

PRUDENTIAL AND OTHER INDICATORS 2022-23 and 2023-24

The Prudential Indicators are required to be set and approved by Council in accordance with CIPFA’s Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities.

Table 1 shows the 2022-23 actual capital expenditure, the capital programme approved by Council on 1 March 2023 and the projected capital expenditure for the current financial year which has incorporated slippage of schemes from 2022-23 together with any new grants and contributions or changes in the profile of funding for 2023-24.

Table 1: Prudential Indicator: Estimates of Capital Expenditure

	2022-23	2023-24	2023-24
	Actual	Estimate	Projection
	£m	(Council Mar 23) £m	£m
Council Fund services	29.230	69.045	96.889
TOTAL	29.230	69.045	96.889

All capital expenditure must be financed, either from external sources (government grants and other contributions), the Council’s own resources (revenue, reserves and capital receipts) or debt (the ‘net financing requirement’ - borrowing, leasing and Private Finance Initiative). The planned financing of the expenditure has been projected as follows:

Table 2: Capital financing

	2022-23	2023-24	2023-24
	Actual	Estimate	Projection
	£m	(Council Mar 23) £m	£m
External sources	22.192	22.891	36.336
Own resources	0.227	36.481	46.802
Net Financing Requirement	6.811	9.673	13.751
TOTAL	29.230	69.045	96.889

The net financing requirement is only a temporary source of finance, since loans and leases must be repaid, and this is therefore replaced over time by other financing, usually from revenue which is known as the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). As well as MRP, the Council makes additional voluntary revenue contributions to pay off Prudential or Unsupported Borrowing. The total of these are shown in Table 3 below:

Table 3: Replacement of debt finance

	2022-23 Actual £m	2023-24 Estimate (Council Mar 23) £m	2023-24 Projection £m
Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)	2.917	2.989	2.989
Additional Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP)	2.132	2.414	2.273
Total MRP & VRP	5.049	5.403	5.262
Other MRP on Long term Liabilities	0.863	0.929	0.929
Total Own Resources	5.912	6.332	6.191

The Council's cumulative outstanding amount of debt finance is measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). This increases with new debt-financed capital expenditure and reduces by the MRP amount within the year. Based on the above figures for expenditure and financing, the Council's actual CFR is as follows based on the movement on capital expenditure during the year:

Table 4: Prudential Indicator: Estimates of Capital Financing Requirement

	2022-23 Actual £m	2023-24 Estimate £m	2023-24 Projection £m
Capital Financing Requirement			
Opening CFR excluding PFI & other liabilities	161.451	167.556	163.213
Opening PFI CFR	14.765	13.903	13.903
Total opening CFR	176.216	181.495	177.115
Movement in CFR excluding PFI & other liabilities	1.761	4.270	8.489
Movement in PFI CFR	(0.862)	(0.929)	(0.929)
Total movement in CFR	0.899	3.341	7.560
Closing CFR	177.115	184.801	184.675
Movement in CFR represented by:			
Net financing need for year (Table 2 above)	6.811	9.673	13.751
Minimum and voluntary revenue provisions	(5.049)	(5.403)	(5.262)
MRP on PFI and other long term leases (Table 3)	(0.863)	(0.929)	(0.929)
Total movement	0.899	3.341	7.560

The capital borrowing need (Capital Financing Requirement) has not been fully funded with loan debt as cash supporting the Council's reserves, balances and cash flow has been used as a temporary measure. This is known as Internal Borrowing. Projected levels of the Council's total outstanding debt, which comprises of borrowing, PFI and Other Long Term Liabilities, are shown below compared with the Capital Financing Requirement:

Table 5: Prudential Indicator: Gross Debt and the Capital Financing Requirement

	2022-23 Actual £m	2023-24 Estimate (Council Mar 23) £m	2023-24 Projection £m
Debt (incl. PFI & leases)	119.820	112.186	117.739
Capital Financing Requirement	177.115	184.801	184.675

Statutory guidance is that debt should remain below the capital financing requirement, except in the short-term. As can be seen, the Council expects to comply with this in the medium term.

The Council is legally obliged to set an affordable borrowing limit (also termed the authorised limit for external debt) each year. In line with statutory guidance, a lower “operational boundary” is also set as a warning level should debt approach the limit.

Table 6: Prudential Indicators: Authorised limit and operational boundary for external debt in £m

	2022-23 Actual £m	2023-24 Estimate (Council Mar 23) £m	2023-24 Projection £m
Authorised limit – borrowing	170.000	170.000	170.000
Authorised limit – other long term liabilities	30.000	30.000	30.000
Authorised Limit Total	200.00	200.000	200.000
Operational boundary – borrowing	130.000	130.000	130.000
Operational boundary – other long term liabilities	25.000	25.000	25.000
Operational Boundary Limit Total	155.000	155.000	155.000
Total Borrowing and Long Term Liabilities	119.820	112.186	117.739

Although capital expenditure is not charged directly to the revenue budget, interest payable on loans and MRP are charged to revenue, offset by any investment income receivable. The net annual charge is known as financing costs; this is compared to the net revenue stream i.e. the amount funded from Council Tax, business rates and general government grants

Table 7: Prudential Indicator: Proportion of financing costs to net revenue stream

	2022-23	2023-24	2023-34
	Actual	Estimate	Projection
	£m	(Council Mar 23) £m	£m
Capital Financing Central	5.060	6.553	5.131
Other Financing costs	4.079	4.360	4.079
TOTAL FINANCING COSTS	9.139	10.913	9.211
Proportion of net revenue stream	3.34%	4.26%	3.34%

This shows that in 2023-24, it is forecast that 3.34% of the Council's net revenue income will be spent on paying back the costs of capital expenditure.

The table below shows the Prudential Indicator of estimates of net income from commercial and service investments to net revenue stream.

Table 8: Prudential Indicator: Net Income from Commercial and Service Investments to Net Revenue Stream

	2022-23	2023/24	2023/24
	Actual	Estimate	Projection
	£m	£m	£m
Net Revenue Budget	320.289	342.047	342.334
Income from Commercial Investments	0.459	0.459	0.459
% Ratio	0.14%	0.13%	0.13%

The income receivable from the commercial property portfolio is not deemed to be a financial resilience risk in terms of being 'un-proportionate' to the Council's overall income.