



Oversight and Governance

Chief Executive's Department
Plymouth City Council
Ballard House
Plymouth PL1 3BJ

Please ask for Jamie Sheldon
T 01752 305155
E Senior Governance Advisor
democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk
www.plymouth.gov.uk

Published 07 September 2021

CITY COUNCIL

Monday 13 September 2021
2.00 pm
The Guildhall, Plymouth

Members:

Councillor Mrs Beer, Chair

Councillor Mrs Bridgeman, Vice Chair

Councillors Allen, Mrs Aspinall, Bingley, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Dr Buchan, Burden, Carlyle, Churchill, Coker, Collins, Corvid, Dr Cree, Cresswell, Dann, Deacon, Derrick, Downie, Drear, Evans OBE, Goslin, Harrison, Haydon, Hendy, Hulme, James, Mrs Johnson, Jordan, Kelly, Laing, Loveridge, Lowry, Dr Mahony, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Neil, Nicholson, Partridge, Patel, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Riley, Salmon, Shayer, Singh, Smith, Stevens, Stoneman, Tuffin, Vincent, Wakeham, Ms Watkin and Wheeler.

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business overleaf.

For further information on attending Council meetings and how to engage in the democratic process please follow this link - [Get Involved](#)

Tracey Lee

Chief Executive

City Council

Agenda

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence submitted by councillors.

2. Minutes

(Pages 1 - 14)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 14 June 2021 as a correct record.

3. Declarations of Interest

(Pages 15 - 16)

Members will be asked to make any declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda. A flowchart providing guidance on interests is attached to assist councillors.

4. Appointments to Committees, Outside Bodies etc

(To Follow)

The Monitoring Officer will submit a schedule of vacancies on committees, outside bodies etc and of changes notified to us.

5. Announcements

(a) To receive announcements from the Lord Mayor, Chief Executive, Service Director for Finance or Head of Legal Services;

(b) To receive announcements from the Leader, Cabinet Members or Committee Chairs.

6. Questions by the Public

To receive questions from and provide answers to the public in relation to matters which are about something the council is responsible for or something that directly affects people in the city, in accordance with Part B, paragraph 11 of the Constitution.

Questions, of no longer than 50 words, can be submitted to the Democratic Support Unit, Plymouth City Council, Ballard House, West Hoe Road, Plymouth, PL1 3BJ, or email to democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk. Any questions must be received at least five complete working days before the meeting.

7. Honorary Alderman

8. A Bright Future 2021 - 2026

(Pages 17 - 60)

9. Finance and Capital Monitoring Report June 2021

(Pages 61 - 72)

10. Annual Report on Treasury Management Activities for 2020 - (Pages 73 - 92) 2021

11. Motions on notice

To consider motions from councillors in accordance with Part B, paragraph 14 of the Constitution.

12. Questions by Councillors

Questions to the Leader, Cabinet Members and Committee Chairs covering aspects for their areas of responsibility or concern by councillors in accordance with Part B, paragraph 12 of the constitution.

This page is intentionally left blank

City Council**Monday 14 June 2021****PRESENT:**

Councillor Mrs Beer, in the Chair.

Councillor Mrs Bridgeman, Vice Chair.

Councillors Allen, Mrs Aspinall, Bingley, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Dr Buchan, Burden, Carlyle, Churchill, Coker, Collins, Corvid, Dr Cree, Cresswell, Dann, Deacon, Derrick, Downie, Drear, Evans OBE, Goslin, Harrison, Haydon, Hendy, Hulme, James, Mrs Johnson, Jordan, Kelly, Laing, Loveridge, Dr Mahony, Murphy, Neil, Nicholson, Partridge, Patel, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Riley, Salmon, Shayer, Singh, Smith, Stevens, Stoneman, Vincent, Wakeham, Ms Watkin and Wheeler.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Lowry, McDonald, Morris and Tuffin

The meeting started at 1.30 pm and finished at 1.47 pm.

Note: The full discussion can be viewed on the webcast of the City Council meeting at www.plymouth.gov.uk. At a future meeting, the Council will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

8. Declarations of Interest

The were no declarations of interest made by councillors in accordance with the code of conduct.

9. Appointment of Honorary Aldermen

Councillor Kelly (Leader of the Council) introduced the nomination of Mr Richard Ball, Mr Sam Davey, Mr Mike Leaves, Mr Pete Smith and Mr Kevin Wiggins as Honorary Aldermen. The motion was seconded by Councillor Evans OBE (Leader of the opposition).

Council agreed that, in pursuance of its powers under Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council confers on Mr Richard Ball, Mr Sam Davey, Mr Mike Leaves, Mr Pete Smith and Mr Kevin Wiggins, the title of Honorary Alderman in recognition of their eminent services to the Council of the said City during the period when they were a Member of the Council.

The Lord Mayor On behalf of Council offered her congratulations to former Councillor's Pete Smith, Mike Leaves, Kevin Wiggins, Richard Ball and Sam Davey and looked forward to the formal Honorary Aldermen award ceremony when we are able to hold one safely.

This page is intentionally left blank

City Council

Monday 14 June 2021

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs Beer, in the Chair.

Councillor Mrs Bridgeman, Vice Chair.

Councillors Allen, Mrs Aspinall, Bingley, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Dr Buchan, Burden, Carlyle, Churchill, Coker, Collins, Corvid, Dr Cree, Cresswell, Dann, Deacon, Derrick, Downie, Drear, Evans OBE, Goslin, Harrison, Haydon, Hendy, Hulme, James, Mrs Johnson, Jordan, Kelly, Laing, Loveridge, Dr Mahony, Murphy, Neil, Nicholson, Partridge, Patel, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Riley, Salmon, Shayer, Singh, R Smith, Stevens, Stoneman, Vincent, Wakeham, Ms Watkin and Wheeler.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Lowry, McDonald, Morris and Tuffin

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 6.35 pm.

Note: The full discussion can be viewed on the webcast of the City Council meeting at www.plymouth.gov.uk. At a future meeting, the Council will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

1. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

The following declarations of interest were made by councillors in accordance with the code of conduct in respect of items under consideration at the meeting -

Name	Minute Number	Reason	Interest
Councillor Glenn Jordan	9B		Personal
Councillor Shannon Burden	9B		Personal
Councillor Jemima Laing	9B	Governor	Personal
Councillor Andrea Johnson	9B	Governor	Personal
Councillor Sue Dann	9B	Governor	Personal
Councillor Rebecca Smith	9B		Personal
Councillor Nigel Churchill	9B	Governor	Personal
Councillor Nick Kelly	9B	Governor	Personal
Councillor Natalie Harrison	9B		Personal

3. **Appointments to Committees, Outside Bodies etc**

Members noted the changes to political proportionality of the Council, Council membership and outside bodies.

4. **Announcements**

The Lord Mayor thanked South West Water for their substantial donations to Bowel Cancer South West and the NSPCC.

The Lord Mayor recognised:

- David Draffan, Service Director for Economic development for being awarded an MBE for services to local government.
- Professor Ray Jones, Professor of Health Informatics at the University of Plymouth had been awarded an MBE for services to digital health and social care.
- Alison Pessell, Company Secretary for Fish Markets had been awarded the MBE for services to the English fishing industry.
- Chris Robinson had been awarded the MBE for services to heritage, conservation, education, business and tourism in Plymouth.
- Mr Paul Morriss, Detachment Commander for Devon Army Cadet Force had been awarded the BEM for voluntary service to young people in Plymouth.

The Lord Mayor proposed to suspend the rules of procedure to allow the Director of Public Health Ruth Harrell to provide an update on COVID-19 to Council and answer any questions that were submitted by Councillors to Ruth.

Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Mrs Bridgeman seconded the proposal and went to a vote.

Members voted unanimously in favour of the motion.

Ruth Harrell, Director of Public Health presented a video to Council.

5. **Questions by the Public**

There were two questions submitted by members of the public.

The following question was submitted by Mr Alan Ramage and answered by Councillor Kelly (Leader of the Council).	
Question: "Investing to Save the Planet" by Alice Ross of the Financial Times explains how investing in "best in class" companies transitioning to a low carbon future and researching into low carbon solutions enables our money to make a difference. Will PCC ask its pensions fund managers to do this?	Answer: Plymouth City Council is a member of the Devon Pension Fund. This is not the Plymouth City Council pension fund and as such Plymouth City Council are reliant upon Devon County Council to set their strategic decisions as we have no direct control over the fund or its administration. However, the Devon Pension Fund (DPF) has pledged its portfolio of investments will be net zero by 2050 at the latest. The funds investments in companies classed as carbon intensive have fallen significantly over the last few years. When last measured in December 2019 it showed a 21.5% reduction when compared

	<p>to 9 months previously. In the short term the fund has committed to invest £200 million into renewable energy infrastructure funds by the Brunel pension partnership. The DPF work with the Brunel Pension partnership will decarbonise all its current investments at a rate of 7% a year and to increase investments into carbon solutions. The DPF committed to not only reducing the carbon footprint of current investments but to ensure that in the long term investments are carbon neutral.</p>
--	---

The following question was submitted by Mrs Sonia Hosking and answered by Councillor Riley (Cabinet Member for Governance, HR, IT and Community Safety).

<p>Question: In light of the growing antisocial behaviour in Southway and particularly the recent constant vandalism to the fence on bond Street field, do the council have any intention or budget for considering CCTV for the safety and well-being of the residents and be a deterrent for the offenders?</p>	<p>Answer: Plymouth City Council remains committed to addressing matters relating to anti-social or criminal behaviour to minimise the impact this has on communities and victims.</p> <p>Since being made aware of the emerging issues in Southway, Plymouth City Council have been working in partnership with Devon and Cornwall Police to develop an intelligence picture in the area to consider the tactical deployment of resources. Reviewing information, we are currently not able to substantiate the deployment of a rapid CCTV solutions, however this information will continue to be reviewed by the multi-agency arrangements set up.</p> <p>The partnership approach has resulted in the implementation of a localised problem-solving plan with the Community Connections Community Youth Pop Up team, carrying out 'feet on the street' patrols, engaging with those identified in order to direct them into alternative activities and offer support where required. Further to this the local policing team will be carrying out increased patrols throughout the area to develop intelligence, provide immediate interventions where required, engage with those concerned and offer reassurance to local residents.</p> <p>Information collected during this response will be shared and reviewed by Plymouth</p>
---	--

	<p>City Council's Community Safety Team, and the Child Centred Policing team, both of whom specialise in interventions to limit risk. They also provide support and instigate enforcement activity where necessary and proportionate. As information is developed, further consideration to the deployment of rapid CCTV solutions will be given.</p> <p>As part of the Council's long-term approach, services are working together and with key partners for the planning, scope and design of CCTV solutions within the city. This work seeks to optimise coverage within the city and ensure that known trouble spots have sufficient coverage. This will include updating some of the current analogue cameras to digital cameras and filling identified gaps with rapid deployment options.</p>
--	--

6. **Capital and Revenue Outturn Report 2020 - 21**

Councillor Nick Kelly, Leader of the Council, introduced the provisional Capital and Revenue report for the financial year 2020/21 report this was seconded by Councillor Evans OBE (Leader of the opposition).

Councillor Evans OBE (Leader of the opposition) and Councillor Kelly (Leader of the Council) gave speeches on their perspectives regarding the report.

Following debate, with contributions from Councillors Dann and Nicholson Council agreed to:-

1. Note the provisional revenue outturn position as at 31 March 2021
2. Note the Capital Outturn Report including the Capital Financing Requirement of £105.741m.
3. Reverse the September 2020 Cabinet decision to approve the creation of a Covid Reserve to fund the additional costs and lost income arising from the Pandemic.
4. Approve the carry forward of COVID-19 grants received in advance for draw down in 2021/22 in line with Government guidelines
5. Approve the carry forward of a contingency sum of £3.526m.

7. **Corporate Plan 2021 - 25**

Councillor Kelly, Leader of the Council introduced the motion on the Corporate Plan for 2021-2025.

The revised Corporate Plan 2021-2025 aimed to reflect the new Administration's vision for the city and the Council, and to reframe the Council's mission, values and priorities to support this.

In addition, following fifteen months of unprecedented challenges created both nationally and locally by the COVID-19 pandemic there had been an opportunity to reintegrate response and recovery activities into the Corporate Plan and the Council's associated delivery plans. The report described the revisions that have been made to the Corporate Plan, and asked the Council to adopt it.

Following debate, with contributions from Councillors Dr Buchan, Dann, Evans OBE, Nicholson, Wheeler, Mrs Aspinall and Kelly.

Council agreed to:

- Adopt the Corporate Plan 2021-25 at Appendix B of the report

Votes For: (27) Councillors Bingley, Mrs Bridgeman, Burden, Carlyle, Collins, Deacon, Downie, Drean, Harrison, Hulme, James, Mrs Johnson, Jordan, Kelly, Loveridge, Dr Mahony, Nicholson, Partridge, Patel, Mrs Pengelly, Riley, Salmon, Shayer, Smith, Stoneman, Wakeham and Singh.

Votes Against: (0)

Abstentions: (24) Councillors Allen, Mrs Aspinall, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Dr Buchan, Churchill, Coker, Corvid, Cresswell, Dann, Derrick, Evans OBE, Haydon, Goslin, Hendy, Laing, Murphy, Penberthy, Rennie, Stevens, Vincent, Mrs Watkin, Wheeler and Neil.

Did not vote/absent: (6) Councillors Mrs Beer (Lord Mayor), Dr Cree, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Tuffin,

The motion was carried.

9. **NHS Dental Waiting Lists**

Councillor Mrs Aspinall introduced the motion on NHS Dental Waiting Lists. This was seconded by Councillor Laing.

After a debate this motion was passed.

Votes for: (45) Councillors Allen, Mrs Aspinall, Dr Buchan, Coker, Corvid, Cresswell, Dann, Derrick, Haydon, Goslin, Hendy, Laing, Murphy, Penberthy, Rennie, Stevens, Vincent, Churchill, Wheeler, Neil, Bingley, Mrs Bridgeman, Burden, Carlyle, Collins, Deacon, Downie, Drean, Harrison, Hulme, James, Jordan, Kelly, Loveridge, Nicholson, Partridge, Patel, Mrs Pengelly, Riley, Salmon, Shayer, Smith, Stoneman, Wakeham, Singh.

Votes Against: (0)

Abstentions: (0)

Absent/Did not vote: (11) Councillors Mrs Bowyer, Bowyer, Ms Watkin, Dr Mahony, Mrs Johnson, Tuffin, Morris, McDonald, Lowry, Dr Cree and Mrs Beer.

10. **Education Recovery Plan**

Councillor Cresswell proposed this Motion on Notice for the Education Recovery Plan which had been seconded by Councillor Allen.

Councillor Cresswell presented the motion on notice to council which requested Council to:

Following a debate the motion was carried.

Votes for: (49) Councillors Allen, Mrs Aspinall, Dr Buchan, Coker, Corvid, Cresswell, Dann, Derrick, Evans OBE, Haydon, Goslin, Hendy, Laing, Murphy, Penberthy, Rennie, Stevens, Vincent, Churchill, Mrs Johnson, Wheeler, Neil, Bingley, Mrs Bridgeman, Burden, Carlyle, Collins, Deacon, Downie, Drear, Harrison, Hulme, James, Jordan, Kelly, Loveridge, Nicholson, Partridge, Patel, Mrs Pengelly, Riley Salmon, Shayer, Smith, Stoneman, Wakeham, Singh, Mrs Bowyer, and Bowyer.

Votes Against: (0)

Abstentions: (0)

Absent/Did not vote: (8) Councillors Mrs Beer, Dr Cree, Lowry, McDonald, Morris, Tuffin, Mrs Watkin and Dr Mahony.

11. **Mental Health Services**

Councillor Mrs Aspinall introduced the motion on Mental Health Services. This was seconded by Councillor Haydon.

Following a debate the motion was carried.

Votes for (46):

Councillors Allen, Mrs Aspinall, Bingley, Mrs Bridgeman, Dr Buchan, Burden, Carlyle, Collins, Churchill, Coker, Corvid, Cresswell, Dann, Deacon, Derrick, Downie, Drear, Evans OBE, Goslin, Harrison, Haydon, Hendy, Hulme, James, Jordan, Kelly, Laing, Loveridge, Murphy, Neil, Nicholson, Partridge, Patel, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Riley, Salmon, Shayer, Singh, Smith, Stevens, Stoneman, Vincent, Wakeham and Wheeler.

Votes Against (0):

Abstentions: (0)

Did not vote/Absent (11):

Councillors Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Dr Cree, Johnson, Lowry, Dr Mahony, McDonald, Morris, Tuffin and Ms Watkin.

12. **Opting Out of NHS Patient Data sharing with the Private Sector**

Councillor Evans OBE introduced the motion on Opting Out of NHS Patient Data sharing with the Private Sector and moved an amendment to include a date change. This was seconded by Councillor Corvid.

Following a debate the motion was carried.

Votes for (46):

Councillors Allen, Mrs Aspinall, Bingley, Mrs Bridgeman, Dr Buchan, Burden, Carlyle, Collins, Churchill, Coker, Corvid, Cresswell, Dann, Deacon, Derrick, Downie, Drean, Evans OBE, Goslin, Harrison, Haydon, Hendy, Hulme, James, Jordan, Kelly, Laing, Loveridge, Murphy, Neil, Nicholson, Partridge, Patel, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Riley, Salmon, Shayer, Singh, Smith, Stevens, Stoneman, Vincent, Wakeham and Wheeler.

Votes Against (0):

Abstentions: (0)

Did not vote/Absent (11):

Councillors Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Dr Cree, Johnson, Lowry, Dr Mahony, McDonald, Morris, Tuffin and Ms Watkin.

13. **Urgent Key Decisions to be Reported**

Councillor Nicholson (Deputy Leader) gave a brief update on an urgent key decisions taken since the last meeting. The update was seconded by Councillor Evans OBE.

- Development of a Plymouth Short Term Care Centre

Council noted the urgent key decision taken by Councillor Evans OBE, and published on the 15 March 2021.

14. **Questions by Councillors**

	From	To	Subject
I	Councillor Dann	Councillor Mrs Bridgeman	A commitment to reopen the airport and PCC leading on the climate change? Councillor Nicholson reported that Councillor Mrs Bridgeman not responsible for the airport.
	Response: There are clean green technologies in aviation now as well as drone technology.		
	Supplementary Question: The conservatives closed the airport. There is a need to drastically reduce carbon in the city. How do persuade cabinet colleagues to re-open airport?		
	Response: All discussed within the manifesto regardless of history.		

2	Councillor Stevens	Councillor Mrs Pengelly	Lat52 flats and the safety of the building, emergency work and the concern for residents. Can you assure that local councillors are briefed in good time and in a language we can understand?
	Response: Apologies that you have not received the information and I will ensure that this is addressed.		
	Supplementary question: A briefing scheduled later this month and residents need the information now and not in a couple of weeks.		
	Response: Will get back to you as quickly as possible.		
3	Councillor Churchill	Councillor Mrs Bridgeman	South Hams undertaking the bin collection at Sherford and PCC taxpayers are being refused bin collections from South Hams and PCC – what is going on?
	Response: Please forward this as case work and this is not acceptable.		
4	Councillor Hulme	Councillor Mrs Bridgeman	Timeframe for when Weston Mill tip to be open 7 days?
	Response: Waiting for staff to comeback and priority has been grass cutting.		
5	Councillor Singh	Councillor Mrs Bridgeman	The renaming of Sir John Hawkins Square and the road sign not been replaced. If there was an emergency tomorrow who would be responsible?
	Response: Forward this question to me and I will address this.		
	Supplementary question: Road name missing and no name attached if someone dying on a road who would be accountable?		
	Response: I do not have a response at this time.		
6	Councillor Haydon	Councillor Deacon	Update on how many people we have helped so far on the EU settlement scheme. This scheme ends on 30 June?
	Response: Will have to get back to you with a response.		
	Supplementary question: Could he please explain to these citizens where they need to go for help? But understand that Councillor Deacon is new in post.		
7	Councillor Dr Buchan	Councillor Mrs Bridgeman	When would the schedule be published regarding the neighbourhood sweep?
	Response: They were still working on the schedules for back lane cleaning and will answer this in an email.		
	Supplementary question: Can you clarify in Honicknowle Ward actions have not been seen and timescale that residents and councillors to check?		
	Response: They are looking to update the website and to make more user friendly.		
8	Councillor Dann	Councillor Mrs Bridgeman	Grass maintenance digital map, grass to cut and where to be cut taken to scrutiny in March.

			Were you aware this was publicly available?
	Response: When I first undertook this role I checked the website, there was no clear detail and this will be addressed and website updated and the information available to residents.		
	Supplementary question: On 24 March any resident could access the information and would also like to ask engagement sent to all councillors for their comments and as we were in full lockdown – how on earth engage with every resident when in full lockdown. What other engagement could have been possibly been carried out?		
	Response: Some consultation better than no consultation for e.g. tree planting happened in in my ward and I wasn't consulted on.		
9	Councillor Stevens	Councillor Mrs Pengelly	Controversial planning application at Hamoaze House. The Planning Department are investigating a breach of planning conditions. Will she be as frustrated as me because the applicant is PCC and the agent is a member of staff? PCC not following planning conditions?
	Response: Councillor Stevens wants me to respond to a planning application that I am not aware of. Yes I do follow your frustrations.		
	Supplementary question: Can you please liaise with the community connections officer to ensure any breach is stopped and planning applications can proceed in the usual way that we would all expect.		
	Response: Yes		
10	Councillor Coker	Councillor Dreaan	The long awaited Better Bus Strategy announced just before the election can you confirm that PCC has agreed with the Department of Transport to receive £100k to set up before the 1 Oct Bus Quality Partnership?
	Response: Yes I can I will also will be talking to the bus and coach industry important to hear their views and as soon as I have more information will share.		
	Supplementary question: Infrastructure interventions and to encourage more people to use public transport please explain how a manifesto reducing free car parking charges in the city centre sits with that agenda.		
	Response: This is being looked at by the team and we are looking at all options.		
11	Councillor Neil	Councillor Mrs Bridgeman	Manifesto pledges including the scrapping the bin delivery charges, scrapping the charges for rubble etc and extending garden waste collections to November. Can you reassure me that in delivering that there would be no detriment to the staff concerned in terms of

			retention and pay.
	Response: Councillor Mrs Bridgeman thanked Councillor Neil for his question but deferred it to Councillor Kelly to respond: Cost implication and efficiencies to be made up within the service, we pay huge amounts of money to clear our streets of fly tipping. These decision have been thought through and the benefits for us as a city to be clean and tidy and to allow residents to manage their waste in a responsible manner without being penalised. There are no plans to reduce manpower at Chelson Meadow but pay bandings would be addressed because part of the role that was undertaken no longer takes place.		
	Supplementary question: Charges now been scrapped do you think it is ok for somebody living in rented flat who no access to garden to be paying a contribution to landscaping project or doing their kitchen up?		
	Response: There are services I don't use and certain services I do use. We all pay our council tax to access services and council tax paid by all covers a multitude of services which are used by some. Having a city that is a clean place to visit is a benefit.		
12	Councillor Singh	Councillor Mrs Bridgeman	Credit to you 9 days into the job asking you have a look at the Legacy Labour left behind in Drake Ward – what reassurance can you give me to clear up the mess that Plymouth Labour left behind?
	Response: Thank you for acknowledging the fact that I walked the ward with you. The first thing I notice the lack of recycling bins and never seen so much, fly tipping, weeds and was already on the case and will happily visit the area again. Councillor Rennie objected to the comments made by Councillor Mrs Bridgeman. Councillor Mrs Bridgeman apologised to Councillor Rennie and but was saying what she had seen.		
	Supplementary question: The truth is hurtful and offensive because it is what it is and you speak as you see. Some of the residents have asked to have CCRTV in the Drake Ward for the high refuse areas.		
	Response: That is not within my portfolio but will investigate that in the future. Councillor Riley should be able to answer that question.		
13	Councillor Stevens	Councillor Smith	The opposition lead should be briefed on the planning committee agenda once it made public. Agenda has been published today and I have not been briefed. Can Councillor Smith distinguished the cross party working that I have established and ensure that not only the ruling party is briefed?
	Response: I will explore this with the team and will come back to you. I didn't realise that this happened before.		
	Supplementary question: It wasn't a criticism of the new Chair but I am happy to accept her answer today and will hold her to account if this not taken further.		
14	Councillor Loveridge	Councillor Dreaan	During the months of August

			and September the Ridgeway was hit badly by flooding. Can you provide an update on how to prevent the flooding from happening again?
	Response: The team were looking at two options. The main problem that the water was flowing down the pavement and collecting at the bottom resulting in running into the shop. Once I have further information this will be shared with you.		
15	Councillor Dr Buchan	Councillor Kelly	His use of the word manpower in his recent comment was appropriate and his commitment to equalities?
	Response: I guess in life we use common phrases all the time and I used that term but not in a derogatory way. Moving forward will be more conscious of the words that I use. We have set up a working group and equally Alderman which you haven't raise and but I have raise that we should use the term Alderwoman. We are navigating all the time and do not want my words to be misconstrued. In terms of the English language it gets very difficult and I apologise if this brought offence and I am very much about equality and diversity.		

Please note that questions, answers, supplementary questions and supplementary answers have been summarised.

This page is intentionally left blank

DECLARING INTERESTS – QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

What matters are being discussed?

**D
P
I**

Does the business relate to or is it likely to affect a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI)? This will include the interests of a spouse or civil partner (and co-habitees):

- any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation that they carry on for profit or gain
- any sponsorship that they receive including contributions to their expenses as a councillor or the councillor’s election expenses from a Trade Union
- any land licence or tenancy they have in Plymouth
- any current contracts leases or tenancies between the Council and them
- any current contracts leases or tenancies between the Council and any organisation with land in Plymouth in they are a partner, a paid Director, or have a relevant interest in its shares and securities
- any organisation which has land or a place of business in Plymouth and in which they have a relevant interest in its shares or its securities

No Yes → Declare interest and leave (or obtain a dispensation)

**P
r
i
v
a
t
e

I
n
t
e
r
e
s
t**

Does the business affect the well-being or financial position of (or relate to the approval, consent, licence or permission) for:

- a member of your family or
- any person with whom you have a close association; or
- any organisation of which you are a member or are involved in its management (whether or not appointed to that body by the council). This would include membership of a secret society and other similar organisations.

Yes No → You can speak and vote

Will it confer an advantage or disadvantage on your family, close associate or an organisation where you have a private interest more than it affects other people living or working in the ward?

Yes No → Declare the interest and speak and vote

Speak to Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting to avoid risk of allegations of corruption or bias

**C
a
b
i
n
e
t**

Cabinet members must declare and give brief details about any conflict of interest* relating to the matter to be decided and leave the room when the matter is being considered. Cabinet members may apply to the Monitoring Officer for a dispensation in respect of any conflict of interest.

*A conflict of interest is a situation in which a councillor’s responsibility to act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit without bias may conflict with his/her personal interest in the situation or where s/he may profit personally from the decisions that s/he is about to take.

This page is intentionally left blank

City Council



Date of meeting:	13 September 2021
Title of Report:	A Bright Future 2021-2026
Lead Member:	Councillor David Downie (Cabinet Member for Education, Children and Young People)
Lead Strategic Director:	Alison Botham (Director for Childrens Services)
Author:	Emma Crowther, Strategic Commissioning Manager
Contact Email:	Emma.crowther@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	BF
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

To seek the endorsement of Council for the Bright Future vision paper for children and young people.

A Bright Future sets our ambitions for the children of the city for the next five years. It is a partnership approach to supporting all our children to have the best possible start to life, with activity driven through three priority areas: Safe, Healthy and Happy and Aspire and Achieve.

The plan has been developed collaboratively with our system partners, and through the involvement of children and young people.

A Bright Future includes a plan on a page, which was designed by children and young people. Our young people also took the opportunity to refresh the Ten Wishes document, which sets out what children and young people expect from the adults who work with them.

Recommendations and Reasons

1. Agree to adopt the Bright Future plan and vision for children and young people in Plymouth for 2021-2026.

On 13th July 2021 Plymouth City Council Cabinet approved A Bright Future and agreed the recommendation that the plan be sent to City Council for adoption.

This is recommended as there is an ongoing need for a cohesive vision and plan for children's services in Plymouth, to drive forward the strategic direction of travel, take into account the changing needs of the population and to put in place the governance and oversight to monitor progress and enable effective challenge.

Alternative options considered and rejected

A Bright Future replaces the previous Children and Young People's Plan, in setting the strategic direction of travel for the children's partnership. The alternative of not having a new plan in place was rejected as this would leave a significant gap in partnership planning and working.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The Corporate Plan priorities of unlocking the city's potential and caring for people and communities are highly relevant to a Bright Future in the plan's aspirations for children to be kept safe, to be healthy and happy and to have the opportunities to aspire and achieve, both during their childhoods and into their adult lives. A Bright Future is also linked to the aspirations of the Plymouth Plan in improving the lives of children and young people and addressing the issues which lead to child poverty.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

A Bright Future is a strategic plan; more detailed action plans will be developed which will support the three priority areas and take into account any resource implications: Safe, Healthy and Happy and Aspire and Achieve.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

There are no implications in terms of Carbon Footprint.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

** When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.*

A Bright Future aims to support children to have happy, healthy and safe childhoods in Plymouth, and be able to fulfil their ambitions. Critical to this is tackling some of the root causes of deprivation in the city and the impact this has on attainment and aspiration. The document takes a partnership approach to working together to wrap around families, to identify need early, support them during difficult times and build resilience.

Appendices

**Add rows as required to box below*

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	A Bright Future 2021-2026							
B	A Bright Future – Children and Young People Plan on a page							
C	Ten Wishes – the why and how booklet							

Background papers:

*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)						
	If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
N/A							

Sign off:

Fin	djn.21 .22.46	Leg	It/368 86/35 0621	Mon Off		HR		Asset s		Strat Proc	
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Emma Crowther (Strategic Commissioning Manager)											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 23/06/2021											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Dave Downie (Cabinet Member for Education, Children and Young People)											
Date approved: 23/06/2021											

This page is intentionally left blank



A BRIGHT FUTURE 2021-2026

Making sure Plymouth
children and young
people have the best
possible start to life

CONTENTS

Foreword.....	3
Our Vision and Principles.....	6
Growing up in Plymouth.....	10
Ten Wishes.....	11
Growing up in Plymouth - If our city had 100 children.....	12
What difference do we want to make?.....	13
What our data tells us.....	16
Localities.....	19
Working together to support change: Governance.....	22
Annex A – National Context.....	23
Annex B – The language we use.....	24

A Bright Future is a partnership approach to meeting the needs of all children and young people in Plymouth.

Our partners include:



Devon & Cornwall Police



Devon

Clinical Commissioning Group



FOREWORD

Alison Botham - Director of Children's Services
Plymouth City Council

As partners, we want to make sure all children and young people in Plymouth have a Bright Future, supported by a system which works seamlessly to spot difficulties early, responds quickly and effectively, and makes sure that help is there for as long as it is needed. We are ambitious for all of our children to live full and happy lives; receiving good quality health services, attending high quality education, and having fun, while staying safe.

Everyone has their part to play in achieving this, whether they work directly with children and young people or not. We recognise the central role that parents and carers have in determining the best outcomes for their children and that supporting parents and carers alongside the children and young people will be key in determining our success.

We are making changes to how we work together to support children, young people and families; to be clearer about what we are doing, why we are doing it and the difference it is making to children's lives.

These begin with antenatal and early years services, continuing through all school ages and stage and into young adulthood. We know that if we have the right advice, services and provision in place, children stand the best possible chance of growing into resilient adults.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on our population including of course all our children, young people and families. As a city, our people and services have risen to this challenge and there have been many positives and opportunities to build on; however we need to recognise and fully understand the impact for the children and young people most affected by the disruption to how their education and support services have been delivered. Our priorities and plans need to make sure that we build on the positives and address the impact of the challenges we have faced.

We have developed our thinking and work in regard to trauma informed approaches and we are recognised nationally for this. This supports our strengths based approach and ensures that as a system we understand how trauma impacts on individuals, families and communities and we apply this to inform how we deliver care, support and education in the most effective ways. Our services are underpinned by the iThrive model. This is driving transformation of service design to be more person centred and needs led.

We need to further empower and engage our communities and families so that they participate in and inform our services and recovery.

As we go forward we need to build on the experiences we have shared during the pandemic to come together as a city, strengthen the partnerships that have matured and the learning we have shared.

We are going to work together to address our shared priorities so that children and young people can Aspire, and Achieve, live Healthy and Happy lives, and are Safe: making our vision of a Bright Future for all children and young people in Plymouth a reality.

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Plymouth has seen unprecedented times from March 2020, where many of the 'normal' things in the lives of our children and their families were disrupted as lockdown began. There are various challenges that adversely affected children and families, including the sudden closure of schools, reduced support services and remote online learning. Familiar social contact in person with friends and wider family became something which wasn't allowed, even something to fear. Children and young people were aware of the economic impact of job losses or uncertainty of furlough on their families and networks, and the concern about the legacy this would leave for their own prospects. Over all, was the fear of the threat of a highly contagious impact on the health of loved ones, leading to some children suffering a loss or bereavement due to Covid-19.

Yet through the turmoil there has been a great deal of innovation, truly collaborative partnership working and renewed commitment to improving the lives of children and young people in Plymouth. Multi-agency working has been effective in focusing on a collective understanding of those children we are all most concerned about, staff switched quickly to delivering services in a different way, and some of our children said they felt safe and supported, with less peer pressure. Initiatives and projects have had a positive impact, including:

- Regular exchange of information with schools about vulnerable children, enabling schools to better provide support and escalate concerns;
- Ensuring vulnerable children (including young carers) are digitally connected through the provision of laptops;
- The distribution of food vouchers and attempts to reduce fuel poverty via the Winter Support Grant;

- Midwifery services formally co-located in Children's Centres to support the 0-5 offer;
- Links with the Skills4Plymouth agenda to give children and young people hope for their careers and aspirations;
- Police initiatives with youth workers joining response officers on duty to identify those at risk of anti-social behaviour earlier;
- A 24 hour mental health support phone line for children and young people;
- The creation of a multi-agency Young Carers Hub, across commissioned and in-house services;
- Better local collaboration in sharing good practice among schools to ensure high quality remote learning is provided to children and young people who are not able to access school based education

The longer-term impact of Covid-19 on Plymouth's children and young people is yet to be fully known. For those children whose lives were already more difficult or risky, whether through SEND, caring responsibilities, poor attainment, the impact of living in poverty or in challenging home environments with substance misuse and domestic abuse, the legacy is likely to be significant, and detrimental. The impact of extensive home schooling with sites closed to all but vulnerable and critical worker children is likely to be significant, particularly for children who have struggled to engage with education under normal circumstances.

Work is ongoing to gather qualitative evidence and track data trends so that we have the fullest possible understanding of the longer-term effects of Covid-19 on children, young people and their families.



OUR VISION AND PRINCIPLES



We have a duty to help our children and young people to have a Bright Future. Our vision is that children and young people in Plymouth grow up **healthy and happy, safe and able to aspire and achieve**; living in resilient families and communities, able to take advantage of a broad range of opportunities. Our aim is that no Plymouth child should find that their life chances are defined or limited by the circumstances of their birth or early childhood experiences. If problems emerge we will step in and seek to work effectively alongside families to improve outcomes.

We need to do this better and faster; across our local authority, schools, and health providers, community sector and statutory services, to ensure that we shift resource and focus to be able to benefit more of our children, more of the time focusing on prevention and earlier identification of need. Over time we want to be able to reduce the need for intensive crisis management for a minority. We are aspirational about tackling the corrosive root causes and impact of deprivation.

The following principles drive our approach:

We are strengths based:

- Promotion of wellbeing and prevention is a fundamental aspect of provision;
- Early help will be embedded across the system;
- Innovation and evidence informs our interventions with families;
- Systems should be responsive and accessible, not waiting for crisis to happen before help is offered;
- Engagement and empowerment of families and communities is key to what we do, building on individual and collective resilience.

We support the reduction of the impact of disadvantage:

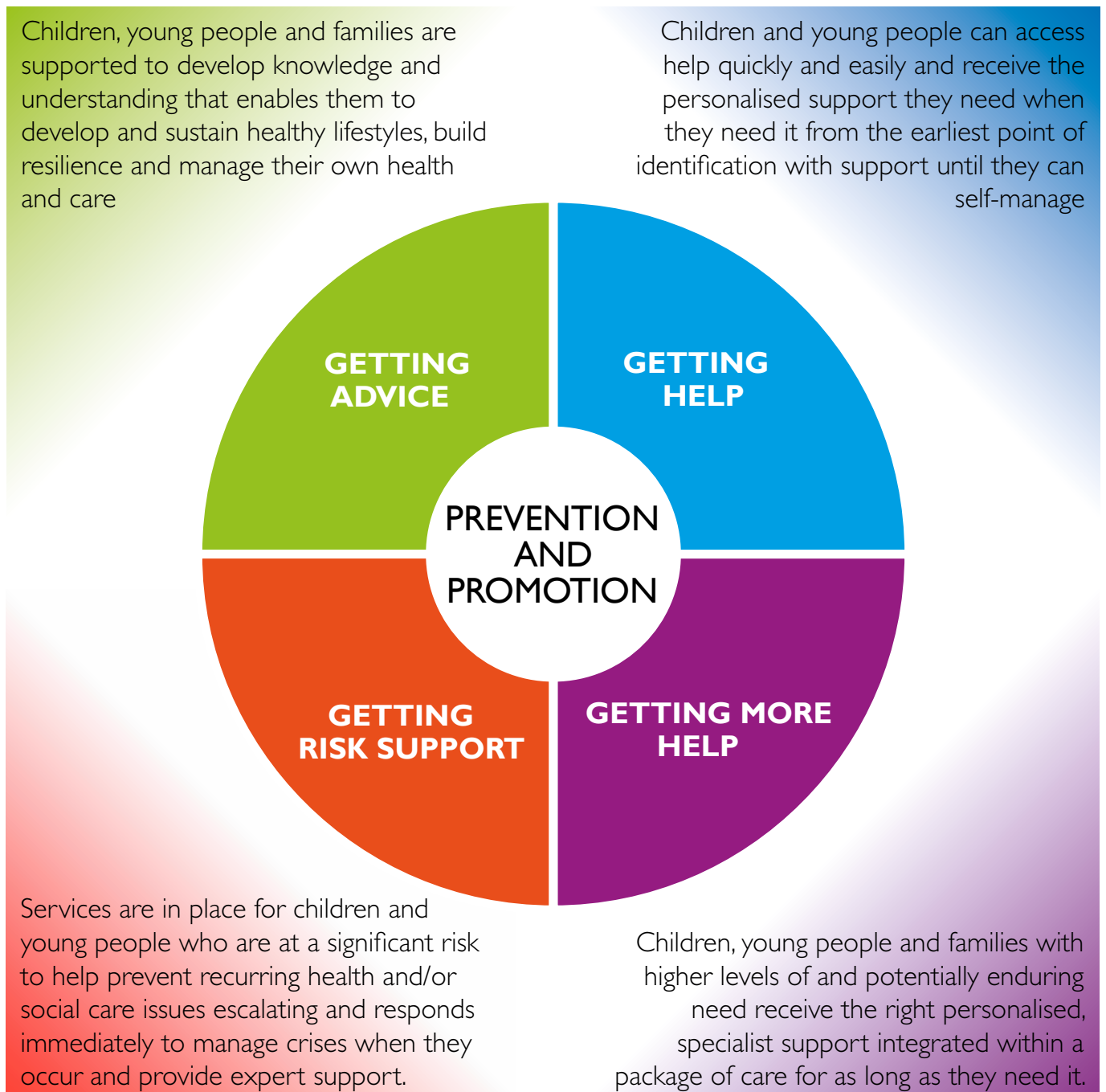
- Improving the quality of education for all will support improved life chances;
- We explore the root causes of disadvantage and improve inclusion and improve opportunities for inclusion
- Raising attainment is critical to reducing the impact of poverty;
- Services are designed to tackle inequalities.

We are restorative and reflective:

- We listen to what children, young people and families tell us and use this to drive change;
- We use a range of participation groups, surveys and face-to-face conversations and develop new ways to engage;
- We challenge ourselves to make sure we have the right support available at the right time and in the right place to support families;
- We ask ourselves whether we are working together as well as we can;
- We consider whether we are taking into account all the factors/context in the life of a child, including both resilience and risk;
- We test ourselves to align our system, services and practice to a Trauma Informed Approach.

One of the models driving our aspirations is iThrive, an approach which focuses on resilience and recognising when needs may change and how the system can respond.

The iTHRIVE framework is increasingly used in Plymouth as part of the design of service. This is based on a model of service delivery used in mental health provision for young people, which aims to provide the right support at the right time to enable young people to manage their needs.



A key driver for truly understanding the experiences of our children and young people, and their families is a Trauma Informed Approach.

Plymouth is committed to embedding a Trauma Informed approach across children’s and adult services; this is a grass-roots movement which has the support of senior leaders and aims to look at complexity through a trauma informed lens, to fully understand lived experience and the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences. The focus of a Trauma Informed Approach is on the 5Rs:

REALISE - what trauma is and how it can have wide spread impact for individuals, families and communities.

RECOGNISE – the signs and effects of trauma in individual people, families, groups, and communities. This includes the workforce within organisations that deliver services.

RESPOND – by integrating knowledge regarding trauma informed approach into policies, procedures and practice.

RESIST - re-traumatising people and communities by actively seeking to avoid situations where traumatic memories might be re-triggered, and seeking to de-escalate and diffuse potentially traumatic interactions when they occur.

RESILIENCE – is promoted in supporting individuals and communities to cope with and adapt to adversity, and have the strength to challenge situations where it might occur.



Partnership working

Our partnership working is key to being able to deliver change. Examples of this include the partnership working with the Plymouth Education Board, leading our ambition to support children to aspire and achieve. This is chaired by the Chief Executive of Plymouth City Council with the Regional Schools Commissioner as the Vice Chair. It has cohesive and strategic oversight of all aspects of education learning and skills for the whole city. In order to focus on ensuring the highest levels of achievement in the city the Board has established a dedicated group of key partners that meet; this is the Plymouth Standards Partnership.

Our Early Help Strategic Board has been established to drive partnership working on how we transform early help and targeted services for vulnerable children. The Plymouth Safeguarding Children Partnership works to ensure that multi-agency working across our city is effective and keeps our children safe.

Two long term strategic partnerships are in place to further support the transformation of services for children and young people in the city; the ten-year NSPCC Together for Childhood partnership aims to improve our understanding of child sexual abuse and contextual safeguarding, at a locality level. The seven-year Care Journeys partnership with Barnardo's seeks to improve outcomes for care experienced young people, particularly their engagement in employment, education, training and other positive activity.

Access is a partnership between Livewell Southwest, University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust and Plymouth City Council, to embed a multi-agency approach to supporting children with additional needs.

This paper describes the ambitions we have for the future; on refocusing system energy and resource on identifying and meeting emerging need earlier to prevent needs from escalating and in reducing crisis/complex support and reactive approaches. This will necessitate a whole system approach. Partners will utilise the voluntary and community sector's unique knowledge and skill base, to gain insight in to local issues to enable earlier and bespoke interventions.

Children and their families live within the wider communities and environments of our City and their outcomes will be influenced by wider issues such as climate change, economic development, the built, green and blue environments. Strong links with these wider partnerships will ensure that the needs of children and young people are embedded within their work.

During the pandemic many of our partnerships have matured and excelled in serving our population. There are many positives and significant amounts of learning that can be used to maximise the role partnerships provide in future years.

GROWING UP IN PLYMOUTH

What our children and young people say...

I want to feel safe when I go out with my friends

I worry about so many things – who can help me and my friends with our mental health?

I am lonely and want your help so I can make connections with other people and places

I have special educational needs and I need to know how I will be helped as I grow up

Being a child in care makes me feel different – I'm the only one in my class and everyone knows about me

What is being done to save the environment and how can I help?

I'm worried about being able to get a job in the future – what choices do I really have?

I'm going to be 18 soon and I don't know what to expect

I want to make my own choices

I help to care for my mum and little brother, but I don't want you to forget about me

I need somewhere safe to live

I want someone to talk to, who I can trust and isn't going to walk away

Social media makes me feel my life needs to be perfect

These views have been gathered through on-going engagement and participation activity with children and young people in Plymouth



The ten wishes were developed by young people in Plymouth to describe how they want professionals to treat them.

TEN WISHES

What Children and Young People in Plymouth want from you...

We want professionals to be easier to contact.

We want professionals to be on time, as they expect us to be.

We want professionals to be properly trained and for us to be involved in the training.

We want professionals to ask us what we need and not to assume.

We want professionals to do what they say they are going to do, to listen and stand up for us.

We want professionals to use words we understand.

We want professionals to reassure us something is being done and tell us how long it will take.

We want professionals to understand when we need to talk to them one-to-one.

We want professionals to ask us 'do you feel safe?'

We want professionals to respect us and how we feel.



GROWING UP IN PLYMOUTH – IF OUR CITY HAD 100 CHILDREN

There are approximately 52,898 children and young people under the age of 18 years living in Plymouth. This is approximately 20% of the total population in the area (based on ONS Mid-2019 Population Estimate).

31 would be living in poverty (when housing costs are taken into account)



3 suffering from a loss or bereavement



14 would be from a minority ethnic group



17 would be claiming free school meals (across primary and secondary)



0.5 of a child would be subject to a child protection plan



0.8 of a child would be in the care of the local authority



15 children would have special educational needs



3 would have an Education Care and Health Plan (EHCP)



5 are children of those in the Armed Forces (Service Families)



17 (aged 5-16) are likely to have difficulties with their mental health



68 achieve a good level of development in their Early Years Foundation stage of their education



57 are achieving the 'Basics' at school at GCSE (A*-C) / 9-4) in English and Maths



14 are classed as persistent absentees



WHAT DIFFERENCE DO WE WANT TO MAKE?

Our ambitions are meaningless if we don't turn them into reality; into tangible changes which make a difference to the everyday lives of children and young people. The following pages set out what we are going to do to help our children to stay **healthy and happy, safe and aspire and achieve**. Our children, young people and families will be able to access what they need at the right time and in the right place, whether what is needed is some advice on the internet or by phone, an assessment or a longer term intervention or support.

We want to support the conditions that promote and protect health and identify any challenges that our families are experiencing early, so that they can be enabled and supported at the earliest opportunity, both to address their needs and prevent any issues getting worse. For all of the priorities to be effective in supporting children, young people and families, it is important that Plymouth as a city provides consistent access to good quality advice and information. This includes areas such as income, housing and debt, which are likely to become more significant given the impact of COVID on the economy.

Priority	A city where...	We will have made a difference to children's lives when we see...	For 2021-26 we plan to:
Stay healthy and happy	<p>Children and young people receive effective support for their emotional and mental health needs. Children and young people are able to access dentists across the city.</p> <p>The physical health of children is improved and they are making choices which promote a healthy lifestyle.</p> <p>The wider social, economic and environmental determinants of health are tackled, which impact on the health, wellbeing and longer term outcomes for children and young people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Reduction in out of areas admissions to Tier 4 mental health provision ■ Reduction in the rate of children admitted to hospital due to self harm ■ Emotional health and wellbeing surveys tell us children and young people feel more resilient ■ A reduction in the numbers of children considered to obese ■ A reduction in admission to hospital due to asthma. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Improve access to Speech and Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy ■ Transform services across NHS providers and partners to meet the increasing demand and long waits for Autism assessments and build capacity within the Neuro diversity pathway. This will include services to support children and young people with complex needs and autism, to enable families to stay together ■ Improve responses to the increased numbers of Looked After Children including Care Leavers following the impact of COVID, on their general physical, social and emotional mental health ■ Evaluate the impact of our Emotional Health and Wellbeing in Schools services to ensure the services meet need and are sustainable ■ Increase access to children and young people's mental health services ■ Develop new models for crisis response, including consideration of capital projects with partners, which offer accommodation as well as a holistic offer of support for emotional needs ■ Improve our response to support children and young people who are classed as obese ■ Improving pathways of support for children and young people with asthma, across community, primary and secondary.

Priority	A city where...	We will have made a difference to children's lives when we see...	For 2021-26 we plan to:
Be safe	<p>Children and young people are safe and protected from the risk of harm at home and in their communities.</p> <p>Families tell their story once, and are fully involved in their plans to support change with a focus on their strengths.</p> <p>Families receive their support in the places and from the people that best suit their needs, for as long as they need to embed resilience.</p> <p>Families don't see the 'join' between services.</p> <p>Children and young people have opportunities to have fun and take calculated risks to support their development.</p> <p>Families have access to effective parenting support to reduce harm caused through neglect.</p> <p>Children and young people are protected from all forms of exploitation.</p> <p>Assessments are aligned to avoid repetition and form a holistic view of need.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Increase in how safe young people feel in their communities ■ Reduction in the number of adolescents experiencing crisis ■ Increase in families able to be supported by a cohesive Early Help offer ■ An increase in the number of early help assessments completed in the community by system partners ■ An increase in the demonstrable impact of early help assessments leading to improved outcomes for families ■ Reduction in the number of children and young people subject to child in need and child protection plans with concerns related to neglect ■ Reduction in the number of children and young people entering the care system, including a specific reduction in the number of adolescents entering the care system ■ Fewer children and young people are placed at distance from the city ■ Use of legal care proceedings only when necessary to safeguard children ■ Reduction in first time entrants to the Criminal Justice system through effective preventative support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Develop and embed robust quality assurance processes – to include auditing, a Child in Need framework and QA framework ■ Improve the quality of assessments and plans, including the Early Help Assessment Tool (EHAT) ■ Develop the Front Door of Social Care to improve the quality of assessment and advice available ■ Develop the Family Hub partnership model, remodelling Children's Centres and Family Support services into a 0-19 offer ■ Improve access to positive parent interventions and family support that reduces risk and prevents the need for statutory interventions ■ Implement the Learning Disability and Autism Key Worker pilot ■ Develop options for alternatives to admission and out of area provision for children and young people with learning disability and autism who are experiencing crisis ■ Actively grow the number of foster placements available in the city, and the range and number of other types of provision locally, including children's homes and semi-independent support and accommodation ■ Expand and enhance the Adolescent Support Team to be able to respond to more young people with a broad range of complexities ■ Increase in awareness across communities, families and schools to recognise, prevent and intervene when exploitation is identified ■ Increase the number of young people supported with a 'Safer Me' plan ■ Reduce exploitation related crime ■ Evaluate the impact of our Pause project for vulnerable women, and put in place plans for a sustainable model of delivery for at least one more cohort

Priority	A city where...	We will have made a difference to children's lives when we see...	For 2021-26 we plan to:
Aspire and achieve	<p>Children have access to high quality early years provision.</p> <p>Children are ready to start school and fully engage in learning.</p> <p>Children and young people are able to attend good quality primary and secondary education.</p> <p>Special educational needs are identified early and supported as needed.</p> <p>Young people are helped to develop the skills needed for the world of employment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Increase in the number of city schools graded good or outstanding by Ofsted ■ Reduction in permanent exclusions from city schools ■ Demonstrable reduction in the impact of disadvantage on attainment of children and young people ■ Demonstrable improvement in the quality of the Early Years offer so that children are ready for school ■ Improvement in the percentage of children achieving a good level of development in the Early Years Foundation stage ■ Quality of Elected Home Educated provision is assured and benchmarked ■ Education, Health and Care Plans are completed within statutory timescales ■ High quality careers advice and guidance supports young people to a positive destination ■ An increased percentage of disadvantaged and vulnerable children attend a Good or Outstanding school ■ Children and young people with Education, Health and Care Plans achieve the attainment outcomes that are at or above the national average ■ Closing future skills gaps is embedded in Plymouth's education system and school curriculum creating career opportunities for learning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Develop and implement an inclusive approach in schools so that there are good alternatives to exclusion, pupil mobility and placement in Alternative Provision ■ Steer and monitor schools' blended learning and catch-up support for children who are affected by Covid-19 and those who are vulnerable and disadvantaged ■ Progress and evaluate Narrowing the Gap work with Early Years settings, implemented through joint teaching observations and discussions about how they identify and support the most disadvantaged children ■ Support the inclusion of children new to the UK and learning English so that they make accelerated progress and experience improved life chances ■ Support, challenge and monitor the Early Years settings that are judged less than good by Ofsted, so that a higher percentage of children do attend provision graded as good ■ Work with Skills4Plymouth to apply labour market intelligence to understand skills and job opportunities, identifying gaps in provision and creating an action plan to close the skills gap, aligned to the curriculum from primary through to post 16 education ■ Consolidate the Skills Launchpad Plymouth, to ensure a high level of access by the target cohorts so they receive independent advice and guidance ■ Fully develop a physical Youth Hub as a place where young people can access free and impartial careers advice, information, education and guidance to enable them to make informed decisions and to help them achieve their career aspirations ■ Promote a Plymouth curriculum that will address the city's education priorities, to improve overall attainment outcomes while closing the disadvantaged gap, and working with young people from ethnic minority backgrounds to decolonise and diversify learning in order to celebrate the contributions of BAME peoples to our community ■ Increase schools and parents confidence and knowledge in supporting SEND children and young people through an approach of co-production, partnership and multi-agency working ■ Increase the offer for children and young people with SEND within the local area.

WHAT OUR DATA TELLS US

The [2019 child health profile](#) produced by Public Health England tells us more about being a child in Plymouth, alongside our own needs analysis:

CIPFA – Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

Child mortality rate

The child mortality rate is lower than England but isn't significant due to the small numbers involved which is around three to six deaths a year. Over the last six years in Plymouth the rate has been static.

Vaccination coverage 2 year olds

For the last eight years the vaccination coverage for 2 year olds in Plymouth has been above England and for the last four years it has been above the World Health Organisation (WHO) vaccination target of 95%. Plymouth compare favourably with our CIPFA nearest neighbours around vaccination coverage in 2 year olds.

Children achieving a good level of development at the end of reception

For the last five years the proportion of children achieving a good level of development at the end of reception in Plymouth has been below England's proportion. In Plymouth the proportion has increased over the last six years. Compared to our CIPFA nearest neighbours Plymouth sits towards the bottom of the group.

Children in low income families (under 16 years)

For the last ten years the proportion of children (under 16 years) living in low income families in Plymouth has been higher than England's proportion. But the proportion of children living in low income families in Plymouth has decreased over this period. Compared to our CIPFA nearest neighbours Plymouth sits towards the bottom of the group.

Family homelessness

For the last four years the rate of households with children or pregnant women accepted as unintentionally homeless has been lower than England's rate. The most recent rate for Plymouth was 1.3 per

1,000 households which works out to 151 households that were accepted as being unintentionally homeless. Compared to our CIPFA nearest neighbours Plymouth sits towards the top of the group.

Using a local snapshot of the temporary accommodation data on the 22 February 2019, there were 62 families in temporary accommodation within these families there were 124 children. Over half of the families living in temporary accommodation are in the West locality and a third of the families are in the South locality.

Child Protection

The published rate of children with a Child Protection Plan for Plymouth as at 31 March 2020 was 58.6 per 10,000 children aged 0 to 17 years old (310 children). This was significantly higher than the South West average rate of 37.7 and the England average rate of 42.8. Plymouth was comparable to our statistical neighbours (58.8). Although the number of children with a Child Protection Plan was reported at 300 as at 30 November 2020 (a rate of 56.7) it had reached as high as 356 children during the Covid-19 pandemic (a rate of 67.2).

Children in Care

As at 31 March 2020, the published rate of Children in Care was 82 per 10,000 children aged 0 to 17 years old (434 children). Plymouth's rate was above the South West average rate of 57 and the England average rate of 67. We remained below our statistical neighbour average rate of 91.7 – the rate for our statistical neighbours' range from 53 to 140 per 10,000 children. Plymouth's number of Children in Care has seen a significant increase during this financial year with the rate of 91.5 per 10,000 as at 30 November 2020. This related to 484 children.

Children killed or seriously injured on England's road

The latest rate shows Plymouth has a similar rate of children killed or seriously injured on roads compared to England's rate. The most recent rate was 12.1 per 100,000 children aged 0-15 years old which works out to around 17 incidents over the last three years. Compared to our CIPFA nearest neighbours Plymouth has the second lowest rate.

Low birth weight of term babies

The latest proportion shows Plymouth has a similar proportion of term babies being born with a low birth weight compared to England's rate. The most recent proportion was 3.2% which works out to 83 babies. Compared to our CIPFA nearest neighbours Plymouth sits towards the middle of the group.

Obese children (4-5 years)

The latest proportion of obesity in reception aged children is similar to England's proportion. The most recent proportion is 9.7% which works out to 264 children. Compared to our CIPFA nearest neighbours Plymouth has the third lowest proportion.

Obese children (10-11 years)

The proportion of obesity in year 6 children is similar to England's proportion. The most recent proportion is 18.6% which works out to 464 children. Compared to our CIPFA nearest neighbours Plymouth has the lowest proportion of obesity in year 6 children.

Admission episodes for alcohol-specific conditions under 18

For the last ten years Plymouth has had a higher rate of admissions for alcohol-specific conditions in under 18s compared to England. The most recent rate was 47.3 per 100,000 population aged under 18 which works out as 74 admissions over a three year period (25 admissions a year). Over the last ten years the Plymouth rate has decreased and has closed the gap between Plymouth and England. Compared to our CIPFA nearest neighbours Plymouth sits towards the middle of the group.

Hospital admissions due to substance misuse

For the last seven years Plymouth has had a similar rate of admissions due to substance misuse in 15-25 year olds compared to England. The most recent rate was 103.8 per 100,000 population aged 15-24 years old which works out as 124 admissions over a three year period (41 admissions a year). Compared to our CIPFA nearest neighbours Plymouth sits towards the middle of the group.

Breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks

Since the new reporting method was introduced Plymouth has had a lower proportion compared to England. The most recent proportion for Plymouth was 40% of mothers breastfeeding at the six to eight weeks check. Compared to our CIPFA nearest neighbours that have met the data quality tests Plymouth sits towards the top of the group.

A&E attendances 0-4 year

For the last seven years Plymouth has had a lower rate compared to England. The most recent rate was 493 per 1,000 population aged under 5 for Plymouth which works out as 7,549 attendances. Compared to our CIPFA nearest neighbours Plymouth has third lowest attendances rate in under 5s.

Hospital admission caused by injuries in children 0-14 years

For the last eight years Plymouth has had a higher rate compared to England, over this period the rate has decreased for Plymouth. Compared to our CIPFA nearest neighbours Plymouth has a high rate of admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children aged under 15 years old.

Hospital admission for mental health conditions

The latest rate of admissions for mental health conditions in under 18s is similar to England. Compared to our CIPFA nearest neighbours Plymouth sits towards the middle of the group.

Hospital admissions as a result of self-harm

For the last four years Plymouth had a higher rate of admissions as a result of self-harm in 10-24 years old. Over the last four years Plymouth has seen a steady increase in the number of 10-24 year olds admitted to hospital as a result of self-harm. Compared to our CIPFA nearest neighbours Plymouth has the second highest rate of admission as a result of self-harm in 10-24 year olds.

Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) data

ASQ provides a measure of development in early years and is routinely undertaken as part of the 2-2½ year mandated check. Domains of development tested include communication, gross motor, fine motor, problem solving and personal-social skills.

In 2018/19 Plymouth has a similar proportion to England and the South West of children who were at or above the expected level in all five areas of development. Across the five areas of development in Plymouth communication has a lower proportion of children at the expected level, which follows national data.

Children or young people with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) assessment or plan

In Plymouth there are 2,130 children or young people (0-25 years old) with an EHC needs assessment or plan (as of the 29 March 2019). The North and West localities have a higher rate of children or young people with an EHC assessment or plan, while the South locality had a lower rate.

Absence and exclusions

Plymouth schools have a lower proportion of pupils permanently excluded compared to England, however both Plymouth and England have shown increases in numbers over time.

Plymouth schools have a higher overall absence rate when compared to England, the trend shows the rate has been fairly static over the last five years. Plymouth schools have a higher persistent absence rate when compared to England.

Young carers

The most current data from schools (November 2020) identified 907 children and young people who are young carers.

Youth offending

The rate of first time entrants to the youth justice system in 2019 was 332 per 100,000 10-17 year olds in Plymouth, or 74 10-17 year olds. The rate of first time entrants to the youth justice system for Plymouth is higher than the South West Region (198), the YOT Family (238) and England (204).

The youth offending team now undertake out of court assessments and interventions as well as statutory orders. In 2019 there were 106 young people who have had a Youth Offending Team intervention (compared to 60 in 2017). The team is currently working with 52 young people (as at 22 December 2020).

Pupil resilience and self esteem

When results from the local school survey are compared to other areas that have carried out a school survey it shows the following:

A low proportion of pupils in Plymouth have a high self-esteem and resilience score when compared to six local authorities in Plymouths CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) group, and a higher proportion of pupils having a low self-esteem and resilience score.

Service families

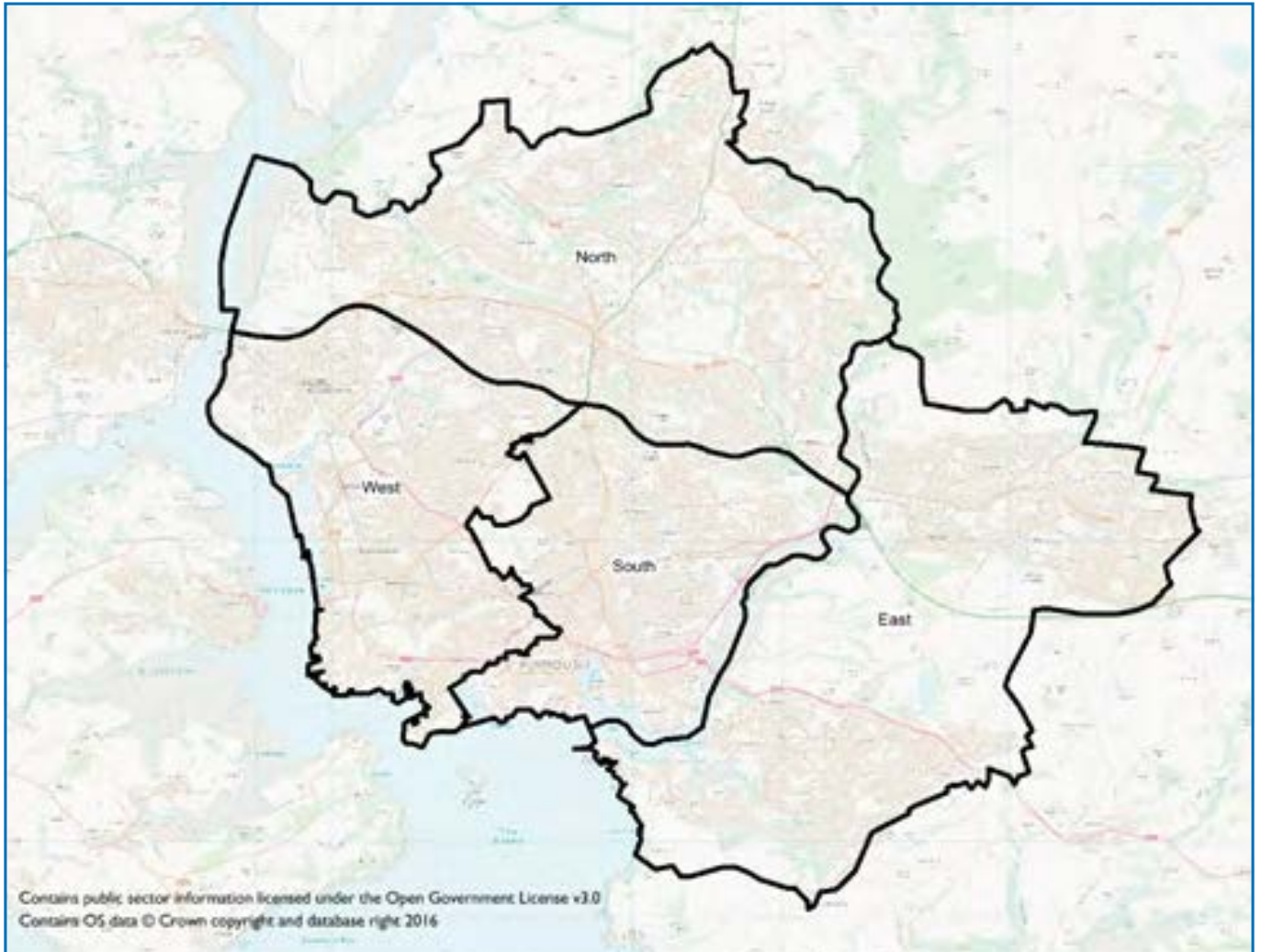
Plymouth has just under 3000 children who are part of a service family. This can be challenging as parents are deployed or return from deployment, in ensuring that families are supported to connect with their local communities.

Children learning English as an Additional Language (EAL)

Current data shows that 7.6% (2,991) children in Plymouth schools overall are new arrivals to the UK learning EAL. In our primary schools this proportion is higher at 8.2% (1,730 pupils). These pupils are vulnerable to disadvantage in terms of attainment and progress.

LOCALITIES

The map below shows the Plymouth localities used by health services to provide services for children and young people.



East locality summary

- Slightly lower proportion of the population aged under 5 years old and working age adults (15-64) and a higher proportion of the population aged over 65
- Fewer babies born with a low birth rate
- A higher proportion of pupils in years 8 and 10 who said they recently ate five portions of fruit and vegetables in a single day
- A higher proportion of pupils in years 8 and 10 who said they had an alcoholic drink in the last seven days
- Lower proportion of families are eligible for Free School Meals
- Higher proportion of those aged 17-19 are in education, employment or training
- Lower rate of teenage pregnancy
- A higher proportion of children report violence (e.g. hitting, punching, slapping) at home in the last month
- Lower rate of children under 5 classed as vulnerable by Health Visitors
- Lower rates of involvement with the Youth Offending Team

North locality summary

- Higher proportion of pupils reporting being a victim of violence or aggression in the area they live
- Lower proportion of violence in the home (eg hitting, punching, slapping)
- Higher proportion of adults with no qualifications.
- Higher proportion of the population aged over 65 and under 5
- A lower proportion of pupils (year 8 and year 10) stated that they ate five portions of fruit and vegetables yesterday.
- A higher proportion of adults have no qualifications and a lower proportion of adults have a level 4 qualifications in the locality.
- A higher proportion of pupils (year 8 and year 10) stated that they have taken illegal drugs during last year.



South locality summary

- Higher proportion of children with a healthy weight in reception and year 6
- Lower proportion of pupils reporting use of substances, alcohol and cigarettes.
- Higher rate of teenage pregnancy
- Higher proportion of the population who are working age adults (16-64).
- Lower proportion of pupils (year 8 and year 10) stated that they have had an alcoholic drink in the last seven days.
- Lower proportion of pupils (year 8 and year 10) stated that they have had at least one cigarette in the last seven days.
- A higher proportion of pupils (year 8 and year 10) stated that they have low self-esteem (4 of the highest ten neighbourhoods).

West locality summary

- Strong sense of community
- A lower proportion of pupils (year 8 and year 10) stated that they have had an alcoholic drink in the last seven days.
- A lower proportion of children in reception and year 6 are recorded as having a healthy weight.
- A higher rate of children had their teeth removed under general anaesthetic.
- A higher proportion of the working age adult (16-64) population are claiming out of work benefits
- A higher proportion of children eligible for free school meals.
- A lower proportion of children are achieving a good level of development at the end of Reception.
- A higher rate for teenage pregnancy
- A higher proportion of families (with children under 5) are classed as a vulnerable, as reported by the health visitor case load survey.
- A higher proportion of pupils (year 8 and year 10) stated that they have taken illegal drugs during last year.



WORKING TOGETHER TO SUPPORT CHANGE: GOVERNANCE

Our governance works to the following principles:



ANNEX A – NATIONAL CONTEXT

Funding for children and young peoples' services has fallen by 29% since 2010 and councils face a funding gap of £3bn by 2025, according to Action for Children.

Headlines include:

- By 2022 there will be close to a quarter of a million Section 47 child protection enquiries undertaken. That's an increase of 180% since 2010
- By 31 March 2022, we predict there will be more than 60,000 children subjects of child protection plans. An increase of 56% since 2010
- Children in care figures increase every year, which is not necessarily a bad thing for the children concerned. By 2022, we think there will be 77,000 children in care, an increase of 20% since 2010.

In November 2019 the Local Government Chronicle noted:

- £8.4bn budgeted for children's social care 2019-10
- £784m more spent than planned
- 81% of Councils spent more than planned
- Four Councils spent 40% more than planned
- 19 Councils spent 25% more than planned

A number of recent documents have further explored the issues facing children's services of rising demand and complexity, and the funding needed to resource this.

In September 2019 the Office of the Children's Commissioner published "Guess how much we love you – a manifesto for children". In this document the Children's Commissioner describes the stark reality for increasing numbers of children living in England:

- One in six children arrive at school having failed to meet half their expected physical and emotional developmental milestones;
- 6% of pupils are leaving compulsory education at 18 without GCSE level qualifications;
- Approximately four children in every school class need support for mental health difficulties;
- More than 120,000 are homeless and living in temporary accommodation;
- More than four children in every school class will have special educational needs, and account for nearly half the 41 pupils permanently excluded from school every day;
- 900,000 children live with parents with poor mental health.

ANNEX B – THE LANGUAGE WE USE

We recognise that the words we use when talking to and about children, young people and families have a significant impact. Words have the power to break down barriers, but also alienate, and this is true whether a child is in the care of the local authority or living with their family.

In 2019, a glossary of words and terms that aims to change the language of the care system was published. Language That Cares is a collaborative effort led by adoption and fostering charity TACT (The Adolescent and Children's Trust) and the charity's children and care experienced young people, with contributions from 15 local authorities and organisations.

The glossary gives powerful examples of how easily the words we use can be perceived as insulting or cruel, and the alternatives which children and young people would prefer.

A

Abscond

We prefer: Run away; Go missing

Asylum seeker

We prefer: Young people

"Asylum seeker is a home office term, these young people are much more than a Home Office label."
Social Worker

B

Birth/Biological Parents

We prefer: Parents; Family; Mum or Tummy Mummy; Dad

You should access each child individually to find out what they like calling their family members." Cheshire East Young Person

"The words can also be excluding and disadvantageous to birth parents and it is important for this to be considered as well." Foster Carer

C

Care leaver

We prefer: Care experienced adult

"We prefer 'care experienced' but we are not always keen on the word 'care' as this can mean anything due to 'care' having a wide definition." Cheshire East Young People

Care plan

We prefer: Future plans; My plan

"The word 'care' needs less usage, it is used too commonly, and I am fed up of hearing it." Cheshire East Young Person

Challenging Behaviour

We prefer: Having trouble coping; Distressed feelings; Different thinking method;

Difficult thoughts

"Children and young people who are finding coping tough are not 'challenging' they are in need of your help and support." Social Worker

D

Designated Teacher

We prefer: Teacher

"Just say it's a teacher we can talk to, who is trained and who attends our reviews.

The word is too obvious, we don't want everyone knowing." Cheshire East Young People

Difficult to place

We prefer: Can't find a home good enough for them; Failed by the system

"The phrase 'difficult to place' blames the child for a failure of the system." Charity Social Worker

Drop out

We prefer: Early school leaver

F

Full potential

We prefer: You will make sure I have every chance to achieve my dreams

H**High aspirations**

We prefer: Good choices; Wanting the best for our children

"You will try your best to help me because you want me to achieve." Cheshire East Young People

I**In care**

We prefer: Another home away from home; Living with a different family in a different home

Isolation

We prefer: Reflection time

"I really dislike this term. It should not be in existence as it is punitive in its nature."

Professional

L**LAC/Foster child**

We prefer: Call children by their names; LA should say 'our children' or [insert name of LA]'s children; Young People or Children

"Every child is 'looked after'; there is no need to point us out. Some would consider themselves looked after before coming into care." Cheshire East Young People

"I do not mind the saying, but just don't say it a lot." York Young Person

"The acronym 'LAC' can be understood as a suggestion that the child or young person is 'lacking' something." Professional

"Take away LAC acronym completely." Herefordshire Young People

Leaving care

We prefer: Moving on or Moving up

M**Moving placements**

We prefer: Moving to a new house; A new chapter or fresh start

N**NEET**

We prefer: Unemployed or not in training or in education

"NEET is a silly word, no young person knows what it means yet we are called it."

Warwickshire Young People

P**Peers**

We prefer: Friends

PEP

We prefer: School review; Education meeting; Education plan

"It is not about the word 'PEP' itself, it is how it is presented in school. Some teachers openly announce in class that the LAC student has a PEP meeting and this will arouse the interest from the rest of students, leaving the looked after student to explain what it is and why they have it." Rotherham Young People

Permanence

We prefer: My home without disruptions

Placement

We prefer: Our home or home; My house or the house where I live

"Placement sounds like you are being forced to live there." TACT Young Person

"I don't like when they say, 'you are a normal child living in someone else's home' or when they use the term 'child in care.'" Bristol Young Person

"This should be a word used more for a temporary placement, not when you see it as your home and have been there a long time." York Young Person

R**Respite**

We prefer: A break for children (not carers); Day out; Home away from home; Stay over/

Stay over family; Sleepover; Time off/Time off for us/ Time off for our carers

"This word does not make much sense. It is too formal and not a word we use everyday." York Young People

"It can be offensive as it means an escape or a break from something that is not enjoyable." York Young People

Restrained

We prefer: Physical help to stay safe

Reunification

We prefer: Going back to live with my family; Going back home

S

Siblings

We prefer: Our brothers and sisters; People who are related to me

"This is too formal, and it is OK in written language but in spoken language I think it should just be brothers and sisters." York Young Person

Sick

We prefer: Unwell

"I don't like when they say that my Mum is sick, I would rather they say Mum is unwell." Bristol Young Person

Social worker

We prefer: One to one worker; Someone who understands your family background and knows what you have been through

Special needs

We prefer: Additionally supported; The needs name, i.e. disabled, global developmental delay, learning need, etc.

"Everyone is special, and everyone has different levels of need." Warwickshire Young People

T

Therapy

We prefer: Talking things through sessions; Trying to make sense sessions;

Help to work things out

Transition

We prefer: Preparing for change





A BRIGHT FUTURE 2021-2026

A vision to make sure that Plymouth children and young people have the best possible start to life

Everyone who works with children and young people wants to make sure they have a Bright Future. We are ambitious for all children to live full and happy lives, receiving good quality health services, attending high quality education, and having fun while staying safe.

Our aim is that all Plymouth children and young people will have the opportunity to reach their full potential regardless of their

circumstances or childhood experiences. We also want to reduce any negative impact Covid-19 might have on your future.

We are making changes to the way we work together to support you. We will be clear about what we are doing and how it makes a difference to your lives. We want your voices to be at the heart of what we do so we can ensure that you grow up **healthy and happy, safe** and able to **aspire and achieve**.

TO STAY HEALTHY AND HAPPY

We will make sure you receive the right support to help you and your friends with your mental health and wellbeing.

We will work to make improvements to help you live healthy and active lives.

TO BE SAFE

We want Plymouth to be a place where children and young people feel safe and protected from the risks of being harmed at home and in communities.

You will be protected from all forms of exploitation

We will provide you with support from people that best suit your needs for as long as you need.

TO ASPIRE AND ACHIEVE

We will prepare you for all stages of education through nursery, primary and secondary school to give you the skills needed for the world of employment.

We are planning to increase opportunities for children and young people with special, educational needs and disabilities within Plymouth.

If you want to know more about **A Bright Future** email participation.youth@plymouth.gov.uk



This page is intentionally left blank

THE TEN WISHES

What Children and Young People
in Plymouth want from
you and why...



TEN WISHES

What Children and Young People in Plymouth want from you...

We want professionals to be easier to contact.

We want professionals to be on time, as they expect us to be.

We want professionals to be properly trained and for us to be involved in the training.

We want professionals to ask us what we need and not to assume.

We want professionals to do what they say they are going to do, to listen and stand up for us.

We want professionals to use words we understand.

We want professionals to reassure us something is being done and tell us how long it will take.

We want professionals to understand when we need to talk to them one-to-one.

We want professionals to ask us 'do you feel safe?'

We want professionals to respect us and how we feel.

FOREWORD BY THE PLYMOUTH YOUNG SAFEGUARDERS

Consultation with youth participation groups across Plymouth has shown that the Ten Wishes remain as relevant now as they were when they were developed in 2014. Feedback was however that the Ten Wishes didn't seem to be consistently followed across all workers and all agencies.

This booklet has been produced in conjunction with young people accessing a variety of key organisations across the city to explain why these wishes are important to us and offer suggestions as to how you could meet them.

The overwhelming feeling amongst young people is that the Ten Wishes are even more relevant now than before COVID19 became a part of our lives. We want to ensure that the Ten Wishes stay relevant during the 'new normal' and are not increasingly or gradually side lined or even forgotten by their lack of specific reference to COVID19 and how it has effected professional practice. We recognise that there will need to be a change in approach during any restrictions and also during the period of adjustment and 'catch up' once these restrictions end.

Please do not underestimate the impact that 2020/21 has had on our mental health. A greater number of young people are now feeling isolated and a lot more vulnerable. These mental health challenges result in the need for young people to feel valued, listened to and respected by professionals.

There have also been other lockdown related issues such as not having access to technology/resources which has made it more difficult for vulnerable young people to be able to access professional support.

Because young people have been unable to meet face to face and have that human contact there is a fear that relationships between young people and professionals are becoming less personalised and that young people as human beings are being forgotten and replaced by numbers/names on a screen.

Simple things like extra personalisation and warmth within emails/texts like asking if the young people are well and what they've been up to can take into account the positivity shortfall of living in isolation and lockdown.

It can now also be harder to reach out and there is a reliance on professionals answering their messages when we can't just go to their offices. Likewise, we understand that you can't pick up on cues as easily when you are talking to us online so when people have the confidence to speak up, that needs to be picked up on straight away.

We want to thank you for reading this booklet as it shows to us that you are committed to providing the best service as possible for the children and young people of Plymouth.

Plymouth Young Safeguarders
March 2021

WHO ARE THE TEN WISHES FOR?

The Ten Wishes focuses on what children and young people want from 'professionals'. When they were initially created, there was a focus on workers within Children's Social Care. However, they have since been adopted by the Plymouth Safeguarding Children's Partnership and are relevant to anyone working with children and young people.

We know that some of the wishes might be more relevant to your work than others and all we ask is that you do what you can.



We want professionals to be easier to contact

Why this wish is important to young people...

"We don't want to have to go through loads of people and tell them everything over and over, when we could just speak to the person we want directly."

"Young people with anxiety may not want to have to talk to another person when it's taken them a while to gain trust with their worker which may cause them to just not make contact at all, making things worse and letting it build up."

"It's about trust and building that trust quickly."

"Sometimes we need to update people on things missed from appointments or positive or negative experiences between appointments which may influence future sessions."

"A paediatrician I work with uses a secretary to communicate, this is ineffective as it's not as easy to explain stuff."

"Some of us aren't allowed phones because we are too young so it can be hard to let people know when we need to talk."

"It can feel like people are never available when you need them."

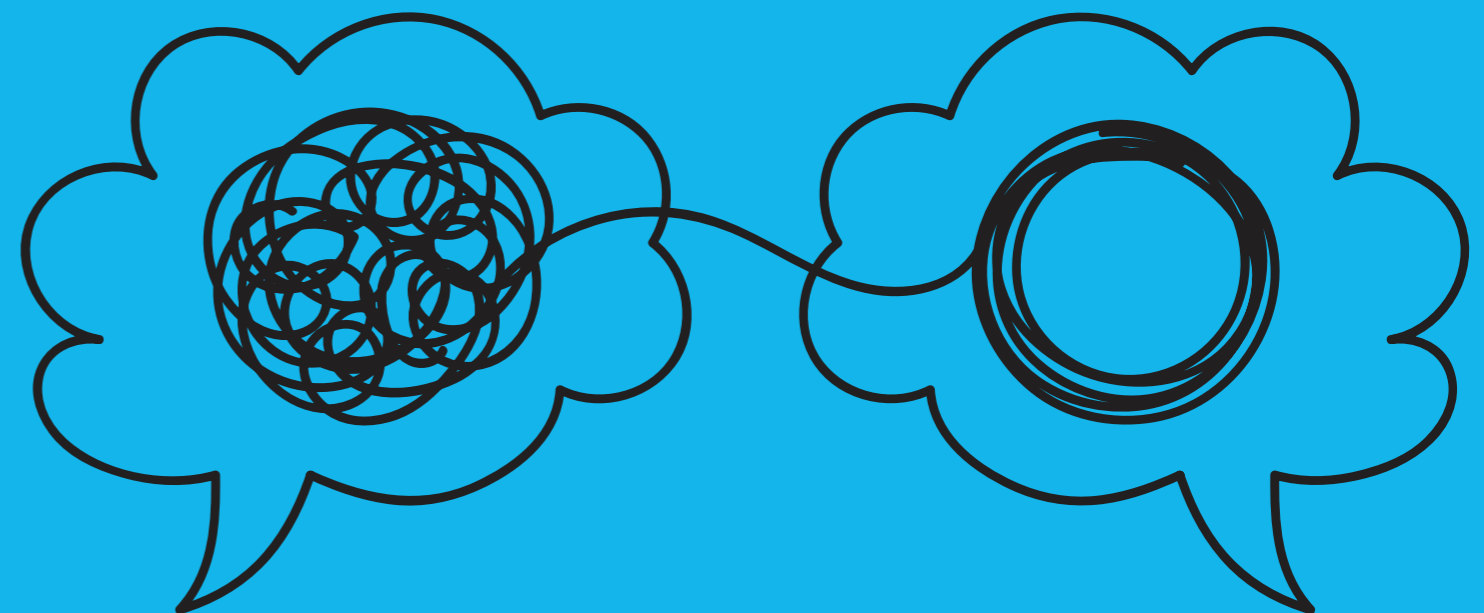
What young people think organisations could do to put this wish into their practice...

It would be helpful to have a website where you can find lots of professionals and their contact details. This could already exist and if it does, help us access it.

Our lives don't fit into 9-5 so maybe there could be a 24hr phonenumber for some services.

Having a direct route avoids going through lots of people and having to say the same thing over and over. By making sure that children in care have their social workers phone number or students have the email address of their tutor, we can do things quicker.

You could change it up a bit too by having more routes available to contact workers like email, Facebook Messenger, WhatsApp, text message etc.



We want professionals to be on time, as they expect us to be

Why this wish is important to young people...

"It seems like there is a double standard and that needs to be eradicated."

"It's important because it shows equality and shows that they respect us and it helps make professionals easier to access."

"So everyone feels equally valued and to make sure there is no imbalance or 'us and them' between professionals and those being supported. Equal respect and building trust."

"To make the patient or customer feel happy with the service so they can feel at ease using it again."

"If the professional is on time, the young person doesn't feel rushed, gets more time for talking and gets more valuable output from the session."

"This is super important, it should be common sense as a professional to show up on time but when they don't, it can make young people feel unwanted and like their issues don't matter."

"It is really depressing and demoralising when a vulnerable young person is just sitting there waiting. It makes us feel we're not cared about and that we're a number, and the fact that we don't know when the response is coming means we are in limbo."

What young people think organisations could do to put this wish into their practice...

People are busy, like all the time. Does that mean they have too much to do? Perhaps if there were more people doing the job then the workers could have the time to do things the way we need.

If you can't be there when you say you will and are going to be late, let us know. As long as we know what's going on and aren't just waiting and waiting, we do understand that there will be times you can't be exactly on time.



We want professionals to be properly trained and for us to be involved in the training

Why this wish is important to young people...

"If someone is properly trained, it helps to make the professional more comfortable and confident which then makes young people more comfortable."

"When we are involved in training, professionals get to hear views and real life stories."

"It helps keep professionals aware of recent situations that are happening in schools and other environments."

"There can be a big generational gap sometimes and bringing us together in a learning environment can help break that down."

What young people think organisations could do to put this wish into their practice...

Training is the most important element in regards to enabling young people to get themselves and their views across and for professionals to understand the people they are working with on a human level.

First of all, being properly trained should be a right for all professionals. A lot of teachers will have to teach topics which can be personal such as divorce, abortion and sexual health. "I spoke to the teacher who teaches this and he had no training and didn't feel very comfortable teaching these topics at all."

Training for all people who work with children and young people on issues like mental health or poverty could help them understand behaviour more and the reasons an individual might behave in a certain way. This is key to Plymouth being a 'Trauma Informed' city.

Secondly, have young people involved in training. We don't have to be there in person (most of the time we can't be anyway because we are in education) but we can create resources or webinars which you can incorporate.

It's not just continuous professional development either; if we had a fuller role at an educational level (university), professionals could have the right people skills from the start.

It's not just training either. We could also be part of interview panels ensuring that candidates don't just perform well in front of adults but also demonstrate that they can connect with children and young people.

We want professionals to ask us what we need and not to assume

Why this wish is important to young people...

"Because I want my voice heard!"

"If people just assume what we need then they aren't properly connecting with us - If you're assuming, you're not listening."

"It's important not to assume what we need because it causes issues and doesn't feel like the professionals understand us properly. This is SO DRAINING for young people."

"If the worker keeps cutting the young person off it can make them feel super inferior and like they aren't truly being listened to."

"I don't want to be generalised. Assuming things about me just puts me in a box and gives me a label that may not be right for me. This could mean that I don't get the right help needed."

"Sometimes people making assumptions makes it seem like they are rushing to get on with stuff. They can't always get a proper understanding without asking our opinion, especially when it's about us."

"If we are supported to explore our own ideas, we are more likely to follow them and make changes within our lives."

What young people think organisations could do to put this wish into their practice...

Training is key. Even by reading this, you're seeing how we feel and could change your practice if you need to.

Show us that you have listened, talk to us, ask us what we need instead of automatically doing what you think we need.

We want professionals to do what they say they are going to do, to listen and stand up for us

Why this wish is important to young people...

"So we can have the best help we can get."

"It's nice to be listened to instead of being spoken to."

"Well, how can we trust professionals who don't do any of these things? Keeping promises is basic human decency."

"It's super important for professionals to listen because then young people feel understood and comforted."

"It creates better trust and then we can model good values."

"If we can't voice our own opinion, we need someone to voice it for us. If someone says they'll do something, it's expected that they'd do it."

What young people think organisations could do to put this wish into their practice...

Don't make promises! It's hard to trust professionals as it is so when they promise something and don't do it then it's hard. Just be a decent human being by doing what you say you will do as this ensures there is respect and trust between professionals and young people.

Help young people by standing up for them when they can't stand up for themselves.

Don't say something just to keep us happy.



We want professionals to use words we understand.

Why this wish is important to young people...

"So we clearly know what they are going to do."

"This is super important because we can get worried and confused with professional words sometimes."

"Each group of professionals have their own special language; their own set of acronyms or jargon and we don't always get it."

"If we don't understand, you aren't communicating with us properly"

What young people think organisations could do to put this wish into their practice...

Cut out the jargon.

Being aware of how you talk or write to us or about us. Use common words so we understand and explain what certain words mean.

Casual chat is okay and has a big difference to relationship building.

You could have separate reports designed specifically for the individual young person.

You could start off by telling us the easier word then follow it up with the big word by adding 'this is also known as'. This would help us not get worried or stressed if it was explained better.

We want professionals to reassure us something is being done and tell us how long it will take

Why this wish is important to young people...

"Telling us how long it will take it is good so we aren't spending time worrying about stuff and it means we can relax a little."

"It's about trust and making promises, don't make promises you can't keep. Don't promise you're going to do something and then not do it."

"We need to know that we are not being ignored."

"So we can trust what you are doing or saying. By communicating with us and being open and honest, it helps to build a better relationship."

"Reassuring young people its being done is important because we might worry about it and it not happening. This will reduce our stress levels."

What young people think organisations could do to put this wish into their practice...

Simply reassure us that it's being done and say a time when it will be finished or give regular updates by email, phone or text.

Listen to what we are saying and if you say you're going to do something, just do it.

If you feel like you can't achieve it then explain that to us and not expect us to wait.



We want professionals to understand when we need to talk to them one-to-one

Why this wish is important to young people...

"Talking one-to-one can help reduce our stress and anxiety."

"So we can express our feelings to workers when we need to."

"It can help us feel more comfortable as we can often feel embarrassed."

"Confidentiality"

"We don't feel like we can be honest when other people are listening. This can include when we are in a space with thin walls!"

"Don't want to feel like we are being judged."

What young people think organisations could do to put this wish into their practice...

Ask us questions such as 'what do you want your session to look like?'

Having a named person that we know we can speak to if we need.

Have quiet areas where we can talk one-to-one.

We may not feel confident enough to ask in front of others or may not want to say 'yes' if you ask if we want someone to leave the room. Offering us a one-to-one space should be standard practice.

If you're visiting us in our home, don't use our bedroom as the one-to-one space as it is our private space. Take us somewhere else instead such as out for a walk.

We want professionals to ask us 'do you feel safe?'

Why this wish is important to young people...

"So we can have the best life we can!"

"If you don't feel safe it leads to stress and anxiety which is bad for our mental health."

"We may not be able to say how safe we feel without being asked due to anxiety and fear."

What young people think organisations could do to put this wish into their practice...

This wish also interlinks with the need to talk to professionals on a one-to-one basis sometimes.

We may feel safe in one place and not another. For example, home might be absolutely fine but we might be scared about something at school. Sometimes this standard question isn't enough. Try unpicking it a bit with us. It shouldn't just be a tick box question.

Also, think about the actions needed based on the response, and what young people might be thinking those actions are. If we are really scared, we might just say that we do feel safe because we've been threatened with harm for saying something different.

Explain your confidentiality policies to us. They are different depending on your organisation and role. This will help us feel safe about what we are sharing with you.

Training is key to putting this wish into practice, embedding into the practice of all workers. This can be supported through supervision and a variety of resources. Suggestions included code words, special stickers on a prescription and having a regular review of sets of questions.



We want professionals to respect us and how we feel

Why this wish is important to young people...

"It builds trust"

"It's important because if people acknowledge how we are feeling, it can bring comfort"

"This can either make us happy or to make us feel happy"

"No means no. If we don't want something and we tell you, we want you to respect our wishes."

"First impressions count. Having respect is key to building a relationship with us."

"Judging us is not okay."

What young people think organisations could do to put this wish into their practice...

You can show us respect by not being patronising and allowing us some control.

Check in with us and ask us questions using appropriate language.

We feel valued when you are flexible and meet our needs as well as yours. For example, by changing the time we meet so we don't get removed from the same lesson every week, it shows you respect our education.

Listen to what we say. If you ask us the same things over and over we don't feel respected.

We are all individuals with different needs.

Please respect our knowledge and take that into account. We can know our bodies and minds better than you may think.

Treat us how you would like to be treated.



Remember the names of the children and families you are working with

Don't make assumptions based on reports about us

Have an open mind

Be sensitive to our environment and how it may be different to yours

Communicate with other relevant agencies

Be aware of the power of the information that you hold about us

Smile

Be aware that negative things about our family members could be difficult for us to hear

Listen

This booklet was produced by the Plymouth Young Safeguarders in partnership with other youth participation groups across the city, supported by the Plymouth Safeguarding Children Partnership.

This page is intentionally left blank

City Council



Date of meeting:	13 September 2021
Title of Report:	Finance and Capital Monitoring Report June 2021
Lead Member:	Councillor Nick Kelly (Leader)
Lead Strategic Director:	Brendan Arnold (Service Director for Finance)
Author:	David Northey - Head of Integrated Finance Hannah West – Finance Business Partner
Contact Email:	David.northey@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	Fin/djn/2021(03)
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

This report sets out the revenue finance monitoring position and the capital position of the Council to the end of the financial year 2021/22, as at the end of June 2021.

Recommendations and Reasons

That Council:

1. Notes the current revenue monitoring position;
2. Approve the revision of the Capital Budget 2021-2026 to £612.270m.
(as shown in Section C Table 1)

Alternative options considered and rejected

None – our Financial Regulations require us to produce regular monitoring of our finance resources.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The financial outturn report is fundamentally linked to delivering the priorities within the Council's Corporate Plan. Allocating limited resources to key priorities will maximise the benefits to the residents of Plymouth.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

Robust and accurate financial monitoring underpins the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP). The Council's MTFP is updated regularly based on on-going monitoring information, both on a local and national context. Any adverse variations from the annual budget will place pressure on the MTFP going forward and require additional savings to be generated in future years.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

No impacts directly arising from this report.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

The reducing revenue and capital resources across the public sector has been identified as a key risk within our Strategic Risk register. The ability to deliver spending plans is paramount to ensuring the Council can achieve its objectives.

Appendices

*Add rows as required to box below

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	2021/22 Savings status							

Background papers:

*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

Fin	pl.21. 22.98	Legal	LLS/ 3723 8/AC /1/9/ 21.	Mon Off		HR		Assets		Strat Proc	
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Brendan Arnold (Service Director for Finance)											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 27/07/2021											
Cabinet approved: 10/08/2021											

SECTION A: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Table 1: End of year revenue forecast

	Budget £m	Net Forecast Outturn £m	Variance £m
Total General Fund Budget	195.568	197.082	1.514

The forecast revenue outturn after the application of Covid grants and council mitigating actions is currently estimated at £1.514m over budget, which is a variance of +0.8% against the net budget (+0.2% against the gross budget).

This is the first quarter's monitoring report for 2021/22 and it should be noted that the financial position will fluctuate as we move through the year. Officers and Members will work closely to manage the finances towards a balanced position by the end of the year.

Within this position the following headline financial issues are reported:

1. The pandemic continues to have a major impact on our financial resources, with a potential drawdown of £15.257m against the currently available grants. This will be reviewed as the year progresses. The impact of COVID-19 will continue in this financial year but in this forecast the additional costs identified are offset by an illustrative allocation of grants received and therefore do not count against the overall position.
2. Key budget pressures:
 - a) £1.511m reported within Customer & Corporate Services Directorate due to a legacy efficiency target not yet realised plus a savings target of £0.550m within the facilities management department which is being included due to the risk of non delivery in the current year.
 - b) Place are reporting a £0.101m pressure against revenue due to borrowing charges applied to Street Services.
3. Key favourable variances:
 - a) Public Health is reporting a business as usual under spend of £0.098m.

SECTION B: Directorate Review**Table 2: End of year revenue forecast by Directorate**

Directorate	Budget £m	Forecast £m	COVID offset £m	Forecast Net Variance £m	Status
Executive Office	5.428	5.471	(0.043)	0.00	on budget
Customer and Corporate Services	44.004	46.418	(0.903)	1.511	over
Children's Directorate	53.070	60.984	(7.914)	0.000	on budget
People Directorate	89.441	92.522	(3.081)	0.000	on budget
Public Health	(0.537)	(0.576)	(0.059)	(0.098)	under
Place Directorate	25.069	28.352	(3.182)	0.101	over
Corporate Items	(20.907)	(36.089)	15.182	0.000	on budget
Total	195.568	197.082	0.000	1.514	over

1. Executive Office

- 1.1 The Executive Office is reporting a nil variance, after offsetting COVID-19 related costs totalling £0.043m. This covers additional expenditure incurred for the provision of IT equipment to allow the newly-elected members to access online meetings and the loss of income within Legal services because courts are not running to a full schedule.

2. Customer and Corporate Services Directorate

- 2.1 The Customer and Corporate Services Directorate is forecasting an over spend of £1.511m for business as usual activity. The directorate has a significant amount of legacy savings as well as in-year pressures showing due to unforeseen delays on implementing savings plans. The department is continuing to explore further opportunities to manage this position and will carry on monitoring as the year progresses.
- 2.2 Within the Facilities Management Department the £0.550m pressure remains. The department is awaiting the outcome of the Conditions Survey commissioned to ascertain the state of the building stock. The department is still aiming to deliver a part-year saving towards this target.
- 2.3 COVID-19 has caused delays in enabling some delivery plans to be met, including the remaining balance of £0.600m against Business Support. COVID-19 has also impacted on income generation within Libraries of £0.103m. Within the additional COVID-19 expenditure a provision for housing benefit bad debt £0.200m has also been made.

3. Children's Directorate

- 3.1 The directorate is forecasting an overall breakeven position for the year and reflects the projected delivery of the required £4.001m of savings. This is after identifying a COVID-19 related forecast of £7.914m for the year which can be offset by applying an equivalent sum of grant: There are four components;

a) Legacy placements from 2020/21, which were forecast and included in the budget at a cost of £2.919m, are now confirmed as an additional spend of £3.154m.

b) The full year cost of the new 2021/22 placements, already in the system for the quarter to date adds a further cost of £2.126m. Projecting this level of activity into residential placements based on the current trend adds a further cost of £1.542m.

c) To ease the pressure across the whole service of the current social worker caseloads, the directorate is recruiting permanent social workers at an additional cost of £0.385m. This was identified and included in the budget. There is also £0.685m charged to the Covid Outbreak Management Fund to cover the cost of funding additional temporary Social Workers and Family Support Workers.

d) All placements continue to be reviewed with a view to step down where appropriate for mitigation. The cost of the care is particularly high due to the level of support needed to keep young people safe, such as specialist residential care placements with high levels of staffing and the need to place young people with complex needs in wrap around as no suitable placement is available.

e) Education, Participation and Skills are showing £0.022m lost income due to Government deciding to cancel statutory assessments as a result of COVID-19.

4. People Directorate

- 4.1 The People Directorate is forecasting an overall breakeven position for the year which includes the projected delivery of the 2021/22 savings of £1.675m, one-off savings brought forward from 2020/21 of £1.888m, and is after applying COVID-19 grant of £3.081m. This additional Covid related expenditure includes costs to cover the continued rising demand for bed & breakfast along with additional support to the Alliance for Community Connections.
- 4.2 Within Strategic Commissioning, £2.116m of Covid grant has been drawn down to cover the agreed two percent (2%) uplift to provider payments for April to June, along with a reserve to cover the rest of the financial year if required, as well as the forecast loss of income around the reduced day services.

5. Office of the Director of Public Health (ODPH)

- 5.1 Public Health is reporting an under spend of £0.098m against its business as usual activity, mainly as a result of management actions to minimise expenditure.

6. Place Directorate

- 6.1 The directorate is reporting a small overall overspend of £0.101m due to borrowing charges impacting on the revenue budget within Street Services.
- 6.2 There is additional spend and income foregone totalling £3.182m which is COVID-19 related. Of this, £1.709m is a yearend forecast for car parking income loss, and a further £0.980m in increased costs within Street Scene and waste due to increased tonnages and staffing costs. There is also loss of income from planning applications within Strategic Planning and Infrastructure and from commercial rents within Economic Development.
- 6.3 Concerns regarding Economic Development being able to meet the Regeneration Property Fund target remain. This is due to a combination of CIPFA code changes, and because of the impact Covid and Brexit are having on the property market. Risk based intelligence monitoring

is ongoing to ensure forecasting is as accurate as possible but it is noted that this pressure may grow.

- 6.4 Following the change in Administration a number of decision records have recently been signed which add a net pressure of £0.250m into the Place Directorate budget. In line with these decision records, consideration of how to manage this pressure is currently underway.

7. **Corporate Items**

- 7.1 The overall position shows a nil variation. However, a pressure remains of £0.075m within Corporate Items following the holiday buy back target not being met. This is due to the leave carry forwards that arose as a result of the pandemic impacting on annual leave being used.
- 7.2 COVID-19 financial support is held here, and is being used to offset pressures that have arisen across all Directorates as a result of the pandemic. This could be either because of lost income or cost increases, and is currently forecast to total £15.257m.

Appendix A 2021/22 Savings status (I) Summary

	Total	Achieved savings	on track for delivery	Working on for delivery	Planned, internal/external actions required to deliver
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Children's	4.001	1.644	1.414	0.943	0.000
People	3.160	0.000	2.780	0.380	0.000
ODPH	0.028	0.000	0.028	0.000	0.000
Customer & Corporate	4.571	0.000	2.266	0.040	2.265
Place	1.035	0.080	0.105	0.350	0.500
Corporate Items	1.050	1.015	0.000	0.000	0.035
2021/22 Savings	13.845	2.739	6.593	1.713	2.800

Appendix A 2021/22 Savings status (2) Detail

Directorate / Plans	Target Savings	Achieved savings	Plans on track for delivery	Plans worked on for delivery	Planned, internal/external actions required to deliver
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Children					
EPS step up	0.152			0.152	
Home to School Transport	0.179			0.179	
AST	0.500	0.100	0.400		
Fostering	0.670	0.189	0.319	0.162	
Troubled Families	0.650	0.317	0.333		
Placement Review	1.400	1.038	0.362		
Management Actions	0.450			0.450	
Children - Savings	4.001	1.644	1.414	0.943	0.000
People					
Care Package Reviews (SC)	0.775		0.775		
Direct Payment Reviews (SC)	0.250		0.250		
Increased FCP Income (SC)	0.100			0.100	
Commissioned Contracts (SC)	0.250		0.250		
Grant Maximisation (CC)	0.200		0.200		
Management Actions (CC)	0.050		0.050		
Income Targets (CC)	0.050		0.050		
One Off Savings 2020/21 (SC)	1.485		1.205	0.280	
People - savings	3.160	0.000	2.780	0.380	0.000

ODPH					
Additional Income	0.008		0.008		
Additional Income #2	0.020		0.020		
ODPH - savings	0.028	0.000	0.028	0.000	0.000
Customer, Corporate Services and Chief Exec					
Efficiency	0.949				0.949
FM review	0.550				0.550
Business support	1.200		0.434		0.766
ICT	1.000		1.000		
CEX; Legal services	0.100		0.100		
Coroner	0.040			0.040	
Training	0.153		0.153		
Capitalise Capital Team	0.050		0.050		
Internal Audit	0.016		0.016		
Departmental	0.513		0.513		
Cust. & Corp. Services and CEX savings	4.571	0.000	2.266	0.040	2.265
Place					
Regeneration Property Fund	0.500				0.500
Concessionary Fares	0.080	0.080			
Weston Mill, bulky & trade waste income	0.208			0.208	
Resident Parking	0.060		0.060		
On/Off parking	0.065			0.065	
Fees and charges including Mt. Edgcumbe	0.122		0.045	0.077	
Place savings	1.035	0.080	0.105	0.350	0.500
Corporate					
Schools PFI - adjustments	1.015	1.015			
Income target not allocated	0.035				0.035
Corporate savings	1.050	0.750	0.265	0.000	0.035
Overall Total savings	13.845	2.739	6.593	1.713	2.800

SECTION C:**Capital Finance Report Quarter 1 2021/22**

The five year capital budget 2021-2026 is currently forecasted at £612.270m as at 30 June 2021. The capital budget has been adjusted to take into account the removal of the prior year (2020/21) and to add any new approvals or changes to the capital programme and to adjust the future funding assumptions shown in table 1.

Current Capital Resources

Table 1 The Capital budget consists of the following elements:

Description	£m
Capital Programme approved by CCIB	342.722
Future Funding Assumptions *	269.548
Total Revised Capital Budget for Approval (2021-2026)	612.270

* Estimate of funding to be received to finance future capital projects (funding see Table 2c)

The approved capital budget (representing forecast resources) is made up of two elements. One is the Capital Programme representing projects that have been approved and the other is future funding assumptions which are estimates of capital funding the Council is likely to receive in the future.

Capital Programme

Project officers prepare detailed business cases, which are reviewed by finance officers and then are agreed by CCIB member before going to the Leader to sign the executive decision. Once the Leader (or Section 151 Officer for projects under £200k) has approved the project it is added to the Capital Programme for delivery.

Future Funding Assumptions

The current estimate of future capital funding for the next five years 2021-2026 is £269.548m (see table 2c).

External funding currently contributes approximately towards 65% of resources within the capital resource envelope; this is included within the future funding assumptions and included both ring-fenced and un-ringfenced grants, S106 and other external contributions.

Bidding for further external capital funding is strongly encouraged during the preparation of business cases for new projects.

Tables 2a and 3 below shows the revised capital programme for the period 2021-2026, as at 30 June 2021.

Revised Capital Programme

Table 2a Capital Programme by Directorate

Directorate	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
People	8.945	9.140	3.157	0.132	0.132	21.506
Place - Economic Development	59.728	50.414	10.273	0.128	0.094	120.637
Place – Strategic Planning and Infrastructure	65.002	67.611	4.430	0.504	0	137.547
Place – Street Services	26.185	10.091	3.963	2.017	0	42.256
Customer & Corporate Services	8.405	0	0	0	0	8.405
Public Health	12.370	0	0	0	0	12.370
Total	180.635	137.256	21.823	2.781	0.227	342.722
Financed by:						
Capital Receipts	2.028	7.185	3.561	0.632	0.094	13.500
Grant funding	53.302	52.783	1.962	0.132	0.132	108.311
Corporate funded borrowing	52.845	28.667	7.812	2.017	0	91.341
Service dept. supported borrowing	64.060	40.983	4.548	0	0	109.591
S106 & CIL	6.339	7.636	1.360	0	0	15.335
Other contributions	2.061	0.003	0	0	0	4.644
Total Financing	180.635	137.257	21.823	2.781	0.226	342.722

Table 2b Funding of the 2020-25 Capital Programme

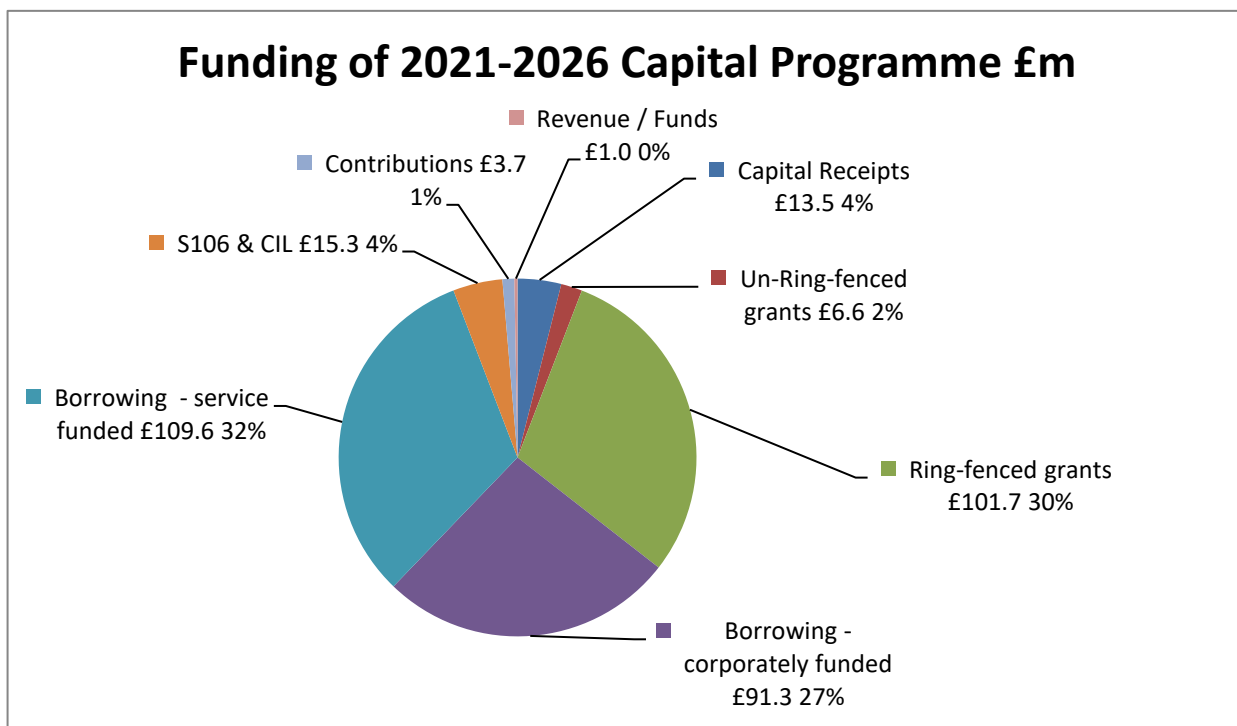


Table 2c Future Funding Assumptions

Future Funding Estimates	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Service borrowing & external loans	26.250	30.850	2.120	5.000	5.000	69.220
Grants	8.991	14.684	148.310	2.126	0	174.111
SI06 and CIL	4.129	3.800	4.076	4.023	4.066	20.094
Other sources	2.781	1.664	0.245	0.926	0.507	6.123
Total	42.151	50.998	154.751	12.075	9.573	269.548

Covid 19

The effect from Covid 19 has slowed the capital programme delivery. Since April 2021, the restrictions have been slowly lifting and capital projects have been getting back to work even with the additional safety requirements of social distancing.

The economy has been getting back to work but we have seen an increase in the cost of raw materials and labour which may affect some of the capital projects.

Table 3: Capital Programme by Delivery Outcome

Primary Outcome of Projects	£m
Securing Growth in the City Centre/Waterfront	16.840
Securing Growth in Derriford and the Northern Corridor	41.982
Securing Growth in the Eastern Corridor	4.067
Delivering More/Better Housing	28.773
Ensuring Essential City Infrastructure	85.925
Improving Neighbourhoods and Community Infrastructure	5.029
Ensuring Good Quality School Places	0.868
Growing the Economy	56.045
Delivering Oceansgate	4.174
Connecting the City	32.492
Celebrating Mayflower	1.165
Delivering The Box	0.936
Transforming Services	64.426
Total	342.722

Recommendations

Council:

1. Approve the revision of the Capital Budget 2021-2026 to £612.270m. (as shown in Section C Table 1)

Date of meeting:	13 September 2021
Title of Report:	Annual Report on Treasury Management Activities for 2020/21
Lead Member:	Councillor Nick Kelly (Leader)
Lead Strategic Director:	Brendan Arnold (Service Director for Finance)
Author:	Chris Flower (Finance Business Partner for Capital and Treasury Management)
Contact Email:	chris.flower@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	Finance/CF
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

In order to comply with the Code of Practice for Treasury Management, the Council is required to formally report on its treasury management activities for the year, providing information on the progress and outcomes against the Treasury Management Strategy. This report covers the treasury management activities for financial year 2020/21 including the final position on the statutory Prudential Indicators.

This report:

- a) is prepared in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code and the Prudential Code;
- b) confirms capital financing, borrowing, debt rescheduling and investment transactions for the year 2020/21;
- c) provides an update on the risk inherent in the portfolio and outlines actions taken by the Council during the year to minimise risk;
- d) gives details of the outturn position on Treasury Management transactions in 2020/21;
- e) confirms compliance with treasury limits and Prudential Indicators (PIs) and the outlines the final position on the PI's for the year.

Recommendations and Reasons

1. To approve the Treasury Management Annual Report 2020/21

This is to comply with the CIPFA Code of Practice and discharge our statutory requirement.

Alternative options considered and rejected

None - it is requirement to report to Council on the treasury management activities for the year.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

Effective financial management is fundamental to the delivery of corporate improvement priorities. Treasury Management activity has a significant impact on the Council's activity both in revenue budget terms and capital investment and is a key factor in facilitating the delivery against a number of corporate priorities.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

Into the medium and longer term the Council is facing significant pressures due to the national economic situation, which has led to a reduction in resources for local authorities over the Government's latest spending period. Effective Treasury Management will be essential in ensuring the Council's cash flows are used to effectively support the challenges ahead.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

In 2020/21 the Council invested £5m into the Public Sector Social Impact Fund to invest in carbon reduction projects.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

** When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.*

There is an inherent risk to any Treasury Management activity. The Council continues to manage this risk by ensuring all investments are undertaken in accordance with the approved investment strategy, and keeping the counterparty list under constant review.

Appendices

**Add rows as required to box below*

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A								
B								

Background papers:

**Add rows as required to box below*

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)						
	<i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Treasury Management Strategy report to Council 24 February 2020							

Sign off:

Fin	pl.21. 22.48			Mon Off	LS/36 954/A C/12/ 7/21	HR		Asset s		Strat Proc	
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Brendan Arnold (Service Director for Finance)											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 09/07/2021											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Nick Kelly (Leader) approved by email Date approved: 14/07/2020											

Annual Report on Treasury Management Activities for 2020/21

Executive Summary

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice (the CIPFA Code) requires the Council to report on the performance of the treasury management function after the financial year end. The approval of this report has been delegated to the Governance and Audit Committee to approve.

The Council's Treasury Management Strategy for 2020/21 was approved by Council on 24 February 2020. The Council has borrowed and invested substantial sums of money and is therefore exposed to financial risks including the loss of invested funds and the revenue effect of changing interest rates. The successful identification, monitoring and control of risk are therefore central to the Council's treasury management strategy.

Borrowing: At 31 March 2021 the Council held £600m (see table 2) of borrowing which was a decrease of £3m on 2019/20. Included in the borrowing is £463m of short term borrowing which the Council borrows from other local authorities at a very low rates on 3-12 month terms.

There is an Interest Rate Risk from holding large amounts of short term borrowing as interest rates could rise and increase the cost of borrowing. The Council reviews the risks on a regular basis and in April 2020 it took out an Interest Rates Swap that fixes the borrowing rate of £75m for twenty years.

Investments: At 31 March 2021 the Council held £97m of cash and investments (see table 3) which was a decrease of £9m on 2019/20.

Treasury Management Outturn: The Council had an underspend of £3.602m (see table 4) for the year ended 31 March 2021. Most of the underspend came from the dramatic drop in interest rates following the Covid19 pandemic and the fall in the financial markets. During the year the Council has been able to borrow at very low interest rates. The Council also made savings from reduced borrowing caused by the Covid19 lockdown where capital projects had to stop working or reduce working for a period of time.

Prudential Indicators: The Council meet all of the prudential indicators set in the Treasury Management Strategy 2020/21.

Introduction

Treasury risk management at the Council is conducted within the framework of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice 2017 Edition (the CIPFA Code). This requires the Council to approve a treasury management strategy before the start of each financial year and, as a minimum, a half-year and annual treasury outturn report. This report fulfils the Authority's legal obligation under the Local Government Act 2003 to have regard to the CIPFA Code.

The 2017 Prudential Code includes a requirement for local authorities to provide a Capital Strategy, a summary document approved by full Council covering capital expenditure and financing, treasury management and non-treasury investments. The Council's Capital

Strategy, complying with CIPFA's requirement, was approved by full Council on 24 February 2020.

External Context

Economic background (as at June 2021): Economic resurgence from coronavirus pandemic continued to dominate the first quarter of the financial year. In the biggest inoculation programme the country has ever undertaken, over 44 million people in the UK had received their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine with 32 million also having a second dose.

The Bank of England (BoE) held Bank Rate at 0.1% throughout the period and maintained its Quantitative Easing programme at £895 billion, unchanged since the November 2020 meeting. In its June 2021 policy announcement, the BoE expected the economy to experience a temporary period of strong GDP growth and above-target CPI inflation, after which growth and inflation is expected to fall back. There were, however, two-sided risks around this central path, and it is possible that near-term upward pressure on prices could prove somewhat larger than expected. The Bank's Monetary Policy Committee does not intend to tighten monetary policy at least until there is clear evidence that significant progress is being made in eliminating spare capacity and achieving the 2% inflation target sustainably.

Government initiatives continued to support the economy over the quarter, following the range of measures announced by the Chancellor in the 2021 Budget, which included extending the furlough (Coronavirus Job Retention) scheme until September 2021.

The latest labour market data showed that in the three months to April 2021 the unemployment rate fell to 4.7%, although it is likely that labour market slack has remained higher than implied by this measure. Some individuals stopped looking for work during the pandemic and were therefore recorded as inactive. There is uncertainty around how many of these individuals will resume their search for a job, and when. Latest data showed growth in average total pay (including bonuses) and regular pay (excluding bonuses) among employees was 5.6% for the three months February to April 2021. The seemingly high growth partly reflected a base effect from a decline in average pay in the spring of last year, associated with the reduced pay of employees on the furlough scheme.

Annual CPI inflation rose to 2.1% in May on the back of base effects in spring 2020 and partly due to higher energy and commodity prices and supply-side bottlenecks. The BoE expects inflation to exceed 3% for a temporary period. The ONS' preferred measure of CPIH which includes owner-occupied housing was also 2.1% year/year, marginally higher than expectations.

The reimposition of restrictions on activity in the first quarter of calendar 2021 year resulted in GDP falling 1.6% in Q1. GDP growth was strong in April at 2.3% with the partial easing of restrictions on non-essential retail and outdoor hospitality. Housing market activity remained strong, aided by the extension of the stamp duty threshold and an increase in mortgage approvals for house purchases.

The US economy rebounded by 4.3% in Q4 2020 (Oct-Dec) and then an even stronger 6.4%

in Q1 as the recovery continued to be fuelled by \$5 trillion worth of pandemic stimulus packages. The Federal Reserve maintained its main interest rate at between 0% and 0.25% over the period.

The European Central Bank maintained its base rate at 0%, deposit rate at -0.5%, and asset purchase scheme at €1.85 trillion.

Financial markets: Ongoing monetary and fiscal stimulus together with improving economic growth prospects and successful vaccine rollout programmes continued to boost equity markets over the period. The Dow Jones reached a record high during the period while the UK-focused FTSE 250 index was back above pre-pandemic levels and the more internationally focused FTSE 100 had recouped around three-quarters of 2020 losses.

Inflation worries continued during the period but declines in bond yields between April and June suggest bond markets may be expecting any general price increases to be less severe, or more transitory, than was previously thought.

The 5-year UK benchmark gilt yield began the financial year at 0.36% before declining to 0.32% by the end of June 2021. Over the same period the 10-year gilt yield fell from 0.80% to 0.71%, despite jumping to 0.90% in May. The 20-year yield declined from 1.31% to 1.21%.

1-month, 3-month and 12-month SONIA bid rates averaged 0.03%, 0.02% and 0.15% respectively over the period.

Credit review: Credit default swap spreads were relatively flat over the period and remain only slightly above their pre-pandemic levels. The gap in spreads between UK ringfenced and non-ringfenced entities remained, and Santander UK remained an outlier compared to the other ringfenced/retail banks. At the end of June, Santander UK was trading the highest at 52bps and Standard Chartered the lowest at 31bps. The other ringfenced banks were trading between 32 and 34bps while Nationwide Building Society was 38bps.

There were only a small number of credit rating actions over the period. Fitch revised a number of Singaporean and Australian banks as well as Close Brothers to stable, and also upgraded Coventry Building Society to 'A' (from 'A-'). Towards the end of the period Fitch revised the United Kingdom's outlook to stable from negative.

S&P also revised some Australian banks to stable, as well as Transport for London, which a week or so later received a £1.08 billion bailout from the UK government. S&P also downgraded the long- and short-term ratings of DZ Bank (Germany) to A+ and A-I from AA- and A-I+ respectively. In late June S&P took further rating actions, upwardly revising the outlooks for a number of UK and European banks from negative to stable, or in the case of Barclays and Nationwide from stable to positive.

The successful vaccine rollout programme is credit positive for the financial services sector in general, but there remains much uncertainty around the extent of the losses banks and building societies will suffer due to the economic slowdown which has resulted due to pandemic-related lockdowns and restrictions. The institutions and durations on the Authority's counterparty list recommended by treasury management advisors Arlingclose remain under constant review, but at the end of the period no changes had been made to the names on the list or the recommended maximum duration of 35 days.

Local Context

On 31st March 2021, the Council had net borrowing of £628m (see table 2) arising from its revenue and capital income and expenditure, a decrease of £12m on 31/03/2020. The underlying need to borrow for capital purposes is measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), while usable reserves and working capital are the underlying resources available for investment. These factors and the year-on-year change are summarised in table I below.

Table I: Balance Sheet Summary

	31/03/20 Actual £m	2020/21 Movement £m	31/03/21 Actual £m
General Fund CFR	568	-3	565
Less: Other debt liabilities *	-119	-6	-125
Borrowing CFR	449	-9	440
Less: Usable reserves	-60	0	-60
Less: Working capital	-39	-3	-42
Net borrowing	350	-12	338

* *finance leases, PFI liabilities and transferred debt that form part of the Council's total debt.*

During the year, the CFR decreased due to a slowdown of the capital programme during the Covid lockdown restrictions and the Council received government grants in advance, which reduced the need to borrow. The Council has however, a five years forecast to increase the CFR in order to deliver capital programme investment in the City. The Council's net borrowing has decreased in the year as detailed in table I above.

Borrowing Update

In November 2020 the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) published its response to the consultation on 'Future Lending Terms'. From 26th November 2020 the margin on PWLB loans above gilt yields was reduced from 1.8% to 0.8% providing that the borrowing authority can confirm that it is not planning to purchase 'investment assets primarily for yield' in the current or next two financial years.

As part of the borrowing process authorities will now be required to submit more detailed capital expenditure plans with confirmation of the purpose of capital expenditure from the Section 151 Officer. Acceptable use of PWLB borrowing includes service delivery, housing, regeneration, preventative action, refinancing and treasury management.

The Council is not planning to purchase any investment assets primarily for yield within the next three years and so is able fully access the PWLB. The Council, however, can invest in commercial property in Plymouth as long as the main purpose is for regeneration, job creation or safeguarding jobs and other local improvement reasons.

Competitive market alternatives may or may not be available for authorities with or without access to the PWLB according to market circumstances. However, the financial strength of the individual authority and borrowing purpose will be scrutinised by commercial lenders and therefore this will affect the cost of borrowing for commercial loans or bonds.

Borrowing Activity

At 31st March 2021, the Council held £603m of loans, (a decrease of £3m on 31/03/2020 see table 2) as part of its strategy for funding previous years' capital programmes. See table 2 below.

Lower official interest rates have lowered the cost of short-term, temporary loans and investment returns from cash assets that can be used in lieu of borrowing. The Authority pursued its strategy of keeping borrowing and investments below their underlying levels, sometimes known as internal borrowing, in order to reduce risk and keep interest costs low.

The Council's main objective when borrowing has been to strike an appropriate balance between securing low interest costs and achieving cost certainty over the period for which funds are required, with flexibility to renegotiate loans should the Council's long-term plans change being a secondary objective.

Interest Rate Swap

The Council has £463m of short term borrowing which it borrows from other local authorities at a very low rates on 3-12 month terms. The Council has an Interest Rates Risk (the risk that interest rates may go up). If interest rates increase by 1% it would cost the Council £4.63m additional interest on its revenue budget.

The Council has been reviewing the Interest Rate Risk on a regular basis and it has taken actions to mitigate some of this risk.

To Hedge against this risk the Council took out an Interest Rate Swap in April 2020 for £75m at a fixed rates of 0.56% for 20 years.

The interest rate swap is a contract where one party swaps a variable rate payment stream (the Council's short term borrowing) with the other party's fixed rate payments (the Bank).

The Council is looking at further measures to mitigate the Interest Rate Risk in the future and it reviews the situation on a regular basis with advice from its Treasury Management advisors.

The treasury management position at 31st March 2021 and the change during the year is shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Borrowing Activity

	Balance on 01/04/2020 £m	Movement £m	Balance on 31/03/2021 £m	Avg Rate %
Public Works Loan Board	44	0	44	5.76%
Banks - LOBOs	66	0	66	4.34%
Other Loans	28	-1	27	
Short Term Borrowing	465	-2	463	0.6%
TOTAL BORROWING	603	-3	600	
Other Long Term Liabilities	119	6	125	-
TOTAL EXTERNAL DEBT	722	3	725	-
Less Total Investments (see table 3)	-106	-9	-97	
Net Borrowing	616	-12	628	

LOBO (Lender's Option Borrower's Option)

The Council continues to hold £64m of LOBO loans where the lender has the option to propose an increase in the interest rate at set dates, following which the Council has the option to either accept the new rate or to repay the loan at no additional cost. No banks exercised their option during the year.

Municipal Bonds Agency (MBA):

The MBA revised its standard loan terms and framework agreement. Guarantees for the debt of other borrowers are now proportional and limited and a requirement to make contribution loans in the event of a default by a borrower has been introduced. The agency has issued 5-year floating rate and 40-year fixed rate bonds in 2020, in both instances Lancashire County Council is the sole borrower and guarantor. A planned third bond issuance by Warrington Borough Council was withdrawn in early December after the reduction in PWLB borrowing rates.

If the Council intends future borrowing through the MBA, it will first ensure that it has thoroughly scrutinised the legal terms and conditions of the arrangement and is satisfied with them.

UK Infrastructure Bank:

In his March 2021 budget the Chancellor confirmed that a UK Infrastructure Bank will be set up with £4bn in lending earmarked for local authorities from the summer of 2021. Loans will be available at gilt yield plus 0.60%, 0.20% lower than the PWLB certainty rate.

A bidding process to access these loans is likely with a preference to projects likely to help the government meet its Net Zero emissions target. However, other "high value and complex economic infrastructure projects" may also be considered.

Other Long Term Liabilities

Although not classified as borrowing, the Council has other capital finance from Private Finance Initiatives and Finance Leases etc. and as at 31st March 2021 this amounted to £125m. PFI and finance leases are other ways of financing capital however this is quite often more expensive and is paid over a number of years. The Council's current PFI debt will be repaid by 2040.

The liability for the PFI scheme has increased the requirement for finance and therefore we increased our Operational Boundary and Authorised limit to allow for this.

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)

MRP is a charge to the revenue budget that is made each year for monies to repay the Council's borrowing.

Under regulation 27 of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003 SI 2003/146, as amended, local authorities are required to charge to their revenue account, for each financial year, MRP for the cost of their unfinanced capital expenditure.

The Council uses the annuity method to calculate its MRP and spreads the cost of the borrowing over the economic life of the assets and this takes into account the time value of money.

Investment Activity

At the end of March 2020 the Council received central government funding to support small and medium businesses during the coronavirus pandemic through grant schemes. The Council has continued to receive various funding to support the local economy during the pandemic. These funds have been temporarily invested in short-dated, liquid instruments such as call accounts and Money Market Funds so that it was available to pay out as soon as it could.

The Council holds significant invested funds, representing income received in advance of expenditure plus balances and reserves held. During 2020/21 the Council's investment and cash balances ranged between £80 and £110 million due to timing differences between income and expenditure. The year-end investment position and the year-on-year change in show in table 3 below.

The Guidance on Local Government Investments in England gives priority to security and liquidity and the Council's aim is to achieve a yield commensurate with these principles.

Table 3: Investment Activity in 2019/20

Investments	Balance on 01/04/2020 £m	Movement £m	Balance on 30/03/2021 £m	Avg Rate/Yield (%)
Short term Investments (Banks and call accounts)	18	-6	12	0.1%
Covered Bonds and Loans	0	0	0	-
Money Market Funds	33	-3	30	0.1%
Other Pooled Funds	55	0	55	2.0%
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	106	-9	97	
Increase/ (Decrease) in Investments £m			-9	

Both the CIPFA Code and government guidance require the Council to invest its funds prudently, and to have regard to the security and liquidity of its treasury investments before seeking the highest rate of return, or yield. The Council's objective when investing money is to strike an appropriate balance between risk and return, minimising the risk of incurring losses from defaults and the risk of receiving unsuitably low investment income.

Externally Managed Pooled Funds:

The Council continues to hold £55m invested in externally managed Pooled Funds (bond, equity, multi-asset and property) with the CCLA, Schroder and Fidelity and has generated a total return for the year of £1.093m. Investment income has been used to support services in year.

During the initial phase of the pandemic in March 2020, the sharp global financial falls affected the values of all investments. The falls in corporate bond and equity markets had a negative impact on the value of the Council's pooled fund holdings and was reflected in the 31st March 2020 fund valuations of £50.914m with most funds registering negative capital values over a 12 month period. Since March 2020 there has been improvement in market sentiment which is reflected in an increase in capital values of these short-dated, strategic bond, equity and multi-asset income funds in the Council's portfolio. The recovery in UK equities has lagged those of US and European markets.

As at 31 March 2021 the value of the pooled investments were £54.965m (nominal value £55.000m) so had recovered much of the losses sustained through the financial crash and are likely to continue to grow slowly as the economy continues to recover.

It should be noted that the capital value of the Council's Pooled Investment will fluctuate dependent on market conditions. Any unrealised capital losses will not have an impact on the revenue budget or General Fund. The capital value would only be realised if the funds were sold.

The Pooled investments have no defined maturity date, but are available for withdrawal after a notice period. The Council continues to review regularly its investment in these funds together with advice from its Treasury Management advisors.

Other Non-Treasury Holdings and Activity

The definition of investments in CIPFA's revised Treasury Management Code now covers all the financial assets of the Council as well as other non-financial assets which the Authority holds primarily for financial return. This is replicated in the Investment Guidance of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's (MHCLG), in which the definition of investments is further broadened to also include all such assets held partially for financial return.

The Council held £259m of direct property investment under its Regeneration and Property Fund.

These non-treasury investments generated £2.556m of investment income for the Council after taking account of direct costs, representing a net revenue return of 1.3% after allowing for payment to a void reserve and payment to a lifecycle maintenance reserve. The gross return is higher than the return earned on treasury investments but reflects the additional risks to the Council of holding such investments.

Treasury Management Outturn 2020/21**Table 4. Treasury Management Outturn Position 2020/21**

	2020/21 Budget	2020/21 Outturn	Year End Variance
	£m	£m	£m
Interest Payable	9.796		
LOBO and other long term loans		2.287	
PWLB (Public Works Loan Board)		2.150	
Temporary loans		3.832	
Other Interest and charges		0.088	
Recharge to Departments for Unsupported Borrowing (in accordance with business cases)	(14.000)	(14.450)	
Total Interest Payable	(4.204)	(6.093)	(1.889)
Interest Receivable	(2.285)		
Pool Funds		(1.093)	
Money Market Fund		(0.089)	
Other Interest		(1.783)	
Total Interest Receivable	(2.285)	(2.965)	(0.680)
Other Payments	0.288	0.097	
Debt Management	0.450	0.507	
Amortised Premiums	0.650	0.544	
Total Other Charges	1.388	1.341	(0.047)
Minimum Revenue Provision	16.766	15.780	(0.986)
TOTAL	11.665	8.063	(3.602)

The Council's Treasury Management Outturn for the year was an underspend of £3.602m which has helped the Council balance the budget for 2020/21. The main savings have come from a dramatic fall in interest rates following the Covid pandemic and the worldwide financial crash. The Bank of England cut the bank rate to 0.1% and the Council has benefitted from the fall in the cost of borrowing of its £463m of short-term borrowing.

The Covid lockdown slowed the Council's capital programme, therefore reduced the amount of new borrowing that it had expected to take out, and therefore made further savings from loan repayments (Minimum Revenue Provision).

The Covid pandemic and financial crash affected the capital value of the Council's investments in pooled funds but these have recovered and we expect these to improve over the next 12 months as the global economy improves. Despite the fall in the value of these

funds the investment income has held up and provides the Council a good rate of return against the bank and money market returns of between zero to 0.1%.

The Treasury Management Outturn does not include the returns from the Council's investments in the purchasing commercial assets, as this is included in the Place revenue outturn and referred to in Other Non-Treasury Holdings and Activity section above.

Following the cut in Bank rate from 0.75% to 0.10% in March 2020, the Council had expected to receive significantly lower income from its cash and short-dated money market investments, including money market funds in 2020/21, as rates on cash investments are close to zero percent.

Money Market Funds (MMF): Continued downward pressure on short-dated cash rate brought net returns on sterling low volatility net asset value money market funds (LVNAV MMFs) close to zero even after some managers have temporarily lowered their fees. At this stage net negative returns are not the central case of most MMF managers over the short-term, and fee waivers should maintain positive net yields, but the possibility cannot be ruled out.

Deposit rates with the Debt Management Account Deposit Facility (DMADF) have continued to fall and are now largely around zero.

The Treasury Management budget is held as a separate budget under the Finance Department of the Council's General Fund. Whilst interest costs are less than the budget there are a number of factors that contribute to the final position. Whilst the Council not only borrows to finance capital expenditure, it also has to maintain a daily net cash surplus position.

The costs of borrowing to finance 'invest to save' capital schemes is charged to departments. The figures above include the borrowing implications of decisions to utilise the Asset Investment Fund to acquire assets to earn a revenue return which is accounted for in directorate's budgets.

Compliance with Prudential Indicators

The Section 151 Officer confirms compliance with its Prudential Indicators for 2020/21, which were set in the Treasury Management Strategy 2020/21.

The Following indicators are set and monitored each year:

- Estimates of Capital Expenditure;
- Estimates of Capital Financing Requirement;
- Gross Debt and the Capital Financing Requirement;
- Operation Boundary for External Debt;
- Authorised Limit for External Debt;
- Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream ;
- Incremental Impact of Capital Investment Decisions.

Treasury Management Indicators

The Council measures and manages its exposures to treasury management risks using the following indicators.

Interest Rate Exposures: This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to interest rate risk. The upper limits on fixed and variable rate interest rate exposures, expressed as the proportion of net principal borrowed will be:

	2020/21 Limit	2020/21 Actual	Complied
Upper limit on fixed interest rate exposure	100%	23%	✓
Upper limit on variable interest rate exposure	100%	77%	✓

Fixed rate borrowings are those where the rate of interest is fixed for the whole financial year or more. Instruments that mature during the financial year are classed as variable rate.

Maturity Structure of Borrowing: This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to refinancing risk. The upper and lower limits on the maturity structure of all borrowing were:

	Upper Limit	Lower Limit	31.03.2021 Actual	Complied
Under 12 months	90%	10%	77%	✓
12 months and within 24 months	40%	0%	0%	✓
24 months and within 5 years	40%	0%	2%	✓
5 years and within 10 years	50%	0%	2%	✓
10 years and above	80%	10%	19%	✓

Time periods start on the first day of each financial year. The maturity date of borrowing is the earliest date on which the lender can demand repayment.

Principal Sums Invested for Periods Longer than 365 days: The purpose of this indicator is to control the Council's exposure to the risk of incurring losses by seeking early repayment of its investments. The limits on the total principal sum invested to final maturities beyond the period end were:

	2020/21	2021/21	2022/23
Limit on principal invested beyond year	£45m	£50m	£50m
Actual	£0m	£0m	£0m
Complied	✓	✓	✓

Security: The Council has adopted a voluntary measure of its exposure to credit risk by monitoring the value-weighted average credit rating of its investment portfolio. This is calculated by applying a score to each investment (AAA=1, AA+=2, etc.) and taking the arithmetic average, weighted by the size of each investment.

	Target	Actual	Complied
Portfolio average credit rating	A	AA-	✓

Liquidity: The Council does not keep large amounts of cash in call accounts so that it reduces the cost of carrying excess cash. To mitigate the liquidity risk of not having cash available to meet unexpected payments the Council has access to borrow additional, same day, cash from other local authorities.

Other

IFRS 16: CIPFA/LASAAC has proposed delaying the implementation of the new IFRS 16 Leases accounting standard for a further year to 2021/22.

Investment Training

Officers have undergone the following training during the year all of which have been online:

Arlingclose – Changes to IFRS 9 Impairment of Financial Instruments
 Arlingclose – Principles of Treasury Management Workshop
 CIPFA – Implementing new Treasury Management Regulatory Framework
 Arlingclose – Investments workshop 2020
 Arlingclose – Regular financial market updates 2020-21
 Grant Thornton - Accounts Closedown Workshops for Local Authority Accountants
 Arlingclose – Hedge Accounting Training

Prudential Indicators 2020/21

The Local Government Act 2003 requires the Council to have regard to CIPFA's *Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities* (the Prudential Code) when determining how much money it can afford to borrow. The objectives of the Prudential Code are to ensure, within a clear framework, that the capital investment plans of local authorities are affordable, prudent and sustainable and that treasury management decisions are taken in accordance with good professional practice. To demonstrate that the Council has fulfilled these objectives, the Prudential Code sets out the following indicators that must be set and monitored each year.

This report compares the approved indicators with the outturn position for 2019/20. Actual figures have been taken from or prepared on a basis consistent with, the Council's statement of accounts.

Capital Expenditure: The Council's capital expenditure and financing may be summarised as follows.

Capital Expenditure and Financing	2020/21 Actual £m
General Fund	105.471
Total Expenditure	105.741
Capital Receipts	1.843
Grants (e.g. gov't, HLF, LEP, Environment Agency)	43.724
Contributions, S106 & CIL (neighbourhood element)	1.768
Borrowing	58.406
Total Financing	105.741

Capital Financing Requirement: The Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) measures the Council's underlying need to borrow for a capital purpose.

Capital Financing Requirement	31.03.2021 Actual £m
General Fund	565
Total CFR	565

The CFR fell by £4m in the year to £565m (2020 £569m) from capital expenditure financed by debt outweighs resources put aside for debt repayment.

The increase in CFR shows that the Council is increasing its borrowing to pay for capital expenditure in the city.

Gross Debt and the Capital Financing Requirement: In order to ensure that over the medium term debt will only be for a capital purpose, the Council should ensure that debt does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of capital financing requirement in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional capital financing requirement for the current and next two financial years. This is a key indicator of prudence.

Actual Debt: The Council's actual debt at 31 March 2021 was as follows:

	31.03.21 Estimate £m	31.03.21 Actual £m	Difference £m
Borrowing	603	600	-3
PFI liabilities & other Finance leases	119	125	6
Total Debt	722	725	3

The actual debt levels are monitored against the Operational Boundary and Authorised Limit for External Debt below.

Operational Boundary for External Debt: The operational boundary is based on the Council's estimate of most likely (i.e. prudent, but not worst case) scenario for external debt. It links directly to the Council's estimates of capital expenditure, the capital financing requirement and cash flow requirements, and is a key management tool for in-year monitoring. Other long-term liabilities comprise finance lease, Private Finance Initiative and other liabilities that are not borrowing but form part of the Council's debt.

Operational Boundary	31.03.21 Boundary £m	31.03.21 Actual Debt £m	Complied
Borrowing	875	603	✓
Other long-term liabilities	135	125	✓
Total Debt	1010	728	✓

Authorised Limit for External Debt: The authorised limit is the affordable borrowing limit determined in compliance with the Local Government Act 2003.

It is the maximum amount of debt that the Council can legally owe. The authorised limit provides headroom over and above the operational boundary for unusual cash movements.

Authorised Limit	31.03.21 Boundary £m	31.03.21 Actual Debt £m	Complied
Borrowing	950	603	✓
Other long-term liabilities	145	125	✓
Total Debt	1095	728	✓

Other

CIPFA consultations: In February 2021 CIPFA launched two consultations on changes to its Prudential Code and Treasury Management Code of Practice. These follow the Public Accounts Committee's recommendation that the prudential framework should be further tightened following continued borrowing by some authorities for investment purposes. The revised codes are yet to be released. However, from feedback documents the following changes are likely:

Prudential Code:

- Clarification and definitions to define commercial activity and investment, and that an authority must not borrow to invest for the primary purpose of commercial return.
- Defining acceptable reasons to borrow money: (i) financing capital expenditure primarily related to delivering a local authority's functions, (ii) temporary management of cash flow within the context of a balanced budget, (iii) securing affordability by removing exposure to future interest rate rises and (iv) refinancing current borrowing, including replacing internal borrowing.
- Proportionality will be included as an objective; new indicators for net income from commercial and service investments to net revenue stream.
- A specific objective around commercial investment with the intention of embedding good practice across authorities.

Treasury Management Code:

- - Inclusion of the liability benchmark as a mandatory treasury indicator.
- - Implementation of a treasury management knowledge and skills framework.
- - Incorporating ESG issues as a consideration within TMP I Risk Management.

Outlook for the remainder of 2021/22

The medium-term global economic outlook has continued to improve with the rollout of vaccination programmes. The UK has continued to benefit from its initial rapid vaccine rollout and has shifted focus onto second vaccinations to increase protection to counter a third wave of Covid variant.

The opening up of the UK economy in Q2/Q3 will continue to prompt a sharp increase in GDP.

While downside risks seem to have fallen somewhat after recent trends in GDP and labour, the upside risks remain relatively balanced with the MPC reiterating its commitment not to tighten policy until there is clear evidence that the recovery is eliminating spare capacity in the economy.

Inflation has moved above the Bank of England's 2% target. Alongside the increase in commodity prices, the MPC has acknowledged the prospect of a sharper upturn in inflation, with the potential CPI could rise above 3% in the coming months. However, the nature of the commodity price rise and the base effect easing, this is likely a more transitory effect.

Upward pressure on gilt yields could continue in the short term due to the preponderance of strong data, but this is likely to ease once inflation fears recede as the effect of weak base effects subsides and growth figures return to more normal levels.

Arlingclose expects Bank Rate to remain at the current 0.10% level. The risk of movement in Bank Rate in the short term is low.

Gilt yields could continue to increase in the short term but will begin to plateau and reduce once the market's expectation of rises in Bank Rate and inflation fears subside. Longer term yields may face upward pressure towards the end of Arlingclose's forecast period as the economy moves back to a sustained footing and policy expectations start to strengthen.

Downside risks remain – the damage from the pandemic will have lasting effects and there is the risk of further virus mutations due to the uneven global rollout of vaccines. Downside risks also arise from potential future vaccine shortages as the global demand for vaccines increases.