latest Approved Budget	£	£	£
Recycling Kerbside	Supplies and Services	There are many factors that can affect the price of recycling materials. World events, economic disruption, supply and demand (leading to economic hardship) and an increase in energy prices can all lead to a reduction in the price paid for recycling materials. During the majority of 2022/23 we were receiving an income from the sale of our recycling materials however the situation changed in the final Quarter of 2022/23, to one in which we were being charged to dispose of our recycling materials. This situation continued during 2023/24, and is still continuing through 2024/25. The variance reported reflects the worst case scenario for 2024/25, with the hope that the situation will change and the amount being paid out will reduce, however this cannot be predicted with any certainty. Extender Producer Responsibility payments are expected to come in from 2025/26, although the full financial impact is not yet known.	318,543	-	-
Total Public Services			318,543	0	0
Total General Public Services, Community Safety and Infrastructure			318,543	0	0

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Virements

General Public Services, Community Safety and Infrastructure			2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Description	Main Group Heading	Details of Outturn Variances to Latest Approved Budget	£	£	£
Community Development	Supplies and services	To spend ringfenced Household Support Fund grant	55,000	-	-
	Income	Receipt of ringfenced Household Support Fund grant	(55,000)	-	-
Total Community Safety			0	0	0

Annex C
GPSCSI Medium term capital investment programme

General Public Services, Community Safety & Infrastructure											
Community Partnerships	Original Budget 2024/25 £	Original Budgets Plus 2023/24 Rephasing £	Latest Budget 2024/25 £	P3 Spend To Date £	Forecast Outturn 2024/25 £	Variance £	Latest Budget 2025/26 £	Proposed 2025/26 £	Latest Budget 2026/27 £	Proposed 2026/27 £	Comments
Capital Grants & Loans	20,000	20,000	20,000	0	20,000	0	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	Budget will be spent
Community CCTV	12,000	12,000	12,000	0	12,000	0	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	Budget will be spent
Sub-total Community Partnerships	32,000	32,000	32,000	0	32,000	0	26,000	26,000	26,000	26,000	
Public Services											
Public Services	Original Budget 2024/25 £	Original Budgets Plus 2023/24 Rephasing £	Latest Budget 2024/25 £	P3 Spend To Date £	Forecast Outturn 2024/25 £	Variance £	Latest Budget 2025/26 £	Proposed 2025/26 £	Latest Budget 2026/27 £	Proposed 2026/27 £	Comments
Disabled Parking Bays	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	Budget will be spent
Waste Plant & Equipment	25,000	34,500	34,500	6,977	34,500	0	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	Budget will be spent
Waste Services Depot	0	0	0	9,194	456,400	456,400	0	0	0	0	CIL spend approved at Full Council 9/7/24
EV Charging Points	0	460,000	460,000	0	535,938	75,938	0	0	0	0	Capital Grant from Department for Transport ORCS Funding for EV
Controlled Parking	0	82,322	82,322	3,009	107,322	25,000	0	25,000	0	25,000	Budget transferred from Transport & Infrastructure
Replacement Bins	72,190	73,265	73,265	29,947	73,265	0	115,000	115,000	115,000	115,000	Budget will be spent
Waste & Recycling Vehicles	1,354,015	1,566,564	1,566,564	0	1,566,564	0	800,000	800,000	800,000	800,000	Procurement of vehicles underway
Car Park Restoration	290,000	310,509	310,509	59,239	310,509	0	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	Budget will be spent
Leazes, Paths & Roads	20,000	25,728	25,728	13,890	25,728	0	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	Budget will be spent
TRDC Footpaths & Alleyways	25,000	43,387	43,387	1,881	43,387	0	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	Budget will be spent
GIS	13,500	13,500	13,500	0	13,500	0	0	0	0	0	Budget will be spent
Transport and Infrastructure	199,344	365,383	365,383	6,655	340,383	(25,000)	204,000	179,000	204,000	179,000	Budget transferred to Controlled Parking
Sub-total Public Services	2,001,549	2,977,658	2,977,658	130,792	3,509,996	532,338	1,226,500	1,226,500	1,226,500	1,226,500	
Economic Development & Planning Policy											
Economic Development & Planning Policy	Original Budget 2024/25 £	Original Budgets Plus 2023/24 Rephasing £	Latest Budget 2024/25 £	P3 Spend To Date £	Forecast Outturn 2024/25 £	Variance £	Latest Budget 2025/26 £	Proposed 2025/26 £	Latest Budget 2026/27 £	Proposed 2026/27 £	Comments
Listed Building Grants	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	Demand Led service, no applications received to date
CIL Community Grants	0	0	0	184,461	184,461	184,461	0	0	0	0	CIL contribution paid to Sarratt Parish Council approved at Policy & Resources Committee 17/7/23
Sub-total Economic Development & Planning Policy	2,500	2,500	2,500	184,461	186,961	184,461	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	
Total General Public Services, Community Safety & Infrastructure	2,036,049	3,012,158	3,012,158	315,253	3,728,957	716,799	1,255,000	1,255,000	1,255,000	1,255,000	

Annex D

GPSCSI Explanations of capital variances reported this Period

Description	Details of Outturn Variances to Latest Approved Budget	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
General Public Services, Community Safety & Infrastructure				
EV Charging Points	Capital Grant from Department for Transport ORCS Funding for EV Charging	75,938	0	0
Controlled Parking	Budget transferred from Transport & Infrastructure	25,000	25,000	25,000
Transport & Infrastructure	Budget transferred to Controlled Parking	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)
Waste Services Depot	CIL spend approved at Full Council 9/7/24	456,400	0	0
CIL Community Grants	CIL contribution paid to Sarratt Parish Council approved at Policy & Resources Committee 17/7/23	184,461	0	0
Total General Public Services, Community Safety & Infrastructure		716,799	0	0

Annex E
GPSCSI Key Income Streams

Regulatory Services									
Car Park Enforcement	Month	2021/22		2022/23		2023/24		2024/25	
Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs)		£	Volume	£	Volume	£	Volume	£	Volume
	April	(2,190)	80	(7,700)	176	(5,410)	114	(12,845)	292
	May	(5,008)	133	(7,955)	153	(8,830)	135	(18,465)	372
	June	(5,360)	124	(6,960)	144	(8,180)	152	(16,355)	313
	July	(7,916)	167	(7,386)	113	(10,735)	248		
	August	(8,878)	233	(6,814)	122	(13,495)	289		
	September	(12,555)	252	(6,134)	114	(11,650)	236		
	October	(10,444)	219	(9,526)	249	(13,707)	247		
	November	(10,585)	230	(9,118)	194	(13,715)	219		
	December	(9,834)	230	(7,845)	134	(11,725)	212		
	January	(8,800)	149	(8,913)	154	(12,865)	316		
	February	(8,614)	231	(9,020)	172	(18,307)	233		
	March	(10,828)	190	(10,329)	135	(14,753)	296		
	Total	(101,012)	2,238	(97,700)	1,860	(143,372)	2,697	(47,665)	977

Comments: The Original budget for 2024/25 is £115,000. The charging structure is based on the severity of the contravention. The charge relating to a serious contravention is £70 and payable within 28-days (reduced to £35 if paid within 14 days). The charge relating to a less serious contravention is £50 payable within 28 days (reduced to £25 if paid within 14-days). Residents are charged on a zonal basis. The no of PCN's issued can reduce due to greater parking compliance.

Car Park Enforcement	Month	2021/22		2022/23		2023/24		2024/25	
Pay & Display Tickets		£	Volume	£	Volume	£	Volume	£	Volume
	April	(9,551)	5,128	(11,910)	7,037	(15,346)	8,197	(19,257)	10,009
	May	(10,442)	5,577	(12,841)	7,097	(17,473)	8,412	(20,212)	10,433
	June	(12,675)	6,513	(15,058)	7,062	(17,912)	9,036	(18,090)	9,441
	July	(11,677)	6,653	(13,121)	7,362	(17,937)	9,271		
	August	(11,136)	6,198	(13,742)	7,326	(16,564)	8,531		
	September	(12,418)	6,789	(14,086)	7,387	(17,540)	9,075		
	October	(13,466)	7,308	(14,702)	7,878	(18,978)	9,450		
	November	(14,253)	7,582	(14,587)	7,411	(19,091)	9,633		
	December	(14,857)	7,638	(17,110)	8,354	(20,515)	10,337		
	January	(10,425)	6,486	(16,778)	7,573	(20,475)	9,612		
	February	(12,966)	7,309	(14,471)	7,823	(19,453)	10,041		
	March	(17,041)	7,813	(19,225)	9,882	(21,063)	10,893		
	Total	(150,907)	80,994	(177,631)	92,192	(222,347)	112,488	(57,559)	29,883

Comments: The Original budget for 2024/25 is £242,750. There are different charging regimes for different car parks within the district. However most pay & display car parks in Rickmansworth operate the following regulations - Monday - Friday, 8.30am - 6.30pm max stay up to 24 Hours - charge £4 with the first hour being free.

Development Management	Month	2021/22		2022/23		2023/24		2024/25	
Application Fees		£	Volume	£	Volume	£	Volume	£	Volume
	April	(37,925)	202	(389,072)	121	(31,355)	111	(94,490)	133
	May	(44,506)	200	(59,995)	162	(57,426)	138	(74,771)	119
	June	(40,347)	177	(41,122)	123	(73,723)	122	(80,169)	125
	July	(35,900)	152	(56,630)	129	(23,579)	125		
	August	(58,240)	153	(27,451)	144	(42,914)	137		
	September	(24,763)	145	(53,870)	111	(28,687)	133		
	October	(26,477)	135	(141,962)	125	(32,577)	137		
	November	(34,623)	133	(51,317)	136	(32,047)	120		
	December	(53,134)	136	(65,353)	119	(21,107)	96		
	January	(39,467)	106	(21,090)	131	(17,242)	104		
	February	(39,530)	108	(56,956)	116	(40,229)	103		
	March	(91,250)	172	(34,930)	163	(33,857)	120		
	Total	(526,162)	1,819	(999,748)	1,580	(434,743)	1,446	(249,429)	377

Comments: The Original budget for 2024/25 is £846,420. There are a number of different charging levels dependent on the type & size of the proposed area. The table of current fees for each type can be found on the Councils website.

GPSCSI Key Income Streams Cont.

Waste Management									
Trade Refuse	Month	2021/22		2022/23		2023/24		2024/25	
Contract fees		£	Volume	£	Volume	£	Volume	£	Volume
	April	(342,837)	989	(374,524)	925	(408,151)	900	(432,709)	865
	May	(23,082)		(2,105)	929	2,040	897	2,897	856
	June	(3,124)		(297)	930	200	879	1,981	849
	July	(2,934)		(328)	930	1,007	882		
	August	(235)		(1,417)	920	(3,049)	871		
	September	(869)		(1,221)	925	(1,635)	872		
	October	(362,664)		(376,644)	926	(402,130)	873		
	November	2,382		(7,399)	920	464	867		
	December	(6,135)		(738)	908	337	860		
	January	(1,064)		(2,476)	916	(940)	867		
	February	(1,213)		(1,298)	917	(5,573)	870		
	March	(8,966)		(5,356)	913	(2,436)	867		
	Total	(750,741)		989	(773,803)	913	(819,866)	867	(427,830)

Comments: The original 2024/25 budget is £907,865. Customers are invoiced twice a year in April and October. Income can fluctuate depending on the size of the bin collected and customers reducing their bin size and using the recycling service.

Garden Waste									
Bin Charges	Month	2021/22		2022/23		2023/24		2024/25	
		£	Volume	£	Volume	£	Volume	£	Volume
	April	(1,047,033)	21,524	(1,173,068)	21,649	(1,392,490)	21,254	(1,515,550)	21,389
	May	(19,620)	529	(18,910)	405	(31,450)	516	(23,624)	356
	June	(19,239)	331	(17,232)	237	(17,754)	273	(17,574)	255
	July	(13,244)	256	(8,724)	163	(6,786)	107		
	August	(7,939)	190	(5,778)	96	(7,494)	111		
	September	(4,834)	93	(3,129)	49	(4,346)	56		
	October	(2,291)	75	(2,480)	80	(3,254)	89		
	November	(1,341)	51	(1,589)	51	(1,781)	50		
	December	(539)	20	(324)	14	(645)	16		
	January	(743)	31	(956)	26	(204)	15		
	February	0	0	0	0	30	0		
	March	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	Total	(1,116,822)	23,100	(1,232,190)	22,770	(1,466,174)	22,487	(1,556,748)	22,000

Comments: The original 2024/25 budget is £1,583,200. The standard charges for 2024/25 are £65 for the first bin and £110 each for a second or third bin. Customers in receipt of certain benefits pay a concession fee of £55 for the first bin.

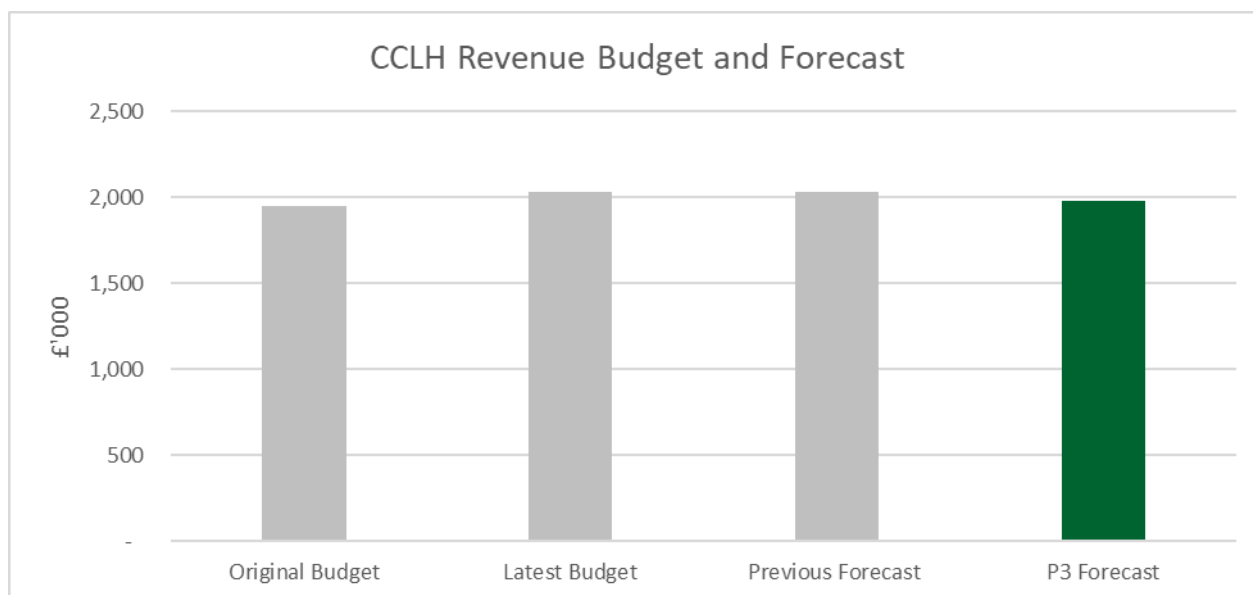
Climate change, Leisure and Housing Committee Detailed Monitoring Report

Overview

1. This appendix sets out the detailed financial monitoring position for budgets within the scope of the Climate Change, Leisure and Housing (CCLH) Committee. The forecast is based on the position as at Period 3 which covers the period from 1 April 2024 to 30 June 2024.

Revenue

2. The latest forecast is net expenditure of £2.030m against the latest budget of £2.033m. This is a favourable variance of (£0.003m). The detailed revenue budgets and MTFP forecast is set out in Annex A.



Service Area	Original Budget £000	Original Budget Plus 2023/24 Carry Forwards		Latest Budget £000	Previous Forecast £000	Latest Forecast £000	Variation to Previous Forecast £000	Variation to Latest Budget £000
		£000	£000					
Housing	423	423	423	423	423	423	0	0
Leisure	1,220	1,220	1,220	1,220	1,220	1,217	(3)	(3)
Sustainability and Climate	309	389	389	389	389	389	0	0
Total	1,952	2,033	2,033	2,033	2,033	2,030	(3)	(3)

3. Annex B sets out the main variations to budget.

Capital Investment Programme

4. The latest capital investment programme for 2023/24 is £2.624m. A variation of £1.054m is reported.
5. Detailed Capital budgets and explanation of key variations are set out in Annex C and Annex D respectively.

Staff Vacancy Monitoring

6. A major risk of non-delivery of service is where key staff leave the Council's employ and there is a delay or difficulty in recruiting suitable candidates to fill the vacant post.
7. The following table sets out the vacancies as at 30 June 2024.

Department	Job Title	Comments	Total
Residential Environmental Health	Housing Enforcement Officer	Covered by Interim	1.00
Total Climate Change, Leisure & Housing			1.00

Annex A
CCLH Committee Medium Term Revenue Budget Service

Climate Change, Leisure and Housing										
Housing, Public Health and Wellbeing	Original Budget 2024/25	Original Budget Plus 2023/24 Carry Forwards	Latest Budget 2024/25	Previous Forecast 2024/25	Spend to Date	Latest Forecast 2024/25	Variance @ P3	Forecast 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27	Officer Comments
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Housing Services Needs	523,344	523,344	523,344	523,344	173,952	523,344	0	537,286	560,671	Budget will be spent
Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme	5,110	5,110	5,110	5,110	0	5,110	0	5,110	5,110	Demand led service
Homelessness General Fund	(177,620)	(177,620)	(177,620)	(177,620)	(548,484)	(177,620)	0	(157,620)	(157,620)	Income and Expenditure budgets of £205,031 required for Ringfenced grants received to date- £135,112 Prevent Homelessness, £31,000 Rough Sleepers and £38,919 Domestic Abuse New Burdens
Housing Associations	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	0	(5,000)	0	(5,000)	(5,000)	Income will be received by year end
Refugees	0	0	0	0	(41,400)	0	0	0	0	Transfer to/from reserves at year end
Env Health - Residential Team	77,427	77,427	77,427	77,427	26,462	77,427	0	77,427	77,427	Budget will be spent
Public Health	0	0	0	0	(17,164)	0	0	0	0	Income and Expenditure budgets of £17,500 required for Ringfenced HCC Public Health Grant
Total	423,261	423,261	423,261	423,261	(406,634)	423,261	0	457,203	480,588	

Leisure	Original Budget 2024/25	Original Budget Plus 2023/24 Carry Forwards	Latest Budget 2024/25	Previous Forecast 2024/25	Spend to Date	Latest Forecast 2024/25	Variance @ P3	Forecast 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27	Officer Comments
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Leavesden Country Park	0	0	0	0	14,167	0	0	0	0	Income and Expenditure budgets of £1,720 S106 funded expenditure for 2 benches at The Horses' Field, Leavesden Country Park - full report going to P&R 15 July 2024 and £50,000 to spend management and maintenance funding from the National Lottery towards the Heritage Trail transfer from earmarked reserves, which will be actioned at year end
Community Arts	11,400	11,400	11,400	11,400	(229)	11,400	0	11,400	11,400	Budget will be spent
Watersmeet	26,393	26,393	26,393	26,393	(145,582)	26,393	0	27,439	28,502	Budget will be spent
Leavesden Ymca	(35,000)	(35,000)	(35,000)	(35,000)	(19,105)	(35,000)	0	(35,000)	(35,000)	Income is received quarterly.
Oxhey Hall	(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)	(750)	(3,000)	0	(3,000)	(3,000)	Income is received quarterly.
Museum	(700)	(700)	(700)	(700)	(700)	(700)	0	(700)	(700)	Budget met
Playing Fields & Open Spaces	93,981	93,981	93,981	93,981	(2,937)	93,981	0	93,981	93,981	Budget will be spent
Play Rangers	56,484	56,484	56,484	56,484	19,338	56,484	0	56,484	56,484	Budget will be spent
Comm Parks & Sust Project	24,200	24,200	24,200	24,200	1,695	24,200	0	24,200	24,200	Budget will be spent
Aquadrome	39,615	39,615	39,615	39,615	(507,433)	39,615	0	39,615	39,615	Income and Expenditure budgets required for Ringfenced grants of £19,771 from the National Lottery Heritage Fund funding for the Natural Heritage Networks Project and £510,463 from the HS2 Colne Valley Additional Mitigation Panel Funding (AMP)
Leisure Venues	(509,893)	(509,893)	(509,893)	(509,893)	(48,036)	(509,893)	0	(509,893)	(509,893)	Budget will be spent
Leisure Development	557,807	557,807	557,807	557,807	136,388	554,807	(3,000)	557,235	558,419	Budget virement of £3,000 Youth Council budget to Committee Admin as they will now manage the service
Play Development - Play schemes	34,843	34,843	34,843	34,843	7,993	34,843	0	34,843	34,843	Budget will be spent
Sports Devel-Sports Projects	48,135	48,135	48,135	48,135	(17,551)	48,135	0	48,135	48,135	Budget will be spent
Leisure & Community Services	36,087	36,087	36,087	36,087	6,410	36,087	0	36,087	36,087	Budget will be spent
Grounds Maintenance	840,028	840,028	840,028	840,028	188,790	840,028	0	840,028	840,028	Budget will be spent
Total	1,220,380	1,220,380	1,220,380	1,220,380	(367,542)	1,217,380	(3,000)	1,220,854	1,223,101	

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CCLC Committee Medium Term Revenue Budget Service cont.

Sustainability and Climate	Original Budget 2024/25	Original Budget Plus 2023/24 Carry Forwards	Latest Budget 2024/25	Previous Forecast 2024/25	Spend to Date	Latest Forecast 2024/25	Variance @ P3	Forecast 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27	Officer Comments
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Energy Efficiency	9,500	23,900	23,900	23,900	0	23,900	0	9,500	9,500	Budget will be spent
Sustainability Projects	78,000	78,000	78,000	78,000	(3,000)	78,000	0	103,000	128,000	Budget will be spent
Corporate Climate Change	102,262	149,471	149,471	149,471	(581,466)	149,471	0	102,262	102,262	Income and Expenditure budgets of £597,970 required for Ringfenced Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Wave 2.
Innovate UK	0	0	0	0	34,044	0	0	0	0	Innovate UK Grant claimed retrospectively as per grant conditions
Pest Control	12,755	12,755	12,755	12,755	1,785	12,755	0	12,755	12,755	Budget will be spent
Environmental Maintenance	25,970	25,970	25,970	25,970	3,076	25,970	0	25,970	25,970	Budget will be spent
Animal Control	64,490	64,490	64,490	64,490	18,846	64,490	0	64,490	64,490	Budget will be spent
Cemeteries	(228,193)	(228,193)	(228,193)	(228,193)	(77,442)	(228,193)	0	(228,193)	(228,193)	Budget will be spent
Trees And Landscapes	243,760	262,914	262,914	262,914	23,067	262,914	0	243,760	243,760	Budget transfer of £10,000 between Project Work CMS and Friends of Groups to be used to support projects delivered as part of the Management Plans across the district.
Total	308,544	389,307	389,307	389,307	(581,090)	389,307	0	333,544	358,544	
Total Climate Change, Leisure and Housing	1,952,185	2,032,948	2,032,948	2,032,948	(1,355,266)	2,029,948	(3,000)	2,011,601	2,062,233	

Annex B

CCLH Committee Explanations of revenue supplementary estimates, variances to be managed and virements reported this Period

Virements

Climate Change, Leisure and Housing			2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Description	Main Group Heading	Details of Outturn Variances to Latest Approved Budget	£	£	£
Homelessness General Fund	Supplies and Services	To spend ringfenced Prevent Homelessness grant	135,112	-	-
	Income	Receipt of ringfenced Prevent Homelessness grant	(135,112)	-	-
	Supplies and Services	To spend ringfenced Rough Sleepers grant	31,000	-	-
	Income	Receipt of ringfenced Rough Sleepers grant	(31,000)	-	-
	Supplies and Services	To spend ringfenced Domestic Abuse New Burdens grant	38,919	-	-
	Income	Receipt of ringfenced Domestic Abuse New Burdens grant	(38,919)	-	-
Public Health	Supplies and Services	To spend HCC Public Health Grant	17,500	-	-
	Income	Receipt of HCC Public Health Grant	(17,500)	-	-
Total Housing Public Health and Wellbeing			0	0	0
Description	Main Group Heading	Details of Outturn Variances to Latest Approved Budget	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
			£	£	£
Abbots Langley Project	Supplies and services	To spend S106 for 2 benches at The Horses' Field, Leavesden Country Park - full report going to P&R 15 July 2024	1,720	-	-
	Income	Receipt of S106 for 2 benches at The Horses' Field, Leavesden Country Park - full report going to P&R 15 July 2024	(1,720)	-	-
	Supplies and services	To spend management and maintenance funding from the National Lottery towards the Heritage Trail held in reserves	50,000	-	-
	Income Funded from Reserves	Management and maintenance funding from the National Lottery towards the Heritage Trail held in reserves	(50,000)	-	-
Leisure Development	Supplies and Services	Youth Council budget transferred to Committee Admin as they will now manage the service	(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)
Aquadrome	Supplies and services	To spend the National Lottery Heritage Fund funding for the Natural Heritage Networks Project	19,771	-	-
	Income	Receipt of the National Lottery Heritage Fund funding for the Natural Heritage Networks Project	(19,771)	-	-
	Supplies and services	To spend the HS2 Colne Valley Additional Mitigation Panel Funding (AMP)	510,463	-	-
	Income	Receipt of the HS2 Colne Valley Additional Mitigation Panel Funding (AMP)	(510,463)	-	-
Total Leisure			(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)
Description	Main Group Heading	Details of Outturn Variances to Latest Approved Budget	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
			£	£	£
Climate Change	Supplies and services	To spend ringfenced Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund grant	597,970	-	-
	Income	Receipt of Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund grant	(597,970)	-	-
Trees & Landscapes	Premises	Budget transferred to Project Work CMS and moved from Friends of Groups to be used to support projects delivered as part of the Management Plans across the district.	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)
	Premises	Budget transferred from Friends of Groups and moved to Project Work CMS to be used to support projects delivered as part of the Management Plans across the district.	10,000	10,000	10,000
Total Sustainability and Climate			0	0	0
Total Climate Change, Leisure and Housing			(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)

Annex C
CCLH Medium term capital investment programme

Climate Change, Leisure & Housing											
Housing, Public Health & Wellbeing	Original Budget 2024/25 £	Original Budgets Plus 2023/24 Rephasing £	Latest Budget 2024/25 £	P3 Spend To Date £	Forecast Outturn 2024/25 £	Variance £	Latest Budget 2025/26 £	Proposed 2025/26 £	Latest Budget 2026/27 £	Proposed 2026/27 £	Comments
Disabled Facilities Grant	586,000	790,474	790,474	79,624	790,474	0	586,000	586,000	586,000	586,000	Budget will be spent
Home Repairs Assistance	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	Demand Led service, no applications received to date
Sub-total Housing, Public Health & Wellbeing	588,000	792,474	792,474	79,624	792,474	0	588,000	588,000	588,000	588,000	
Leisure											
Leisure	Original Budget 2024/25 £	Original Budgets Plus 2023/24 Rephasing £	Latest Budget 2024/25 £	P3 Spend To Date £	Forecast Outturn 2024/25 £	Variance £	Latest Budget 2025/26 £	Proposed 2025/26 £	Latest Budget 2026/27 £	Proposed 2026/27 £	Comments
Aquadrome Bridge Replacement	320,524	320,524	320,524	18,197	1,137,755	817,231	0	0	0	0	CIL spend approved at Full Council 9/7/24
Leavesden Country Park Gate	0	164,889	164,889	60,050	164,889	0	0	0	0	0	Budget will be spent
Watersmeet Electrical	144,100	144,100	144,100	0	144,100	0	0	0	0	0	Budget will be spent
Scotsbridge-Chess Habitat	8,190	8,190	8,190	0	8,190	0	0	0	0	0	Project led by Countryside Management Service
Open Space Access Improvements	60,000	95,946	95,946	2,522	95,946	0	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	Budget will be spent
Improve Play Area-Future Schemes	120,000	132,650	132,650	5,976	132,650	0	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	Budget will be spent
Aquadrome-Whole Life Costing	11,000	15,020	15,020	0	15,020	0	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	Budget will be spent
Replacement Ground Maintenance Vehicles	804,000	804,000	804,000	42,570	830,318	26,318	540,000	540,000	540,000	540,000	Budget increase due to insurance claim pay out after vehicle write off
Watersmeet-Whole Life Costing	20,000	20,000	20,000	(722)	20,000	0	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	Budget will be spent
Pavilions-Whole Life Costing	11,000	16,668	16,668	10,245	16,668	0	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	Budget will be spent
Fearney Mead Play Area	0	50,000	50,000	0	50,000	0	0	0	0	0	Budget will be spent
Lincoln Drive Play Area	0	50,000	50,000	0	50,000	0	0	0	0	0	Budget will be spent
Sub-total Leisure	1,498,814	1,821,987	1,821,987	138,838	2,665,536	843,549	762,000	762,000	762,000	762,000	
Sustainability & Climate											
Sustainability & Climate	Original Budget 2024/25 £	Original Budgets Plus 2023/24 Rephasing £	Latest Budget 2024/25 £	P3 Spend To Date £	Forecast Outturn 2024/25 £	Variance £	Latest Budget 2025/26 £	Proposed 2025/26 £	Latest Budget 2026/27 £	Proposed 2026/27 £	Comments
Cemetery-Whole Life Costing	5,000	9,830	9,830	0	9,830	0	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	Budget will be spent
UK Shared Prosperity	0	0	0	0	210,852	210,852	0	0	0	0	Capital Grant from UK Shared Prosperity Fund
Sub-total Sustainability & Climate	5,000	9,830	9,830	0	220,682	210,852	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	
Total Climate Change, Leisure & Housing	2,091,814	2,624,291	2,624,291	218,462	3,678,692	1,054,401	1,355,000	1,355,000	1,355,000	1,355,000	

Annex D

CCLH Explanations of capital variances reported this Period

Description	Details of Outturn Variances to Latest Approved Budget	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
Climate Change, Leisure & Housing				
Replacement Ground Maint Vehcs	Budget increase due to insurance claim pay out after vehicle write off	26,318	0	0
Aquadrome Bridge Replacement	CIL spend approved at Full Council 9/7/24	817,231	0	0
UK Shared Prosperity	Capital Grant from UK Shared Prosperity Fund	210,852	0	0
Total Climate Change, Leisure & Housing		1,054,401	0	0

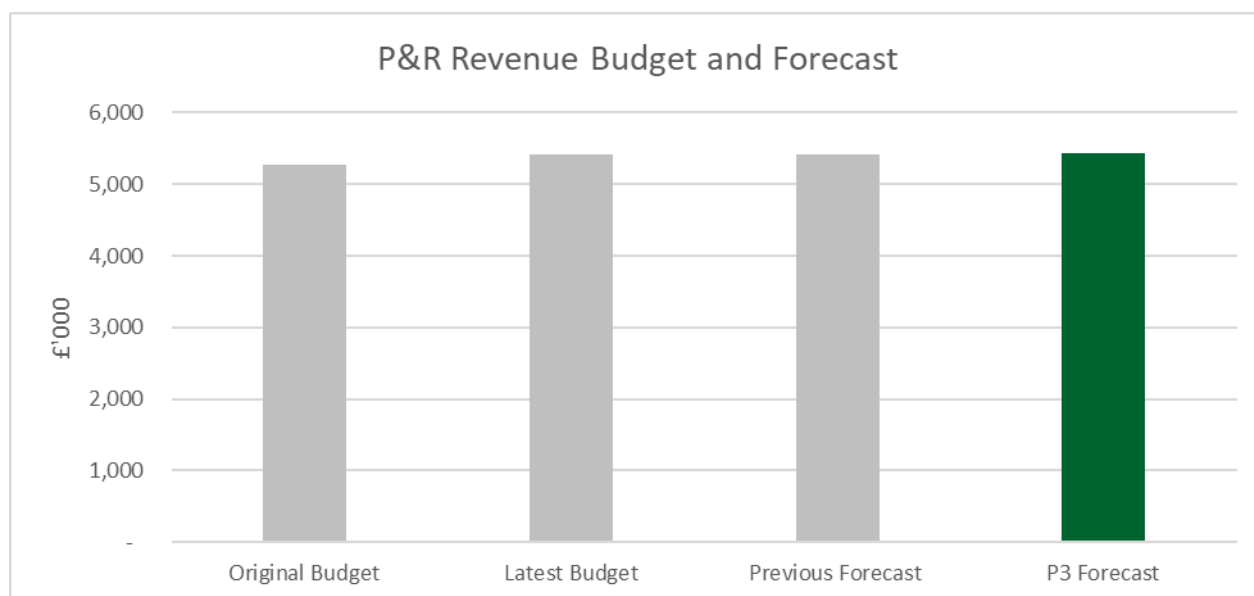
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Policy and Resources Committee Detailed Monitoring Report

1. This appendix sets out the detailed financial monitoring position for budgets within the scope of the Policy and Resources (P&R) Committee for the 2024/25 financial year. The forecast is based on the position as at Period 3 which covers the period from 1 April 2024 to 30 June 2024.

Revenue

2. The latest forecast is expenditure of £5.538m against the latest budget of £5.411m. This is an unfavourable variance of £0.127m. The detailed revenue budgets and MTFP forecast is set out in Annex A.



Service Area	Original Budget £000	Original Budget Plus		Latest Budget £000	Previous Forecast £000	Latest Forecast £000	Variation to Previous Forecast £000	Variation to Latest Budget £000
		2023/24 Carry Forwards £000						
Resources and Leader	6,989	7,130		7,130	7,130	7,269	139	139
Garages and Shops	(1,300)	(1,300)		(1,300)	(1,300)	(1,300)	0	0
Investment Properties	(950)	(950)		(950)	(950)	(950)	0	0
Vacancy Provision	(180)	(180)		(180)	(180)	(180)	0	0
Salary Contingency	712	712		712	712	700	(12)	(12)
Total	5,270	5,411		5,411	5,411	5,538	127	127

3. Annex B sets out the main variations to budget.

Income Streams

4. The key income streams are detailed in Annex E. All are currently on target to achieve budget income levels in 2024/25.

Capital Investment Programme

5. The latest capital investment budget for 2024/25 is £7.267m. A variation of £3.913m is reported.
6. Detailed Capital budgets and explanation of key variations are set out in Annex C and Annex D respectively.

Staff Vacancy Monitoring

7. A major risk of non-delivery of service is where key staff leave the Council's employ and there is a delay or difficulty in recruiting suitable candidates to fill the vacant post.

8. The following table sets out the vacancies by service as at 30 June 2024.

Department	Job Title	Comments	Total
Legal & Committee	Senior Committee Officer	Recently advertised	1.00
	Committee & Elections Assistant	Recently advertised	1.00
Customer Service Centre	Apprentice Customer Service Centre Representative	Currently advertised	1.00
Asset and Property Management	Property and Asset Manager	Currently advertised	1.00
Total P&R			4.00

Annex A
P&R Committee Medium Term Revenue Budget Service

Policy & Resources										
Resources	Original Budget 2024/25	Original Budget Plus 2023/24 Carry Forwards	Latest Budget 2024/25	Previous Forecast 2024/25	Spend to Date	Latest Forecast 2024/25	Variance @ P3	Forecast 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27	Officer Comments
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Corporate Management	150,680	150,680	150,680	150,680	(154,250)	150,680	0	150,680	150,680	Budget will be spent
Major Incident Planning	113,107	113,107	113,107	113,107	27,033	113,107	0	113,904	114,728	Budget will be spent
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	0	0	0	0	15,209	0	0	0	0	Income and Expenditure budgets of £530,053 required for UK Shared Prosperity Fund grant
West Herts Crematorium	0	0	0	0	1,050,788	0	0	0	0	All spend will be recharged to West Herts Crematorium
Miscellaneous Income & Expend	(341,500)	(341,500)	(341,500)	(341,500)	(27,081)	(341,500)	0	(341,500)	(341,500)	Budget will be spent
Non Distributed Costs	57,000	57,000	57,000	57,000	441	57,000	0	59,000	59,000	Budget will be spent
Director Of Finance	128,735	128,735	128,735	128,735	37,649	130,795	2,060	135,026	135,025	Staff Sickness absence budget of £2,060 re-allocated to the Senior Leadership Team
Miscellaneous Properties	(77,208)	(77,208)	(77,208)	(77,208)	(70,589)	(77,208)	0	(77,208)	(77,208)	Budget will be spent
Office Services	192,810	192,810	192,810	192,810	14,366	192,810	0	190,810	190,810	Increase in Cleaning budget of £10,000 required due to paying the Real Living Wage, offset by increase in income budget of £10,000 from internal recharges for Print & Post
Asset Management - Property Services	798,627	798,627	798,627	798,627	152,936	798,627	0	878,502	879,784	Budget will be spent
Finance Services	440,080	440,080	440,080	440,080	197,261	440,080	0	435,772	439,212	Budget will be spent
Council Tax Collection	329,467	329,467	329,467	329,467	55,026	329,467	0	330,179	330,880	Budget will be spent
Benefits & Allowances	681,913	681,913	681,913	681,913	177,571	681,913	0	685,248	687,432	Budget will be spent
WDR	60,005	60,005	60,005	60,005	17,122	60,005	0	60,005	60,006	Budget will be spent
Revs & Bens Management	41,970	41,970	41,970	41,970	10,505	41,970	0	41,969	41,970	Budget will be spent
Fraud	86,746	86,746	86,746	86,746	27,661	86,746	0	86,746	86,746	Budget will be spent
Garages & Shops Maintenance	(1,300,150)	(1,300,150)	(1,300,150)	(1,300,150)	(385,371)	(1,300,150)	0	(1,300,150)	(1,300,150)	Budget will be spent
Chief Executive	213,754	313,754	313,754	313,754	51,127	313,844	90	213,844	213,844	Staff Sickness absence budget of £90 re-allocated to the Senior Leadership Team

P&R Committee Medium Term Revenue Budget Service cont.

Resources	Original Budget 2023/24	Original Budget Plus 2022/23 Carry Forwards	Latest Budget 2023/24	Previous Forecast 2023/24	Spend to Date	Latest Forecast 2023/24	Variance @ P8	Forecast 2024/25	Forecast 2025/26	Officer Comments
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Investment Properties	(950,499)	(950,499)	(950,499)	(950,499)	(367,726)	(950,499)	0	(982,225)	(982,225)	Budget will be spent
Performance Mgt & Scrutiny	53,849	53,849	53,849	53,849	7,799	53,849	0	53,849	53,849	Budget will be spent
Debt Recovery	226,406	226,406	226,406	226,406	31,904	226,406	0	223,403	224,810	Budget will be spent
Associate Director Strategy, Partnerships & Housing	109,178	109,178	109,178	109,178	27,364	110,278	1,100	114,207	114,207	Staff Sickness absence budget of £1,100 re-allocated to the Senior Leadership Team
Three Rivers House	359,260	359,260	359,260	359,260	(10,660)	323,328	(35,932)	323,328	323,328	Increase in Rent Buildings of £35,932 due to increase in space leased by the Police, they now occupy part of Lower Ground Floor. Full rent review undertaken.
Basing House	(10,140)	(10,140)	(10,140)	(10,140)	1,411	(10,140)	0	(10,140)	(10,140)	Budget will be spent
Oxhey Drive	10,250	10,250	10,250	10,250	0	10,250	0	10,250	10,250	Budget will be spent
Wimbledon	(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)	167,664	(200,000)	0	(500,000)	(500,000)	
Officers' Standby	6,140	6,140	6,140	6,140	0	6,140	0	6,140	6,140	Budget will be spent
Vacancy Provision	(180,000)	(180,000)	(180,000)	(180,000)	0	(180,000)	0	(180,000)	(180,000)	
Finance Client	14,898	14,898	14,898	14,898	10,909	14,898	0	14,906	14,919	Budget will be spent
Business App Maintenance	257,875	257,875	257,875	257,875	229,970	257,875	0	257,875	257,875	Budget will be spent
ICT Client	683,377	683,377	683,377	683,377	86,519	763,377	80,000	763,377	763,377	Income from reserves budget removed of £80,000 as Software licences were previously funded from New Homes Bonus reserve, which has now been extinguished.
Internal Audit Client	55,968	55,968	55,968	55,968	21,019	55,968	0	55,968	55,968	Budget will be spent
Council Tax Client	(126,879)	(126,879)	(126,879)	(126,879)	0	(126,879)	0	(126,879)	(126,879)	Budget will be spent
Benefits Client	(470,660)	(470,660)	(470,660)	(470,660)	2,372,850	(470,660)	0	(470,660)	(470,660)	This holds the housing benefits payments and recovery from DWP and further grants from DWP relating to the provision of benefits. There is timing difference between payments made to claimants and income received from Government.
Nndr Cost Of Collection	(107,090)	(107,090)	(107,090)	(107,090)	0	(107,090)	0	(107,090)	(107,090)	This is received at year end
Fraud Client	2,690	2,690	2,690	2,690	0	2,690	0	2,690	2,690	Budget will be spent
Insurances	373,220	373,220	373,220	373,220	537,078	373,220	0	373,220	373,220	Budget will be spent
Debt Recovery Client Acc	(6,140)	(6,140)	(6,140)	(6,140)	(350)	(6,140)	0	(6,140)	(6,140)	Budget will be spent
Benefits New Burden	0	0	0	0	(31,884)	0	0	0	0	Income and Expenditure budgets of £31,884 required for DWP grant
Benefits DHP	0	0	0	0	(42,563)	0	0	0	0	Actioned at year end
Benefits Non Hra	1,020	1,020	1,020	1,020	(41,563)	1,020	0	1,020	1,020	Actioned at year end
HR Client	334,113	334,113	334,113	334,113	57,536	361,518	27,405	361,518	361,518	Increase in budgets of £2,745 required for cost of Group Life Assurance and £24,660 for Shared Service recharge from Watford Borough Council
Salary Contingency	712,285	712,285	712,285	712,285	0	700,035	(12,250)	893,128	1,112,362	Staff Sickness absence budget of £12,250 re-allocated to the Senior Leadership Team
Total	2,725,157	2,825,157	2,825,157	2,825,157	4,254,681	2,887,630	62,473	2,734,572	2,963,658	

P&R Committee Medium Term Revenue Budget Service cont.

Leader	Original Budget 2024/25	Original Budget Plus 2023/24 Carry Forwards	Latest Budget 2024/25	Previous Forecast 2024/25	Spend to Date	Latest Forecast 2024/25	Variance @ P3	Forecast 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27	Officer Comments
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Register Of Electors	36,800	36,800	36,800	36,800	3,197	36,800	0	36,800	36,800	Budget will be spent
District Elections	76,320	76,320	76,320	76,320	150,735	76,320	0	76,320	76,320	Awaiting recharges of May 2024 Parish and PCC elections
Customer Service Centre	949,303	949,303	949,303	949,303	228,130	949,303	0	959,124	961,784	Budget will be spent
Democratic Representation	321,516	321,516	321,516	321,516	97,542	335,951	14,435	335,951	335,951	5% Increase to Members Allowance approved by Full Council 12/12/2023
Customer Contact Programme	6,000	47,055	47,055	47,055	39,580	47,055	0	68,453	68,453	Budget will be spent
Customer Experience	95,468	95,468	95,468	95,468	23,884	95,468	0	99,401	99,401	Budget will be spent
Communication	324,697	324,697	324,697	324,697	75,887	331,697	7,000	331,697	331,697	Staff Sickness absence budget of £7,000 re-allocated for Staff Days
Legal Practice	402,049	402,049	402,049	402,049	126,896	425,019	22,970	410,668	411,333	Income from reserves budget removed of £7,800 as Software licences were previously funded from New Homes Bonus reserve, which has now been extinguished. Increase in Professional Fees - Consulting of £15,000 required due to advise received on current cases and Staff Sickness absence budget of £170 re-allocated to the Senior Leadership Team
Committee Administration	207,249	207,249	207,249	207,249	46,463	210,249	3,000	212,217	214,181	Budget virement of £3,000 Youth Council budget from Leisure Development as Committee Admin will now manage the service
Elections & Electoral Regn	125,815	125,815	125,815	125,815	57,370	142,815	17,000	144,783	146,747	Income from reserves budget removed of £17,000 as Software licences were previously funded from New Homes Bonus reserve, which has now been extinguished.
Parish Elections	0	0	0	0	(1,746)	0	0	0	0	May 2024 awaiting recharges
Parliamentary Elections	0	0	0	0	(138,296)	0	0	0	0	July 2024 Election awaiting recharges
Police Commissioner Election	0	0	0	0	(68,352)	0	0	0	0	May 2021 Election claim currently with Cabinet Office. May 2024 election awaiting recharges
Total	2,545,217	2,586,272	2,586,272	2,586,272	641,290	2,650,677	64,405	2,675,414	2,682,667	
Total Policy and Resources	5,270,374	5,411,429	5,411,429	5,411,429	4,895,971	5,538,307	126,878	5,409,986	5,646,325	

Annex B

P&R Committee Explanations of revenue supplementary estimates, variances to be managed and virements reported this Period

Supplementary estimates

Policy and Resources					
Description	Main Group Heading	Details of Outturn Variances to Latest Approved Budget	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
Office Services	Premises	Increase in Cleaning budget due to paying the Real Living Wage	10,000	10,000	10,000
Three Rivers House	Income	Increase in Rent Buildings due to increase in space leased by the Police, they now occupy part of Lower Ground Floor. Full rent review undertaken.	(35,932)	(35,932)	(35,932)
HR Client	Employees	Increase in cost of Group Life Assurance	2,745	2,745	2,745
	Third Party Payments	Increase in Shared Service recharge from Watford Borough Council	24,660	24,660	24,660
ICT Client	Income Funded from Reserves	Software licences previously funded from New Homes Bonus reserve, which has now been extinguished.	80,000	80,000	80,000
Total Resources			81,473	81,473	81,473
Democratic Representation	Supplies and Services	5% Increase to Members Allowance approved by Full Council 12/12/2023	14,435	14,435	14,435
Sections & Electoral Regn	Income Funded from Reserves	Software licences previously funded from New Homes Bonus reserve, which has now been extinguished.	17,000	17,000	17,000
Legal Practice	Income Funded from Reserves	Software licences previously funded from New Homes Bonus reserve, which has now been extinguished.	7,800	7,800	7,800
Total Leader			39,235	39,235	39,235
Total Policy and Resources			120,708	120,708	120,708

Variances

Policy and Resources					
Description	Main Group Heading	Details of Outturn Variances to Latest Approved Budget	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
Legal Practice	Supplies and Services	Increase in Professional Fees - Consulting required due to advise received on current cases	15,000	-	-
Office Service	Income	Increased Income from Internal recharges for Print & Post	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)
Total Resources			5,000	(10,000)	(10,000)
Total Policy and Resources			5,000	(10,000)	(10,000)

P&R Committee Explanations of revenue supplementary estimates, variances to be managed and virements reported this Period cont.

Virements

Policy & Resources			2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Description	Main Group Heading	Details of Outturn Variances to Latest Approved Budget	£	£	£
Shared Prosperity Fund	Supplies and services	To spend ringfenced UK Shared Prosperity Fund grant	530,053	-	-
	Income	Receipt of UK Shared Prosperity Fund grant	(530,053)	-	-
Chief Executive	Supplies and Services	Staff Sickness absence budget re-allocated to the Senior Leadership Team	90	90	90
Director of Finance	Supplies and Services	Staff Sickness absence budget re-allocated to the Senior Leadership Team	2,060	2,060	2,060
Associate Director of Strategy, Partnerships & Housing	Supplies and Services	Staff Sickness absence budget re-allocated to the Senior Leadership Team	1,100	1,100	1,100
Salary Contingency Funds	Employees	Staff Sickness absence budget re-allocated to the Senior Leadership Team	(12,250)	(12,250)	(12,250)
Benefits New Burdens	Supplies and services	To spend ringfenced DWP grant	31,884	-	-
	Income	Receipt of DWP grant	(31,884)	-	-
Total Resources			(9,000)	(9,000)	(9,000)
Communications	Supplies and Services	Staff Sickness absence budget re-allocated to the Senior Leadership Team	7,000	7,000	7,000
Legal Practice	Supplies and services	Staff Sickness absence budget re-allocated to the Senior Leadership Team	170	170	170
Committee Admin	Supplies and services	Youth Council budget transferred from Leisure Development as Committee Admin will now manage the service	3,000	3,000	3,000
Total Leader			10,170	10,170	10,170
Total Policy and Resources			1,170	1,170	1,170

Annex C
P&R Medium term capital investment programme

Policy & Resources											
Leader & Resources	Original Budget 2024/25 £	Original Budgets Plus 2023/24 Rephasing £	Latest Budget 2024/25 £	P3 Spend To Date £	Forecast Outturn 2024/25 £	Variance £	Latest Budget 2025/26 £	Proposed 2025/26 £	Latest Budget 2026/27 £	Proposed 2026/27 £	Comments
Professional Fees-Internal	157,590	157,590	157,590	0	157,590	0	157,590	157,590	157,590	157,590	Actioned at year end
Election Equipment	6,000	6,000	6,000	0	6,000	0	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	Budget will be spent
Street Lighting	30,000	81,985	81,985	25,350	81,985	0	0	0	0	0	Budget will be spent
Members' IT Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	48,780	48,780	
Rickmansworth Work Hub	3,200	3,200	3,200	0	3,200	0	0	0	0	0	Budget will be spent
ICT-Managed Project Costs	337,551	337,551	337,551	38,558	337,551	0	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	Budget will be spent
ShS-Hardware Replace Prog	0	0	0	0	0	0	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	
Garage Improvements	150,000	148,410	148,410	(7,275)	148,410	0	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	Budget will be spent
ICT Website Development	0	14,870	14,870	0	14,870	0	0	0	0	0	Budget will be spent
ICT Hardware Replacement Prog	114,824	114,824	114,824	0	114,824	0	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	Budget will be spent
TKH Whole Life Costing	335,000	427,427	427,427	17,137	427,427	0	170,000	170,000	170,000	170,000	Budget will be spent
Basings House-Whole Life Costing	75,000	75,000	75,000	0	75,000	0	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	Budget will be spent
Business Application Upgrade	40,000	40,000	40,000	0	40,000	0	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000	Budget will be spent
Three Rivers House Transformation	0	15,585	15,585	0	15,585	0	0	0	0	0	Budget will be spent
Sub-total Leader & Resources	1,249,165	1,422,442	1,422,442	73,770	1,422,442	0	778,590	778,590	827,370	827,370	
Major Projects											
Major Projects	Original Budget 2024/25 £	Original Budgets Plus 2023/24 Rephasing £	Latest Budget 2024/25 £	P3 Spend To Date £	Forecast Outturn 2024/25 £	Variance £	Latest Budget 2025/26 £	Proposed 2025/26 £	Latest Budget 2026/27 £	Proposed 2026/27 £	Comments
Property Investment Board	0	0	0	1,077	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Local Authority Housing Fund	0	5,845,025	5,845,025	3,918,550	9,758,225	3,913,200	0	0	0	0	Payment made in March 2024 for acquisition of 11 units in South Oxhey which was delayed until April 2024. Accounting entries applied to rectify this. Budget now required to be transferred from 2023/24 to 2024/25
Sub-total Major Projects	0	5,845,025	5,845,025	3,919,627	9,758,225	3,913,200	0	0	0	0	
Total Policy & Resources	1,249,165	7,267,467	7,267,467	3,993,397	11,180,667	3,913,200	778,590	778,590	827,370	827,370	

Annex D
P&R Explanations of capital variances reported this Period

Description	Details of Outturn Variances to Latest Approved Budget	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £
Policy & Resources				
LAHF	Payment made in March 2024 for acquisition of 11 units in South Oxhey which was delayed until April 2024. Accounting entries applied to rectify this. Budget now required to be transferred from 2023/24 to 2024/25	3,913,200	0	0
Total Policy & Resources		3,913,200	0	0

Annex E
P&R Key Income Streams

Garages and Shops									
Garages	Month	2021/22		2022/23		2023/24		2024/25	
Rent		£	Volume	£	Volume	£	Volume	£	Volume
	April	(67,120)	18%	(76,062)	17%	(79,962)	18%	(84,907)	8%
	May	(84,598)	18%	(74,883)	17%	(70,669)	16%	(90,903)	7%
	June	(67,303)	18%	(75,841)	16%	(80,973)	16%	(89,983)	8%
	July	(68,901)	17%	(76,597)	16%	(82,085)	14%		
	August	(85,572)	17%	(72,188)	16%	(81,588)	14%		
	September	(66,891)	18%	(74,631)	16%	(81,247)	14%		
	October	(67,979)	17%	(75,002)	16%	(82,104)	14%		
	November	(86,494)	16%	(73,282)	15%	(80,289)	14%		
	December	(69,289)	17%	(74,000)	16%	(82,367)	11%		
	January	(87,711)	17%	(75,231)	16%	(80,210)	9%		
	February	(69,601)	16%	(74,914)	18%	(81,581)	9%		
	March	(69,067)	17%	(72,721)	17%	(80,968)	8%		
	Total	(890,526)		(895,352)		(964,043)		(265,793)	
<p>Comments: The original budget for 2024/25 is £1,107,950. Lower level applied to those in the more difficult to let areas. There are currently 1,056 rentable garages. The void percentage is based on the rentable stock only.</p>									
Shops	Month	2021/22		2022/23		2023/24		2024/25	
Rent		£	Volume	£	Volume	£	Volume	£	Volume
	April	(46,828)	n/a	(46,495)	n/a	(39,495)	n/a	(35,353)	n/a
	May	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a
	June	(30,853)	n/a	(37,853)	n/a	(37,853)	n/a	(71,401)	n/a
	July	(15,250)	n/a	(8,250)	n/a	(8,250)	n/a		
	August	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a		
	September	(38,245)	n/a	(38,244)	n/a	(31,244)	n/a		
	October	(8,250)	n/a	(8,250)	n/a	(14,773)	n/a		
	November	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a		
	December	(37,853)	n/a	(37,853)	n/a	(37,853)	n/a		
	January	(8,250)	n/a	(8,250)	n/a	(8,250)	n/a		
	February	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a		
	March	0	n/a	(7,000)	n/a	(7,017)	n/a		
	Total	(185,528)		(192,195)	0	(184,735)	0	(106,753)	0
<p>Comments: The original 2024/25 budget is £210,000. There are 20 shops in the district which are predominantly let as self repairing leases. Each shop rent is negotiated at the best market rate taking into consideration local factors regarding usage, availability, affordability and community benefit.</p>									

Corporate costs Medium Term Revenue Budget

Corporate Costs	Original Budget 2024/25	Original Budget Plus 2023/24 Carry Forwards	Latest Budget 2024/25	Previous Forecast 2024/25	Spend to Date	Latest Forecast 2024/25	Variance @ P3	Forecast 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27	Officer Comments
	£	£	£		£	£	£	£	£	
Interest Earned	(760,000)	(760,000)	(760,000)	(760,000)	(5,420)	(1,260,000)	(500,000)	(660,000)	(660,000)	A variance to be managed of £500,000 on Investment interest due to continuing high interest rates and unpredictability going forwards
Interest Paid	715,606	715,606	715,606	715,606	(8,980)	715,606	0	755,266	741,766	Budget will be spent
Parish Precepts	2,500,591	2,500,591	2,500,591	2,500,591	1,250,296	2,500,591	0	2,500,591	2,500,591	Paid half yearly in April & September
Total Corporate Costs	2,456,197	2,456,197	2,456,197	2,456,197	1,235,896	1,956,197	(500,000)	2,595,857	2,582,357	

Funding the Capital Investment Programme

CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2024-2027 - FUNDING

Capital Programme	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	Original Budget	Latest Budget	Outturn Forecast at P3	Forecast	Forecast
	£	£	£	£	£
Balance Brought Forward					
Govt Grants: Disabled Facility Grants	(1,269,046)	(1,269,046)	(1,269,046)	(1,269,046)	(1,269,046)
Section 106 Contributions	(1,535,703)	(1,535,703)	(1,535,703)	(1,535,703)	(1,535,703)
Capital Receipts Reserve	0	0	0	0	0
LAHF	(5,152,715)	(5,152,715)	(5,152,715)	0	0
Future Capital Expenditure Reserve	0	0	0	0	0
New Homes Bonus Reserve	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funding Brought Forward	(7,957,464)	(7,957,464)	(7,957,464)	(2,804,749)	(2,804,749)
Generated in the Year					
Govt Grants: Disabled Facility Grants	(586,000)	(725,637)	(725,637)	(586,000)	(586,000)
Section 106 Contributions	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Receipts Reserve	(1,100,000)	(1,100,000)	(1,100,000)	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)
LAHF	0	0	0	0	0
Future Capital Expenditure Reserve	0	0	0	0	0
New Homes Bonus Reserve	(100,025)	(100,025)	(100,025)	(95,000)	(95,000)
Total Generated	(1,786,025)	(1,925,662)	(1,925,662)	(1,681,000)	(1,681,000)
Use of Funding					
Govt Grants: Disabled Facility Grants	586,000	725,637	725,637	586,000	586,000
Section 106 Contributions	0	0	0	0	0
CIL Contributions	460,000	460,000	1,918,092	0	0
Capital Receipts Reserve	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
LAHF	0	0	5,152,715	0	0
Future Capital Expenditure Reserve	0	0	0	0	0
New Homes Bonus Reserve	100,025	100,025	100,025	95,000	95,000
Borrowing	3,131,003	10,518,254	9,591,847	1,707,590	1,756,370
Total Use of Funding	5,377,028	12,903,916	18,588,316	3,388,590	3,437,370
Balance Carried Forward					
Govt Grants: Disabled Facility Grants	(1,269,046)	(1,269,046)	(1,269,046)	(1,269,046)	(1,269,046)
Section 106 Contributions	(1,535,703)	(1,535,703)	(1,535,703)	(1,535,703)	(1,535,703)
Capital Receipts Reserve	0	0	0	0	0
LAHF	(5,152,715)	(5,152,715)	0	0	0
Future Capital Expenditure Reserve	0	0	0	0	0
New Homes Bonus Reserve	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funding Carried Forward	(7,957,464)	(7,957,464)	(2,804,749)	(2,804,749)	(2,804,749)
South Oxhey Initiative					
Balance Brought Forward	0	0	0	0	0
Generated in the Year (Land Receipts)	(6,354,279)	(6,354,279)	(6,354,279)	0	0
Repayment of Borrowing	6,354,279	6,354,279	6,354,279	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure Capital Investment Programme	5,377,028	12,903,916	18,588,316	3,388,590	3,437,370

Medium Term Financial Plan 2023-2026

Medium Term Financial Plan - Consolidated Revenue Account (General Fund)							
Funding	2024/25					2025/26	2026/27
	Original	Original Budget plus Carry Forwards from 2023/24	Latest Budget	Previous Forecast	Latest Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
Council Tax Base (No.)	39,850.80	39,850.80	39,850.80	39,850.80	39,850.80	40,249.30	40,651.80
Council Tax Base Increase (%)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.99	0.99
Band D Council Tax (£)	200.37	200.37	200.37	200.37	200.37	206.36	212.53
Council Tax Increase - TRDC (%)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.99	2.99
Council Tax (£)	(7,984,905)	(7,984,905)	(7,984,905)	(7,984,905)	(7,984,905)	(8,305,846)	(8,639,727)
<i>Parish Precepts (£)</i>	<i>(2,500,591)</i>	<i>(2,500,591)</i>	<i>(2,500,591)</i>	<i>(2,500,591)</i>	<i>(2,500,591)</i>	<i>(2,500,591)</i>	<i>(2,500,591)</i>
Total Taxation (£)	(10,485,496)	(10,485,496)	(10,485,496)	(10,485,496)	(10,485,496)	(10,806,437)	(11,140,318)
Business Rates (£)	(2,818,907)	(2,818,907)	(2,818,907)	(2,818,907)	(2,818,907)	(2,795,000)	(2,795,000)
Collection Fund Surplus (£)	84,870	84,870	84,870	84,870	84,870	84,870	0
New Homes Bonus Grant (£)	(100,025)	(100,025)	(100,025)	(100,025)	(100,025)	(95,000)	(95,000)
Government Funding (£)	(589,041)	(589,041)	(589,041)	(589,041)	(589,041)	(500,000)	(500,000)
Dividend (£)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)
Total Grant Funding (£)	(3,473,103)	(3,473,103)	(3,473,103)	(3,473,103)	(3,473,103)	(3,355,130)	(3,440,000)
Total Taxation & Grant Funding (£)	(13,958,598)	(13,958,598)	(13,958,598)	(13,958,598)	(13,958,598)	(14,161,567)	(14,580,318)
Financial Statement - Summary							
	2024/25					2025/26	2026/27
	Original	Original Budget plus Carry Forwards from 2023/24	Latest Budget	Previous Forecast	Latest Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
	£		£		£	£	£
Committee - Net Cost Of Services							
General Public Services, Community Safety and Infrastructure	4,480,576	4,535,325	4,535,325	4,535,325	4,535,325	4,504,590	4,464,010
Climate Change, Leisure and Housing	1,952,185	2,032,948	2,032,948	2,032,948	2,032,948	2,014,601	2,065,233
Policy and Resources	5,270,374	5,411,429	5,411,429	5,411,429	5,411,429	5,298,108	5,534,447
Period 3 Variances	0	0	0	0	469,772	136,229	136,229
Sub-Total	11,703,135	11,979,702	11,979,702	11,979,702	12,449,474	11,953,528	12,199,919
Other							
Parish Precepts	2,500,591	2,500,591	2,500,591	2,500,591	2,500,591	2,500,591	2,500,591
Interest Payable & Borrowing costs	715,606	715,606	715,606	715,606	715,606	755,266	741,766
Interest Received	(760,000)	(760,000)	(760,000)	(760,000)	(760,000)	(760,000)	(660,000)
Period 3 Variances	0	0	0	0	(500,000)	0	0
Sub-Total	2,456,197	2,456,197	2,456,197	2,456,197	1,956,197	2,495,857	2,582,357
Net Expenditure	14,159,332	14,435,899	14,435,899	14,435,899	14,405,671	14,449,385	14,782,276
Income from Council Tax, Government Grants & Business Rates	(13,958,598)	(13,958,598)	(13,958,598)	(13,958,598)	(13,958,598)	(14,161,567)	(14,580,318)
(Surplus)/Deficit Before Use of Earmarked Reserves	200,734	477,301	477,301	477,301	447,073	287,818	201,958
Planned Use of Reserves:							
Economic Impact Reserve	0	0	0	0	(147,587)	(147,587)	0
(Surplus) / Deficit to be funded from General Balances	200,734	477,301	477,301	477,301	299,486	140,231	201,958
Movement on General Fund Balance							
	2024/25					2025/26	2026/27
	Original	Original Budget plus Carry Forwards from 2023/24	Latest Budget	Previous Forecast	Latest Forecast	Latest	Latest
	£		£		£	£	£
Balance Brought Forward at 1 April	(4,964,156)	(4,964,156)	(4,964,156)	(4,964,156)	(4,964,156)	(4,664,670)	(4,524,439)
Revenue Budget (Surplus)/Deficit for Year	200,734	477,301	477,301	477,301	299,486	140,231	201,958
Closing Balance at 31 March	(4,763,422)	(4,486,855)	(4,486,855)	(4,486,855)	(4,664,670)	(4,524,439)	(4,322,481)
Movement on Economic Impact							
	2023/24					2024/25	2025/26
	Original	Original Budget plus Carry Forwards from 2023/24	Latest Budget	Previous Forecast	Latest Forecast	Latest	Latest
	£		£		£	£	£
Balance Brought Forward at 1 April	(1,067,969)	(1,067,969)	(1,067,969)	(1,067,969)	(1,067,969)	(920,382)	(772,795)
COVID-19 Impact for Year	0	0	0	0	147,587	147,587	0
Closing Balance at 31 March	(1,067,969)	(1,067,969)	(1,067,969)	(1,067,969)	(920,382)	(772,795)	(772,795)
Total Reserves Impact							
	2023/24					2024/25	2025/26
	Original	Original Budget plus Carry Forwards from 2023/24	Latest Budget	Previous Forecast	Latest Forecast	Latest	Latest
	£		£		£	£	£
Balance Brought Forward at 1 April	(6,032,125)	(6,032,125)	(6,032,125)	(6,032,125)	(6,032,125)	(5,585,052)	(5,297,234)
Impact for Year	200,734	477,301	477,301	477,301	447,073	287,818	201,958
Closing Balance at 31 March	(5,831,391)	(5,554,824)	(5,554,824)	(5,554,824)	(5,585,052)	(5,297,234)	(5,095,276)
Total Reserves	(5,831,391)	(5,554,824)	(5,554,824)	(5,554,824)	(5,585,052)	(5,297,234)	(5,095,276)

Reserves Forecast 2023/24

Category	Opening Balance 01/04/2024 £	Net Movement in Year £	Closing Balance 31/03/2025 £	Purpose
General Reserves				
General Fund	(4,964,156)	299,486	(4,664,670)	Working balance to support the Council's revenue services. £2M is a suggested prudent minimum
Economic Impact (EIR)	(1,067,969)	147,587	(920,382)	To support the funding of unexpected/unplanned Council expenditure as a result of fluctuations in the economy.
Total Revenue	(6,032,125)	447,073	(5,585,052)	
Capital Reserves				
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	(8,826,921)	(397,312)	(9,224,233)	Developers contributions towards Infrastructure
Capital Receipts	0	(30,103)	(30,103)	Generated from sale of Council assets
Grants & Contributions	(6,421,761)	(1,042,820)	(7,464,581)	Disabled Facility Grants and other contributions
Reserve for Capital expenditure	0	0	0	Reserve set aside for supporting capital expenditure
Total Capital	(15,248,682)	(1,470,235)	(16,718,917)	
Other Earmarked Reserves				
New Homes Bonus	0	0	0	Government grant set aside for supporting capital expenditure
Section 106	(1,802,026)	(562,942)	(2,364,968)	Developers contributions towards facilities
Leavesden Hospital Open Space	(753,889)	0	(753,889)	To maintain open space on the ex hospital site
Abbots Langley - Horsefield	(749,415)	0	(749,415)	Developers contributions towards maintenance of site
Environmental Maintenance Plant	(110,642)	0	(110,642)	Reserve to fund expenditure on plant & machinery
Building Control	(350,596)	0	(350,596)	To provide against future losses and/or borrowing against Hertfordshire Building Control Ltd
Commercial Risk Reserve	(8,827,444)	0	(8,827,444)	To manage timing of cashflows and risks in relation to commercial ventures
Collection Fund Reserve	(6,222,585)	0	(6,222,585)	To manage timing differences on the Collection Fund
HB Equalisation	(44,592)	0	(44,592)	To provide against future deficits on the Housing Benefit account
Grants & Contributions	(1,468,133)	0	(1,468,133)	Revenue Grants earmarked for use in future years
Planning Reserve	(88,132)	0	(88,132)	To allow for conservation area appraisals, the local plan timetable to be accelerated and other planning advice
Total Other	(20,417,454)	(562,942)	(20,980,396)	
Total All	(41,698,261)	(1,586,104)	(43,284,365)	

Budgetary Risks

Date risk added to register	Risk ref	Risk owner	Category	Risk description	Comment	Likelihood score (inherent)	Impact score (inherent)	Inherent risk score	Risk controls	Risk control owners	Likelihood score (residual)	Impact score (residual)	Residual risk score	Risk direction	Action plan	Action plan owners	Action plan completion dates
Sep-15	FIN07	Director of Finance	Strategic	The Medium term financial position worsens.	In that the general fund balance falls below the minimum prudent threshold and capital funding is insufficient to meet the capital programme. This appears as item no.8 in the Council's strategic risk register.	4	4	16	The Council has a robust financial management framework which includes regular budget monitoring reports to committees; Budgetary and Financial Risk Register reviewed and updated as part of the budget monitoring process; identification of budgetary pressure when reviewing the medium term financial plan during the budget setting process; Audited Statement of Accounts, including Annual Governance Statement. Currently the accounts are subject to cross system delays, however Azets have started work on the 2023/24 audit.	Director of Finance	3	2	6	➔	2024/25 Budget has been agreed with a significant contingency for the pay award and other inflation. Regular budget monitoring reports to committees; Budgetary and Financial Risk Register reviewed and updated as part of the budget monitoring process; identification of budgetary pressure when reviewing the medium term financial plan during the budget setting process which includes a risk assessment for the prudent level of general balances and an assessment of financial resilience with reference to the CIPFA Financial resilience index.	Heads of Service/ Director of Finance	Continuous
Apr-06	FIN08	Director of Finance	Budgetary	The pay award exceeds estimates included in the MTFP resulting in unplanned and unsustainable use of reserves.	The Council's 3 year Medium term Financial Strategy includes forecast pay awards for the next three years. The 2024-25 pay offer has been made by employers at a level that will not put pressure on the contingency. Inflation is beginning to come down reducing pressure on next years	3	3	9	Maintain reserves to guard against risk. Early identification of new pressures through Budget Monitoring.	Director of Finance	3	2	6	➔	The Council's 3 year Medium term Financial Strategy includes forecast pay awards for the next three years. The Council maintains reserves to guard against risk including setting a prudent minimum level for general balances. Early identification of new pressures through Budget Monitoring enable the Council to take steps to bring the budget back into balance.	Director of Finance	Continuous
Apr-06	FIN09	Director of Finance	Budgetary	Other inflationary increases exceed estimates included in the MTFP resulting in unplanned and unsustainable use of reserves.	Other than contractual agreements, budgets are cash limited where possible and budget managers are expected to manage increases within existing budgets.	2	3	6	Monitor future inflation projections. Actively manage budgets to contain inflation. Maintain reserves.	Service Heads/ Director of Finance	2	2	4	⬇	Monitor future inflation projections. Actively manage budgets and contracts to contain inflation. The Council maintains reserves to guard against risk including setting a prudent minimum level for general balances. Early identification of new pressures through Budget Monitoring enable the Council to take steps to bring the budget back into balance.	Director of Finance	Continuous
Jan-15	FIN10	Director of Finance	Budgetary	Interest rates increase or decrease resulting in significant variations in estimated interest income (investments) or interest expense (borrowing)	The Council remains cash positive so is experiencing a short term benefit from higher interest rates. Over the longer term rates are expected to come down allowing the Council to borrow for future capital projects.	3	2	6	The Council has a Treasury Management Strategy which is reviewed annually. The Council has lent out over a longer period to maximised the benefit from temporary higher rates. With investment in LAHF schemes cash balances are expected to fall but remain positive..	Director of Finance	3	2	6	➔	The Audit Committee receives two reports per year on Treasury Management activity and interest income and expenditure is monitored through the Budget Monitoring Report.	PIB	Continuous

Date risk added to register	Risk ref	Risk owner	Category	Risk description	Comment	Likelihood score (inherent)	Impact score (inherent)	Inherent risk score	Risk controls	Risk controls owner	Likelihood score (residual)	Impact score (residual)	Residual risk score	Risk direction	Action plan	Action plan owners	Action plan completion dates
Apr-06	FIN11	Director of Finance	Budgetary	Inaccurate estimates of fees and charges income and / or estimates of cost of delivering chargeable services result in budgetary pressure.	A budget pressure is created due to income shortfalls or increased expenditure	3	2	6	Budget levels realistically set and closely scrutinised	Service Heads/ Director of Finance	2	2	4	→	Fees and charges, including and surplus or loss are monitored through budget monitoring with key income streams reported to CMT.	Director of Finance	Continuous
Apr-06	FIN12	Director of Finance	Budgetary	The Council loses the ability to recover VAT as a result of exceeding the partial exemption threshold resulting in budgetary pressure.	If the council's expenditure on functions for which it receives income that is exempt for VAT purposes exceeds 5% of its total taxable expenditure, then the Council may lose its ability to recover VAT on all of its exempt inputs. This is mitigated by close monitoring of exempt supplies and prudent VAT planning. The	2	4	8	VAT Planning and opt to tax on schemes. VAT advisers employed.	Director of Finance	1	4	4	→	Partial Exemption Review is undertaken annually with support provided by the Council's external tax advisors, PS Tax. The Council continue to opt to tax land where appropriate.	Director of Finance	Continuous
Dec-13	FIN13	Director of Finance	Budgetary	The estimated cost reductions and additional income gains set out in the MTFP are not achieved resulting in an unplanned and unsustainable use of reserves.	Savings identified and included in the budget will be monitored as part of the budget monitoring process. See fees and charges above. MTFP agreed for next three years.	2	3	6	Service Heads to take responsibility for achieving savings. Budget monitoring to highlight any issues to allow corrective action to be taken.	Service Heads/ Director of Finance	2	2	4	→	Budget process to clearly identify savings to be achieved and ensure clarity over responsibility over delivery. Savings to be challenged.	Director of Finance	Continuous
Apr-06	FIN14	Director of Finance	Budgetary	The Council is faced with potential litigation and other employment related risks	The Council has no material outstanding litigation cases.	2	3	6	Council procedures are adhered to	Solicitor to the Council	1	3	3	→	Adherence to council procedures to be monitored and procedures maintained.	Solicitor to the Council	ongoing

Date risk added to register	Risk ref	Risk owner	Category	Risk description	Comment	Likelihood score (inherent)	Impact score (inherent)	Inherent risk score	Risk controls	Risk control owners	Likelihood score (residual)	Impact score (residual)	Residual risk score	Risk direction	Action plan	Action plan owners	Action plan completion dates
Dec-13	FIN18	Director of Finance	Budgetary	Business Rates Retention fluctuates impacting on the amount of funding received by the Council.	From April 2020 the system was due to be subject to reset and increase to 75% retention resulting in a loss of growth. This has been further postponed to 2025/26. However, the significant revaluations for 2023 introduce additional risk of appeals which could result in a reduction to income. The Government has	3	4	12	Maintain reserves against risk. Ensure prudent provision for appeals.	Director of Finance	3	3	9	→	Hertfordshire CFOs continue to work with LG Futures to assess the impact on individual Councils in Hertfordshire and the impact on the ability to create a business rate pool for future years. The scale of appeals is still unknown but this is likely to become clearer over the next 24 months as transitional relief reduces for businesses impacted by the increases in rateable value. Three Rivers is outside of the pool for 2024/25.	Director of Finance	Continuous
Jul-16	FIN20	Director of Finance	Budgetary	Failure of ICT systems	The Council's integrated Financial Management System (FMS) is held on an ICT platform. If this were to fail then potentially there will be a loss of functionality	3	2	6	System migrated to latest version. Payments system updated.	Service Heads/ Director of Finance	1	2	2	→	Monitor reliability	Head of Finance	Continuous
Oct-18	FIN21	Director of Finance	Budgetary	Property Investment	The Property Investment Board manage its property portfolio in order to secure additional income to support its general fund.	2	3	6	Portfolio to be actively managed to maintain income levels. Income to be reviewed regularly when MTFP is updated.	Head of Property Services	1	3	3	→	PIB to assume responsibility for ongoing oversight.	Head of Property Services	Continuous
Sep-18	FIN23	Director of Finance	Budgetary	Commercial Investment	The Council has limited options to further improve self sustainability through commercial investment following changes to the the Prudential Code for Capital Finance and	3	2	6	Oversight mechanisms to be put in place to ensure oversight by PIB or similar mechanism. Council to determine approach to risk and level of income dependency within budget.	Director of Finance	2	2	4	→	Monitor new developments. Investments overseen by the cross party Shareholder and Commercial Ventures Panel.	Head of Property Services	Continuous
Nov-19	FIN 24	Director of Finance	Service	Loss of Key Personnel	As the Council becomes more complex in its financial arrangements, key skills become more important.	3	4	12	Improve depth of skills and knowledge. Bring in temporary additional resources as necessary.	Head of Finance	2	3	6	↑	Whilst the Finance team is currently fully staffed, pressures are continuing to increase in the external market. All staff have an annual Personal Development Review which contains smart objectives including objectives related to career development and identification of training needs and opportunities.	Chief Executive/ Director of Finance	Continuous

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**Joint Leadership Team
Monday, 2 September 2024**

**Policy and Resources Committee
Monday, 9 September 2024**

PART I

River Chess - Bed and Land Transfer at Scotsbridge (ADE)

1 Summary

- 1.1 For the past 10 years there have been several flooding related issues at Scotsbridge. This is in part due to the alignment of the channel of the River Chess as it approaches Scotsbridge playing fields.
- 1.2 As a result, in partnership with the Environment Agency (EA), Hertfordshire County Council, who are the Lead Flood Authority, is leading on a project to enhance the River Chess channel. The project aims to reduce the impact of flooding in the Scotsbridge area. Three Rivers District Council are acting as a stakeholder in the project as one of the main landowners affected by the recurring flooding incidents.
- 1.3 For the project to succeed Three Rivers District Council is being asked to consider the acquisition of land from the Royal Masonic Trust to facilitate the construction of a new bypass channel.

2 Details

Project Background

- 2.1 The River Chess is a chalk stream that rises in Chesham in Buckinghamshire and runs through the Chess Valley to Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire where it meets the River Colne. Chalk streams are globally rare habitats with 85% of them found in the UK, primarily in Southeast England. The Chess is home to a variety of important and protected wildlife and flora, such as water vole, brown trout and stream water-crowfoot. The stretch at Scotsbridge Mill is no exception.
- 2.2 The river at Scotsbridge Mill suffers from a range of problems linked to the historic realignment of the river channel at a higher level than the flood plain to power the mill and support adjacent watercress beds. The unnatural channel form has led to silt accumulation upstream of the mill, lack of fish passage around the mill weir, riverbank erosion, recent channel breaching and associated flooding on TRDC and adjacent land.
- 2.3 There was a major flood event at Scotsbridge in February 2014, when out of channel flows caused flooding of properties and closure of the A412, generating much local concern. The channel breached again in 2020 and again in 2023/24. These issues impact not only the local community but also the ecology of the river and the species able to inhabit it. The unnatural river profile also makes the river less resilient to extreme flow conditions that are likely to become more frequent due to climate change.
- 2.4 This project, which is being led by Hertfordshire County Council on behalf of and in partnership with the Environment Agency and Three Rivers District Council as a

principal stakeholder to the project, aims to determine, agree and deliver a sustainable solution to these problems. The main objectives of the project are to:

- Reduce flood risk
- Minimise ongoing maintenance costs
- Improve the habitat quality of approximately 1km of chalk river, contributing to Water Framework Directive objectives
- Enable fish passage around the mill weir
- Improve the public green space alongside which the river flows and increase enjoyment of the water environment
- Increase the resilience of the habitat to climate change

2.5 The section of the River Chess at Scotsbridge has a number of landowners (Appendix A):

- The western bank and land immediately to the west is owned and managed by Three Rivers District Council
- The eastern bank and land immediately to the east is owned and managed by a private landowner, another section in the northern extent is unregistered land
- The riverbed is owned by the Royal Masonic Trust in the northern extent and is unregistered for the southern extent
- Land downstream is owned by Mitchells & Butlers (who own the restaurant)
- The body of water (including water quality) is the responsibility of the Environment Agency

2.6 A feasibility study and options appraisal was carried out in 2017 and 2018, and at that time a preferred option was determined to achieve the objectives of the project with the four landowners (as detailed above and in Appendix A) involved. This option involves splitting the flow of the river Chess into two channels. A new side channel would be created, creating important additional chalk river habitat and enabling fish passage. This would also relieve pressure on the existing channel, greatly reducing the risk of a breach in the banks and therefore would reduce flood risk.

2.7 A map of the project proposal and proposed land ownership is detailed within Appendix B.

2.8 Hertfordshire County Council and the Environment Agency have now secured funding to prepare detailed, construction-ready designs and are able to proceed with this next phase of the project, subject to the support of Three Rivers District Council.

2.9 Any work to the river will require a permit from the Environment Agency, which will be managed by Hertfordshire County Council as the project lead. The permit will only be granted if the works are expected to not increase the associated flood risk.

- 2.10 In 2020, at the initial design stage, hydraulic modelling was completed which summarised that the preferred option (proposed for detailed design) is favourable as it reduces flood risk at the mill by bypassing it, it also has environmental and ecological benefits. At the detailed design phase additional hydraulic modelling will be completed to support the design and ensure current information is utilised.

Implications for Three Rivers District Council

- 2.11 The proposed new channel would need to enter Royal Masonic Trust land. It will also be necessary to modify the route of the public footpath which currently runs along the west bank of the river, so that the footpath remains on the west bank of the new channel. This would mean that the public footpath (Rickmansworth 029) would also incur upon Royal Masonic Trust land.
- 2.12 The Royal Masonic Trust have shared their support for the project and would be in agreement with the transfer of the section of land (approximately 1200m²) to Three Rivers District Council identified in Appendix B. The Royal Masonic Trust have made such a transfer conditional upon Three Rivers District Council also taking on the ownership of the River Chess bed – a 500m stretch within Scotsbridge, also identified in Appendix B. Ownership of the river bed is not key to the project, but the Royal Masonic Trust will not agree to the land transfer of the smaller section of land without it. Officers have explored the possibility of requesting a reverse premium (i.e. TRDC being paid to acquire land), in return for accepting the river bed land, but the project cannot financially support this request. Without this exchange, the project will not progress.
- 2.13 Officers have sought external professional advice on the implications of owning a riverbed:
- 2.14 “Generally riparian ownership responsibilities won’t look any different to what you currently have at sites like the Taylors Cut (the Bury Grounds), If it’s just the riverbed you’re taking on. You’ll just be responsible for making sure nothing happens without consent from a flood risk and pollution perspective. It may even open more opportunities for environmental enhancements and amenity projects.”
- 2.15 Three Rivers District Council, is already the riparian owner of a number of other sections of rivers within the District, located at:
- Sections of the River Colne within the Aquadrome, the Bury Grounds and at the Withey Beds
 - River Gade at Croxley Common Moor
 - River Chess, at Scotsbridge Playing Fields (identified in Appendix A) and at Chorleywood House Estate
- 2.16 A riparian owner has responsibilities for a watercourse, where they are the landowner, through which a river flows on or under their land or on the boundary of their land, up to the centre. In essence, where Three Rivers District Council own the land adjacent to a water course, the council is responsible for the riverbank on their side of the land and the river bed, up to the centre of the river.
- 2.17 The Environment Agency remain responsible for the water and the quality of the water.

- 2.18 In addition to the implications highlighted at point 2.11, Three Rivers District Council would be responsible for the management and maintenance of the additional parcel of land from the Royal Masonic Trust.
- 2.19 In the absence of a reverse premium, officers are requesting a commuted sum for the first 10 years for maintenance of the riverbed and the additional parcel of land from the project.

Benefits to Three Rivers District Council

- 2.20 Despite not being the Lead Flood Authority or being responsible for the water within the River Chess, public perception is that Three Rivers District Council is responsible when flooding occurs, due to the river flowing through its land. At present there is a misguided and incorrect public perception that Three Rivers District Council is neglecting responsibilities which it does not in fact have and that this is resulting in flooding in relation to the Chess at Scotsbridge. Any reduction in flood risk at this location therefore presents an opportunity to improve public perception of the council.
- 2.21 When the hydraulic modelling was conducted at an outline design phase, the proposed option, “a bypass channel from the straightened reach to the watercress beds channel, did not increase flood risk downstream.” The modelling noted increased flow within the watercress beds channel but that it was retained in bank and the water levels in the mill channel were reduced; downstream of the mill channel and watercress beds channel confluence there was no impact on water levels. The addition of a flood storage area within the playing fields would further reduce flood risk even if the bypass channel breached.
- 2.22 The project is therefore projected to result in the creation of a new, attractive, fast-flowing and wildlife rich river channel, supporting the Council’s approach to enhancing biodiversity across the district and in particular, enhancing a globally rare, Chalk stream habitat.

Next Steps

- 2.23 For the project to proceed to the next stage, which includes detailed design work and consultation, Three Rivers District Council is being asked to confirm support in principle for the project, which includes agreement to the transfer of land as identified within Appendix B should the project move to implementation.

3 Options and Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the Scotsbridge River Chess project, being led by Hertfordshire County Council and commissioned by the Environment Agency.
- 3.2 The report recommends that Members support progression of the project and agree to accept the land transfer as outlined within Appendix B. Members are also asked to note the implications of doing so as outlined at point 2.11. Further, detailed heads of terms will be developed as the project progresses.
- 3.3 Officers recommend that a letter is written to support the project and that the transfer of land ownership takes place only once the project is due to commence on the ground and not before and that the commuted sum is calculated once detailed designs have been agreed in order to calculate the required additional, ongoing, maintenance.

4 Policy/Budget Reference and Implications

- 4.1 The recommendations in this report are within the Council's agreed policies, including the Biodiversity Policy.
- 4.2 The recommendations in this report are not within the Council's agreed budget – the project will be externally funded with Hertfordshire County Council as lead. In addition, this Council will request a commuted sum from the project, for the first 10 years for maintenance of the riverbed, the new bypass channel and the additional parcel of land.
- 4.3 The recommendations in this report relate to the achievement of the of the following objective within the Corporate Framework 2023 – 2026:
- A district that takes action to mitigate and adapt to the climate emergency.
- 4.4 The impacts of the recommendations on this objective would be to:
- Improve the river channel in order to reduce the risk of flooding in the area
 - Create opportunities for a wildlife rich river channel
 - Enhance a globally rare chalk stream habitat
 - Increase access for the public to greenspace

5 Financial Implications

- 5.1 The project will be delivered and led by Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) with funding applied for by HCC in due course for the delivery phase.
- 5.2 There is £8,190 approved Scotsbridge Chess-Habitat Restoration budget, which will support the overall project cost.
- 5.3 Officers will request a commuted sum for the first 10 years for maintenance of the riverbed and the additional parcel of land and request this agreement in principle in writing from the Environment Agency. The exact sum will be calculated once the detailed design work has been completed.

6 Legal Implications

- 6.1 The Localism Act 2011 gives the Council a general power of competence to do anything an individual may do although this is expressly subject to any statutory limitations that predate the commencement of that Act.
- 6.2 Under section 120 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council may agree to purchase land by agreement for any of its statutory functions or for the benefit improvement or development of their area.
- 6.3 In deciding whether to approve this transaction, Members need to be aware of their fiduciary and best value duties in terms of the prudent and responsible stewardship of the Council's assets and resources.
- 6.4 An Environment Agency Flood Risk Activity Plan (permit) will be required prior to work to the river channel – this will be led by Hertfordshire County Council.

6.5 Following detailed design work planning permission may need to be sought depending on the recommendations. The planning permission would also begin the process of amending the route of the Public Right of Way if required.

7 Equal Opportunities Implications

7.1 A short equalities impact assessment will be completed as part of the project should it progress.

7.2 The aim of the project is to improve the habitats present and accessibility for the public through reducing the amount of time the area is impacted through flooding and retaining the public footpath (Rickmansworth 029).

8 Staffing Implications

8.1 The Natural Infrastructure Programme Manager will provide support to the project.

8.2 Following completion of the project, the Grounds Maintenance team will take on the management of the channel improvements. Throughout the project, there will be an emphasis to balance ecological improvements with minimal maintenance initiatives to ensure the long-term sustainability of the project. Once complete the bypass channel, in tandem with the bank improvements taking place this winter, should reduce the breaches and therefore reduce the need for reactive works to the channel to prevent a larger breach. Overall, it is anticipated that the impact will be neutral.

9 Environmental Implications

9.1 The river Chess is currently classed by the Water Framework Directive as “moderate ecological status.” The project will enhance a globally rare chalk stream habitat and create a wildlife rich river channel. In addition, the work to enhance the channel will aid the resilience and adaptability of the local area by reducing flood risk.

9.2 The Sustainability Impact Assessment gave a score of 3.7 indicating that there is potential positive impact resulting from this project relating to increased flood capacity, improved pedestrian accessibility, and a section of restored chalk river.

Climate and Sustainability Impact Assessment Summary	
Homes, buildings, infrastructure, equipment and energy	N/A
Travel	3.00
Goods and Consumption	N/A
Ecology	4
Adaptation	4.00
Engagement and Influence	4
Total Overall Average Score	3.7

9.3 Whilst this project will not address water quality as that remains the responsibility of the EA and water companies it is worth noting that the issue surrounding the water quality of the river Chess remains, a key contributor to this problem is Chesham Sewage treatment works, which is a Thames Water Asset with the responsibility of water quality lying with the EA. Scotsbridge is approximately 10km downstream of

Chesham Sewage Treatment works. In 2023, Thames Water committed £16.4 million to improve the sewage treatment works which on many occasions has discharged sewage into the river Chess, this EDM (event duration monitoring) map show the status of each treatment plant and when they last discharged: <https://www.thameswater.co.uk/edm-map>. Other contributors to the poor water quality may include road, industrial and agricultural run-off.

10 Community Safety Implications

- 10.1 The reduced flood risk would improve community safety local as the reinforced banks and bypass channel will result in fewer flood events; if recommended at detailed design phase the opportunity for additional flood storage can also be explored to further protect the local area. In addition, with river water better contained within the channel there is a lower risk of people interacting with water that may have been contaminated with sewage upstream.

11 Public Health implications

- 11.1 Public footpath (Rickmansworth 029) will continue to be accessed and used by local residents and visitors to the area.
- 11.2 A body of evidence is growing which explains the benefit people can experience from contact with the natural world; for example, increased prominence of social prescribing by clinicians for walking or gardening to alleviate symptoms. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/state-of-the-environment/state-of-the-environment-health-people-and-the-environment>
- 11.3 Further to 10.1, flood water can cause a variety of health problems including physical injury, sickness and long-term illnesses due to contaminants and pathogens associated with the water. As water is breaching the banks and leaving the channel there is also potential for these contaminants to accumulate within the soil.
- 11.4 Therefore, the additional capacity that the bypass channel would provide could assist with reducing these impacts, furthermore a secondary effect of the additional marginal vegetation, due to be planted this winter, is filtering the water.

12 Customer Services Centre Implications

- 12.1 potential to reduce calls and complaints about flooding

13 Communications and Website Implications

- 13.1 Hertfordshire County Council will be producing a range of communication information and consultation/engagement sessions with the local community and stakeholders.
- 13.2 Three Rivers District Council will engage with and share these pieces of information through its communications channels.
- 13.3 Members will be kept updated as the project progresses.

14 Risk and Health & Safety Implications

- 14.1 The Council has agreed its risk management strategy which can be found on the website at <http://www.threerivers.gov.uk>. In addition, the risks of the proposals in the report have also been assessed against the Council's duties under Health and

Safety legislation relating to employees, visitors and persons affected by our operations. The risk management implications of this report are detailed below.

14.2 The subject of this report is covered by the Leisure and Natural Infrastructure service plan.. Any risks resulting from this report will be included in the risk register and, if necessary, managed within this plan.

Nature of Risk	Consequence	Suggested Control Measures	Response <i>(tolerate, treat, terminate, transfer)</i>	Risk Rating <i>(combination of likelihood and impact)</i>
Works to the river could cause flooding	Flooding of the site, road and nearby property	Environment Agency permitting will be required for works relating to the main river channel	Treat Work will only proceed once the EA permit is in place, the EA will only grant a permit if flood risk is not likely to increase	6
Financial implications to the Council for taking on additional land ownership	Increased costs to the Council. Impact on the Council's reputation due to lack of maintenance	Request a commuted sum from the Environment Agency for maintenance of the river and additional land.	Treat	4
Complaints from the public about flooding in the Scotsbridge area and surrounding road and property	Reputational damage, despite not being the lead flood authority	Support the river restoration work to reduce the risk of flooding	Treat	4
Continued degradation of a globally rare chalk stream habitat	Environmental damage to the chalk stream, resulting in negative public perception of the Council	Support the river restoration work to enhance the River Chess	Treat	4
Complaints from the public about the amended public access	Reputational damage	Ensure engagement is thorough to reach as many of the community as possible and to highlight the ecological and hydrological benefits of the project	Treat	4

- 14.3 The above risks are scored using the matrix below. The Council has determined its aversion to risk and is prepared to tolerate risks where the combination of impact and likelihood scores 6 or less.

Very Likely ----- Likelihood ----- ▼ Remote	Low 4	High 8	Very High 12	Very High 16
	Low 3	Medium 6	High 9	Very High 12
	Low 2	Low 4	Medium 6	High 8
	Low 1	Low 2	Low 3	Low 4
Impact Low -----► Unacceptable				

Impact Score	Likelihood Score
4 (Catastrophic)	4 (Very Likely (≥80%))
3 (Critical)	3 (Likely (21-79%))
2 (Significant)	2 (Unlikely (6-20%))
1 (Marginal)	1 (Remote (≤5%))

- 14.4 In the officers' opinion none of the new risks above, were they to come about, would seriously prejudice the achievement of the Strategic Plan and are therefore operational risks. The effectiveness of the management of operational risks is reviewed by the Audit Committee annually.

15 Recommendation

That Policy and Resources:

- 15.1 Supports progression of the project and agrees to accept the land transfer as outlined within Appendix B. Members are also asked to note the implications of doing so as outlined at point 2.11. Further, detailed heads of terms will be developed as the project progresses.

- 15.2 Agrees for a letter to be written to support the project and that the transfer of land ownership takes place only once the project is due to commence on the ground and not before and that the commuted sum is calculated once detailed designs have been agreed in order to calculate the required additional, ongoing, maintenance.

Report prepared by: Charlotte Gomes, Head of Leisure and Natural Infrastructure
Jess Hodges, Natural Infrastructure Programme Manager

Data Quality

None

APPENDICES

Appendix A – Map of current land ownership

Appendix B – Map of proposed land ownership changes at Scotsbridge

TRDC Climate and Sustainability Impact Assessment

Score / Colour Code	Impact and Recommendation
Dark green (4)	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.
Light green (3)	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible.
Yellow (2)	Some possible negative impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to review these aspects and find ways to mitigate.
Red (1)	Considerable inconsistency with the council's sustainability objectives. Strong recommendation to avoid.
Grey (0)	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.

Guidance for use

Please answer all questions from the drop-down options in the 'impact' column (C), including 'not applicable' as needed.

Please email your completed copy of the form to Joanna.Hewitson@threerivers.gov.uk.

Key to the colour coding of answers is given at the top of the page.

Name of project/policy/procurement and date		Scotsbridge River Chess Land Transfer
Brief description (1-2 sentences):		To facilitate a large-scale river restoration project for the council taking on a stretch of riverbed. If successful a bypass channel will be anticipated that this would reduce channel erosion and improve ecosystem services of the channel.

Homes, buildings, infrastructure, equipment and energy			
Question	Impact (select from list)	Score (-1 to 4)	Justification or mitigation
1 What effect will this project have on overall energy use (electricity or other fuels) e.g. in buildings, appliances or machinery?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
2 What effect will this project have on the direct use of fossil fuels such as gas, petrol, diesel, oil?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
3 Does this project further maximise the use of existing building space? <i>E.g. co-locating services; bringing under-used space into use; using buildings out-of-hours</i>	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
4 Will any new building constructed or refurbished be highly energy efficient in use? <i>(e.g. high levels of insulation, low energy demand per sq. m., no servicing with fossil fuels such as gas heating, EPC)</i>	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
5 Does this make use of sustainable materials / unputs in your project? <i>E.g. re-used or recycled construction materials; timber in place of concrete</i>	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
6 Does this use more sustainable processes in the creation of the project? <i>E.g. modular and off-site construction; use of electrical plant instead of petrol/diesel,</i>	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
7 Will this increase the supply of renewable energy? <i>e.g. installing solar panels; switching to a renewable energy tariff</i>	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	

8	Do any appliances or electrical equipment to be used have high energy efficiency ratings?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
	Average Score		#DIV/0!	

Travel				
	Question	Impact	Score (0-4)	Justification or mitigation
9	Reducing travel: what effect will this project have on overall vehicle use?	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3	Improved accessibility to the Chess Valley walk. At completion the flood risk to the road will also be reduced.
10	Will this project use petrol or diesel vehicles or EV, hybrid?	Some possible negative impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to review these aspects and find mitigations where possible.	2	Only essential machinery will be used, particular care is taken due to machinery near to a watercourse.
11	Will this support people to use active or low-carbon transport? <i>E.g. cycling, walking, switching to electric transport</i>	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3	Improved accessibility to the Chess Valley walk.
12	Will it be easily accessible for all by foot, bike, or public transport, including for disabled people?	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4	Improved accessibility to the Chess Valley walk. Reduced flooding increases the time that the paths will be safe to use.
13	Has the project taken steps to reduce traffic? <i>Using e-cargo bikes; timing activities or deliveries to be outside peak congestion times</i>	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
	Average Score		3.00	

Goods and Consumption				
	Question	Impact	Score (0-4)	Justification or mitigation
14	Has this project considered ways to reuse existing goods and materials to the greatest extent possible, before acquiring newly manufactured ones?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
15	Does it reduce reliance on buying newly manufactured goods? <i>E.g. repair and re-use; sharing and lending goods between services or people; leasing or product-as-a-service rather than ownership</i>	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
16	Does it use products and resources that are re-used, recycled, or renewable?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
17	Does it enable others to make sustainable choices within their lifestyles, or engage people about this?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	

18	Is there a plan to reduce waste sent to landfill in manufacture?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
19	Is the material used able to be re-used, re-purposed, or recycled at end of its life?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
20	Has it taken steps to ensure any food it offers is more sustainable? <i>E.g. less and high-quality (high welfare) meat and dairy; minimises food waste; seasonal produce; locally sourced.</i>	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
Average Score			#DIV/0!	

Ecology

	Question	Impact	Score (0-4)	Justification or mitigation
21	What effect does this project have on total area of non-amenity green/blue space? (Amenity green space = playing fields, play areas, sporting lakes etc. Non-amenity= e.g. woodland, grassland, wetland,	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4	
22	Does the project create more habitat for nature? E.g. native plants, trees, and flowers	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4	
23	Does it make changes to existing habitats and have a negative impact on nature? <i>E.g. use of pesticides, reduced extent and variety of plants, planting non-native species</i>	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4	
24	Does it help people understand the value of biodiversity, and encourage residents to support it in their private and community spaces?	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4	
Average Score			4	

Adaptation

	Question	Impact	Score (0-4)	Justification or mitigation
25	Does any planned project, construction or building use include measures to conserve water?	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4	
26	Does anythe project , consider how to sustainably protect people from extreme weather?	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4	Subject to EA consent it is anticipated that the site will have greater capacity for storing flood water. In addition to reduced flood risk due to bypass channel reducing pressure on
27	Has any planned building work or infrastructure considered how to mitigate flood risk? <i>E.g. Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS); de-paving areas; green roofs</i>	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4	Subject to EA consent it is anticipated that the site will have greater capacity for storing flood water. In addition to reduced flood risk due to bypass channel reducing pressure on
28	Does any planned infrastructure or building work increase the overall footprint of hard surfacing? (as opposed to green or permeable surfacing)	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4	While no hard-surfacing is expected, there will be improved habitat management that supports drainage.
29	Has the project considered its own resilience to future extreme heat, flood risk, or water shortage?	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4	Subject to detailed design recommendations a bunded flood storage area is to be considered.

Average Score		4.0	
Engagement and Influence			
Question	Impact	Score (0-4)	Justification or mitigation
30 Does this project raise awareness and understanding of the climate and ecological emergency, and the steps that people can take?	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4	
Average Score		4	
Total Overall Average Score		3.75	

Now assesment is compelete copy and paste box into your business case, committee report. (under environmental implications 6). Whole assesment can be an appendix. Procurement tenders are expected to submit complete report with application.

Climate and Sustainability Impact Assessment Summary	
Homes, buildings, infrastructure, equipment and energy	0.00
Travel	3.00
Goods and Consumption	0.00
Ecology	4.00
Adaptation	4.00
Engagement and Influence	4
Total Overall Average Score	3.7

e and proceed.
 nitigations where possible.

n to review these aspects and find mitigations.

it otherwise proceed.

er

tion and flood alleviation project, a land transfer needs to take place, this involves the
 and small section of land.
 constructed to reduce pressure on the main channel river Chess at Scotsbridge, it is
 nnel breaches and therefore flooding. In addition this will restore the natural features and

Impact (select from list)	Revised Score (1-4)
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this	0
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this	0
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this	0
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this	0
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this	0
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this	0

Ways to optimise sustainability and work towards net zero carbon:

- Insulate buildings to a high standard.
- Include energy efficiency measures when carrying out refurbishment to deliver improvement in EPC ratings.
- Replace gas boilers with renewable heating, such as heat pumps. Consider District Heat Networks where appropriate.
- Construct new buildings to Passivhaus standard.
- Design and deliver buildings and infrastructure with lower-carbon materials, such as recycled material and timber frames.
- Use construction methods that reduce overall energy use, such as modular, factory-built components, or use of electrical plant on-site.
- Install solar panels or other renewable energy generation, and consider including battery storage.
- Switch to a certified renewable energy provider e.g. utilise power purchase agreements (PPA)
- Use energy-efficient appliances.
- Install low-energy LED lighting.
- Install measures to help manage building energy demand, such as smart meters, timers on lighting, or building management systems.

Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this	0
	#DIV/0!

Impact (select from list)	Revised Score (0-4)
Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3
Some possible negative impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to review these aspects and find mitigations where possible.	2
sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3
Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0
	3.00

Ways to optimise sustainability and work towards net zero carbon:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduce the need to travel e.g. through remote meetings, or rationalising routes and rounds. - Share vehicles or substitute different modes of travel, rather than procuring new fleet. - Specify electric, hybrid, or most fuel efficient vehicles for new fleet or for services involving transport. - Support users and staff to walk, cycle, or use public transport e.g. with cycle parking, training, incentives. - Use zero-emission deliveries - Model and mitigate the project's effect on traffic and congestion e.g. retiming the service or deliveries

Impact (select from list)	Revised Score (0-4)
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this	0
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this	0
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this	0

Ways to optimise sustainability and work towards net zero carbon:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Procure goods through sharing, leasing, or product-as-a-service models rather than ownership. - Use pre-owned and reconditioned goods, and reduce reliance on procuring new goods. - Use recycled materials, and procure items that can be reconditioned or recycled at end-of-life. - Use lifecycle costing in business cases to capture the full cost of operation, repair and disposal of an item. - Ensure meat and dairy is high-quality, high-welfare. - Design waste, including food waste, out of business models e.g. separating (and composting) food waste; replacing single-use items with reusable items. - Use contact points with residents, community groups and businesses to engage and enable them to adopt low-waste, low-carbon behaviours.

Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this	0
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this	0
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this	0
	#DIV/0!

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Impact (select from list)	Revised Score (0-4)
Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4
Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4
Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4
Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4
	4

<p>Ways to optimise sustainability and work towards net zero carbon: (Seek advice from Landscapes Team if required)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avoid converting green space to hard surfacing. - Use underutilised space for planting, such as green roofs and walls. - Plant native plants and perennials, rather than non-native ornamental species, to encourage biodiversity. - Reduce trimming of grass and hedges, and avoid use of synthetic pesticides. - Provide space for animals e.g. long grass areas, bird boxes, bat boxes, 'insect hotels', ponds, hedgehog hides and passages, log piles - Consider the ecological impacts from manufacture and use of procured goods, e.g. water pollution; water consumption; land use change for farming; pesticide use; organic/regenerative farming methods

Impact (select from list)	Revised Score (0-4)
Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4
Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4
Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4
Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4
Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4

<p>Ways to optimise sustainability and work towards net zero carbon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Install water-saving devices in taps, showers and toilets - Re-use grey water in new developments - Capture and re-use rainwater where possible e.g. water butts for use in car washing, watering garden, toilets - Ensure all new building or refurbishment (especially of homes) models and mitigates future overheating risk, with adequate ventilation and shading - Avoid increasing areas of hard surfacing. - Convert hard surfacing to green and permeable surfacing where possible, and install Sustainable Drainage systems (SUDS). - Plant drought-tolerant plants and mulch landscapes to avoid water loss through evaporation.

	4.00
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Impact (select from list)	Revised Score (0-4)
Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	4
	4
	3.8

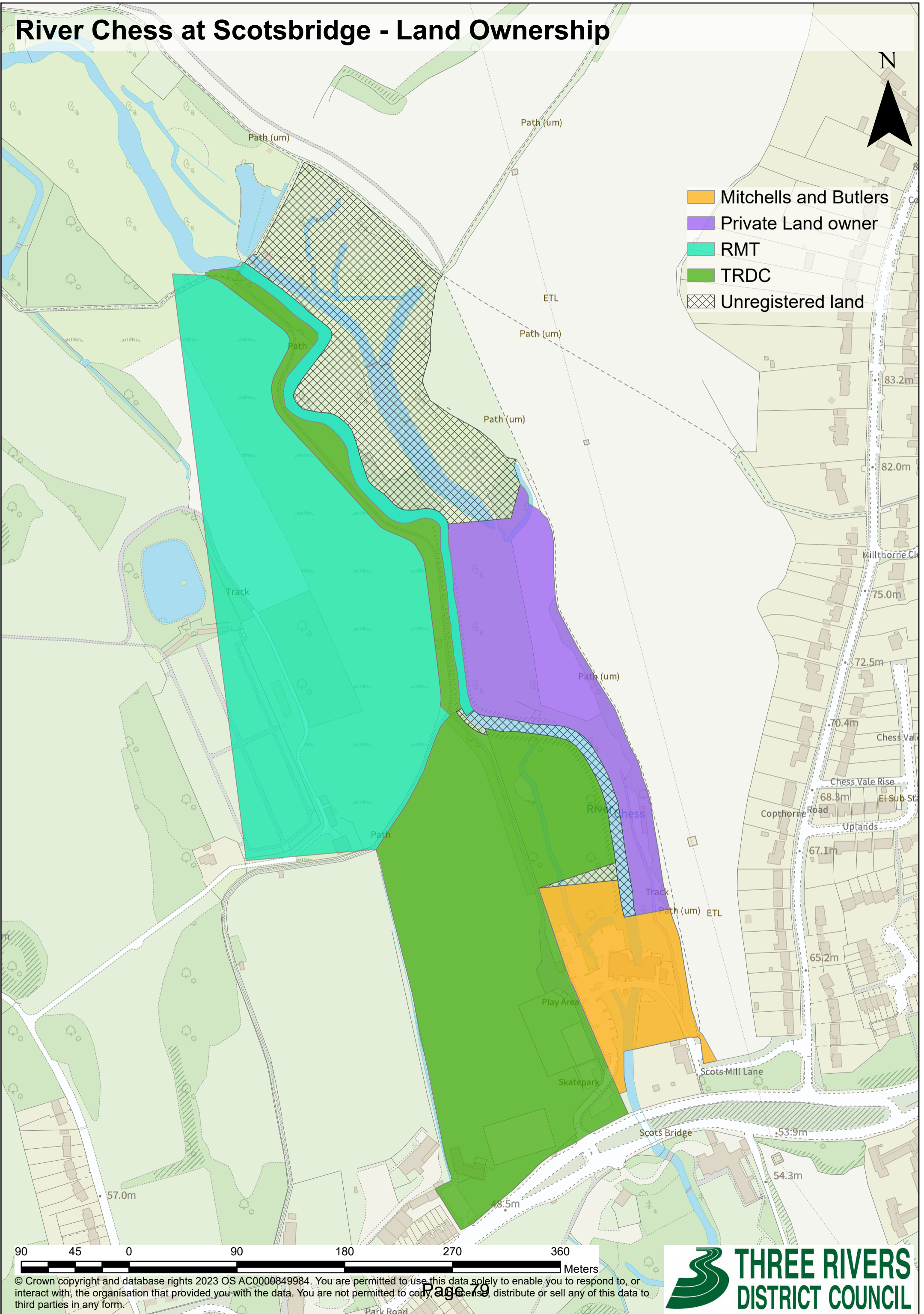
Ways to optimise sustainability and work towards net zero carbon:
 - 'Make every contact count', by using contact points with residents, businesses and community groups to promote understanding of the climate emergency.

River Chess at Scotsbridge - Land Ownership

N



- Mitchells and Butlers
- Private Land owner
- RMT
- TRDC
- Unregistered land



90 45 0 90 180 270 360 Meters

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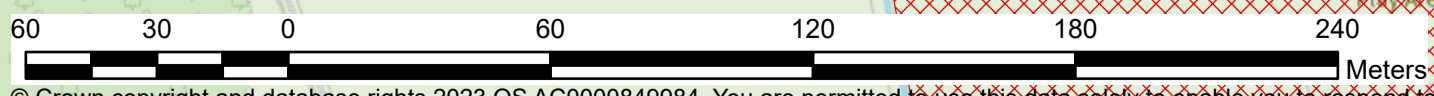
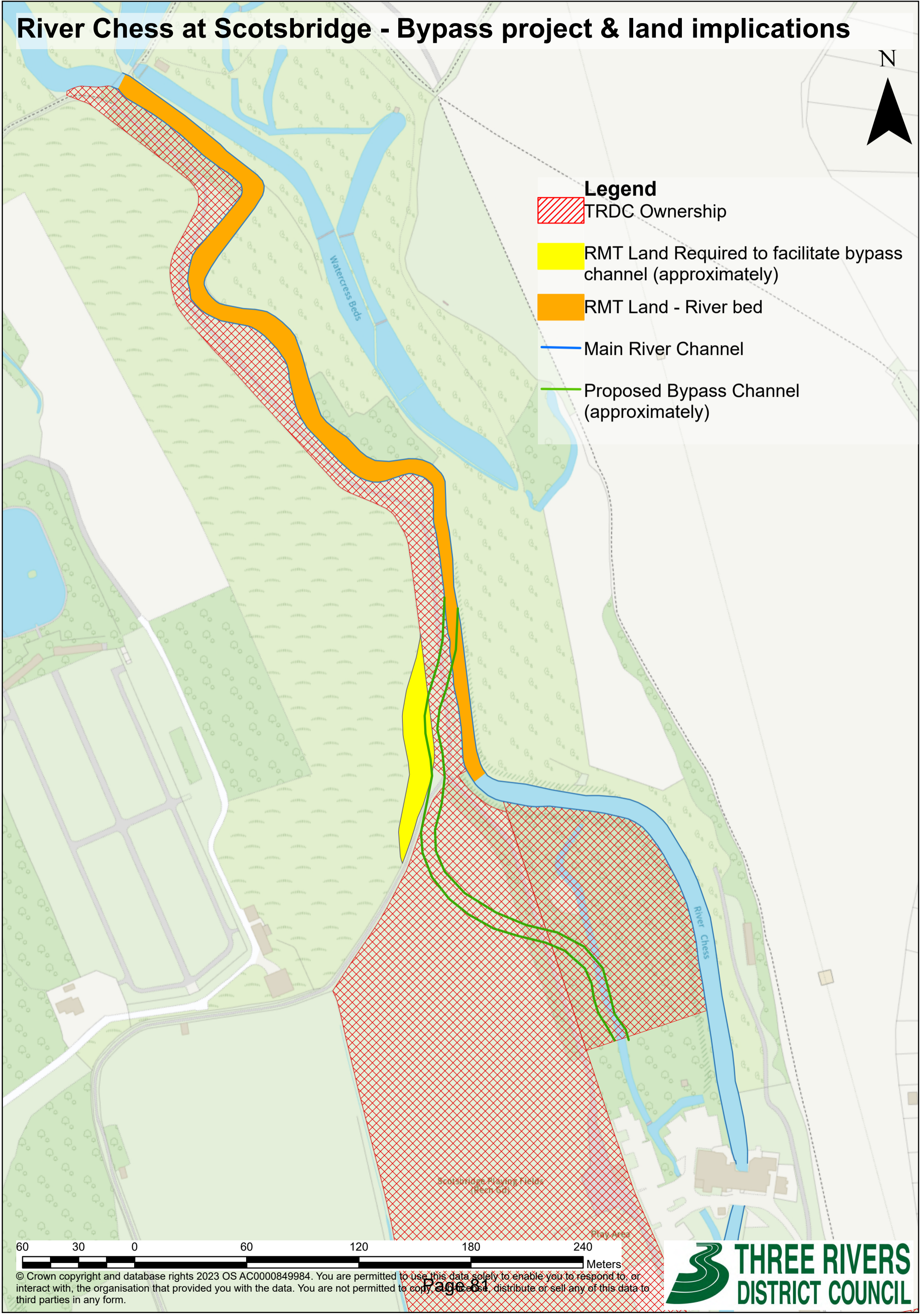
River Chess at Scotsbridge - Bypass project & land implications

N



Legend

-  TRDC Ownership
-  RMT Land Required to facilitate bypass channel (approximately)
-  RMT Land - River bed
- Main River Channel
- Proposed Bypass Channel (approximately)



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