

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

2020/21



WE ARE NEWHAM.

People at the Heart
of Everything We Do

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Narrative Report

The Council's Statement of Accounts

The Statement of Accounts for the London Borough of Newham provides a summary of the Council's financial position as at 31st March 2021. They have been prepared in accordance with the code of practice on Local Authority Accounting (the CIPFA Code) and while the format and content of the accounts is largely prescribed by the code, every endeavour has been made to balance the statutory reporting requirements with the desire to make them clear and understandable to all interested parties.

The narrative report provides the reader with key contextual information about the authority including its main objectives and strategies, the principal risks that it faces and the plans that are in place to manage and mitigate these. It also provides a commentary on how the Authority (including the Group Accounts) has used its resources to achieve its desired outcomes in line with its objectives and strategies.

Background Context

The London Borough of Newham is situated in north east London, bordering the River Thames, and is home to the Olympic Park, the London Stadium and other legacy projects centred around the Olympic site. The Westfield Shopping Centre in Stratford, City Airport and the Excel Centre which housed the London Nightingale Hospital during the global pandemic are also key landmarks situated within the borough. The borough continues to undergo significant redevelopment not just around Stratford but also in Custom House, Canning Town and Royal Docks. In addition to this, the borough has a very ambitious housing investment programme to deliver over 1,000 new homes at affordable rents.

The borough has a young and diverse population that is one of the fastest growing in the country, set to rise to over 370,000 by 2023. In terms of deprivation in the borough, comparatively Newham is moving in a positive direction but currently still remains within the 10% most deprived in the country, ranking 12th of 317 local authority districts. These factors mean that more people in Newham rely on public services than in many parts of London or the UK, putting particular pressure on services and funding available to deliver them.

Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic

The effect of the Covid-19 pandemic has been severe in Newham. Newham, tragically, has seen the among the highest age standardised mortality due to Covid-19 in England and Wales. The combination of high population density, higher deprivation levels, multi-generation homes, underlying health issues, low paid work often in high risk front line sectors such as social care, poor air quality and crowded high streets all are believed to have played a role in this.

The advent of the pandemic has had widespread consequences translating into significant financial impact for local authorities, whilst increasing the demands of services that support residents.

To meet the additional cost pressures on local businesses, local residents and service users as a result of the Pandemic the Council received a number of additional grants from central government which it used to:

- Award £89m of business support grants to local businesses to ensure they remain financially viable
- Over £4m hardship fund awarded to economically vulnerable people and household affected by COVID-19
- £37m emergency funding used to boost vital services to local residents
- Nearly £12m used to mitigate the impact of loss of income from sales, fees and charges which in turn allowed critical services to remain operational

- A further £19m was used to deliver additional adult social care services to the most vulnerable residents

These pressures are expected to continue in the new year, however, the extent to which any additional funding may be available from central government is unknown. Despite the additional funding received there has been a significant overspend of around £9m during 2020/21. This was both as a direct result of additional cost pressures from the pandemic and due to constraints in the Council's ability to deliver planned savings for 2020/21. For 2021/22 the Council is facing considerable financial uncertainty due to the pandemic and is reviewing and monitoring the position.

Revenue Budget Performance

The Council incorporated three tranches of emergency Covid-19 funding totalling £24.2m into its budget during the year so that the revised net general fund budget for 2020/21 was £335.2m. Actual net expenditure against this revised budget was £357.1m. After accounting for a fourth tranche of emergency Covid-19 funding from government of £12.6m as additional funding rather than budget this left an outturn position for the general fund of £9.0m which was funded through general reserves. This outturn position was in-line with the Council's financial forecasts and budget planning for 2021/22.

An analysis of budget performance by directorate is shown in the table below and a summary of the larger variances against budgets allocated is also included.

Outturn 2020/21	2020/21 Revised Budget	2020/21 Outturn	Variance
	£m	£m	£m
Children and Young People	97.9	103.1	5.2
CYP Commissioner Brighter Futures	12.0	11.6	(0.4)
Inclusive Economy & Housing	25.6	29.8	4.2
Adults & Health	102.7	102.8	0.1
People, Policy and Performance	17.7	17.2	(0.5)
Environment and Sustainable Transport	34.7	38.2	3.5
Resources	10.4	10.8	0.4
RMS	0.0	0.4	0.4
oneSource - Non Shared services	(9.2)	(3.3)	5.9
oneSource - Shared Services	6.6	9.1	2.5
Central Budgets	36.8	37.4	0.6
Net General Fund Budget	335.2	357.1	21.9
Funding (Business Rates, Council Tax, Grants, Other Income)	(335.2)	(348.1)	(12.9)
General Fund Total	0.0	9.0	9.0
Dedicated Schools Budget	0.0	7.5	7.5
Housing Revenue Account	0.0	8.9	8.9

The main causes of overspending against directorate budgets were the financial pressures caused by the pandemic in terms of expenditure, lost income, and the knock on effect of delaying the Council's savings actions. This was most evident in front line directorates such as the Children and Young People Service (CYPS) which overspent by £5.2m primarily due to additional Covid-19 related expenditure, higher cost of LAC and care leavers' placements and additional spend on agency social work staff.

Additional demand created by the pandemic meant that the cost of providing temporary accommodation for residents of the borough increased in 2020/21. The total number of households in temporary accommodation increased from 5,449 last year to 5,650 as at March 2021. With debt recovery paused during the pandemic, the level of arrears for temporary accommodation rentals has also increased. A combination of increase in demand and increase in rent arrears contributed to the £4.2m overspend within Inclusive Economy & Housing.

Another significant area of variance was within the Environment and Sustainable Transport directorate's £3.5m overspend, which was mainly due to a shortfall in the parking income as a result of the pandemic, which was not fully funded by the government's income compensation scheme.

The pandemic also had an impact on support services with the oneSource 'non-shared' and 'shared' directorates both reporting significant overspends. Covid-19 expenditure and income pressures for oneSource were £1.2m relating mainly to an increase in the bad debt provision for commercial income. Elsewhere oneSource services experienced financial pressure in Asset Management and property services, and there were also pressures support services like ICT, HR and procurement and caused by the need for additional Microsoft licences and the dependency on skilled interim workers. A permanent recruitment drive has been underway during the latter part of 2020/21, which should see these pressures reduce significantly during 2021/22.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a ring-fenced account which manages income and expenditure in relation to the 15,945 Council dwellings. The 2020/21 outturn was an underspend of £2.9m primarily due to budgets set aside for emergency unplanned works on the Council's housing stock not being required during the year. However, following legal rulings relating to other London Boroughs, a provision of £11.8m was made for the repayment of water administration charges to tenants and former tenants, which resulted in an overall deficit of £8.9m. This is being funded by the HRA reserves.

Dedicated Schools Budget (DSB)

The dedicated schools grant (DSG) funds local authority schools' budgets and is the main source of income for schools. The 2020/21 DSG outturn position was £7.5m, which is approximately 3.0% of the gross 2020/21 DSG budget. The main cause of the overspend continues to be the High needs block which has come under increased pressure in supporting children with special educational needs. The total DSG deficit is now £15.1m.

Under current regulations this deficit will be carried forwards and applied to 2021/22 and future years' budget. The DSG recovery plan and the additional £5m of annual funding received means that there will be a small reduction in the DSG deficit in 2021/22.

Pension Fund

The pension liability (£1.005bn) represents the difference between the estimated cost of pension's payable in the future (£2.388bn) and the value of assets in the pension fund (£1.383bn). The net liability increased from £0.689bn in 2019/20 to £1.005bn in 2020/21 primarily due to revised assumptions around future pension rates and salary increases.

The Pension Fund is revalued every three years to set future contribution rates and the latest valuation was as at 31 March 2019. The funding level as at 31 March 2019 was assessed as 96% (85% in 2016) and the plan is to bring the funding level to 100% within 20 years. The Council's (Employee and Employer) contributions into the pension fund totalled £75m in 2020/21, which included 3 years pre-funding worth £57.2m. The contributions in 19/20 were for 1 year and totalled £38.1m.

Other significant Information

During 2020/21 the number of Council staff (officers and teachers) whose remuneration exceeded £50k increased by 48. The increase primarily related to teaching staff and was generally due to the impact of inflationary pay increases and staff moving up spinal points. The bandings which has had the highest increase is from £50k - £70k a total increase 58 officers and teachers. Similarly, officers and teachers paid over £70k has reduced by 10 compared to 2019/20.

The Council will periodically borrow money from authorised lenders in line with its treasury management strategy to meet cashflow or capital funding requirements. Amounts that need to be repaid within 12 months are classified as short term and amounts held for more than 12 months are classified as long term. During 2020/21, the Council repaid nearly £30m worth of loans thereby decreasing its short term borrowing from £133m to £93m. Long term borrowing increased slightly, from £716m to £719m, reflecting changes in interest repayable over term of the loans which are over 50 years.

During 2020/21 the Council has acquired two hotels previously owned by Accor UK Economy hotels limited. The purchase will generate additional investment income for the Council, which will be invested back into services provided to the residents of Newham.

Capital Investments

The Council maintains a rolling capital investment programme such that projects are approved and scheduled over a time period of at least three financial years.

During 2020/21 £162.8m worth of capital investments (including expenditure incurred by Schools) were delivered and a significant amount of that was on regeneration schemes and investment in new and affordable homes, delivered through the HRA and the Council's wholly owned housing investments company, Populo.

The Council had budgeted to invest £217.1m across the various directorates and programmes. The slippage is due to the effect of Covid-19 on services and some delays and changes to schemes. All of the projects that were not delivered during 2020/21 will be carried forward and delivered during 2021/22 and future years. To assist with this, the Council's capital strategy has also been updated and governance arrangements are being improved through a new capital board to ensure more of the Council's capital ambition can be delivered sooner.

Below is a summary of the capital expenditure by directorate and the key investments initiatives were in the following areas:

- £14.8m – on roads, highways, transport and other infrastructure improvement projects.
- £11.9m - regeneration projects in Canning Town, Custom House and Carpenters Estate.
- £18.5m – school expansion and improvements
- £52.4m – on new and affordable housing projects through Populo
- £50.7m – increasing housing supply and investment in affordable housing through the HRA

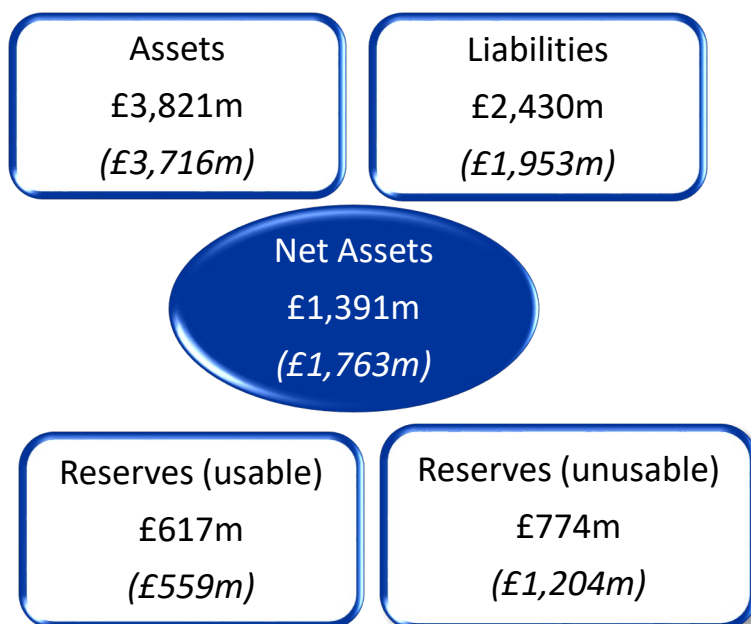
Directorate	2020/21 Budget	2020/21 Actual	2020/21 Variance
	£m	£m	£m
Adults & Public Health	10.3	3.9	(6.4)
Children & Young People	0.7	0	(0.7)
Environment & Sustainable Transport	22.1	14.8	(7.3)
Inclusive Economy & Housing	26.0	11.9	(14.1)
OneSource	5.6	2.1	(3.5)
People, Policy & Performance	5.9	3.6	(2.3)
Resources	2.1	2.2	0.1
Schools (Capital)	22.4	18.5	(3.9)
Populo	34.4	52.4	18.0
Housing Revenue Account	72.8	50.7	(22.1)
Schools Consolidation	0	2.7	2.7
Corporate	14.8	0	(14.8)
Total	217.1	162.8	(54.3)

The capital investment was funded through General Fund Borrowing (53%), Grants & Contributions (20%), HRA Self Financing (23%) and Other Funding sources including the use of Capital receipts (4%).

Funding Sources	2020/21 £'m
GF Capital Receipts	0.6
Grants and Contributions	16.1
Capital Grants Unapplied	15.6
GF - Prudential Borrowing	34.0
HRA - Prudential Borrowing	0.0
HRA Self Financing - MRR	37.5
HRA 1-4-1 Receipts	6.6
GF - Prudential Borrowing (Populo)	52.4
Total planned Capital Expenditure	162.8

Balance Sheet Position

The diagram below illustrates the Authority's single entity Balance Sheet position as at the end of 2020/21. The figures shown in brackets are for 2019/20.

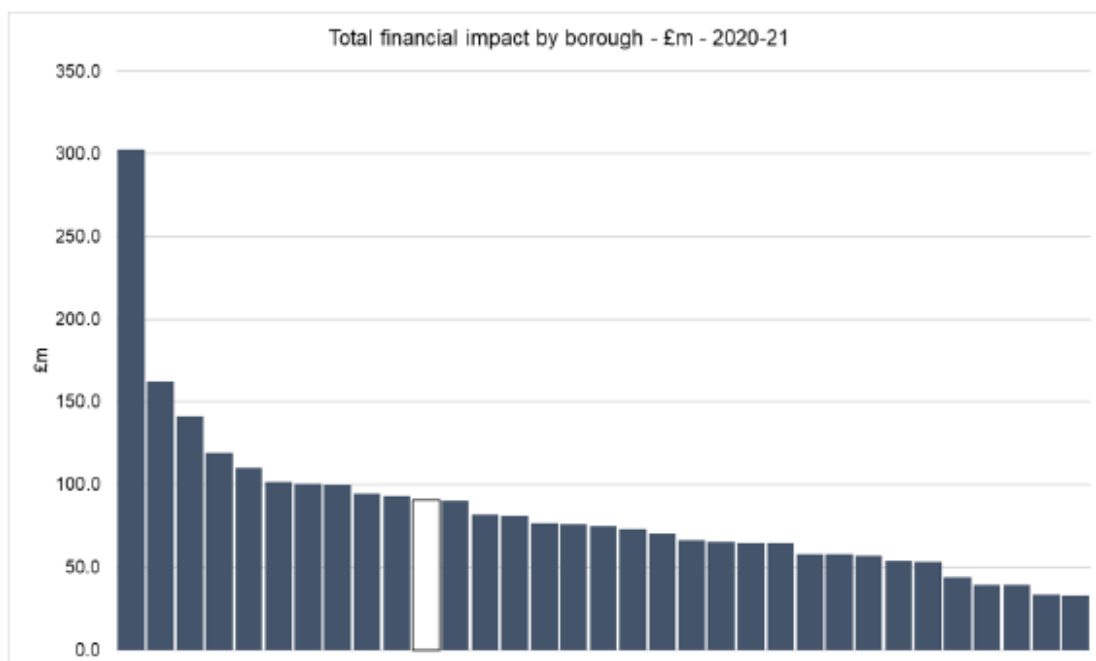


Looking Ahead

Local authority funding from central government has continued to decline significantly since 2010. The ongoing reductions in central government funding for local government, together with rising cost pressures and local growth in demand for services, mean that the Council continues to face a challenging financial position over the coming years.

Like many other local authorities, this continues to have a significant impact on Newham's financial position. The Council has been required to make approximately £200million of savings since 2010 in response to the funding reductions. The net budget requirement for the Council for 2021/22 is £264.2m.

In addition to this, Covid-19 has also had a significant impact on cost pressures in local authority services and its ability to generate funding through local taxation and fees and charges. Whilst the impact in 2020/21 has broadly been mitigated by central government funding, it remains unclear the level of ongoing risk and what further central government assistance might be available in future years. The impact of Covid-19 on the finances of London Boroughs is highlighted in the chart below.



Source: London Councils. This chart presents the position of London Boroughs from Round 8 (October) of the 'COVID-19 Local Authority Financial Management Information' returns to MHCLG. London Boroughs are anonymised.

The financial uncertainty for the council will continue in the medium term. The IFS is clear that there is still in a period of great uncertainty, and that little allowance has yet been made nationally for longer-lasting service demand impacts of COVID-19 to councils. The IFS' upper estimates suggest that the national funding gap for local authorities could end up being as high as £9.8 billion by 2023/24.

In Newham the council will need to undertake further activity in 2021/22, and beyond, in response to the developing situation.

The result of the 2020/21 overspend is that the Council's reserves are significantly reduced. As previously stated, Newham started 2020/21 with an agreed three year balanced budget with reasonable, but not excessive reserves. As a result of the pandemic and the depleted reserves, coupled with the tax take reduced an additional savings £12m of savings has been agreed for 2021/22. This means that a total of £30m of savings will need to be delivered in 2021/22.

Savings 2021/22 by directorate

Directorate	Unachieved 20/21 Savings	Existing MTFS savings for 21/22	£12M Covid Savings	TOTAL
Adults & Health	4,642	866	1,900	7,408
Brighter Futures	733	417	660	1,810
Central	1,985	989	0	2,974
Children & Young People	2,320	516	3,365	6,201
Environment and Sustainable Transport	(1,123)	1,902	1,086	1,865
Inclusive Economy & Housing	1,681	454	2,393	4,528
oneSource	2,158	849	703	3,710
People, Policy & Performance	100	118	558	776
Resources	(181)	321	1,000	1,140
Total 2020/21 Savings	12,315	6,432	11,665	30,412

Other factors that will continue to impact on the level of uncertainty over the MTFP include ongoing and increased pressure on Adult Social Care budgets, changes to the Better Care Fund and New Homes Bonus, The Fair Funding Review and Changes to the Business Rates Retention Scheme.

Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

The Authority's Responsibilities

The Authority is required to:

- Make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to ensure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this case, the responsible officer is the Corporate Director of Resources.
- Manage its affairs in order to generate an economic, efficient and effective use of resources and to safeguard its assets; and
- Approve the Statement of Accounts.

The Responsibilities of the Chief Finance Officer

The Council's designated Chief Finance Officer is the Corporate Director of Resources. The Corporate Director of Resources is ultimately responsible for the preparation of the Authority's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC *Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom* ("the Code").

In preparing the Statement of Accounts, the Corporate Director of Resources has:


- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent; and
- complied with the aforementioned Code of Practice.

The Corporate Director of Resources has also:

- kept proper accounting records which were up to date; and
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In accordance with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015, I certify that the statement of accounts gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the authority at 31 March 2021 and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Signature:



Conrad Hall CPFA

Corporate Director of Resources

Date: 08 October 2021

Signature:



Luke Charters

Chair of Audit Committee

Date: 08 October 2021

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of London Borough of Newham for the year ended 31 March 2021 under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The financial statements comprise the:

- Authority and Group Movement in Reserves Statement,
- Authority and Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement,
- Authority and Group Balance Sheet,
- Authority and Group Cash Flow Statement
- the related notes 1 to 46, and note 60,
- Housing Revenue Account Income and Expenditure Statement, the Movement on the Housing Revenue Account Statement and the related notes 47 to 57,
- Collection Fund and the related notes 58 to 59.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of London Borough of Newham and Group as at 31 March 2021 and of its expenditure and income for the year then ended; and
- have been prepared properly in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report below. We are independent of the group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and the Comptroller and Auditor General's (C&AG) AGN01, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Chief Financial Officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the authority's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Chief Financial Officer with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report. However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the authority's ability to continue as a going concern.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the statement of accounts, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the other information contained within the statement of accounts.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we report by exception

We report to you if:

- in our opinion the annual governance statement is misleading or inconsistent with other information forthcoming from the audit or our knowledge of the Authority;
- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make written recommendations to the audited body under Section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make an application to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law under Section 28 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we issue an advisory notice under Section 29 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;

- we make an application for judicial review under Section 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

We have nothing to report in these respects.

In respect of the following, we have matters to report by exception.

Exception report

Report on the Authority's proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

We report to you, if we are not satisfied that the Authority has put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2021.

On the basis of our work, having regard to the guidance issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in April 2021, we have identified the following significant weaknesses in the Authority's arrangements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Significant weaknesses in arrangements

OFSTED inspection findings:

Our judgement on the nature of the weakness identified:

In February 2019, OFSTED rated the Authority's Children and Young People's Services as Inadequate. There were significant failings identified across all areas of Children's Services.

OFSTED concluded in March 2020 that limited progress had been made since its Inspection the previous March, with many of the weaknesses identified still apparent. OFSTED returned to carry out a focused visit in October 2020, during which the inspectors noted that they saw some positive signs of improvement in social work practice since March 2020, but that some weaknesses from the last inspection remain. The letter to the Authority outlined five main areas for improvements to be made:

- (1) Planning and intervention to protect children at risk of exploitation
- (2) The quality of child protection and child in need planning
- (3) Escalation arrangements where children's circumstances have not improved despite substantive interventions
- (4) The quality of analysis in assessments where domestic abuse is a feature
- (5) Return home interviews when children go missing

OFSTED undertook a further monitoring visit of the Authority in May 2021, following which OFSTED issued a letter to the Authority. This highlighted several areas of improvements, but OFSTED's overall conclusion was that there were still challenges to overcome before Children's Services were considered to be consistently good.

Our work confirmed the Authority had not yet fully addressed the areas of concern identified by OFSTED. Whilst actions have been taken to improve Children's Services, those actions were not fully implemented and operational through 2020/21.

The evidence on which our view is based is:

- OFSTED focused visit October 2020 and monitoring visit May 2021
- Authority committee papers setting out and monitoring progress on the OFSTED recommendations

The impact on the London Borough of Newham:

Following the inadequate rating by OFSTED in 2019, the Authority's Children's Services department has faced increased central government intervention. An improvement notice was issued to the Authority in April 2019 and there have now been four visits since 2019. As subsequent monitoring and focused OFSTED visits have identified improvement and plans for further improvement, further escalation by OFSTED to request Secretary of State intervention has not been required.

The action the London Borough of Newham needs to take to address the weakness:

The Authority should implement the improvements set out in the OFSTED letter of May 2021. These can be found at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/44/316>.

This issue is evidence of weaknesses in proper arrangements for Governance and how the body monitors and ensures appropriate standards, such as meeting legislative/regulatory requirements.

Governance and internal control:

Our judgement on the nature of the weakness identified:

Our judgement is based upon the Authority's progress to address the findings and recommendations set out in the Internal Controls Commission (ICC) report and Internal Audit findings during 2020/21. The ICC scope of work was to assess the Authority's existing internal control environment, make recommendations to the Authority and ensure lessons had been learned from previous internal control failures and reviews.

The ICC report in 2019 identified that the Authority's governance framework was undermined by cultural issues amongst staff, and a lack of appreciation for the importance of internal controls.

The Authority has focused on improving governance and internal control arrangements. As at March 2021 two recommendations from the ICC remained outstanding. The Head of Internal Audit opinion for 2020/21 concluded Moderate assurance over the Governance arrangements in place.

The Head of Internal Audit opinion noted that "only limited assurance can be provided on risk management and the internal control environment within the Authority". Limited assurance indicates there are fundamental weaknesses in the internal control environment within the areas reviewed, and further action is required to manage risks to an acceptable level.

The evidence on which our view is based:

- Annual Governance Statement (including the Head of Internal Audit's opinion for 2020/21)
- Authority committee papers setting out and monitoring progress on the ICC recommendations

The impact on the London Borough of Newham:

The risk management function requires improvement; this needs to be developed in tandem with the ICC report recommendations to ensure effective governance and risk management is embedded at the Authority. Failure to improve governance and risk management will limit the Authority's ability to make informed decisions and deploy resources sustainably.

The action the London Borough of Newham needs to take to address the weakness:

The Authority needs to continue to implement remaining ICC recommendations and respond to the weaknesses in risk management and internal controls as identified in the Internal Audit reports.

This issue is evidence of weaknesses in proper arrangements for Governance and how the body monitors and assesses risk and how the body gains assurance over the effective operation of internal controls.

Responsibility of the Chief Financial Officer

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities set out on page 9, the Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Chief Finance Officer is responsible for assessing the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Authority either intends to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Authority is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, to ensure proper stewardship and governance, and to review regularly the adequacy and effectiveness of these arrangements.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect irregularities, including fraud. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below. However, the

primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and management.

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Authority and determined that the most significant are:
 - Local Government Act 1972,
 - School Standards and Framework Act 1998,
 - Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (England and Wales),
 - Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended by the Local Government Finance Act 1992),
 - Transport Act 2000,
 - Education Act 2002 and school Standards and Framework Act 1998 (England),
 - Local Government Act 2003,
 - The Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003 as amended in 2018 and 2020,
 - Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003,
 - National Health Service Act 2006,
 - Planning Act 2008 and the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (SI 2010/948),
 - Business Rate Supplements Act 2009,
 - The Local Government Finance Act 2012,
 - Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended),
 - The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, and
 - The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

In addition, the Authority has to comply with laws and regulations in the areas of anti-bribery and corruption, data protection, employment Legislation, tax Legislation, general power of competence, procurement and health & safety.

- We understood how London Borough of Newham is complying with those frameworks by understanding the incentive, opportunities and motives for non-compliance, including inquiring of management, head of internal audit, those charged with governance, and the monitoring officer, and obtaining and reading documentation relating to the procedures in place to identify, evaluate and comply with laws and regulations, and whether they are aware of instances of non-compliance. We corroborated this through our reading of the Authority's committee minutes, through enquiry of employees to confirm Authority policies, and through the inspection of employee handbooks and other information. Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations. Our procedures had a focus on compliance with the accounting framework through obtaining sufficient audit evidence in line with the level of risk identified and with relevant legislation.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Authority's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur by understanding the potential incentives and pressures for management to manipulate the financial statements, and performed procedures to understand the areas in which this would most likely arise. Based on our risk assessment procedures, we identified manipulation of reported financial performance through inappropriate capitalisation of revenue expenditure and management override of controls to be our fraud risks.
- To address our fraud risk of inappropriate capitalisation of revenue expenditure we tested the Authority's capitalised expenditure to ensure the capitalisation criteria were properly met and the expenditure was genuine.

- To address our fraud risk of management override of controls, we tested specific journal entries identified by applying risk criteria to the entire population of journals. For each journal selected, we tested specific transactions back to source documentation to confirm that the journals were authorised and accounted for appropriately. We evaluated significant transactions and estimates for evidence of management bias.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Scope of the review of arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

We have undertaken our review in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance on the specified reporting criteria issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) in April 2021, as to whether the London Borough of Newham had proper arrangements for financial sustainability, governance and improving economy, efficiency and effectiveness. The Comptroller and Auditor General determined these criteria as those necessary for us to consider under the Code of Audit Practice in satisfying ourselves whether the London Borough of Newham put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2021.

We planned our work in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice. Based on our risk assessment, we undertook such work as we considered necessary to form a view on whether, in all significant respects, the London Borough of Newham had put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

We are required under Section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to satisfy ourselves that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

We are not required to consider, nor have we considered, whether all aspects of the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

Certificate

Delay in certification of completion of the audit

We cannot formally conclude the audit and issue an audit certificate until we have:

- completed the work necessary to issue our assurance statement in respect of the Authority's Whole of Government Accounts consolidation pack. We are satisfied that this work does not have a material effect on the financial statements or on our work on value for money arrangements;
- given an opinion on the consistency of the financial statements of the pension fund included in the Pension Fund Annual Report of Newham Pension Fund. The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013

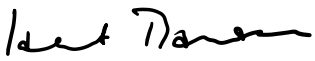

require authorities to publish the Pension Fund Annual Report by 1 December 2021. As the Authority has not yet prepared the Annual Report we have not yet been able to conclude on the consistency with these financial statements and we have not issued our report on those financial statements; and

- formally concluded objections to prior year accounts from members of the public.

Until we have completed these procedures we are unable to certify that we have completed the audit of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the National Audit Office.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the members of London Borough of Newham, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 43 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Authority and the Authority's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Janet Dawson (Key Audit Partner)
Ernst & Young LLP (Local Auditor)
London
14 October 2021

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM

Opinion

We have audited the pension fund financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The pension fund financial statements comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and the related notes 1 to 23. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21.

In our opinion the pension fund financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the pension fund during the year ended 31 March 2021 and the amount and disposition of the fund's assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2021; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report below. We are independent of the pension fund in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and the Comptroller and Auditor General's (C&AG) AGN01, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Chief Finance Officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the authority's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Chief Finance Officer with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report. However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the authority's ability to continue as a going concern.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Statement of Accounts 2020/21, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Chief Finance Officer is responsible for the other information contained within the Statement of Accounts 2020/21.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we report by exception

We report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make written recommendations to the audited body under Section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make an application to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law under Section 28 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we issue an advisory notice under Section 29 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; or
- we make an application for judicial review under Section 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

We have nothing to report in these respects

Responsibility of the Chief Finance Officer

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts set out on page 9, the Chief Finance Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Authority's Statement of Accounts, which includes the pension fund financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Chief Finance Officer is responsible for assessing the Pension Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Pension Fund either intends to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit

conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect irregularities, including fraud. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and management.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Pension Fund and determined that the most significant are the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended), and The Public Service Pensions Act 2013.

We understood how Newham Pension Fund is complying with those frameworks by understanding the incentive, opportunities and motives for non-compliance, including inquiring of management, head of internal audit and those charged with governance and obtaining and reading documentation relating to the procedures in place to identify, evaluate and comply with laws and regulations, and whether they are aware of instances of non-compliance. We corroborated this through our reading of the Pension Fund Committee and Local Pension Board minutes, through enquiry of employees to confirm Pension policies, and through the inspection of employee handbooks and other information. Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations. Our procedures had a focus on compliance with the accounting framework through obtaining sufficient audit evidence in line with the level of risk identified and with relevant legislation

We assessed the susceptibility of the Pension Fund's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur by understanding the potential incentives and opportunities for management to manipulate the financial statements, and performed procedures to understand the areas in which this would most likely arise. Based on our risk assessment procedures we identified the manipulation of journal entries of the investment asset valuations to be our fraud risk.

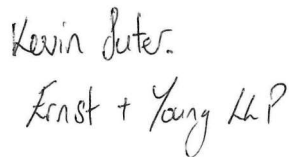
To address our fraud risk we tested the consistency of the investment asset valuation from the independent sources of the custodian and the fund managers to the financial statements.

In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluated the business rationale of any identified significant transactions that were unusual or outside the normal course of business.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the members of the London Borough of Newham as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 43 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the London Borough of Newham and the London Borough of Newham's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Handwritten signature of Kevin Suter and the logo for Ernst & Young LLP.

Kevin Suter (Key Audit Partner)
Ernst & Young LLP (Local Auditor)
Southampton
14 October 2021

Explanation of the Key Accounting Statements

The key financial statements set out within this document include:

- **Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)** – This summarises the expenditure and income for the year.
- **Balance Sheet** – This shows the Council’s assets, liabilities, cash balances and reserves at the year-end date.
- **Cash Flow Statement** – This summarises the cash inflows and outflows arising from transactions for both capital and revenue income and expenditure;
- **Movement in Reserves Statement (MiRS)** – This shows the changes in the Council’s reserves during the year. Reserves are divided into useable and unusable reserves with the former being invested in capital projects or service improvements and latter being set aside for specific purposes.
- **Expenditure Funding Analysis (EFA)** – This shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources and accounted under local government statute as opposed to how it would be accounted by private sector bodies under generally accepted accounting practices.
- **Notes to the Financial Statements** – The notes provide more detail about the items contained in the key financial statements, the Authority’s Accounting Policies and other information to help with the understanding of the financial statements;
- **Housing Revenue Account (HRA)** – This records the Authority’s statutory obligations to account separately for the cost of the landlord role in respect of the provision of Housing managed directly by the authority;
- **Collection Fund** – The Authority is responsible for collecting council tax and non-domestic rates and for keeping a separate account to detail the amounts owing to and from the Council, the GLA and the MHCLG.
- **Pension Fund** – The Pension Fund Accounts show the contributions from the Authority, participating employers and employees for the purpose of paying pensions. The Fund is separately managed by the Authority, acting as trustee, and its Accounts are separate from those of the Authority.

Single Entity Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) records all of the Council's Revenue income and expenditure for the year. Expenditure represents a combination of statutory duties and discretionary spend focused on local priorities and needs. The CIPFA Code of Local Authority Accounting regulates how expenditure and income relating to services is classified in the CIES.

2019/20				2020/21			
Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure		Notes	Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure
£'000	£'000	£'000			£'000	£'000	£'000
107,767	(7,611)	100,156	Children and Young People		112,137	(10,176)	101,961
123,282	(101,945)	21,337	Inclusive Economy & Housing		141,810	(109,027)	32,783
161,772	(80,788)	80,984	Adults & Health		196,711	(106,536)	90,175
18,002	(4,914)	13,088	CYP Commissioner & Brighter Futures		17,128	(4,500)	12,628
25,948	(4,117)	21,831	People, Policy and Performance		23,508	(5,003)	18,505
73,747	(38,299)	35,448	Environment and Sustainable Transport		72,625	(34,728)	37,897
266,565	(244,765)	21,800	Resources		255,356	(233,411)	21,945
13,031	(22,176)	(9,145)	oneSource - Non Shared		12,885	(19,966)	(7,081)
17,371	(10,813)	6,558	oneSource		19,398	(9,316)	10,082
13,174	(15,745)	(2,571)	Corporate Budgets		5,348	(938)	4,410
307,335	(277,898)	29,437	Dedicated Schools Budget		294,555	(279,310)	15,245
103,131	(108,742)	(5,611)	Housing Revenue Account		124,708	(107,783)	16,925
1,231,125	(917,813)	313,312	Cost of Services		1,276,169	(920,694)	355,475
		59,181	Other Operating Expenditure	11			59,252
		152,773	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	12			39,261
		(327,935)	Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	13			(365,042)
		197,331	(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services				88,946
		(40,053)	(Surplus)/Deficit on Revaluation of PPE and Heritage Assets	26			(5,966)
		(184,598)	Remeasurements of the Net Pensions Defined Benefit Liability	44			288,588
		(224,651)	Other comprehensive income and expenditure				282,622
		(27,320)	Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure				371,568

Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

The Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) records all of the Council's Revenue income and expenditure for the year and consolidation of subsidiaries income and expenditure. Expenditure represents a combination of statutory duties and discretionary spend focused on local priorities and needs. The CIPFA Code of Local Authority Accounting regulates how expenditure and income relating to services is classified in the CIES. Details of the Council's subsidiaries are included on note 38.

2019/20				2020/21		
Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure	Notes	Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure
£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000
117,162	(13,318)	103,844		114,050	(12,218)	101,832
122,205	(100,868)	21,337		141,312	(108,529)	32,783
159,371	(78,429)	80,942		198,870	(107,063)	91,807
16,868	(3,780)	13,088		15,760	(3,132)	12,628
48,308	(26,684)	21,624		44,309	(25,807)	18,502
63,097	(27,341)	35,756		75,820	(38,645)	37,175
262,239	(240,439)	21,800		290,272	(236,741)	53,531
17,538	(26,811)	(9,273)		19,257	(26,622)	(7,365)
17,030	(10,472)	6,558		19,398	(8,242)	11,156
12,633	(15,204)	(2,571)		5,348	(938)	4,410
322,362	(294,065)	28,297		294,555	(279,310)	15,245
98,279	(103,890)	(5,611)		114,399	(97,474)	16,925
1,257,092	(941,301)	315,791		1,333,350	(944,721)	388,629
	59,181					
	157,078					
	(327,935)					
	204,115					
	(487)					
	203,628					
	(45,693)					
	(184,598)					
	(230,291)					
	(26,663)					
		59,181	Other Operating Expenditure	11		59,252
			Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	12		47,854
			Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	13		(365,042)
			(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services			130,693
			Tax on Profit			260
			(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services after Tax			130,953
			(Surplus)/Deficit on Revaluation of PPE and Heritage Assets	26		(12,864)
			Remeasurements of the Net Pensions Defined Benefit Liability	44		288,588
			Other comprehensive income and expenditure			275,724
			Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			406,677

Group and Single Entity Movement in Reserves Statement

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Authority, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and 'unusable reserves'. Additional detail on these reserves is given in Note 25 and Note 26. The Surplus on the Provision of Services line shows the true economic cost of providing the authority's services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. This is different from the statutory amounts required to be charged to the General Fund Balance and the Housing Revenue Account for authority tax setting and dwellings rent setting purposes. The 'Adjustments Between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations' line accounts for this difference and is detailed in Note 9. The Net Increase before Transfers to Earmarked Reserve line shows the increase on the General Fund Balance and Housing Revenue Account Balance before any discretionary transfers to or from earmarked reserves undertaken by the Authority.

	General Fund Balance	Earmarked Reserves	Housing Revenue Account	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied Account	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Single Entity Reserves	Group Reserves	Total Group Reserves
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Balance At 31 March 2019	(13,206)	(195,400)	(72,254)	(64,555)	(134,257)	(91,575)	(571,247)	(1,164,358)	(1,735,605)	(2,123)	(1,737,728)
<i>Movement in Reserves during 2019/20</i>											
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services	152,740	-	44,591	-	-	-	197,331	-	197,331	6,297	203,628
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(224,651)	(224,651)	(5,640)	(230,291)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	152,740	-	44,591	-	-	-	197,331	(224,651)	(27,320)	657	(26,663)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	(127,106)	-	(54,544)	(3,818)	10,417	(10,347)	(185,398)	185,398	-	-	-
Net (Increase)/Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves	25,634	-	(9,953)	(3,818)	10,417	(10,347)	11,933	(39,253)	(27,320)	657	(26,663)
Transfers (To)/From Earmarked Reserves	(25,635)	25,635	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(Increase)/Decrease In Year	(1)	25,635	(9,953)	(3,818)	10,417	(10,347)	11,933	(39,253)	(27,320)	657	(26,663)
Balance At 31 March 2020	(13,207)	(169,765)	(82,207)	(68,373)	(123,840)	(101,922)	(559,314)	(1,203,611)	(1,762,925)	(1,466)	(1,764,391)
<i>To Dedicated Schools Grant Adjustment Account*</i>		(7,592)	-	-	-	-	(7,592)	7,592	-	-	-
Balance At 31 March 2020 restated	(13,207)	(177,357)	(82,207)	(68,373)	(123,840)	(101,922)	(566,906)	(1,196,019)	(1,762,925)	(1,466)	(1,764,391)
<i>Movement in Reserves during 2020/21</i>											
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services	64,521	-	24,425	-	-	-	88,946	-	88,946	42,007	130,953
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	282,622	282,622	(6,898)	275,724
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	64,521	-	24,425	-	-	-	88,946	282,622	371,568	35,109	406,677
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	(110,269)	-	(15,057)	14,279	(34,845)	6,801	(139,091)	139,091	-	-	-
Net (Increase)/Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves	(45,748)	-	9,368	14,279	(34,845)	6,801	(50,145)	421,713	371,568	35,109	406,677
Transfers To/From Earmarked Reserves	54,660	(54,660)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(Increase)/Decrease In Year	8,912	(54,660)	9,368	14,279	(34,845)	6,801	(50,145)	421,713	371,568	35,109	406,677
Balance At 31 March 2021	(4,295)	(232,017)	(72,839)	(54,094)	(158,685)	(95,121)	(617,051)	(774,306)	(1,391,357)	33,643	(1,357,714)

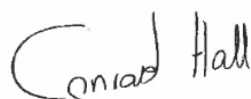
* A new accounting instrument was issued for 2020/21 regarding accounting for Dedicated Schools Grant Deficits; the requirement is to create a Dedicated Schools Grant adjustment account to separate schools budget deficits from the Council's general fund. This involved reporting the deficit as an unusable reserve instead of usable reserve that was reported in 2019/20, as a result opening balances had to be restated.

Group and Single Entity Balance Sheet

	Notes	Single Entity		Group Accounts	
		31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Property, Plant and Equipment	14	2,769,840	2,749,509	2,831,824	2,833,541
Heritage Assets	15	3,658	3,658	3,658	3,658
Investment Properties	16	211,285	300,256	275,679	372,521
Intangible Assets	17	596	1,550	859	1,645
Long Term Investments	18	61,442	55,896	42,000	22,000
Long Term Receivables	22	249,187	306,300	108,839	129,989
Long Term Assets		3,296,008	3,417,169	3,262,859	3,363,354
Short Term Investments	18	272,615	178,203	272,615	178,203
Assets Held for Sale		7,265	1,665	7,265	1,665
Inventories	19	321	1,195	504	2,046
Short Term Receivables	22	109,054	177,779	140,959	195,972
Cash and Cash Equivalents	21	30,913	45,266	48,346	64,237
Current Assets		420,168	404,108	469,689	442,123
Short Term Borrowing	18	(133,119)	(93,312)	(132,511)	(93,312)
Short Term Payables	23	(155,811)	(251,224)	(170,686)	(268,819)
Short Term Provisions	24	(6,931)	(2,807)	(6,931)	(2,807)
Current Liabilities		(295,861)	(347,343)	(310,128)	(364,938)
Long Term Provisions	24	(19,557)	(26,273)	(23,139)	(28,033)
Long Term Borrowing	18	(716,181)	(719,197)	(711,226)	(717,631)
Other Long Term Liabilities	36	(874,476)	(1,290,187)	(876,488)	(1,290,187)
Capital Grants Receipts in Advance	13	(47,176)	(46,920)	(47,176)	(46,974)
Long Term Liabilities		(1,657,390)	(2,082,577)	(1,658,029)	(2,082,825)
Net Assets		1,762,925	1,391,357	1,764,391	1,357,714
Usable Reserves	25	(559,314)	(617,051)	(560,779)	(583,408)
Unusable Reserves	26	(1,203,611)	(774,306)	(1,203,612)	(774,306)
Total Reserves		(1,762,925)	(1,391,357)	(1,764,391)	(1,357,714)

I certify that the statement of accounts gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the authority as at 31 March 2021 and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Conrad Hall CPFA



Group and Single Entity Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in Cash and Cash Equivalents of the Authority during the Reporting Period. The Statement shows how the Authority generates and uses Cash and Cash Equivalents by classifying cash flows as Operating, Investing and Financing Activities. Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Authority are funded by way of Taxation and Grant Income or from the recipients of services provided by the Authority. Investing activities represent the extent to which Cash Outflows have been made for resources that are intended to contribute to the Authority's future service deliveries. Cash Flows arising from Financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future Cash Flows by providers of capital (lenders) to the Authority.

		Single Entity		Group Accounts	
		2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000
Net Surplus/(Deficit) on the Provision of Services	Note	(197,331)	(88,946)	(203,628)	(130,953)
Adjustments to Net Surplus on the Provision of Services for Non-Cash Transactions	27	238,687	136,566	245,421	129,312
Adjustments to Net Surplus on the Provision of Services that are Investing and Financing Activities	27	(245,132)	(67,128)	(245,132)	(67,128)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities		(203,776)	(19,508)	(203,339)	(68,769)
Investing Activities	28	202,873	78,517	174,825	121,448
Financing Activities	29	(54,623)	(44,656)	(21,617)	(36,787)
Net increase or (decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents		(55,526)	14,353	(50,131)	15,892
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the Reporting Period		86,439	30,913	98,477	48,346
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the Reporting Period	21	30,913	45,266	48,346	64,237

1. Statement of Accounting Policies

1.1 General

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Authority's transactions for the 2020/21 financial year and its position at 31 March 2021. They have been prepared on the basis that the Council will remain a 'going concern' and continue to operate in the foreseeable future. The Authority is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices as defined in the Local Government Act 2003 (the 2003 Act). Proper accounting practices primarily comprise the Code of Practice for Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21 and the Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities 2020/21, supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and statutory guidance issued under Section 12 of the 2003 Act. There are no significant changes to the accounting policies applied in 2020/21.

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

1.2 Accruals of Income and Expenditure

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not at the point when cash payments are made or received. Specifically:

- Revenue from contracts with service recipients, whether for services or the provision of goods, is recognised when (or as) the goods or services are transferred to the service recipient in accordance with the performance obligations in the contract.
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies received and their consumption, these amounts are carried as Inventories within the Balance Sheet;
- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received as opposed to the point that payments are made;
- Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract;
- Where revenue and expenditure has been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge is made to revenue to reflect the value of the income that may not be collected.
- Most accruals are automatically generated by the feeder system concerned, but a de minimis is applied in respect of accruals raised manually unless material to grant funding streams or to individual budgets. The de minimis for 2020/21 remains at £100,000.

1.3 Government Grants and Contribution

Revenue Grants

Whatever the basis of payment, specific revenue government grants, other contributions and donations are matched to the relevant service expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, unless they have conditions attached that cannot be met immediately. If there are conditions which cannot be met immediately, the income is credited to Revenue Grants Received in Advance in Payables.

Grants received to finance the general activities of the Authority or to compensate for a loss of income are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the period that they are payable.

Capital Grants

Where the acquisition or enhancement of a fixed asset is financed either wholly or in part by a government capital grant or other capital contribution, the whole amount of all capital grants and contributions is credited, on an accruals basis, as Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement provided that all conditions attached to the grant are met. If those conditions are not met, the income is immediately held as Capital Grants and Contributions Receipts in Advance in Payables within the Balance Sheet.

Capital grants credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. If the grant has not been used to finance capital expenditure in the year, it is posted to the Capital Grants Unapplied Account. If it has been used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account.

1.4 Receivables and Payables

The Authority's financial statements are prepared on an accruals basis, in that sums due to or from the Authority are reflected within the Statement of Accounts regardless of whether or not the cash amounts attached to these transactions have been received or paid. An exception to this policy involves electricity and other similar periodic supplies where apportionment is not made between years. This practice is applied on an annual basis for consistency and the overall effect on the Authority's financial statements is not deemed to be material.

All receivables and payables amounts relate to individual services and supplies, thus there are no significant estimates in the sums relating to receivables and payables shown within the financial statements.

In addition, majority of the Council's receivables are non-contract based income and therefore, no adjustment is required to recognise the income through the concept of *Revenue from Contracts with Service Recipients*. Application of this concept ensures that the Council's financial statements reflects the consideration in exchange for fulfilment of goods or services only.

1.5 Fair Value Measurement

Where applicable, the Council measures its assets and liabilities and provides disclosures in accordance with IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date under current market conditions.

The fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

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

The Council measures the fair value of an asset or liability using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest.

1.6 Reserves

Amounts set aside for specific future policy purposes or for contingencies are known as reserves. Reserves are created by appropriating amounts from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

When expenditure to be financed from the reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year against the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The reserve is then appropriated back to the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement so that there is no net charge against council tax for the expenditure.

The Authority has both usable and unusable reserves. Usable reserves are those reserves that the Authority may utilise to provide services. Unusable reserves are retained to manage the accounting processes for non-current assets, financial instruments, and retirement and employment benefits, and do not represent usable resources for the Authority. Usable and Unusable Reserves are detailed in Notes 25 and 26 to the Statement of Accounts.

1.7 Inventories, Work In Progress and Long-Term Contracts

The stock in the Council's stores (Inventories) is valued at the lower of historical cost or net realisable value. Work in progress is valued based on the cost of work completed by the end of the year. Long-term contracts are accounted for on the basis of charging the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services with the value of works and services received within the contract during the financial year.

1.8 Cost of Central Support Services

The Council operates a Support Service Framework through which the cost of central support services is allocated to service revenue accounts using the most appropriate basis, including the time recorded by individual staff, office space areas occupied and the number of staff employed.

1.9 Value Added Tax

All transactions are disclosed net of any Value Added Tax (VAT), whether capital or revenue, unless for a specific reason certain VAT elements are not recoverable. As is the case for all Local Authorities, the Authority is able to recover a major part of VAT incurred from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC). Any balance due to the Authority is included within Receivables in the Balance Sheet.

1.10 Accounting for Business Rate Supplements

The Authority acts as an agent for the Greater London Authority (GLA). A 4% allowance for administration of this function is recognised within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The net amounts owed to the GLA are held with Payables in the Balance Sheet.

1.11 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and demand deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Demand deposits will include bank accounts where additional funds may be deposited and withdrawn at any time without prior notice e.g. a bank current account.

Cash equivalents are investments instantly repayable to the Authority on demand that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value. These will be balances held in Call Accounts and Money Market Funds with associated accrued interest.

In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Authority's cash management.

1.12 Prior Period Adjustments, Changes in Accounting Policies and Estimates and Errors

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

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

Material errors identified in prior period amounts are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period.

A prior period adjustment generally requires the presentation of a third Balance Sheet to reflect the impact of restatement on the comparator balance sheet.

1.13 Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE) and Investment Property

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes and that are expected to be used during more than one financial year are classified as Property, Plant and Equipment. In the specific case of Voluntary Controlled Schools, where the School has control over the use of the assets, these will be treated as assets of the Council.

Recognition

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Authority and the cost of the item, where above the council's de-minimis of £10,000, can be measured reliably. Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (for instance, repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

The de-minimis level may be waived where grant or borrowing consent is made available for items of capital expenditure below £10,000.

Measurement

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

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

Local authorities are required to follow the fair value hierarchy prescribed by IFRS 13 to increase consistency and comparability in fair value measurements and related disclosures. This hierarchy categorises into three levels the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value, these include:

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

The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 inputs) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 inputs).

The Authority does not capitalise borrowing costs incurred whilst assets are under construction.

The cost of assets acquired other than by purchase is deemed to be its fair value, unless the acquisition does not have commercial substance (i.e. it will not lead to a variation in the cash flows of the Authority). In the latter case, where an asset is acquired via an exchange, the cost of the acquisition is the carrying amount of the asset given up by the Authority.

Donated assets are measured initially at fair value. The difference between fair value and any consideration paid is credited to the Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement unless the donation has been made conditionally. Until these conditions are satisfied, the gain is held in the Donated Assets Account. Where gains are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account - an Unusable Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

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

- Infrastructure Assets, Community Assets and Assets Under Construction – depreciated historical cost;
- Dwellings – fair value, determined using the basis of Existing Use Value for Social Housing (EUVS-H);
- Surplus assets – fair value, estimated at highest and best use from a market participant's perspective;
- All other assets – fair value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its Existing Use Value (EUVS).

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

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

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at fair value are revalued sufficiently frequently (on a rolling five year basis) to ensure that their carrying amounts are not materially different from their year-end fair values. In addition, all assets are assessed for impairment at each year-end. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. Exceptionally, gains might be credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement where they arise from the reversal of a loss previously charged to a service.

Where decreases in value are identified, they are accounted for as follows:

- where there is a revaluation gain balance for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (to the value of any accumulated gains);
- where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where an asset has become operational during the year a revaluation of that asset is included within the next revaluation cycle the following year.

The Revaluation Reserve contains revaluation gains recognised since 1 April 2007 only, the date of its formal implementation. Gains arising prior to that date have been consolidated into the Capital Adjustment Account.

Impairment

Assets are assessed at each year-end to determine whether or not there is an indication that their values may be impaired. Where indications exist and any possible differences are estimated to be material, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated and, where this is at a level below the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment loss is recognised for the shortfall.

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

- where there is a revaluation gain balance for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (to the value of any accumulated gains);
- where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where an impairment loss is reversed subsequently, the reversal is credited to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, up to the amount of the original loss, adjusted for the depreciation that would have been charged if the loss had not been recognised.

Depreciation

Depreciation is charged on all Property, Plant and Equipment assets by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. An exception is made for assets without a determinable finite useful life (such as Freehold Land and certain Community Assets) and assets that are not yet available for use (such as Assets Under Construction).

Revaluation gains are also depreciated with an amount equal to the difference between current value depreciation charged on assets and the depreciation that would have been chargeable based upon the historical cost; this amount being transferred each year from the Revaluation Reserve to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Depreciation is calculated on the following bases:

- Dwellings and Other Buildings – straight-line allocation over the useful life of the property as estimated by an external valuation specialist;
- Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment – straight-line allocation over their useful lives, 5 years (3 years for IT assets) unless a suitably qualified officer determines a more appropriate period. Assets acquired under finance leases are depreciated over their lease term;
- Infrastructure Assets – straight-line allocation over 40 years.

Where an item of Property, Plant and Equipment has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item, these components are depreciated separately.

Major components which have materially different asset lives will be identified in respect of:

- New capital expenditure as it arises; and
- Existing assets as they become subject to revaluation.

Assets will only be considered for componentisation in the following circumstances and then only where the impact of componentisation would be material to the accounting disclosures:

- capital expenditure of more than £500,000 per scheme; and
- assets valued at more than £5,000,000.

As a consequence of the application of this policy the Authority has not identified any major components with materially different asset lives. However, the application of this policy will be reviewed on an on-going basis to ensure that the carrying value of assets is not materially affected.

Disposals

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through its continuing use, it is reclassified as an Asset Held for Sale within Current Assets. The asset is revalued immediately before reclassification and then carried at the lower of this amount and fair value deducting any selling costs. Where there is a subsequent decrease to fair value less selling costs, the loss is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the point of any previous losses recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services. Depreciation is not charged on Assets Held for Sale.

If assets no longer meet the criteria to be classified as Assets Held for Sale, they are reclassified back to non-current assets and valued at the lower of their carrying amount before they were classified as held for sale; adjusted for depreciation, amortisation or revaluations that would have been recognised had they not been classified as held for sale, and their recoverable amount at the date of the decision not to sell.

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet (whether Property, Plant and Equipment or Assets Held for Sale) is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal). Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Amounts received for a disposal are categorised as capital receipts. A proportion of receipts relating to housing disposals (75% for dwellings, 50% for land and other assets, net of statutory deductions and allowances) is payable to the Government. The balance of receipts is credited to the Capital Receipts Reserve, and can then only be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce the Authority's underlying need to borrow (the capital financing requirement) (England and Wales). Receipts are appropriated to the Capital Receipts Reserve from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against council tax, as the cost of Property, Plant and Equipment is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Accounting for Schools

Consideration is given to all the schools in the borough as to whether they are held on the balance sheet. The main consideration is if control of the individual school is with the Authority or with another body. All community schools are controlled by the authority along with the two voluntary controlled schools, which are recorded on the balance sheet. However, control of the five voluntary aided schools remains with the diocese and therefore these five are not on the Authority balance sheet.

The basis for inclusion or exclusion for PPE is determined as follows:

- All Community Schools have been included within the Authority's Balance Sheet as a result of direct ownership.

- The two voluntary controlled schools, West Ham Church of England and St James are owned by the authority. There are no lease arrangements on these.
- The five Voluntary Aided Schools are owned by the respective Diocese. The Authority's internal Property Services section has additionally confirmed that the Council has no lease obligations (as dictated by IAS 17 Leases or IFRIC 4 Determining Whether an Arrangement Contains a Lease) in respect of these Schools.
- The Free School is not owned by the Council and has therefore been excluded. The control implications have also been assessed with an appropriate Balance Sheet decision made.

Investment Properties

Assets used solely to earn rentals or for capital appreciation (or both) are classified as investment properties. Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value, based on the amount at which the asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable parties at arm's length. Properties are not depreciated but are revalued annually according to market conditions at the year-end. Any gains or losses on revaluation are posted to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line. The same treatment is applied to any gains and losses arising on disposal.

Rentals received from investment properties are credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line and result in a gain for the General Fund balance. However, revaluation and disposal gains and losses are not permitted by statute to have an impact on the General Fund balance. Therefore, the gains and losses are reversed out of the General Fund balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and the Capital Receipts Reserve.

Transfers into and out of investment property is only be made when there is a change in use; properties are transfers out when the property is used by the Council for its operational use or when the Council starts development work with a view to sell, and properties are transfers in when it's a surplus to the Council's operational use or a new asset is created and an operating lease is in place with a third party. Each scenario is reviewed to ensure the asset is valued appropriately and any loss or gain in valuation as a result of the transfer is recognised.

PPE Valuations

The valuation of the Authority's property portfolio is completed by Wilks, Head and Eve LLP. The valuations are made in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as applied to the United Kingdom public sector and as interpreted by the Code of Practice for Local Authority Accounting. These valuations are also made in accordance with the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Valuation standards. Fair Value is used as the basis for valuations with the exception of those assets where there is no market-based evidence to support the use of EUV to arrive at Fair Value. In these instances, the depreciated replacement cost (DRC) approach is used. Non-Housing Revenue Account properties are valued on a rolling five year basis and there are yearly beacon valuations for HRA assets.

1.14 Leases

Leases are classified as finance leases where the terms of the lease transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the property, plant or equipment from the lessor to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Where a lease covers both land and buildings, the land and buildings elements are considered separately for the purposes of lease classification unless the value of the land is negligible. Where the land has an indefinite economic life, the land element is normally classified as an operating lease unless title is expected to pass to the lessee by the completion of the lease term.

Arrangements that do not have the legal status of a lease but convey a right to use an asset in return for payment are accounted for under this policy where fulfilment of the arrangement depends upon the use of specific assets.

Finance Leases – the Authority as Lessee

Property, plant and equipment held under finance leases is recognised as an asset in the Balance Sheet at the inception of the lease at the lower of the fair value or the present value of the minimum lease payments. The asset is matched by a long-term liability reflecting the obligation to pay the Lessor. Initial direct costs of the Authority are added to the carrying amount of the asset. Premiums paid upon entry into a lease are applied in writing down the lease liability. Contingent rents are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

The Authority uses assets under a long-term contract which is deemed to incorporate an embedded finance lease. The lease obligations and asset values have been assessed to have a De Minimis impact on the Authority's accounts.

Annual lease rental payments are apportioned between:

- a charge for the acquisition of the interest in the asset (the principal element) which is recognised as a liability in the Balance Sheet at the start of the lease, matched with an asset in property, plant and equipment. The liability is written down as the rent is paid, and
- a finance charge to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement over the term of the lease, calculated so as to produce a constant rate of return on the investment.

Property, plant and equipment recognised under finance leases is accounted for using the policies applied generally to these assets, subject to the depreciation being charged over the lease term if this is shorter than the asset's estimated useful life.

Finance Leases – the Authority as Lessor

Where the Authority is the lessor of property, plant and equipment and the risks and rewards are judged to be passed to the lessee under a finance lease, the asset is eliminated from the Balance Sheet as a disposal. At the commencement of the lease, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. A gain, representing the Authority's net investment in the lease, is credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal), and matched by a long term debtor (for the lease asset) in the Balance Sheet.

In accordance with The Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003, as amended (SI 2003/3146), for leases entered into after 31 March 2010, the lease payment receivable is treated as a capital receipt for the repayment of the principal sum, reducing the debtor and the finance income included in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, calculated so as to produce a constant periodic rate of return on the net investment. For leases entered into before 31 March 2010, rental income for finance leases is treated as revenue income where the lease was classified as an operating lease under the UK GAAP-based SORP.

Lease rentals receivable are split between:

- a charge for acquiring the interest in the property – applied to write down the lease debtor (together with any premiums received) and debiting the Capital Adjustment Account; and
- finance income (credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement). The credit to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is then matched by a debit to write down the Capital Receipts Reserve, whilst the reversal of the entry to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the Movement in Reserves Statement is offset by a credit to the Capital Receipts Reserve.

The gain credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on disposal is not permitted by statute to increase the General Fund Balance and is required to be treated as a capital receipt. Where a premium has been received, this is posted out of the General Fund Balance to the Capital Receipts Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the amount due in relation to the lease asset is to be settled by the payment of rentals in future financial years, this is posted out of the General Fund Balance to the Capital Receipts Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against council tax, as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are therefore appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Operating Leases – the Authority as Lessee

Lease rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense of the services benefitting from use of the leased assets. Any hire purchase contracts that have similar characteristics to an operating lease are accounted for as an operating lease and disclosed in a note to the Statement of Accounts. Charges are accounted for on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease regardless of the actual payments stream.

Operating Leases – the Authority as Lessor

Where the Authority grants an operating lease in respect of an item of property, plant and equipment, the asset is retained in the Balance Sheet and subsequently depreciated over its useful life. Rental income from operating leases is credited as Other Operating Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on a straight line basis over the term of the lease, regardless of the pattern of payments. The initial direct cost of negotiating and arranging the lease may be added to the carrying value of the asset and charged as an expense over the term of the lease.

Any hire purchase contracts that have similar characteristics to a finance lease and are of a financing nature are accounted for as finance leases. Leases are classed as operating leases if assets are worth less than £500,000 or annual rental payments are less than £100,000. Property leases of up to twenty years are normally classed as operating leases. The estimated remaining life of property assets beyond the term of lease agreements is fundamental in determining if an asset should be recognised under a finance or an operating lease. Assets acquired under operating leases are not included in the Balance Sheet - lease rentals on these assets are charged directly to service revenue accounts and are outside the arrangements for capital charges to revenue.

1.15 Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets

Services, support services and trading accounts are debited with the following amounts to record the cost of holding non-current assets during the year:

- Depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service;
- Revaluation and impairment losses on assets used by the service where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off; and
- Amortisation of intangible assets attributable to the service.

The Authority is not required to raise council tax to cover depreciation. However, there is a requirement to make an annual contribution from revenue towards the reduction of the overall borrowing requirement established (equal to an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the Authority in accordance with statutory guidance).

1.16 Debt Redemption

Under the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003, as amended, the Authority is obliged to charge a prudent amount to council tax for redemption of debt, known as the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). Each year the Authority has to approve a policy for charging a prudent level of MRP in line with statutory guidance.

The Authority approved the following MRP policy in relation to the current financial year:

- the MRP charge in relation to borrowing for capital expenditure incurred prior to 2007/08 will be provided on an annuity basis; This will include retrospective application to 1st April 2008. Where there has been overprovision under the previous approach, the Council will equalise the difference through reduced MRP in future years up to the point that the MRP profile falls back in line with the annuity approach.
- MRP charged in respect of capital expenditure incurred since 2007/08 is charged using either:
 - the asset-life method based on an annuity over the estimated remaining useful life of the asset for “large and novel” projects (e.g. the acquisition of offices at Newham Dockside - Building 1000); or

- under exceptional circumstances the equal instalments method may be applied.
- Furthermore, where appropriate, provision for MRP will commence when an asset becomes operational. Estimated life periods will be determined under delegated powers. The council may defer to the estimated useful economic life periods specified in the MRP guidance, but reserves the right to determine such periods and prudent MRP.
- As some types of capital expenditure incurred by the council are not capable of being related to an individual asset, asset lives will be assessed on a basis which most reasonably reflects the anticipated period of benefit that arises from the expenditure. Also, whatever type of expenditure is involved, it will be grouped together in a manner which reflects the nature of the main component of expenditure and will only be divided up in cases where there are two or more major components with substantially different useful economic lives.
- In certain circumstances, capital expenditure may be funded by anticipated capital receipts. Where there is a degree of certainty that these receipts will materialise, MRP would be deferred, pending realisation of those capital receipts. The capital receipt when received would be applied to discharge the arising Capital Financing Requirement (CFR);
- MRP in relation to PFI or lease arrangements will be applied over the expected life of the underlying assets, taking into account any contractually obligated lifecycle repairs and maintenance.

External interest payable on the Authority's debt is debited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. However, in certain cases, the Authority continues to receive reimbursement for external interest and repayments of external loans (debt charges). This reimbursement is credited to the appropriate service revenue accounts, thus the relevant proportions of external interest and debt repayment are also charged to those revenue accounts.

1.17 Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute

Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute represents expenditure which may be capitalised under statutory provisions but which does not result in the creation of a non-current asset, such as expenditure on Renovation Grants and other forms of assistance to third parties. This expenditure is charged to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and subsequently transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account by a transfer in the Movement in Reserves Statement to ensure that there is no overall impact upon council tax and grant levels.

1.18 Deferred Capital Receipts

Deferred capital receipts represent amounts from the disposal of non-current assets which have been deferred to future years where the Authority has granted a loan to assist the purchaser. As the loan (whether for mortgages or finance lease receivables) is repaid, the deferred capital receipt is written down once the capital receipt is realised.

1.19 Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Schemes

PFI contracts are agreements to receive services, where the responsibility for making available the property, plant and equipment long-term assets needed to provide services passes to the PFI contractor. As the Council is deemed to control the services that are provided under its PFI schemes, and as ownership of the property, plant and equipment will pass to the Council at the end of the contracts for no additional charge, the Council carries the assets used under the contracts on its Balance Sheet as part of Property, Plant and Equipment.

The Council has entered into PFI contracts to oversee the building of six schools and two housing initiatives in Canning Town and Forest Gate.

PFI accounting arrangements apply where control tests (a) and (b) below have been applied and met:

- a) The Authority controls or regulates the services that the operator must provide with the asset, to whom it must provide them, and at what price; and
- b) The Authority controls – through ownership, beneficial entitlement or otherwise – any significant residual interest in the asset at the end of the term of the arrangement.

Assets under PFI accounting arrangements are accounted for at fair value and recognise the corresponding financial liability to reflect the requirement to pay for the asset over the period of the contract.

PFI assets are valued and depreciated in the same way as other asset categories. In line with disclosure information required under the Code, the value of assets held under PFI arrangements and payments due are disclosed within the notes to the Statement of Accounts.

1.20 Intangible Assets

Expenditure on non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance (e.g. software licences) but are controlled by the Authority, is capitalised when it is anticipated that future economic benefits or service potential will flow from the intangible asset.

Intangible assets are measured initially at cost. Since the fair values of these assets cannot be determined by reference to an active market, these assets are therefore carried at amortised cost. The depreciable amount of an intangible asset is amortised over its useful life to the relevant service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure statement. An asset is reviewed for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired, and any losses recognised are posted to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

1.21 Accounting for Heritage Assets

Heritage Assets (including any associated revaluation gains and losses) are recognised and measured in accordance with the Authority's accounting policies on Property, Plant and Equipment. However, some of the measurement rules are relaxed in relation to Heritage Assets as detailed below. The accounting policies in relation to Heritage Assets that are deemed to include intangible elements are also presented below.

General

The carrying amounts of Heritage Assets are reviewed where there is evidence of impairment, e.g. where an item has suffered physical deterioration or breakage or where doubts arise as to its authenticity. Any impairment is recognised and measured in accordance with the Authority's general policies on impairment.

Art Collections

The art collection includes paintings, and these are reported in the Balance Sheet at year-end market values. An annual programme of valuations is established and items in the collection are valued by an external valuer. The assets within the art collection are deemed to have indeterminate lives and high residual values. On this basis, the Authority does not consider it appropriate to charge depreciation.

Acquisitions are made by purchase or donation. Acquisitions are initially recognised at purchase cost and donations are recognised at their valued amounts as provided by the external valuer, and with reference to appropriate commercial markets for paintings using the most relevant and recent information from auction sales.

Local Archaeology and Local and Social History

The Authority considers that obtaining valuations for the vast majority of machinery, equipment and other artefacts would involve a disproportionate cost in comparison to the benefits to the users of the Authority's financial statements. This is because of the diverse nature of the assets held and the lack of comparable values. The Authority does not recognise this collection of Heritage Assets on the Balance Sheet.

1.22 Employee Benefits

Benefits Payable during Employment

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled within 12 months of the year-end. These include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits (e.g. cars) for current and permanent employees. These are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Authority. An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements (or any form of leave including time off in lieu) earned by employees but not taken before the year-end, which employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable in the next financial year, being the period in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services, but subsequently reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement to ensure that holiday benefits amounts are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the holiday absence occurs.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Authority to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy. These amounts are charged on an accruals basis to the respective service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when the Authority is demonstrably committed to the termination of the employment of an officer or group of officers, or of making an offer to encourage voluntary redundancy.

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

1.23 Post-Employment Benefits

The Authority participates in three separate pension schemes:

- Local Government Pension Scheme, for employees other than teachers, administered by the London Borough of Newham;
- Teachers Pensions Scheme, sponsored by the Department for Education (DfE); and
- National Health Service (NHS) Pension Scheme.

All schemes provide defined benefits to members (lump sums and pensions), earned as employees for the Authority.

The Local Government Pension Scheme

The Local Government Pension Scheme is accounted for as a defined benefits scheme.

The liabilities of the London Borough of Newham pension fund attributable to the Authority are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions regarding mortality rates, employee turnover levels and current employees' projected earnings.

Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate (based on the indicative rate of return on high quality corporate bonds).

The assets of the London Borough of Newham pension fund attributable to the Authority are included in the Balance Sheet at their year-end fair values and are defined by the following categories:

- quoted securities – current bid price;
- unquoted securities – professional estimate;
- unitised securities – current bid price;
- property – market value.

The movement in the net pension liability or asset is analysed into the following elements:

- Service cost comprising:
 - current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned in the current year – allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked;
 - past service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years – debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement within central services;
 - net interest on the net defined benefit liability or asset i.e. net interest expense for the Authority – the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability or asset that arises from the passage of time, as charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. This is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability or asset at the beginning of the

period – taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability or asset during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.

- Re-measurements comprising:
 - the return on planned assets – excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability or asset as charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income or Expenditure;
 - actuarial gains and losses – changes in the net pension liability or asset that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions. This is charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income or Expenditure.
- Contributions paid to the London Borough of Newham pension fund – cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities, and not accounted for as an expense.

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Authority to the pension fund or directly to pensioners in the year and not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards in place. The Movement in Reserves Statement therefore reflects transfers to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replaces them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but remaining unpaid at the year-end. The negative balance that arises on the Pensions Reserve thereby measures the beneficial impact to the General Fund Balance of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits are accrued by employees.

NHS and Teachers' Pension Schemes

The arrangements for the NHS and Teachers' schemes mean that the Authority's liabilities for these benefits cannot be identified specifically. The two schemes are therefore accounted for as if they were defined contribution schemes, resulting in the fact that no liability for future payments of benefits is recognised within the Balance Sheet at year-end. The applicable revenue accounts are also charged with the employer's contributions payable to the NHS and DfE respectively.

Discretionary Benefits

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

1.24 Financial Instruments – Loans and Investments

Financial Liabilities

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

For the majority of the Authority's borrowings, the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable (plus accrued interest), and interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount payable for the year according to the loan agreement.

Gains and losses on the repurchase or early settlement of borrowings are credited and debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year of repurchase or settlement. Where repurchase has taken place as part of a restructuring of the loan portfolio that involves the modification or exchange of existing instruments, the premium or discount applicable is either deducted from or added to the amortised cost of the new or modified loan and the write-down to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is subsequently spread over the life of the loan by an adjustment to the effective interest rate.

Where premiums and discounts have been charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, The Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003, as amended, (SI 2003/3146) allows the impact on the General Fund balance to be spread over future years. The Authority either spreads a premium over the term of the new loan taken out or alternatively allocates this over a ten year period (where a discount has been received).

Financial Assets

Financial assets are classified based on a classification and measurement approach that reflects the business model for holding the financial assets and their cashflow characteristics. There are three main classes of financial assets measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit or loss (FVPL), and
- fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI)

The authority's business model is to hold investments to collect contractual cash flows. Financial assets are therefore classified as amortised cost, except for those whose contractual payments are not solely payment of principal and interest (for example where the cash flows do not take the form of a basic debt instrument).

Financial Assets Measured at Amortised Cost

Financial assets measured at amortised cost are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the authority becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value. They are subsequently measured at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for Statements the instrument. For most of the financial assets held by the authority, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued interest) and interest credited to the CIES is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

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

Expected Credit Loss Model

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

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

Financial Assets Measured at Fair Value through Profit of Loss (FVPL)

Financial assets that are measured at FVPL are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the authority becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured and carried at fair value. Fair value gains and losses are recognised as they arrive in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services.

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

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

The inputs to the measurement techniques are categorised in accordance with the following three levels:

- Level 1 inputs – quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets that the authority can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 inputs – inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 inputs – unobservable inputs for the asset. Any gains and losses that arise on the de-recognition of the asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

1.25 Provisions

Provisions

Provisions are required for any liabilities of uncertain timing or amount that have been incurred. Provisions are recognised when:

- the Authority has a present obligation as a result of a past event;
- it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; and
- a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Contributions to provisions are charged to the relevant service revenue account and are included within Other Operating Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Provisions are measured at the best estimate (at the Balance Sheet date) of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account the relevant risks and uncertainties.

When subsequent payments are made, these are charged to the provision carried in the Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year. Where it becomes clear that a transfer of economic benefits will no longer be required (or a lower settlement than originally anticipated is made), the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service.

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

The Authority has established a number of specific provisions, including an Insurance Provision, to meet the estimated cost of insurance claims outstanding.

1.26 Contingent Liabilities

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the Authority a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Authority. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will occur or whereby the value of the obligation cannot be reliably determined.

Contingent liabilities are not recognised within the Balance Sheet but are disclosed in the relevant Statement of Accounts note.

1.27 Contingent Assets

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that offers the Authority a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Authority. Subsequently, an inflow of economic benefits or service potential will occur.

Contingent assets are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but are identified within the relevant Statement of Accounts note

1.28 Interest in Companies and Other Entities

The code requires local authorities with, in aggregate, material interest in subsidiaries and associated companies and joint ventures to prepare group financial statements.

Subsidiaries

An assessment of the council's interests has been carried out to determine the group relationships that exist. Inclusion in the group is dependent upon the extent of the council's control over the company or entity and the materiality of the interest. The council considers that it has a material interest in various entities detailed in Note 38 and has classified them as a subsidiaries. Accordingly Group Accounts are prepared. In consolidating the accounts, all transactions and balances between the council and the subsidiary are eliminated in full.

Associates and Jointly Controlled Entities

The Authority has interests in companies and other entities that have the nature of associates and jointly controlled entities that have been determined to be material. These interests are recorded as equity instruments at cost less any provision for losses and are detailed in note 38.

2. Impact of changes within Accounting Standards issued but not yet adopted

The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 (the Code) requires an authority to disclose information relating to the impact of an accounting change that will be required by a new standard that has been issued but not yet adopted by the 2020/21 Code.

There following new accounting changes have been introduced in the 2021/22 code but are not expected to have any significant impact on the 2020/21 accounts;

- **Definition of a Business:** Amendments to IFRS 3 Business Combinations
- **Interest Rate benchmark Reform:** Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS 39 and IFRS 7
- **Interest Rate Benchmark Reform – Phase 2:** Amendments to IFRS9, IAS 39, IFRS 7, IFRS 4 and IFRS 16

3. Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies outlined above, the Authority has made certain key decisions regarding complex transactions. The critical judgements made within this Statement of Accounts are:

- **Impairment**
There is a high degree of uncertainty regarding future funding for Local Authorities. The Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) described within the Narrative Report outlines the Council's strategies for generating the cost savings that will assist in addressing future funding shortfalls. In light of this plan, the Authority has determined that the uncertainty is not sufficiently quantifiable as an indicator that the assets of the Authority are impaired due to a need to close facilities and accordingly reduce service provision levels.
- **Leases**
The Authority has to determine whether individual leases are operating or finance leases in nature, based upon assessment criteria set-out in IAS 17 "Leases" and IFRIC 4 "Determining whether an arrangement contains a lease." The relevant accounting policy applied to the lease is based upon the outcome of this assessment.
- **Investment Properties**
The Authority has to decide whether Land and Buildings elements owned by the Authority should be classed as Investment Properties in accordance with IAS 40 "Investment Property." Based upon this assessment, the Authority has identified a number of assets that it holds solely for rental income or future capital appreciation purposes, or a combination of both factors, as Investment Properties. These assets are detailed within Note 16.

- **Group Entities**

Based upon the criteria set-out in the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21, the Council has undertaken a detailed review to assess the extent of group accounting relationships. The Authority has identified the entities that it consolidates on the basis of materiality in relation to the financial statements. Populo Living, Future Newhomes Limited, The Language Shop Limited, Public Realm Services Limited, Mint Cleaning Group Holdings Limited, i-Xact Limited, Juniper Ventures Limited, Better Together Limited, London Network for Pest Solutions Limited and Early Start Education Limited deemed to constitute a material group interest and these wholly-owned subsidiaries have been consolidated within the Group Accounts.

The Authority also has a number of interests in other entities which have been deemed as falling outside the scope of consolidation on the grounds of significant influence and control in line with the Code. These parties are outlined within Note 38.

- **Provisions**

The Authority has assessed whether any potential exposure to losses should be accounted for as a year-end provision or a contingent liability based upon an analysis of significant possible liabilities using the criteria set out in IAS 37 "*Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Assets*".

- **Government Grants**

Judgement is required to determine whether the Authority can be reasonably assured that the conditions of grant and contribution monies received have been met before recognising these sums as income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Where conditions require specific expenditure to have been incurred, the grant monies cannot be recognised until this point. Equally, where conditions outline that a grant or contribution must be repaid in the event of non-expenditure, the income is not recognised until the associated expenditure has been incurred.

- **Valuation of Land and Buildings**

The year-end carrying values of Land and Buildings within the Authority's Balance Sheet involve a significant degree of judgement and estimation techniques. The Authority engages a specialist to value its property portfolio. The results of this valuation exercise reflect the specialist's professional assessment of the conditions within the external property market.

- **Componentisation**

Based on the valuation specialist's assessment, the Authority analyses Land and Buildings across several individual components in order to produce a weighted useful economic life and thereby more accurately estimate depreciation.

- **Municipal Mutual Insurance (MMI)**

On 13 November 2012, the directors of MMI triggered their Scheme of Arrangement and appointed Ernst and Young to manage their business affairs. Whilst Ernst and Young have notified the Scheme's creditors of an initial Levy, projections of any future liabilities falling due under the Scheme are subject to substantial uncertainty. Ernst and Young have obtained an actuarial valuation that determines a range of possible outcomes of this assessment. However, these are only best estimates, and are thus limited based upon the scale of information currently available

- **Voluntary-Controlled Schools**

The Authority has assessed whether or not schools deemed to be voluntary-controlled in nature should be included within the year-end Balance Sheet. In accordance with CIPFA guidance, the Authority has determined, following the assessment of each individual case on its merits, that only those schools which are in the direct ownership of the Authority should be disclosed within the Balance Sheet.

- **Accounting for Academies**

The Council has not recognised non-current assets relating to Academies as it is of the opinion that these assets are not controlled by the Authority. When a school that is held on the Authority's Balance Sheet transfers to Academy status, the Authority accounts for this as a disposal for nil consideration on the date that the schools converts to Academy status, rather than as an impairment on the date that approval to transfer to Academy status is announced. During 2020/21, two maintained schools converted to academy status.

4. Assumptions made about the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated amounts that are based upon assumptions made by the Council regarding future events, or those that are otherwise uncertain. Accounting estimates are calculated which take into account a number of factors including historical experience, current trends and other relevant indicators. However, as some balances cannot always be determined with full certainty, actual results generated may be materially different from the original assumptions and estimates used.

The items within the Authority's 31 March 2021 Balance Sheet for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are listed below:

Item	Uncertainties	Accounting effect if actual results differ from assumptions
Property, Plant and Equipment	Assets are depreciated over useful economic lives that are dependent upon assumptions regarding the levels of repairs and maintenance that will be incurred in relation to the individual assets. The present economic climate means that it is uncertain that the Authority will be able to sustain its current spending on repairs and maintenance, bringing into question the useful lives assigned to certain assets.	If assets' useful lives are reduced, annual depreciation charges increase and the carrying values of these assets decrease at a quicker rate.
Property, plant and equipment – major development projects	The Council own three large development sites, Carpenters Estate, Canning Town and Custom House, with a combined value of £38.7million. The assets are valued at fair value on the balance sheet. The Council have not fully finalised plans for future use of these sites. The Council have therefore estimated the value of the assets on their existing use and layout. This value may change as the Council finalise the plans for these sites. Factors that can cause the valuation of development sites to vary significantly include planning requirements, affordable/private split, costs to construct, likely phasing and timescale, any costs or delays associated with assembling vacant possession where there are either continuing tenancies or third party owners, such as owners who have previously exercised a right to buy. It is also important to note that there may be elements of the final development which are either not currently owned by the authority or are being recorded elsewhere due to their present use.	In the absence of a detailed scheme proposals the valuer has continued to exercise professional judgement in providing the valuation. The Council will provide to the valuer detailed site plans, detailed business plans outlining a clear strategy and expected timescale for the developments, when they have been approved.
Self-Insurance	The Authority has recognised a year-end provision of £5.2m for future claims under its Self-Insurance provision. This amount is a component of the overall Insurance Reserve.	An increase in the estimated average settlement of 10% during the forthcoming year would increase the provision required by £0.5m.
Pension Liabilities	Estimation of the Authority's net liability in respect of year-end pension liabilities is driven by a number of complex judgements including the discount rate used, adjustments to long-term salaries, mortality age rates and expected returns on pension scheme assets. The Authority's consulting actuary (Barnett Waddingham) provides expert advice on the value of the Authority's year-end pension liabilities.	The principal factors influencing the valuation of the pension liability are the discount rate and the longevity (mortality rate) assumptions: (a) if the discount rate increases by 0.1%, this change reduces overall pension liabilities (in terms of the projected service cost element) to £66.2m; (b) if longevity increases by 1 year, this will increase liabilities (the projected service cost element) to approximately £71.3m.

Receivables	The Authority has estimated that £104.3m of the year-end value of Receivables should be impaired. This principally relates to Sundry and Parking Receivables (£36.8m), Council Tax (£24.6m), Housing Benefit overpayments (£15.5m) and Housing Rents (£23.3m). In the current economic climate, it is not certain that such allowances are sufficient.	If collection rates were to deteriorate, this may require an additional amount to be set-aside as an allowance to reflect non-collectability.
Impact of COVID-19 on valuation	<p>The valuation exercise was carried out in March 2021 with a valuation date of 31 March 2021 following the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Valuation Global Standards and RICS UK National Supplement ('Red Book'). Due to a better and developing understanding of the impact of Covid-19 on the market, valuations are no longer reported as being subject to 'material valuation uncertainty' as defined by VPS 3 and VPGA 10 of the RICS Valuation – Global Standards, except as identified below.</p> <p>In respect of Retail and specific trading related assets/sectors such as Car Parks, as at the valuation date we continue to be faced with an unprecedented set of circumstances caused by COVID-19 and in these areas absence of relevant/sufficient market evidence on which to base valuer judgements.</p>	<p>The valuation of these assets are therefore reported as being subject to 'material valuation uncertainty' as set out in VPS 3 and VPGA 10 of the RICS Valuation – Global Standards. Consequently, in respect of these valuations less certainty – and a higher degree of caution – should be attached to the valuation than would normally be the case. In terms of the authority's PPE assets the element of material uncertainty now only affects one asset, and is not of material value. In terms of investment properties a total of 71 assets have been valued with this declaration being applied, and a total value of £77.8m</p>

5. Material Items of Income and Expense

Included within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are the following material amounts:

- £44.5m (£120m in 2019/20) relating to the de-recognition of schools that have converted to Academy status during 2020/21; These charges are subsequently written-off to the Capital Adjustment Account (Note 26) through the Movement in Reserves Statement, ensuring neutral impacts on the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account balances in accordance with statutory accounting regulations.
- The Council acquired two investment properties during the year through the Accor deal. These are hotel premises, valued at £110m, and are being leased out to generate a return that will be invested back into Council services.
- The Council's 'Employers Pension Fund Contributions' liability is estimated to be around £61.2m over the period 2020-2023. A prefunding agreement was reached and a prepayment of £57.2m was made to the Pension Fund in April 2020 to settle the liability and secure savings of approximately £4m over the three financial years from 2020/21.
- The Council received various Covid-19 related income streams from Central Government to 'passport' to local taxpayers, in an agent capacity. This income is not reflected in the Council's CIES as it does not belong to the Council. Further information on this is included within the Narrative Report.

6. Events after the Balance Sheet date

The Corporate Director of Resources authorised the Statement of Accounts on 8th October 2021. Events taking place after this date are not reflected in the financial statements or notes. Where events taking place before this date provided information about conditions existing at 31 March 2021, the figures in the financial statements and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information.

It has been determined that there are no other adjusting or non-adjusting events after the Balance Sheet date.

7. Expenditure and Funding Analysis

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources (government grants, rents, council tax and business rates) by local authorities in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the council's directorates/services/departments. This analysis is for the single entity only and is not a primary statement and Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the single entity Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The group expenditure and funding analysis is not materially different to the analysis for the single entity and is therefore not presented.

2019/20					2020/21				
Outturn	Transfer (To)/From Reserves	Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund and HRA Balances	Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Bases	Net Expenditure in the CI&ES	Outturn	Transfer (To)/From Reserves	Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund and HRA Balances	Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Bases	Net Expenditure in the CI&ES
		£'000	£'000	£'000			£'000	£'000	£'000
94,436	2,675	97,111	3,045	100,156	103,073	(1,788)	101,285	676	101,961
20,101	(2,848)	17,253	4,084	21,337	29,789	(2,361)	27,428	5,355	32,783
91,069	1,979	93,048	(12,064)	80,984	102,824	931	103,755	(13,580)	90,175
11,033	552	11,585	1,503	13,088	11,536	195	11,731	897	12,628
15,111	1,835	16,946	4,885	21,831	17,117	95	17,212	1,293	18,505
32,461	1,271	33,732	1,716	35,448	38,226	137	38,363	(466)	37,897
8,308	92	8,400	13,400	21,800	10,813	(1,776)	9,037	12,908	21,945
(1,701)	0	(1,701)	1,701	-	394	0	394	(394)	-
(4,909)	(3,210)	(8,119)	(1,026)	(9,145)	(3,298)	686	(2,612)	(4,469)	(7,081)
1,191	992	2,183	4,375	6,558	9,140	0	9,140	942	10,082
(267,101)	13,556	(253,545)	250,974	(2,571)	(310,702)	(50,780)	(361,482)	365,892	4,410
-	8,741	8,741	20,696	29,437	-	0	-	15,245	15,245
(9,953)	0	(9,953)	4,342	(5,611)	8,869	499	9,368	7,557	16,925
(9,954)	25,635	15,681	297,631	313,312	17,781	(54,162)	(36,381)	391,856	355,475
		-	(115,981)	(115,981)			-	(266,529)	(266,529)
		15,681	181,650	197,331			(36,381)	125,327	88,946

(280,860)	Opening General Fund & HRA Balances	(265,179)
	<i>Transfer to Dedicated Schools Grant Adjustment Account*</i>	<i>(7,592)</i>
	Opening General Fund & HRA Balances restated	(272,771)
15,681	Less/plus Surplus or Deficit on General Fund and HRA Balance in Year**	(36,381)
(265,179)	Closing General Fund & HRA Balances at 31 March	(309,152)

* A new accounting instrument was issued for 2020/21 regarding accounting for Dedicated Schools Grant Deficits; the requirement is to create a Dedicated Schools Grant adjustment account to separate schools budget deficits from the Council's general fund. This involved reporting the deficit as an unusable reserve instead of usable reserve that was reported in 2019/20, as a result opening balances had to be restated.

** This includes Earmarked Reserve balances. For a split of this balance between the General Fund, HRA and Earmarked Reserve – see the Movement in Reserves Statement.

7. Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis

The Group's expenditure and funding analysis is not materially different to the Authority's expenditure and funding analysis. The Authority's expenditure and funding is analysed as follows:

2019/20			2020/21		
Adjustments for Capital Purposes	IAS 19 & Other	Total Adjustments	Adjustments for Capital Purposes	IAS 19 & Other	Total Adjustments
£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000
475	2,570	3,045 Children and Young People	-	676	676
-	4,084	4,084 Inclusive Economy & Housing	-	5,355	5,355
2,683	(14,747)	(12,064) Adults & Health	2,792	(16,372)	(13,580)
-	1,503	1,503 CYP Commissioner & Brighter Futures	-	897	897
2,702	2,183	4,885 People, Policy and Performance	-	1,293	1,293
-	1,716	1,716 Environment and Sustainable Transport	-	(466)	(466)
100	13,300	13,400 Resources	-	12,908	12,908
-	1,701	1,701 RMS	-	(394)	(394)
105	(1,131)	(1,026) oneSource - Non Shared	(78)	(4,391)	(4,469)
2,266	2,109	4,375 oneSource	-	942	942
15,851	235,123	250,974 Corporate Budgets	2,219	363,673	365,892
26,877	(6,181)	20,696 Dedicated Schools Budget	12,968	2,277	15,245
7,527	(3,185)	4,342 Housing Revenue Account	16,481	(8,924)	7,557
58,586	239,045	297,631 Net Cost of Services	34,382	357,474	391,856
(14,445)	(101,536)	(115,981) Other Income and Expenditure from the Funding Analysis	14,433	(280,962)	(266,529)
44,141	137,509	181,650 Surplus or Deficit	48,815	76,512	125,327

1) Adjustments for Capital Purposes

This column adds in depreciation and impairment and revaluation gains and losses in the services line, and for:

- Other operating expenditure – adjusts for capital disposals with a transfer of income on disposal of assets and the amounts written off for those assets;
- Financing and investment income and expenditure – the statutory charges for capital financing ie PFI payment and other revenue contributions are deducted from other income and expenditure as these are not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practices; and
- Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure – capital grants are adjusted for income not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practices. Revenue grants are adjusted from those receivable in the year to those receivable without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied throughout the year. The Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income and Expenditure line is credited with capital grants receivable in the year without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied in the year.

2) Net Change for the IAS 19 Pensions Adjustments

Represents the net change for the removal of pension contributions and the addition of IAS 19 Employee Benefits pension related expenditure and income:

- For services this represents the removal of the employer pension contributions made by the authority as allowed by statute and the replacement with current service costs and past service costs.
- For Financing and investment income and expenditure – this represent the removal of the net interest on the defined benefit liability that is charged to the CIES.

8. Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

In addition to the single entity expenditure and income below, group entity expenditure (£47.2m) and income (£5.5m) was incurred during the year and consolidated into the Council group accounts. The expenditure mainly relates to Populo's depreciation and impairment adjustment. The authority's expenditure and income is analysed as follows:

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
	Expenditure	
393,394	Staffing expenses	407,747
769,931	Other services expenses	803,112
2	Support service recharges	0
45,678	Depreciation and amortisation	46,521
10,077	Impairment and revaluation	11,190
180,012	Interest payments	63,560
20,566	Precepts and levies	20,971
38,615	Loss on the disposal of assets	38,281
1,458,275	Total Expenditure	1,391,382
	Income	
(268,326)	Fees, charges and other service income	(254,464)
(27,239)	Interest and investment income	(24,299)
(239,939)	Income from council tax, non-domestic rates, district rate income	(174,940)
(725,440)	Government grants and contributions	(848,733)
(1,260,944)	Total income	(1,302,436)
197,331	(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	88,946

9. Adjustments Between Accounting Basis And Funding Basis Under Regulations 2020/21

This note details the 2020/21 adjustments that are made to the total comprehensive income and expenditure recognised by the Authority in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Authority to meet future capital and revenue expenditure. The adjustments for the group are not materially different to the adjustments shown below:

	Usable Reserves					Movement in Unusable Reserves
	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account:						
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:						
Depreciation of Property, Plant and Equipment/ Impairment of non current assets	(28,402)	(17,819)				46,221
Revaluation (losses)/gain on Property, Plant and Equipment	15,081	(26,271)				11,190
Movements in the market value of Investment Properties	(2,880)	(945)				3,825
Amortisation of Intangible Assets	(300)					300
Capital grants and contributions applied	12,093	3,592				(15,685)
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under Statute	(15,760)					15,760
Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(66,742)	(15,878)				82,620
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:						
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment	20,656	2,214				(22,870)
Voluntary provision for the financing of capital investment	368	150				(518)
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account:						
Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	8,689				(8,689)	
Application of grants to capital financing transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account					15,490	(15,490)
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:						
Transfer of cash sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/(loss) on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	29,084	17,232	(46,316)			
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(4,220)		11,394			(7,174)
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve towards administrative costs of non-current asset disposals						
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance the payments to the Government capital receipts pool		(1,972)	1,972			
Transfer from Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash			(1,895)			1,895
Adjustment primarily involving the Major Repairs Reserve:						
Reversal of Major Repairs Allowance credited to the HRA		17,819		(17,819)		
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure		5,396		32,098		(37,494)
Adjustment primarily involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account:						
Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	1,867	1,169				(3,036)
Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve:						
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(87,661)	(4,628)				92,289
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	61,235	4,428				(65,663)
Adjustments primarily involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:						
Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(39,764)					39,764
Adjustment primarily involving the Accumulated Absences Account:						
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(6,132)	456				5,676
Adjustment primarily involving the Dedicated Schools Grant Account:						
Amount by which expenditure on schools is charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in excess of DSG grant chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(7,481)					7,481
Total Adjustments	(110,269)	(15,057)	(34,845)	14,279	6,801	139,091

9. Adjustments Between Accounting Basis And Funding Basis Under Regulations 2019/20

This note details the 2019/20 adjustments that are made to the total comprehensive income and expenditure recognised by the Authority in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Authority to meet future capital and revenue expenditure. The adjustments for the group are not materially different to the adjustments shown below:

	Usable Reserves					Movement in Unusable Reserves £'000
	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Major Repairs Reserve £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account:						
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:						
Depreciation of Property, Plant and Equipment	(25,666)	(19,337)				45,003
Revaluation (losses)/gain on Property, Plant and Equipment	6,597	(16,674)				10,077
Movements in the market value of Investment Properties	1,153	717				(1,870)
Amortisation of Intangible Assets	(675)					675
Capital grants and contributions applied	21,056					(21,056)
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under Statute	(29,589)	(105)				29,694
Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(80,978)	(9,942)				90,920
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:						
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment	6,986	2,287				(9,273)
Voluntary provision for the financing of capital investment	11					(11)
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account:						
Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	17,599	18,806			(36,405)	
Application of grants to capital financing transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account					26,058	(26,058)
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:						
Transfer of cash sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/(loss) on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	56,380	24,120	(30,552)			(49,948)
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(9,489)		12,801			(3,312)
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve towards administrative costs of non-current asset disposals						
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance the payments to the Government capital receipts pool		(28,168)	28,168			
Transfer from Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash						
Adjustment primarily involving the Major Repairs Reserve:						
Reversal of Major Repairs Allowance credited to the HRA		19,337		(19,337)		
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure		1,432		15,519		(16,951)
Adjustment primarily involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account:						
Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(65,999)	(45,574)				111,573
Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve:						
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(63,149)	(3,508)				66,657
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	27,644	2,121				(29,765)
Adjustments primarily involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:						
Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	12,183					(12,183)
Adjustment primarily involving the Accumulated Absences Account:						
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(1,170)	(56)				1,226
Adjustment primarily involving the Dedicated Schools Grant Account:						
Amount by which expenditure on schools is charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in excess of DSG grant chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements						
Total Adjustments	(127,106)	(54,544)	10,417	(3,818)	(10,347)	185,398

10. Transfers To/From Earmarked Reserves

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) balances in Earmarked Reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts posted back from Earmarked Reserves to meet General Fund and HRA expenditure in 2020/21.

	Balance at 31/03/2019 £'000	Transfers Out 2019/20 £'000	Transfers In 2019/20 £'000	Balance at 31/03/2020 £'000	Transfers Out 2020/21 £'000	Transfers In 2020/21 £'000	Balance at 31/03/2021 £'000
General Fund Reserves							
1 Authority Transition Reserve	(30,034)	18,264	-	(11,770)	-	(3,404)	(15,174)
2 Borough-Wide Licensing Reserve	(10,567)	-	(1,156)	(11,723)	530	-	(11,193)
3 Capital Reserve	(14,583)	9,378	-	(5,205)	-	-	(5,205)
4 Capital Financing Reserve	(74,109)	-	(9,784)	(83,893)	-	-	(83,893)
5 Collection Fund Reserve				-	-	(40,082)	(40,082)
6 Corporate Social Responsibility Reserve				-	-	(1,500)	(1,500)
7 Grant Reserve	(22,830)	3,254	-	(19,576)	-	(6,227)	(25,803)
8 Education PFI Reserve	(1,287)	508	-	(779)	251	-	(528)
9 Highways Maintenance Reserve	(3,322)	58	-	(3,264)	-	-	(3,264)
10 Insurance Reserve	(6,200)	-	-	(6,200)	-	-	(6,200)
11 Schools Balances Reserve	(22,599)	-	(3,707)	(26,306)	-	(3,160)	(29,466)
12 Trading Operations Reserve	(325)	139	-	(186)	54	-	(132)
13 Treasury Reserve	(8,395)	732	-	(7,663)	-	(1,159)	(8,822)
14 Designated Schools Budget Reserve	(1,149)	8,741	-	7,592	-	(7,592)	-
15 POCA Reserve	-	-	(792)	(792)	37	-	(755)
Total General Fund Reserves	(195,400)	41,074	(15,439)	(169,765)	872	(63,124)	(232,017)
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	(72,254)	-	(9,953)	(82,207)	9,368	0	(72,839)
Total HRA Reserves	(72,254)	0	(9,953)	(82,207)	9,368	0	(72,839)
Total Earmarked Reserves	(267,654)	41,074	(25,392)	(251,972)	10,240	(63,124)	(304,856)

10. Transfers To/From Earmarked Reserves (contd.1)

- 1) **Authority Transition Reserve**
This reserve is to facilitate service transformation and mitigate cost pressures anticipated in the Authority's Medium-Term Financial Strategy.
- 2) **Borough-Wide Licensing Reserve**
This reserve holds license income received from the Council's Borough-Wide Licensing Scheme, which aims to regulate the standard of private accommodation within the Borough. In accordance with statutory requirements, these monies are ring-fenced.
- 3) **Capital Reserve**
Budgeted revenue funding of the capital programme which has not yet been applied to schemes, either because the scheme has been re-profiled into later years or to allow greater flexibility in funding future service investment.
- 4) **Capital Financing Reserve**
The Capital Financing Reserve (separate to the Capital Reserve above) holds funds to provide additional capacity and flexibility to meet the needs of the Council's Capital Strategy.
- 5) **Collection Fund Reserve**
This reserve consists of compensation grants for loss of income in the Council Tax and Business Rates accounts in 2020/21 due to Covid. This reserve is required to offset the impact on the 2021/22 and beyond budgetted income from the Collection Fund.
- 6) **Corporate Social Responsibility Reserve**
This the CSR reserve generated from Council's dealing with commercial partners operating within the council's vicinity, to support local charitable bodies.
- 7) **Grants Reserve**
Grants reserves which includes balances for grants received but not yet used.
- 8) **Education PFI Reserve**
PFI to support Education Service
- 9) **Highways Maintenance Reserve**
This reserve is grant funding received from the Olympic Development Authority for highways works in the East Village.
- 10) **Insurance Reserve**
The Insurance Reserve forms part of the Authority's self-insurance arrangements, earmarked to meet future potential and contingent liabilities (as distinct from the Insurance Provision - see Note 24).
- 11) **Schools Balances Reserve**
Set up in accordance with Section 48 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998, the Newham Scheme for Financing Schools provides for the carry forward of individual school surpluses.
- 12) **Trading Operations Reserve**
This reserve houses the accumulated surpluses on the Repairs and Maintenance Service (RMS) and Newham Catering and Cleaning Services operations.
- 13) **Treasury Reserve**
This reserve is to mitigate the impact on the Authority's budget for market volatility in respect of Treasury management activities over the term of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).
- 14) **Designated Schools Budget Reserve**
This reserve balance represents the DSG ring-fenced grant balance, that is specifically to meet expenditure in the Schools Budget, please see note 35 Designated Schools Grant (and note 26 Unusable Reserve as it's deficit). Like many authorities Newham has experienced difficulty in meeting its obligations with respect to High Needs from within the formula funding, this has led to a significant overspend in 2019-20 and 2020-21. Newham is working with its schools and the DFE to review this overspend and reduce it for future years.
- 15) **POCA Reserve**
The Proceeds of Crime Act fund is held in a reserve by the Authority, ring fenced to use in specific fraud and crime prevention schemes.

11. Other Operating Expenditure

The following table provides an analysis of the "Other Operating Expenditure" line in the Group and Single entity Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
20,566	Levies	20,971
27,781	Payments to the Government Housing Capital Receipts Pool	1,775
10,834	Losses on the disposal of non-current assets	36,506
<u>59,181</u>	Total	<u>59,252</u>

12. Financing And Investment Income and Expenditure

Financing and investment income and expenditure for group is not materially different to the single entity. The following table provides an analysis of the "Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure" line in the single entity Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
160,390	Interest Payable and Similar Charges	46,332
19,622	Pensions interest cost and expected return on pensions assets	17,228
(12,256)	Interest receivable and similar income	(12,299)
(15,083)	Income and expenditure in relation to investment properties and changes in their fair value	(11,840)
100	Other investment income and expenditure	(160)
<u>152,773</u>	Total	<u>39,261</u>

13. Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income

The following table provides an analysis of the "Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income" line in the Group and Single entity Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
(80,472)	Council Tax income	(79,699)
(159,467)	Business Rates (Retained share)	(95,241)
(34,937)	General Government Grants	(166,253)
(53,059)	Capital grants and contributions	(23,849)
<u>(327,935)</u>	Total	<u>(365,042)</u>

13. Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income (contd.)

Grants Credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
	General Government Grants:	
-	Revenue Support Grant	(36,787)
(10,003)	Section 31 Grant	(39,158)
(10,492)	New Homes Bonus	(14,974)
(9,354)	Homelessness Support Grant	(10,287)
-	Covid Support Grants (non-specific)	(54,470)
(5,088)	Other	(10,577)
<u>(34,937)</u>	Total	<u>(166,253)</u>
	Capital Grants and Contributions:	
(19,476)	Dept of Education	(6,809)
(459)	Dept of Health	(2,848)
-	Leaseholders	-
(2,998)	School Contributions	(2,709)
(18,806)	Greater London Authority	(3,592)
(9,319)	Transport for London	(2,920)
(790)	Section 106	(1,538)
(564)	Stratford Transport Implementation Group	-
(647)	Other	(3,433)
<u>(53,059)</u>	Total	<u>(23,849)</u>

Grants Credited to the net cost of services include:

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
	Revenue Grants:	
(233,379)	Housing Benefit Subsidy	(224,190)
(237,234)	Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)	(242,455)
(15,219)	Better Care Fund	(16,687)
(11,668)	Pupil Premium	(10,668)
(30,289)	Public Health Grant	(30,381)
-	Covid Support Grants (specific)	(25,376)
(109,655)	Other Grants	(108,874)
<u>(637,444)</u>	Total	<u>(658,631)</u>

The Authority has received a number of grants, contributions and donations that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that will require the monies or property to be returned to the contributor in the event that conditions are not met. The balances at year-end are as follows:

Capital Grants: Receipts In Advance

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
(47,176)	Section 106	(46,920)
<u>(47,176)</u>	Total	<u>(46,920)</u>

14. Property, Plant And Equipment

The value of non-current assets shown on the balance sheet represents the value of assets held by the Authority.

Property, Plant and Equipment 2020/21

	Council Dwellings £'000	Other Land and Buildings £'000	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment £'000	Infrastructure Assets £'000	Community Assets £'000	Long term Surplus £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total Property, Plant & Equipment £'000
Cost or Valuation								
At 1 April 2020	1,190,678	1,130,561	73,932	390,220	24,898	120,054	10,952	2,941,295
Additions and enhancement	47,761	12,548	2,318	13,353	-	1,509	12,548	90,037
Accumulated Dep. Written off on revaluation to gross book value	(16,010)	(15,436)	-	-	-	(139)	-	(31,585)
Revaluation movement recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(12,375)	19,050	-	-	-	(709)	-	5,966
Revaluation movement recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	(26,681)	15,797	-	-	-	(306)	-	(11,190)
Derecognition - Disposals	(5,093)	(46,795)	-	-	-	(3,936)	-	(55,824)
Derecognition - Other	-	(3,847)	-	-	-	-	-	(3,847)
Other reclassifications	1,282	36,220	-	-	-	(32,847)	(4,557)	98
At 31 March 2021	1,179,562	1,148,098	76,250	403,573	24,898	83,626	18,943	2,934,950
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment								
At 1 April 2020	-	(3,981)	(58,126)	(109,121)	-	(216)	(11)	(171,455)
Depreciation Charge	(16,112)	(14,641)	(6,517)	(8,678)	-	(273)	-	(46,221)
Accumulated Dep. Written off on revaluation to gross book value	16,010	15,436	-	-	-	139	-	31,585
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation written out to the Surplus on the Provision of Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Derecognition - Disposals	69	499	-	-	-	82	-	650
Derecognition - Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other reclassifications	33	(33)	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	-	(2,720)	(64,643)	(117,799)	-	(268)	(11)	(185,441)
Net Book Value								
At 31 March 2021	1,179,562	1,145,378	11,607	285,774	24,898	83,358	18,932	2,749,509
At 31 March 2020	1,190,678	1,126,580	15,806	281,099	24,898	119,838	10,941	2,769,840

14. Property, Plant And Equipment

The value of non-current assets shown on the balance sheet represents the value of assets held by the Authority.

Property, Plant and Equipment 2019/20

	Council Dwellings	Other Land and Buildings	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	Infrastructure Assets	Community Assets	Long term Surplus	Assets Under Construction	Total Property, Plant & Equipment
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost or Valuation								
At 1 April 2019	1,203,229	1,095,977	69,513	366,404	24,898	151,074	7,374	2,918,469
Additions and enhancement	29,744	17,053	3,876	23,816	-	3,238	4,634	82,361
Accumulated Dep. Written off on revaluation to gross book value	(16,137)	(19,427)	-	-	-	(2,703)	-	(38,267)
Revaluation recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(10,220)	67,893	-	-	-	(4,202)	-	53,471
Revaluation recognised in the Surplus on the Provision of Services	(10,637)	5,765	-	-	-	(5,205)	-	(10,077)
Derecognition - Disposals	(9,797)	(28,322)	-	-	-	(2,478)	(204)	(40,801)
Derecognition - other	-	(5,970)	-	-	-	-	-	(5,970)
Other reclassifications	4,496	(2,408)	543	-	-	(19,670)	(852)	(17,891)
At 31 March 2020	1,190,678	1,130,561	73,932	390,220	24,898	120,054	10,952	2,941,295
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment								
At 1 April 2019	-	(8,218)	(53,631)	(101,038)	-	(4,867)	(216)	(167,970)
Depreciation Charge	(16,167)	(15,626)	(4,495)	(8,083)	-	(632)	-	(45,003)
Accumulated Dep. Written off on revaluation to gross book value	16,137	19,427	-	-	-	2,703	-	38,267
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation written out to the Surplus on the Provision of Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	128	389	-	-	-	2,478	205	3,200
Derecognition - other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other reclassifications	(98)	47	-	-	-	102	-	51
At 31 March 2020	-	(3,981)	(58,126)	(109,121)	-	(216)	(11)	(171,455)
Net Book Value								
At 31 March 2020	1,190,678	1,126,580	15,806	281,099	24,898	119,838	10,941	2,769,840
At 31 March 2019	1,203,229	1,087,759	15,882	265,366	24,898	146,207	7,158	2,750,499

14. Property, Plant And Equipment (contd.)

In addition to the Authority property balance and equipment, the Group includes £82.9m of assets classified as other land and buildings held within Future Newhome Limited and Populo Living Limited (Note 38).

The Authority's property portfolio is valued on a rolling basis by Wilks, Head and Eve LLP. The valuation bases are in accordance with the Statement of Asset Valuation Practices and Guidance Notes of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. Housing Revenue Account dwellings are valued at their existing use based on 'Beacon' valuation principles and then have a social housing adjustment made thus reducing the balance sheet value to 25% of the beacon value, as directed by CLG.

Included in the figures for other land and buildings are 43 Community schools (primary and secondary). The Council also provides revenue funding, through the Dedicated Schools Grant, for all schools in the Borough. The table below shows the numbers of schools in the Borough across various categories. During 2020/21 the following two primary schools were converted to academies; Eastlea Secondary School and St Anthony's Primary School.

2019/20		2020/21	
Number	Category of School	Number	
44	Community	43	
6	Voluntary Aided	5	
2	Voluntary Controlled	2	
52	Total	50	

Disclosure:

Capital Commitments

As at 31 March 2021, the authority has entered into a number of contracts for the construction or enhancement of property, plant and equipment in 2020/21 and future years budgeted to cost £24.7m. Similar commitments at 31 March 2020 were £14.1m. The major commitments are:

Commitment	Cost £'000
Additional Supply (HRA)	364
Asset Investment (HRA)	1,425
Fire Safety Works (HRA)	418
Affordable Homes for Newham	13,412
NewShare	487
Custom House and Canning Town Regeneration	1,302
Keep Newham Moving	3,520
Transport for London	635
Asset Investment (GF)	1,150
Schools Capital Maintenance Programme	726
Schools' Capital Programme (Forest Gate)	256
Schools' Capital Programme (other)	948
Other minor schemes	74
TOTAL	24,718

PPE analysis showing those assets held at cost and those at valuation sub divided by last revaluation date as at 31/03/2021.

	Council Dwellings £'000	OL&B £'000	VP&E £'000	Infra £'000	CA £'000	LTS £'000	AUC £'000	Total PPE £'000
Carried at historic cost	-	-	11,292	285,774	24,898	-	18,932	340,896
Values at Fair value as at								
31/03/21	1,179,562	1,011,027	-	-	-	51,224	-	2,241,813
31/03/20	-	86,895	-	-	-	19,235	-	106,130
31/03/19	-	44,660	315	-	-	10,239	-	55,214
31/03/18	-	1,163	-	-	-	-	-	1,163
31/03/17	-	1,633	-	-	-	2,660	-	4,293
Total Cost or Valuation	1,179,562	1,145,378	11,607	285,774	24,898	83,358	18,932	2,749,509

Development assets at Carpenter's Estate, Canning Town and Customs House

The authority is currently developing plans to implement major estate regeneration projects at the above three sites. Red Book valuations of the assets with the project boundaries (where void and intended for redevelopment) have been commissioned and the balance sheet includes these values. With evolving projects such as these there is a level of inherent uncertainty which while every effort has been made to reduce, is not possible to altogether eliminate. It is also important to note that there may be elements of the final development which are either not currently owned by the authority or are being recorded elsewhere due to their present use. The authority will continue to work with external valuers and the audit team to ensure that these assets are accurately represented and regularly updated.

Surplus Assets

The assets within surplus assets are based on the market approach current market conditions and recent sale prices and other relevant information for similar assets in the local area. Market conditions are such that similar properties are actively purchased and sold and the level of observable inputs are significant, leading to properties being categorised at Level 2 in the current value hierarchy.

15. Heritage Assets

	Civic Regalia	Museum Art Collection	Street Art	Total
	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000
Balance as at 1 April 2019	59	2,205	1,394	3,658
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2020	59	2,205	1,394	3,658
Balance as at 1 April 2020	59	2,205	1,394	3,658
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	59	2,205	1,394	3,658

Civic Regalia

Civic Regalia above refers to the Mayor's 18ct gold chain of office, with 4 plaques and enamelled arms and the Mayor's 18ct gold and enamel badge of office. A Silver Gilt Mace with arms of East Ham, West Ham and Newham is also classified in Civic Regalia.

Museum Art Collection

Items classified within Museum Art Collection are:

- Bow Porcelain & Museum Collection
- Edward V1 Fine Royal Letters Patent
- Madge Gill artworks
- 5 Pieces of artwork by artists John Bettes, Charles Catton the Elder, John Wilson Carmichael, Andrea Casali and George Romney
- Victorian G.E. Railway boardroom table
- Bronze Portrait bust by Benno Schotz
- West Ham Memorial Document
- Railway items collection

Street Art Collection

The three items classified within Street Art are the Champions Sculpture, a Horse Sculpture and a Train Engine.

Five year summary of transactions

There have been no purchases of Heritage Assets during the past five years.

The only addition to Heritage assets during the last 5 years is the Joan Littlewood statue coconstructed in 2015/16. Our heritage asset policy includes a de minimus value of £10k under which will not be included on the Balance sheet. The value of assets excluded because of this is £106k. Valuation of the heritage assets is in accordance with the corporate insurance register. The register holds values for those assets of material value or which are exposed to a particular risk.

Further information on the Collections

Further information can be found from the Newham Heritage Service; which aims to preserve, promote and interpret the rich diversity of Heritage in the London Borough of Newham and make it accessible to all. It aims to contribute to the quality of life in the Borough by promoting a sense of place, a feeling of belonging and of local pride, and to enhance Newham's image both regionally and nationally.

16. Investment Properties

Investment properties are those assets held by the Council solely for rental income and/or capital appreciation purposes.

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
13,212	Rental income due from investment property	15,665
2019/20 £000		2020/21 £000
209,205	Balance at 1 April	211,285
47,239	Additions and Enhancement Expenditure*	110,895
4,578	Net gains/(losses) from fair value adjustments	(3,825)
	Transfers:	
(2,498)	To Property, Plant and Equipment	(98)
(47,239)	Disposals	(18,001)
<u>211,285</u>	Balance at 31 March	<u>300,256</u>

* This relates to the head-lease of Accor finance lease.

The fair value of investment properties at 31st March are analysed as follows:

2019/20 In Borough £'000	2019/20 Out of Borough £'000		2020/21 In Borough £'000	2020/21 Out of Borough £'000
71,396	22,604	Retail unit	180,599	21,395
8,859	44,050	Office	9,026	42,659
16,543	18,000	Industrial unit	19,416	-
18,512	-	Land	15,966	-
7,016	-	Warehouse / Stores	7,016	-
1,206	-	Community Centre	1,174	-
948	-	Car Park	948	-
913	-	Depot	925	-
1,063	-	Cinema	945	-
87	-	Garages	87	-
95	-	Flats	102	-
<u>126,638</u>	<u>84,654</u>	Balance at 31 March	<u>236,204</u>	<u>64,054</u>

In addition to investment properties held by the Authority, the group balance sheet includes £72.3m (2019/20: £64.4m) of investment property held within Populo Living Limited.

Valuations were carried out by Wilks, Head and Eve LLP (WHE) and are valued to Fair Values as defined by IFRS 13.

Where an asset is valued to Fair Value, IFRS 13 requires the valuer to make additional disclosures regarding the valuation technique applied to measure the fair value and the nature of the inputs to that valuation technique, having regard to the fair value hierarchy prescribed within IFRS13.

It is confirmed that the valuation technique applied in respect of all fair value figures is the market approach. The market approach uses prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets.

The inputs to this technique constitute **Level 2** inputs in each instance. Level 2 inputs are inputs observable for the asset, either directly or indirectly. The inputs used took the form of analysed and weighted market evidence such as sales, rentals and yields in respect of comparable properties in the same or similar locations at or around the valuation date.

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

17. Intangible Assets

The Authority accounts for its software as intangible assets, to the extent that the software is not an integral part of a particular IT system and accounted for as part of the hardware item of Property, Plant and Equipment.

The carrying amount of intangible assets is amortised on a straight line basis. As in the current year, the amortisation of £0.3m charged to revenue in 2020/21 (£0.7m in 2019/20) was charged directly to users' costs centres where they were sole users or in cases where there was not sole usage to the IT Administration cost centre, and then absorbed as an overhead across all the service headings in the Net Expenditure of Services.

All software is given a finite useful life, based on assessments of the period that the software is expected to be of use to the Authority. The useful lives assigned to the major software suites used by the Authority are 5 years unless it is anticipated to be otherwise.

In accordance with the CIPFA Code, leased intangible assets are disclosed in this section after their initial recognition.

There are no internally generated assets.

Purchased 2019/20 £'000		Purchased 2020/21 £'000
	Balance at start of year	
4,823	Gross Carrying Amounts	5,334
<u>(4,063)</u>	Accumulated Amortisation	<u>(4,738)</u>
760	Net carrying amount at start of year	596
	Additions	
511	Purchases	1,254
<u>(675)</u>	Amortisation	<u>(300)</u>
596	Net carrying amount at end of year	1,550
	Comprising	
5,334	Gross Carrying Amounts	6,588
<u>(4,738)</u>	Accumulated amortisation	<u>(5,038)</u>

18. Financial Instruments

Categories of Financial Instruments

The following categories of financial instruments are carried in the Balance Sheet:

Financial Assets

	Non Current				Current						Total	
	Investments		Debtors		Cash and cash equivalents)		Investments		Debtors		Total	
	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fair Value through Profit or Loss	35,896	21,442	43,788	45,267	-	-	-	-	-	-	79,684	66,709
Amortised cost	20,000	40,000	262,512	203,920	45,266	30,913	178,203	272,615	35,169	40,772	541,150	588,220
Total Financial Assets	55,896	61,442	306,300	249,187	45,266	30,913	178,203	272,615	35,169	40,772	620,834	654,929
Non-Financial Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	142,610	68,282	142,610	68,282
Total	55,896	61,442	306,300	249,187	45,266	30,913	178,203	272,615	177,779	109,054	763,444	723,211

Financial Liabilities

	Non Current				Current						Total	
	Borrowings		PFI and Finance Lease liabilities and Other creditors		Cash and cash equivalents)		Borrowings		Creditors		Total	
	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fair Value through Profit or Loss	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amortised cost	(719,197)	(716,181)	(251,157)	(151,927)	-	-	(93,312)	(133,119)	(72,955)	(66,109)	(1,136,621)	(1,067,336)
Total Financial Liabilities	(719,197)	(716,181)	(251,157)	(151,927)	0	0	(93,312)	(133,119)	(72,955)	(66,109)	(1,136,621)	(1,067,336)
Non-Financial Liabilities	-	-	(1,039,030)	(722,549)	-	-	-	-	(178,269)	(89,702)	(1,217,299)	(812,251)
Total	(719,197)	(716,181)	(1,290,187)	(874,476)	0	0	(93,312)	(133,119)	(251,224)	(155,811)	(2,353,920)	(1,879,587)

*The portion of long-term liabilities and investments due to be settled within 12 months of the Balance Sheet date are presented in the Balance Sheet under 'current liabilities' or 'current investments'. This includes accrued interest on long term liabilities and investments that is payable in 2020/21.

Soft Loans

The Authority has identified the following which may be categorised as soft loans (less than market rates):

	31 March 2021	31 March 2020
	£'000	£'000
Social Care	369	632
London Community Credit Union (LCCU)	437	586
Total	806	1,218

Carrying value of the LCCU loan is measured at fair value based on an amortised cost of 5% and social care loans are measured at cost. Loans have been considered for impairment losses. The calculated expected credit loss is not material therefore resulting in no change in carry value.

18. Financial Instruments (contd.2)

The gains and losses recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in relation to financial instruments consists of the following items:

	2019/20			2020/21		
	Financial Liabilities	Financial Assets		Financial Liabilities	Financial Assets	
	Liabilities Measured at Amortised Cost	Financial Assets at Amortised Cost	Total	Liabilities Measured at Amortised Cost	Financial Assets at Amortised Cost	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Interest expense*	160,390	-	160,390	46,332	-	46,332
Total expense in Surplus on the Provision of Services	160,390	-	160,390	46,332	-	46,332
Interest income		(12,256)	(12,256)		(12,299)	(12,299)
Total income in Surplus on the Provision of Services	-	(12,256)	(12,256)	-	(12,299)	(12,299)
Impact in Other Comprehensive Income			-			-
Net loss/(gain) for the year	160,390	(12,256)	148,134	46,332	(12,299)	34,033

* Interest expense shown above includes interest, premiums and other similar expenses

18. Financial Instruments (contd.3)

Financial Instruments - Fair Values

The fair value of Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) loans of £531m measures the economic effect of the terms agreed with the PWLB compared with estimated of the terms that would be offered for market transactions undertaken at the Balance Sheet date, which has been assumed as the PWLB redemption interest rates (PR Rate). The difference between the carrying amount and the fair value measures the additional interest that the authority will pay over the remaining term of the loans under the agreements with the PWLB, against what would be paid if the loans were at prevailing market rates.

However, the authority has a continuing ability to borrow at concessionary rates from the PWLB rather than from the markets, termed the PWLB certainty rate (NL rate). A supplementary measure of the fair value as a result of PWLB commitments for fixed rate loans is to compare the terms of these loans with the new borrowing rates available from the PWLB. If a fair value is calculated on this basis, the carrying amount of £357m would be valued at £431m. But if the authority were to seek to avoid the projected loss by repaying the loans to the PWLB, the PWLB would raise a penalty charge, based on the redemption interest rates, for early redemption of £357m for the additional interest that will not now be paid. The exit price for the PWLB loan including the penalty charge would be £531m.

Short term debtors and creditors are carried at cost as this is a fair approximation of their value. Other receivables and liabilities are carried on the Balance Sheet at amortised cost. Their fair value can be assessed by calculating the present value of the cash flows that will take place over the remaining term of the instruments using the following assumptions:-

- (i) estimated ranges of interest rates at 31 March 2021 for loans from the PWLB and for other loans receivables and payable have been applied based on new lending rates for equivalent loans at that date;
- (ii) no early repayment or impairment is recognised;
- (iii) where an instrument will mature in the next 12 months, carrying amount is assumed to approximate to fair value; and
- (iv) the fair value of trade and other receivables is taken to be the invoice or billed amount.

In regard to soft loans; fair value has been estimated by using a valuation technique based on an amortised cost of 5%.

Unquoted equity investment in Populo Living Ltd has been measured at fair value. Fair value has been based on the cost of equity. Due to early stages of its business model and a number of uncertain variables relating to this company it is difficult to value this company other than at cost of investment.

There has been no transfers between input levels during the year. There has been no change in the valuation technique used during the year.

Financial Assets

The fair value of financial assets is higher than the carrying amount because the Authority's portfolio of investments includes a number of loans where the interest rate receivable is higher than the rates available for similar loans at the Balance Sheet date. This shows a notional future gain (based on economic conditions at 31 March 2021) attributable to the commitment to receive interest above current market rates.

31st March 2020			Fair	31st March 2021		
Carrying	PR Rate			Carrying	PR Rate	
Value	Fair Value	Financial Assets	Value	Value	Fair Value	
£'000	£'000		level	£'000	£'000	
40,000	41,168	Long-Term Investments	2	20,000	20,801	
21,442	21,442	Long-Term Investments - equities	2	35,896	35,896	
1,218	1,218	Long-Term Receivables - Soft Loans (Note 22)	2	806	806	
56,136	56,136	Long-Term Receivables - Finance Leases (Note 22)	2	55,707	55,707	
191,833	191,833	Long-Term Receivables - Other (Note 22)	2	249,787	249,787	
310,629	311,797	Total Included in Long-Term Assets		362,196	362,997	
272,615	272,038	Short Term Investments	2	178,203	177,890	
40,772	40,772	Short-Term Receivables		35,169	35,169	
30,913	30,913	Cash and Cash Equivalents (Note 21)	2	45,266	45,266	
344,300	343,723	Total included in Current Assets		258,638	258,325	
654,929	655,520	Total Financial Assets		620,834	621,322	

Financial Liabilities

The fair value of financial liabilities is higher than the carrying amount because the Authority's portfolio of loans includes a number of loans where the interest rate payable is higher than the rates available for similar loans at the Balance Sheet date.

31st March 2020				Fair	31st March 2021			
Carrying	PR Rate/CV	NL Rate/CV			Carrying	PR Rate/CV	NL Rate/CV	
Value	Fair Value	Fair Value	Financial Liabilities	Value	Value	Fair Value	Fair Value	
£'000	£'000	£'000		level	£'000	£'000	£'000	
127,781	260,643		Short Term Borrowing at amortised cost	2	89,584	182,157		
5,338	1,659	1,648	Short Term Borrowing PWLB at amortised cost	2	3,728			
-	-		Cash and Cash Equivalents (Note 21)	2	-			
6,667	6,667		PFI and Finance Lease Liabilities (Note 23)	2	9,095	9,095		
59,442	59,442		Financial Liabilities at Contracted Amounts (Note 23)		63,860	63,860		
199,228	328,411	1,648	Total Included in Current Liabilities		166,267	255,112	-	
362,637	1,112,637		Long-Term Borrowing	2	365,653	920,544		
353,544	623,504	397,172	Long-Term Borrowing PWLB	2	353,544	531,440	430,908	
151,927	151,927		PFI and Finance Lease Liabilities (Note 36)	2	251,157	251,157		
-	-		Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost (Note 36)		-	-		
868,108	1,888,068	397,172	Total included in Long Term Liabilities		970,354	1,703,141	430,908	
1,067,336	2,216,479	398,820	Total Financial Liabilities		1,136,621	1,958,253	430,908	

19. Inventories

2019/20			2020/21		
Stocks	Work in Progress	Total	Stocks	Work in Progress	Total
£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
1,188	-	1,188	321	-	321
(867)	-	(867)	924	-	924
321	-	321	1,195	-	1,195

The council holds inventories which are made up of 3 types - Store 9, Store 15 and Fuel.

Store 9 - This is general stock. For example bins, bags, chemicals, PPE etc. all these products are used by all of the council departments.

Store 15 - This is parts for vehicles to cover the repair & maintenance of the council vehicle fleet (approximately 400 vehicles & 120 items of plant).

Fuel Stock - This is diesel fuel which is supplied to all council vehicles.

All stock have undertaken an inventory check at year-end and have been certified.

20. Construction Contracts

As at 31st March 2021, the authority had entered into a number of contracts for the construction or enhancement of property, plant and equipment in 2020/21 and future years budgeted to cost £24.7m. Similar commitments at 31 March 2020 were £14.1m. Further details on these commitments are included in note 14.

21. Cash And Cash Equivalents

Cash comprises cash in hand and on-demand deposits. Cash will also include bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and that are integral to the Authority's cash management.

Balances classified as 'Cash Equivalents' fit the definition of being short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

The net balance of Cash and Cash Equivalents is made up of the following elements at the Balance Sheet dates:

Single Entity	Group Accounts		Single Entity	Group Accounts
2019/20	2019/20		2020/21	2020/21
£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000
55	55	Petty Cash	55	55
24,532	24,532	Cash at Bank (Schools)	28,311	28,311
6,326	23,759	Cash Equivalents	16,900	35,871
30,913	48,346	Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	45,266	64,237

22. Receivables

2019/20				2020/21			
Single Entity		Group Accounts		Single Entity		Group Accounts	
Gross	Impairment Allowance	Net	Total	Gross	Impairment Allowance	Net	Total
£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
				Short Term Receivables			
22,359	-	22,359	22,359	61,036	-	61,036	61,036
11,214	-	11,214	11,214	30,861	-	30,861	30,861
28,480	(22,560)	5,920	5,920	31,966	(24,634)	7,332	7,332
3,116	(1,317)	1,799	1,799	2,860	(1,032)	1,828	1,828
23,761	(19,513)	4,248	4,248	27,690	(23,339)	4,351	4,351
44,099	(5,011)	39,088	70,993	39,171	(6,099)	33,072	51,265
22,420	(14,836)	7,584	7,584	22,109	(15,503)	6,606	6,606
11,296	-	11,296	11,296	6,896	-	6,896	6,896
51,183	(48,821)	2,362	2,362	33,915	(30,721)	3,194	3,194
3,887	(2,203)	1,684	1,684	4,814	(2,717)	2,097	2,097
-	-	-	-	20,506	-	20,506	20,506
1,500	-	1,500	1,500	-	-	-	-
223,315	(114,261)	109,054	140,959	281,824	(104,045)	177,779	195,972
				Long Term Receivables			
1,218	-	1,218	1,218	806	-	806	806
56,136	-	56,136	56,136	55,707	-	55,707	55,707
4,296	-	4,296	4,296	3,968	-	3,968	3,968
141,297	-	141,297	949	177,230	-	177,230	919
45,267	-	45,267	45,267	43,788	-	43,788	43,788
-	-	-	-	20,626	-	20,626	20,626
973	-	973	973	4,175	-	4,175	4,175
249,187	-	249,187	108,839	306,300	-	306,300	129,989

23. Payables

The following table provides an analysis of amounts owed by the Authority as at 31 March.

Single Entity	Group Accounts		Single Entity	Group Accounts
2019/20			2020/21	
£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000
(3,779)	(3,779)	Council Tax Payables	(5,074)	(5,074)
(2,029)	(2,029)	Business Rate Payables	(872)	(872)
(59,442)	(74,317)	Sundry Payables	(63,860)	(63,860)
(12,652)	(12,652)	Receipts In Advance	(17,779)	(35,374)
(6,667)	(6,667)	Finance Lease and PFI Liabilities	(9,095)	(9,095)
(19)	(19)	Other Balances	(15)	(15)
(13,441)	(13,441)	Employee Benefits	(19,117)	(19,117)
(1,143)	(1,143)	Revenue Grants Received In Advance	(462)	(462)
(41,539)	(41,539)	Central Government Bodies	(105,265)	(105,265)
(15,100)	(15,100)	Other Local Authorities	(7,911)	(7,911)
-	-	Deferred Income	(1,456)	(1,456)
-	-	Amount due to Pension Fund	(20,318)	(20,318)
<u>(155,811)</u>	<u>(170,686)</u>	Total	<u>(251,224)</u>	<u>(268,819)</u>

24. Provisions

Provisions are amounts set aside to meet future material liabilities of uncertain timing or amount.

Long term Provision

2020/21	Insurance £'000	MMI £'000	NNDR £'000	Other £'000	Total £'000
Balance at 1 April 2020	(5,214)	(453)	(13,181)	(709)	(19,557)
Additional provisions made in 2020/21	(33)	-	-	(11,788)	(11,821)
Amounts used in 2020/21	-	134	4,971	-	5,105
Balance at 31 March 2021	(5,247)	(319)	(8,210)	(12,497)	(26,273)

2019/20	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Balance at 1 April 2019	(6,440)	(482)	(12,117)	(674)	(19,713)
Additional provisions made in 2019/20			(1,064)	(35)	(1,099)
Amounts used in 2019/20	1,226	29			1,255
Balance at 31 March 2020	(5,214)	(453)	(13,181)	(709)	(19,557)

Insurance Provision

The Insurance provision is required because some of the Authority's insurance policies are met by deposit premiums, under which insurers ask for additional sums some years after the original claim. Furthermore, balances are accrued each year to meet future known claims where the Authority self-insures. Depending on the claims, these payments may be made over a period of a number of years. The Authority provides for each outstanding insurance claim separately and may recognise a reimbursement if recovery is virtually certain if this is appropriate for the type of claim.

MMI Provision

On 21st January 1994, the Authority entered into a scheme of arrangement under s.425 of the Companies Act 1985 with Municipal Mutual Insurance Limited (MMI), under which the Authority, along with other local authority members of MMI, might be required to reimburse MMI a proportion of claims paid by MMI since 1st October 1993. The value of Outstanding claims as at 31 March 2021 was £319k. Under the Scheme, the administrator may impose a levy on scheme creditors following a trigger event. MMI have notified creditors of a proposed 25% levy to be based on the position at 31st March 2021, which will be due for payment in future years.

NNDR Appeals

The Council levies Business Rates to commercial premises within the Borough. This is based on a rateable value per property, as determined by the Valuation Office Agency. From time to time, ratepayers may appeal the rateable value of their premises. In accordance with the principles of agency accounting, the Council recognises its share 30% (48% in 2019/20) of the provision for appeals within the Balance Sheet. As at 31st March 2021, this was £10.396m (£14.992m in 2019/20) and split across Long Term £8.210m (£13.181m in 2019/20) and Short Term Provision £2.186m (£1.811m in 2019/20), see table below.

Other

The Council has made a provision of £11.8m to cover any potential liabilities arising from the recent water charges ruling, which requires local authorities to pass on any discounts received from Thames Water to tenants whose rent includes the cost of water rates. In addition to this the Council has a number of on-going litigation cases, provision for which is also included within the long term provision figure.

Short term Provision

	NNDR £'000	COVID-19 £'000	Other £'000	Total £'000
Balance at 1 April 2020	(1,811)	(2,000)	(3,120)	(6,931)
Additional provisions made in 2020/21	(375)	-	-	(375)
Amounts used in 2020/21	-	2,000	2,499	4,499
Balance at 31 March 2021	(2,186)	-	(621)	(2,807)

Other

One of the Council's wholly owned service provision companies, initially funded through a loan by the Council is being wound up and a provision has been made to cover the potential non-recoverability of the loan.

25. Usable Reserves

The Authority keeps a number of reserves in the Balance Sheet. Some are required to be held for statutory reasons, some are needed to comply with proper accounting practice and others have been set up voluntarily to earmark resources for future spending plans. Reserves are reviewed as part of the budget process together with the Authority's agreed reserves policy in accordance with s.23 of the Local Government Act 2003.

Movements in the Authority's Usable reserves are detailed in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Unusable reserves are further detailed in Note 26. Earmarked reserves are detailed in Note 10.

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
(13,207)	General Fund	(4,295)
(82,207)	Housing Revenue Account	(72,839)
(123,840)	Capital Receipts Reserve	(158,685)
(68,373)	Major Repairs Reserve	(54,094)
(101,922)	Capital Grants Unapplied	(95,121)
(169,765)	Earmarked Reserves	(232,017)
(559,314)	Total Usable Reserves	(617,051)

The Group Usable Reserves are £33.6m lower than the single entity reserve above, reflecting the consolidated position as at 31st March 2021. This is primarily driven by the deficit reported in the Populo Living Limited Accounts (also see note 38).

Usable Capital Receipts Reserve

The capital receipts are income from the sale of long-term assets and repayments of capital advances. Legislation requires that a proportion of these receipts are paid to Central Government. The remaining amounts can then be used to finance capital expenditure.

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
(134,257)	Balance as at 1 April	(123,840)
	<u>Sale of Assets:</u>	
(20,389)	Sale of Council Houses	(11,719)
(60,111)	Sale of other Land and Buildings	(34,597)
49,948	Transfer to (from) DCRR	(1,895)
(30,552)	Total Receipts	(48,211)
	<u>Use of Receipts:</u>	
28,168	Payments to Housing Capital Pool	1,972
12,801	Capital Receipts used for Financing	11,394
40,969		13,366
(123,840)	Balance as at 31 March	(158,685)

26. Unusable Reserves

31 March 2020		31 March 2021
£'000		£'000
(768,329)	Revaluation Reserve	(737,934)
(1,148,823)	Capital Adjustment Account	(1,124,499)
119,992	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	116,956
(101,820)	Deferred Capital Receipts and Credits Reserve (DCRR)	(99,925)
689,417	Pensions Reserve	1,004,631
(7,489)	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	32,275
13,441	Accumulated Absences Account	19,118
0	Dedicated Schools Grant Adjustment Account	15,072
<u>(1,203,611)</u>	Total Unusable Reserves	<u>(774,306)</u>

Revaluation Reserve

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Authority arising from increases in the value of its Property, Plant and Equipment and Heritage Assets. The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains:

1. Are revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost; or
2. Used in the provision of services and the gains are consumed through depreciation; or
3. Disposed of and the gains are realised.

The Reserve contains only revaluation gains accumulated since 1st April 2007, the date that the Reserve was created. Accumulated gains arising before that date are consolidated into the balance on the Capital Adjustment Account.

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
(753,358)	Balance at 1 April	(768,329)
(40,053)	Upward revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the Surplus on the Provision of Services	(5,966)
11,170	Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation	10,538
13,912	Accumulated gains on assets sold or scrapped	25,823
<u>(768,329)</u>	Balance at 31 March	<u>(737,934)</u>

Accumulated Absences Account

The Accumulated Absences Account absorbs the differences that would otherwise arise on the General Fund Balance from accruing for compensated absences earned but not taken in the year, e.g. annual leave entitlement carried forward at 31 March. Statutory arrangements require that the impact on the General Fund Balance is neutralised by transfers to or from the Account.

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
12,215	Balance at 1 April	13,441
(12,215)	Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	(13,441)
13,441	Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	19,118
<u>13,441</u>	Balance at 31 March	<u>19,118</u>

26. Unusable Reserves (cont.1)

Financial Instruments Adjustments Account

The Financial Instruments Adjustment Account (FIAA) absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for income and expenses relating to certain financial instruments and for bearing losses or benefitting from gains per statutory provisions.

Premiums and Discounts

The code requires that, unless directly attributable to a loan held at 31st March 2007, then all premiums and discounts carried on the balance sheet be written off to the General Fund balance at 1st April 2007. * Statutory regulations allow for the impact on council tax to be mitigated through a transfer to the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account. The balance of premiums and discounts is amortised to revenue in line with the provisions set down in the Authority's accounting policies.

*The Code requires that premiums and discounts arising from debt restructuring on or after 1st April 2007 shall be charged to the General Fund. Exceptions are permitted where they meet the modification criteria prescribed in the CIPFA Accounting Code of Practice. In these instances, they are valued at the carrying value of the new loan and amortised over the remaining period via the effective interest rate.

Soft Loans

The Code also requires that where the Authority has provided loans at less than market rates then these should be accounted for on a fair value basis. The difference between the fair value and loan amount is accounted for as an immediate charge to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the impact to be instigated through a transfer to the FIAA via the Movement in Reserves Statement. The fair value increases over the period of the loan and the annual impact is neutralised by writing down the balance to the General Fund balance via transfer from the FIAA via the MIRS.

Stepped Interest Loans

Under the Code, where the Authority has taken out loans with a stepped interest structure, the interest charge to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is at the effective interest rate over the period of the loan. However, for stepped loans taken out before 9th November 2007, regulations permit authorities to charge interest to the General Fund balance at either:

- a) The effective interest rate; or
- b) The interest rate due for the financial year under the loan agreement.

Where the latter option is applied the difference between the interest chargeable at the effective interest rate is transferred from the General Fund balance to the Financial Instruments Adjustments Account via the Movement in Reserves Statement and released back to the General Fund balance for the remaining period of the loan.

The transactions reflected in the FIAA are as follows:

2019/20			2020/21	
£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000
	8,419	Balance at 1 April		119,992
		Proportion of premiums incurred in previous financial years to be charged against the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory requirements	(2,963)	
111,655		Effective interest rate (EIR) adjustment on LOBO borrowing	(73)	
(82)				
	111,573	Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		(3,036)
	<u>119,992</u>	Balance at 31 March		<u>116,956</u>

26. Unusable Reserves (cont.2)

Pension Reserve

The Pension Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Authority accounts for post employment benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs. However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Authority makes employer's contributions to pension funds or eventually pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pension Reserve therefore shows a substantial shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Authority has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
837,123	Balance at 1 April	689,417
70	Adjustment to the brought forward Pensions Reserve	
(184,668)	Actuarial (gains)/losses on pensions assets and liabilities	288,588
66,657	Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	92,289
(29,765)	Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(65,663)
689,417	Balance at 31 March	1,004,631

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

The Collection Fund Adjustment Account manages the differences arising from the recognition of income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as it falls due compared with the statutory arrangements for paying across amounts to the General Fund from the Collection Fund.

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
4,694	Balance at 1 April	(7,489)
(12,183)	Amount by which income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	39,764
(7,489)	Balance at 31 March	32,275

Dedicated Schools Grant Adjustment Account

The Dedicated Schools Grant Adjustment Account manages the Deficits arising from the schools budget expenditure exceeding the DSG funding available. The accumulated deficit balance is held separately from the general fund, to ensure the deficits do not place pressure on the Council's ability to delivery other services. The Council and Government will look at budgetary and financial management strategies to reduce the deficits by 2022/23.

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
0	Balance at 1 April	0
	<i>Transfer from Usable Reserve (DSG)*</i>	7,592
	Balance at 1 April restated	7,592
0	Amount by which expenditure on schools is charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in excess of DSG grant chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	7,480
0	Balance at 31 March	15,072

* A new accounting instrument was issued for 2020/21 regarding accounting for Dedicated Schools Grant Deficits; the requirement is to create a Dedicated Schools Grant adjustment account to separate schools budget deficits from the Council's general fund. This involved reporting the deficit as an unusable reserve instead of usable reserve that was reported in 2019/20, as a result opening balances had to be restated.

26. Unusable Reserves (contd.3)

Capital Adjustment Account

The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions. The Account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisation are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (with reconciling postings from the Revaluation Reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis). The Account is credited with the amounts set aside by the Authority as finance for the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement.

The Account contains accumulated gains and losses on Investment Properties and gains recognised on donated assets that have yet to be consumed by the Authority.

The Account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before 1 April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains.

Note 9 provides details of the source of all the transactions posted to the Account, apart from those involving the Revaluation Reserve.

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
(1,221,668)	Balance at 1 April	(1,148,823)
	Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:	
	Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	46,221
45,003		
10,077	Revaluation gains on Property, Plant and Equipment	11,190
675	Amortisation of intangible assets	300
29,694	Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	15,760
	Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	82,620
90,920		
176,369		156,091
(25,082)	Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve	(36,361)
151,287	Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year	119,730
	Capital financing applied in the year:	
(3,223)	Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(7,174)
(16,951)	Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(37,494)
(21,056)	Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that have been applied to capital financing	(15,685)
(26,058)	Application of grants to capital financing from the Capital Grants Unapplied Account	(15,490)
(9,284)	Provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(23,388)
(76,572)		(99,231)
(1,870)	Movements in the market value of Investment Properties debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	3,825
(1,148,823)	Balance at 31 March	(1,124,499)

27. Cash Flow Statement – Adjustments for Non-Cash Transactions

Single Entity	Group Accounts	Description	Single Entity	Group Accounts
2019/20 £'000	2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000	2020/21 £'000
45,003	46,217	Depreciation	46,221	47,129
10,077	10,087	Increase in Revaluation charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	11,190	20,976
675	675	Amortisation	300	300
4,830	8,486	Movement in Impairment Allowance	(10,216)	(10,216)
(96,508)	(98,004)	Movement in Receivables	(115,622)	(116,829)
30,564	30,876	Movement in Payables	95,413	53,746
867	878	Movement in Inventories	(874)	410
36,892	36,892	Pension Liability	26,626	26,626
90,920	90,920	Carrying Amount of Non-Current Assets sold	82,620	82,621
1,597	1,597	Movement in Provisions	2,592	2,592
(1,870)	(1,226)	Movement in the value of Investment Properties	3,825	22,307
111,573	111,573	Financial Instruments Adjustments	(3,036)	0
4,067	6,450	Other Non-Cash Adjustments	(2,473)	(16)
0	0	Taxation	0	(334)
238,687	245,421	Total Adjustments for Non-Cash Transactions	136,566	129,312
(245,132)	(245,132)	Investing and Financing Activities Adjustments to Net Surplus on the Provision of Services	(67,128)	(67,128)
(6,445)	289	Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	69,438	62,184

The cashflow from operating activities include the following amounts:

Single Entity	Group Accounts	Description	Single Entity	Group Accounts
2019/20 £'000	2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000	2020/21 £'000
(12,256)	(16,459)	Interest received	(12,299)	(12,300)
160,390	165,385	Interest Paid	46,332	51,691
148,134	148,926	Net Interest	34,033	39,391

28. Cash Flow Statement - Investing Activities

Single Entity	Group Accounts	Description	Single Entity	Group Accounts
2019/20 £'000	2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000	2020/21 £'000
(82,872)	(110,955)	Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible Assets	(91,350)	(136,024)
152,263	152,263	Purchase of Short-Term Investments and Long-Term Investments	99,958	187,523
0	35	Other Payments for Investing Activities	0	0
80,500	80,500	Proceeds from the sale of Property, Plant and Equipment and Non-Current Assets	46,316	46,356
52,982	52,982	Other receipts from investing	23,593	23,593
202,873	174,825	Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	78,517	121,448

29. Cash Flow Statement - Financing Activities

Single Entity	Group Accounts	Description	Single Entity	Group Accounts
2019/20 £'000	2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000	2020/21 £'000
(48,395)	(19,025)	Cash Repayment of Short-Term Borrowings and Long-Term Borrowings	(36,791)	(14,450)
(6,228)	(6,227)	Cash Payments to reduce Finance Lease and PFI Liabilities	(7,865)	(36,791)
0	3,635	Other payments for financing activities	0	14,454
(54,623)	(21,617)	Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	(44,656)	(36,787)

30. Trading Operations

The Authority operates a number of trading accounts identified as those where the service managers are required to operate in a commercial environment and balance their budgets by generating income from other parts of the Authority and other organisations. A commercial environment is one in which the customer has the choice to use an alternative supplier to the Authority; and the Authority charges the user on a basis other than that solely to cover the costs of the service.

The Trading Accounts operated by the Authority during the year were:

2019/20				2020/21		
Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	(Surplus) / Deficit £'000		Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	(Surplus) / Deficit £'000
499	(360)	139	Building Control	464	(402)	62
1,033	(1,021)	12	Markets	975	(352)	623
0	(1,701)	(1,701)	Repairs & Maintenance Service (RMS)	394	0	394
1,532	(3,082)	(1,550)	Total	1,833	(754)	1,079

Building Control is responsible for ensuring that building work meets legally required standards and is authorised to make a charge and any surplus is used for future related work as laid out in the Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 2010.

Markets trading account charges clients for the administration of Market/Street trading duties and as such any surplus should be ring fenced for Market Activities in line with the London Local Authorities Act 1990. The deficit in 2020/21 was due to reduced income from markets resulting from closures during lockdown. This overspend has principally been funded through loss of income grants from central government.

The Repairs and Maintenance Service (RMS) is a trading division within the Inclusive Economy and Housing Directorate that provides over 100,000 housing repairs, cyclical and statutory maintenance as well as capital stock improvements to over 27,000 Newham Council Tenants and Leaseholders properties as well as providing services to support the Councils highways responsibilities. The range of services has extended to support repairs and maintenance in public buildings, some schools and Tenant Management Organisations and the reinstatements to housing voids both in and out of the borough. The net deficit in 2020/21 is due to additional Covid related expenditure. This deficit was then funded through Covid grants from central government.

31. Pooled Budgets

Introduced in April 2015, the Better Care Fund is the largest financial incentive to date for the integration of Health and Social Care. It requires Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG's) and Local Authorities in each area to pool budgets and agree integrated spending plans determining how their Better Care Fund allocations will be most efficiently resourced. In 2015/16, Central Government committed £3.8 billion to the Better Care Fund, with many local areas contributing an additional £1.5 billion, taking the total spending power of the Better Care Fund to £5.3 billion.

In 2017/18, the government made funding available to local authorities, worth £1.5 billion by 2019/20, which is included in the BCF. In looking ahead to later years it is important that BCF plans are aligned to other programmes of work including Sustainability Transformation Plans (STPs), new models of care as set out in the NHS Five Year Forward View and delivery of 7-day services. The local flexibility to pool more than the mandatory amount has remained. This agreement has been formed in accordance with the provisions within Section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006. A robust governance infrastructure is in place to monitor the schemes within the BCF. Schemes are monitored through the BCF Governance and Delivery Group with regular updates provided to the Health and Wellbeing board for the duration of the section 75 agreement.

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy provides the platform for our vision to become realised through common and shared themes that are reflected in all local key initiatives including Integrated care, Transforming Service Together, Care Close to Home Delivery Plans, NHS Newham clinical commissioning group (NCCG) Operating plan, Personal Health Budgets, Primary Care Co-commissioning, Carers Strategy and Sustainability Transformation Plans. The Authority and NCCG have defined within the Section 75 confirmed funding levels required to operate these services and they are reviewed on an annual basis. Some schemes are demand led and partners make relevant contributions depending on the type of services being accessed.

All parties to the better care fund pooled budget agreement have joint control. The better care fund pooled budget is a joint arrangement solely for the purpose of working together, with no single body having power of control over the other parties to the agreement. Each partner then accounts for its share of income, expenditure, assets liabilities and cash flows in line with the agreement.

The following table analyses the funding provided and the expenditure met from Better Care Fund:

	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000
Funding provided to the pooled budget:		
London Borough of Newham	(95,495)	(103,553)
NHS Newham Clinical Commissioning Group (NCCG)	(54,220)	(63,248)
Total funding	(149,715)	(166,800)
Expenditure met from the pooled budget:		
London Borough of Newham	95,495	103,553
NHS Newham Clinical Commissioning Group (NCCG)	54,220	63,248
Total expenditure	149,715	166,800
Net deficit/(surplus) arising on the pooled budget during the year	-	-

Below is a summary of the funding agreed with the CCG, Newham and governed by the LAs Health & Well Being Board

Scheme Name	2020/21 Total BCF Actuals £000s
RAID and support	949
Existing Social Care	9,138
Continuing Care	5,283
NHS Funded Nursing Care	826
DFG/Capital	2,848
Equipment Services	4,024
Protection of Adult Social Care	5,557
Extension to Protection of Social Care	7,300
Care Act	1,057
Social Prescription/PPE	360
Rehab/Virtual Ward	1,700
Care Management	5,419
Care Packages/Placements	66,486
Community services	30,193
Public Health Commissioning (ASC)	5,156
Market Sustainability and Growth (ASC)	7,211
Out of Hospital / Admission Avoidance	2,176
Wheelchair Services	930
COVID 19 response IDH & Social care recovery	253
50 Steps - Inequalities, Prevention and transformation	1,472
Hospital Discharge Programme Scheme 1	7,927
Hospital Discharge Programme Scheme 2	581
Total	166,846

32. Members' Allowances

The total of members' allowances and expenses paid in 2020/21 (excluding National Insurance Contributions) was £1,394k compared to £1,380k in 2019/20. Full details of members' allowances paid are available on the website and upon request in writing to Member Services, 4th Floor, West Wing, Newham Dockside, London E16 2QU.

<https://www.newham.gov.uk/council/councillors%E2%80%99-allowances-expenses/1> (to be updated)

33. Officers' Remuneration

The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 require local authorities to disclose the number of employees whose remuneration was £50,000 or more in the financial year, expressed in bands of £5,000. This includes the remuneration of senior employees which is shown overleaf.

2019/20 Non Teaching Employees	2019/20 Teaching Employees	2019/20 Total Employees	Earnings Band	2020/21 Non Teaching Employees	2020/21 Teaching Employees	2020/21 Total Employees
152	200	352	50 - 54,999	180	206	386
80	132	212	55 - 59,999	86	146	232
67	83	150	60 - 64,999	55	96	151
35	39	74	65 - 69,999	33	44	77
39	30	69	70 - 74,999	27	28	55
29	13	42	75 - 79,999	14	18	32
15	13	28	80 - 84,999	9	7	16
5	10	15	85 - 89,999	15	17	32
3	5	8	90 - 94,999	11	7	18
6	6	12	95 - 99,999	5	5	10
6	3	9	100 - 104,999	10	3	13
6	2	8	105 - 109,999	2	2	4
3	2	5	110 - 114,999	2	2	4
2	2	4	115 - 119,999	2	1	3
2	2	4	120 - 124,999	1	-	1
1	1	2	125 - 129,999	-	3	3
-	-	-	130 - 134,999	2	1	3
1	1	2	135 - 139,999	1	-	1
1	-	1	140 - 144,999	2	1	3
-	-	-	145 - 149,999	-	-	-
-	2	2	150 - 154,999	-	-	-
-	-	-	155 - 159,999	1	1	2
-	-	-	160 - 164,999	-	-	-
-	-	-	165 - 169,999	2	-	2
-	-	-	170 - 174,999	-	-	-
1	-	1	190 - 194,999	-	-	-
-	-	-	200 - 204,999	1	-	1
-	1	1	210 - 214,999	-	-	-
-	-	-	215 - 219,999	-	1	1
1	-	1	220 - 224,999	-	-	-
-	-	-	255 - 259,999	-	-	-
455	547	1,002	Total £50,000 and over	461	589	1,050

During 2020/21 the number of officers whose remuneration exceeded £50k increased by 48. The increase primarily related to teaching staff and was generally due to the impact of inflationary pay increases and staff moving up spinal points. The bandings which has had the highest increase is from £50k - £70k a total increase 58 officers and teachers. Similarly officers and teachers paid over £70,000 has reduced by 10 compared to 2019/20.

33. Officers' Remuneration (contd.1)

Senior employees whose annual salary for the year was equal to or greater than £150,000 (pro-rata) or who were fulfilling a Statutory Chief Officer post (in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989) are listed below:

2020/21

Council Officers

Name and position	Salary Fees and Allowances	Compensation for loss of employment	Council's contribution to Pension Fund	Total Remuneration
	£	£	£	£
Chief Executive Officer - Ms A Loderick	203,136	-	39,408	242,544
Corporate Director of Adults & Health (DASS) - Mr C Ansell	143,235	-	27,788	171,023
Corporate Director of Children & Young People (DCS) - Mr T Aldridge	169,071	-	32,800	201,871
Corporate Director of Environment and Sustainable Transport - Mr J Blake	156,948	-	27,974	184,922
Corporate Director of People, Policy & Performance - Ms J Crowe	132,066	-	25,621	157,687
Corporate Director of Resources (s151) - Mr C Hall	169,071	-	32,800	201,871
Director of Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer) - Mr D Fenwick	143,954	-	26,875	170,829
Director of Public Health - Mr J Strelitz	109,865	-	21,453	131,318
Newham CYPs Commissioner (Brighter Futures) Mrs G Subramaniam-Mooney	132,066	-	25,621	157,687
Corporate Director of Inclusive Economy & Housing - Mr Dave Hughes (Started 14/9/2020)	85,661	-	17,757	103,418
Total	1,445,073	-	278,097	1,723,170

Senior Officers' Pay - LBN Controlled Companies

The Council has a number of wholly owned companies which deliver a range of services including housing investments, contract cleansing & catering, waste disposal and street cleansing and other social care services. For the larger companies, information on remuneration of the highest paid company director is provided below. The financial performance and position of these companies are consolidated into the Council's group accounts and summary information on these are also included in Note 38 - Councils Association with External Bodies.

Company and Position	Salary	Compensation for loss of employment	Expenses	Total Remuneration
iXact Limited - Managing Director	89,538	111,979	2,746	204,263
Juniper Ventures Limited - Managing Director	107,391	-	-	107,391
Mint Cleaning Group Holdings Limited - Managing Director	89,542	102,473	-	192,015
Public Realm Services Limited - Managing Director	89,557	152,051	-	241,608
Populo Living Limited - Managing Director	148,984	-	-	148,984
Enabled Living Healthcare Limited - Managing Director	87,590	-	-	87,590
Total	612,603	366,503	2,746	981,852

2019/20

Council Officers

Name and position	Salary Fees and Allowances	Compensation for loss of employment	Council's contribution to Pension Fund	Total Remuneration
	£	£	£	£
Chief Executive Officer - Ms A Loderick (Joined 15/04/2019)	190,009	-	38,952	228,961
Corporate Director of Adults & Health (DASS) - Mr C Ansell	128,572	-	26,357	154,929
Corporate Director of Children & Young People (DCS) - Mr T Aldridge (Joined 14/10/2019)	76,522	-	15,687	92,209
Corporate Director of Environment and Sustainable Transport - Mr J Blake (Joined 25/11/19)	53,550	-	-	53,550
Corporate Director of People, Policy & Performance - Ms J Crowe (Joined 09/12/2019)	40,079	-	8,216	48,295
Corporate Director of Resources (s151) - Mr C Hall (Joined 24/06/2019)	120,868	-	24,778	145,646
Director of Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer) - Mr D Fenwick	140,123	-	28,228	168,351
Director of Public Health - Mr J Strelitz (Joined 24/04/2019)	96,130	-	19,720	115,850
Newham CYPs Commissioner (Brighter Futures) Mrs G Subramaniam-Mooney (Joined 10/01/20)	29,023	-	5,949	34,972
Acting Director of Environment and Community - Mr S Letchford (Acting up arrangements ended 30/09/2019)	66,550	-	21,581	88,131
Executive Director of Strategic Commissioning - Ms G Siggins (Left 30/04/2019)	44,113	177,465	2,901	224,479
Interim Chief Executive Officer - Mrs K Kerswell (Left 14/04/2019)	15,003	61,238	-	76,241
Interim Director of Enforcement - Mr M Hooper (Left 23/04/2019)	7,636	-	1,420	9,056
Interim Director Regeneration and Planning - Ms Elaine Elkington (Left 12/07/2019)	70,091	-	-	70,091
Total	1,078,269	238,703	193,789	1,510,761

Senior Officers' Pay - LBN Controlled Companies

Company and Position	Salary	Bonus	Expenses	Total Remuneration
iXact Limited - Managing Director	84,358	45,446	4,812	134,616
Juniper Ventures LTD - Managing Director	96,975	-	-	96,975
Mint Group PLC - Managing Director	84,360	40,541	-	124,901
Public Realm Services - Managing Director	82,703	41,352	-	124,055
Populo Living LTD (RDV) - Managing Director*	112,119	-	-	112,119
Total	460,515	127,339	4,812	592,666

* The managing director of Populo Living Limited was seconded for a period of three months which is not included within the salary figure above. The total cost of secondment was £43,600.

33. Officers' Remuneration (contd.2)

Exit Packages

The number of exit packages with total cost per band and total cost of the compulsory and other redundancies are set out in the table below. There was an decrease in the number and total cost of exit packages during 2020/21. The average cost of exit packages reduced from £21k in 2019/20 to £18k in 2020/21.

In addition to the £1.1m exit payments made to the 63 staff leaving through the redundancy scheme, additional pensions contribution of £1.3m were also made to cover the pensions liability.

Exit package cost band (including special payments)	Number of compulsory redundancies		Number of other departures agreed		Total number of exit packages by cost band		Total cost of exit packages in each band (£000s)	
	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21
£0 – £20,000	7	8	72	33	79	41	937	442
£20,001 – £40,000	-	-	26	17	26	17	698	466
£40,001 – £60,000	-	1	10	4	10	5	527	263
£60,001 – £80,000	1	-	1	-	2	-	130	-
£80,001 – £100,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
£100,001 – £150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
£150,001 – £250,000	-	-	1	-	1	-	207	-
Total	8	9	110	54	118	63	2,499	1,171

34. External Audit Costs

The Authority's external auditors are Ernst & Young LLP and the table below details the amounts due to the external auditors in respect of the following services.

	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000
Fees payable to Auditors with regard to the external audit of the Authority	168	168
Additional fees payable to Auditors with regard to the previous year's external audit of the Authority	315	148 *
Additional fees to Auditors with regard to objection to the accounts	120	0
Fees payable to Auditors with regard to the external audit of the pension fund	16	60 **
Fees payable to Auditors with regard to the certification of grant claims and returns	32	29
	651	405

* This relates to additional fees proposed by the auditors in respect of the 2019/20 main Council audit, currently awaiting approval by the PSAA. A sum of £92k above base fee is also estimated for the 20/21 audit and this will be reviewed once the audit is concluded.

** This relates to additional fees proposed for the 2019/20 Pension Fund audit. A sum of £50k is also proposed for 20/21, both awaiting approval.

35. Dedicated Schools Grant

The Council's expenditure on schools is funded by grant funding provided by the Department of Education - the Dedicated School Grant (DSG). The DSG is ring-fenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure included in the School Budget as per the School and Early Years Finance (England) (No 2) Regulations 2019. Funding is calculated by centralised funding formula. The Schools budget includes elements for a restricted range of services provided on an Authority-wide basis, and for the Individual Schools Budget, which is divided into a budget share for each school. Spend on the two elements are required to be accounted for separately. Like many authorities Newham has experienced difficulty in meeting its obligations with respect to High Needs from within the formula funding, this has led to a significant overspend in 2019-20. Newham is working with its schools and the DFE to review this overspend and reduce it for future years.

	2020/21		
	Central Expenditure	ISB	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Final DSG for 2020/21 before academy Recoupment	-	-	437,782
Academy figure recouped for 2020/21	-	-	(194,948)
Total DSG after academy recoupment for 2019/20	-	-	242,834
Plus: Brought forward from 2019/20	-	-	(7,592)
Agreed initial budgeted distribution in 2020/21	46,002	189,240	235,242
In-year adjustments	(24,912)	24,912	-
Final budget distribution for 2020/21	21,090	214,152	235,242
Less: Actual central expenditure	(36,162)	-	(36,162)
Less: Actual ISB deployed to schools	-	(214,152)	(214,152)
Carry-forward to 2021/22	(15,072)	0	(15,072)
	2019/20		
	Central Expenditure	ISB	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Final DSG for 2019/20 before academy Recoupment	-	-	419,223
Academy figure recouped for 2019/20	-	-	(182,336)
Total DSG after academy recoupment for 2019/20	-	-	236,887
Plus: Brought forward from 2018/19	-	-	1,149
Agreed initial budgeted distribution in 2019/20	66,564	171,472	238,036
In-year adjustments	(36,866)	36,866	-
Final budget distribution for 2019/20	29,698	208,338	238,036
Less: Actual central expenditure	(37,290)	-	(37,290)
Less: Actual ISB deployed to schools	-	(208,338)	(208,338)
Carry-forward to 2020/21	(7,592)	0	(7,592)

36. Other Long Term Liabilities

The group other long term liabilities is not materially different to the authority's other long term liabilities. The authority's other long term liabilities are made up of the following items. Further information on each line can be found in the notes referred to against each line.

	2019/20	2020/21
	£'000	£'000
Finance Leases (Note 40)	(51,668)	(158,224)
PFI Liability (Note 41)	(100,259)	(92,933)
Pensions Liability (Note 44)	(689,417)	(1,004,631)
Section 106	(33,132)	(32,027)
Deferred Income	0	(2,372)
Total	(874,476)	(1,290,187)

37. Related Party Transactions

The Council is required to disclose material transactions, set at a total of above £25k for this purpose, with related parties - bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Council or to be controlled or influenced by the Council. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Council might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have secured the ability to limit another party's ability to bargain freely with the Council.

Central Government has effective control over the general operations of the Council - it is responsible for providing the statutory framework, within which the Council operates, provides the majority of its funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Council has with other parties (e.g. council tax bills, housing benefits).

The Council has prepared this disclosure in accordance with its interpretation and understanding of IAS 24 and its applicability to the public sector utilising current advice and guidance.

Pension Fund

The Fund is administered by the London Borough of Newham. During the reporting period, the Council incurred costs of £0.98m in relation to the administration of the Fund and was subsequently reimbursed by the Fund for these expenses (see Note 10). As at 31 March 2021 the Council owed the Fund £20.3m.

Members

Members of the Council have direct control over the Council's financial and operating policies. The total of Members' Allowances paid in 2020/21 is shown in Note 32. Members of the Authority participate in and are members of a variety of other public bodies and community groups. The Council has well established mechanisms and procedures for preventing undue influence. Part of this mechanism is the disclosure of interests in the register of Members' interests which is open to public inspection on the Authority's website.

Organisation	Payments made during 2020/21	Amounts owed at 31/03/21	Income received during 2020/21	Income due at 31/03/21	Members
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Active Newham	3,714	-	25	714	Gen Kitchen
Agate Momentum Trust T/A Hallsville Primary School	471	6	22	-	Dr Rohit Kumar Dasgupta
Ambition Aspire Achieve	164	36	-	-	Sarah Jane Ruiz
Bonny Downs Community Association	70	-	5	0	Susan Masters
East London Waste Authority	276	-	-	-	James Asser
Keir Hardie Primary School	3,912	-	33	3	Dr Rohit Kumar Dasgupta
New Vision Trust	3,363	4	68	15	Quintin Peppiatt
Newham College of Further Education	692	-	-	14	James Beckles Quintin Peppiatt
Rights & Equalities In Newham (Rein)	119	-	-	-	Joy Laguda MBE
Rosetta Art Centre	159	7	-	11	Canon Ann Easter
The Tapscott Learning Trust	3,689	0	132	3	Joy Laguda MBE
Kensington Primary School t/a Tapscott Learning Trust	690	-	30	3	Aisha Siddiqah
University of East London	30	0	26	12	James Beckles
					Officers
Greater London Authority	586	6	475	152	Jessica Crowe
Health & Care Space Newham Ltd	865	-	-	-	Colin Ansell
Newham Learning Partnership (Project Co) Limited	10,387	-	-	-	Dave Baldock
Newham Partnership Working Ltd	509	27	26	14	Colin Ansell
Newham Transformation Partnership Ltd	796	-	-	-	Dave Baldock
Public Realm Services Ltd	6,477	15	3,171	4	Colin Ansell
The Frontline Organisation	12	-	45	18	Timothy Aldridge

All transactions have been made on an arm's length basis and at commercial terms. Enquiries can be made with the Council regarding these transactions via Freedom of Information requests.

38. Council's Association with External Bodies

The Council has significant interests in a variety of entities, including Subsidiaries, Investments, Associates and Jointly Controlled Operations. Significant interests have been identified as:

Subsidiaries

Populo Living Limited - A wholly-owned subsidiary company that was formed in March 2014 to facilitate the Authority's construction and investment in private rental properties within the Borough. Ordinary share capital constitutes 33,895,973 Ordinary shares of £1 each as at 31 March 2021 (19,442,332 £1 Ordinary shares as at 31 March 2020). In 20/20/21, the company made a loss of £37.0m (2019/20: loss of £6.4m). This entity is fully controlled by the Authority and material for the purposes of group accounts. Payments made during the year totalled £70m and £0.221m income received in 2020/21. £0.061m was owed from the company at 31 March 2021.

The following entities were consolidated as part of Populo Living - Populo Design and Build Limited and Populo Homes.

Following directors held office between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021:

Stephen Benson, Suzanne Forster, Sarah Gaventa, Michael Holland, John Swinney, Nigel Taylor, Stephen Quartermain (appointed 11 May 2020), Tim Seddon (appointed 13 May 2020), Deborah Heenan (appointed 24 July 2020), James Blake and Antony Travers (both appointed 14 May 2020)

A copy of the company's financial statements can be obtained by writing to:

Populo Living Ltd, 373 High Street, Stratford, London, E15 4QZ | email: info@populoliving.co.uk | www.populoliving.co.uk

Better Together Limited - Incorporated in January 2016, it is anticipated that this limited company will deliver the Authority's Shared Lives Programme. A single Ordinary £1 share is in issue, held by the Mayor and Burgesses of the London Borough of Newham. This company started trading in June 2016.

Payments made during the year totalled £1.75m and £0.002m balance owed as at 31st March 2021.

The company disclosed a profit after tax of £0.041m in 2020/21 (2019/20 £0.111m)

Following directors held office between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021:

Sarah Havard, James Smith, Gisela Iveson, Rafiuddin Patel, Kelly Donna and Margaret Minter.

A copy of the company's financial statements can be obtained by writing to:

Stratford Advice Arcade 107-109 The Grove, Stratford, London, E15 1HP | email: sarah@bettertogether.org.uk | www.cqc.org.uk

The Language Shop Limited - A wholly-owned company incorporated in February 2014 which offers translation and interpretation services. Share capital amounts to 100 Ordinary shares of £1 each.

Following directors held office between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021:

Aprile Harman, Samuel Lingard, Jaimin Patel, Zoe Power and Joven Carino.

The company made profit after tax of £0.269m in 2020/21 (2019/20: £0.129m) and has net assets of £0.651m (2019/20: £0.386m)

Payments made during the 2020/21 totalled £4.4m and income of £0.843m was received in the year. £0.09m was owed from the company as at 31 March 2021.

A copy of the company's financial statements can be obtained by writing to:

Chief Executive, 1000 Dockside Road, Beckton, London, E16 2QU | email: languageshop@newham.gov.uk | www.languageshop.org

The Language Shop Trustee Limited - A private dormant company limited by guarantee incorporated in January 2016. The company has 2 board members, Aprile Harman and Jaimin Patel.

Future Newhome Limited - A subsidiary company wholly-owned by the Authority, established to acquire a portfolio of property which will be offered at a range of discounts to market rents to people on a range of incomes.

The company's 2020/21 financial results reported a profit of £0.255m (£0.386m profit in 2019/20).

Payments made during 2020/21 totalled £2.2m and £0.505m was owed from this company as at 31 March 2021.

Following directors held office between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021:

David Morris and W.F.M. Stokes and Sandy Hamberger (resigned 21 January 2021)

A copy of the company's financial statements can be obtained by writing to:

Chief Executive, 1000 Dockside Road, Beckton, London E16 2QU | Email: Bobby.Arthur@newham.gov.uk

Public Realm Service Limited (PRS) - A wholly owned subsidiary, established as a street cleaning services provider. This company was incorporated in July 2016.

The company's 2020/21 financial results reported a profit of £0.255m (£0.579m profit in 2019/20).

Payments made during 2020/21 totalled £6.5m and £3.5m income received in the year. Balance of £0.175m was owed from this company as at 31 March 2021

Following directors held office between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021:

Colin Ansell, Joanne Beaseley, David Humphries (appointed 5 Oct 2020), Robin Payne (appointed 5 October 2020)

A copy of the company's financial statements can be obtained by writing to:

Administration Reception Central Depot, Folkestone Road, East Ham, London E6 6BX | email: info@publicrealmsservices.co.uk |

38. Council's Association with External Bodies (contd.1)

London Network for Pest Solutions Limited - A wholly owned subsidiary which provides pest control services. This company was incorporated in 2017. The company's 2020/21 financial results reported a profit of £0.022m (£0.028m profit in 2019/20). Totals payments of £0.956m were made during 2020/21 and Income of £0.003m received from the company.

Following directors held office between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021:
Paul Cooper and Pradeep Lawrence

A copy of the company's financial statements can be obtained by writing to:
86-90 Paul Street, London EC2A 4NE | Email: info@lnpestsolutions.com | www.lnpestsolutions.com

Early Start Education Limited - Incorporated in August 2016, this company provides residents with high quality early years education including free child care to those who are entitled.

The company made loss of £0.017m in 2020/21 (Profit of £0.038m in 2019/20)

Payments of £0.234m were made during 2020/21 and Income of £0.033m received from the company.
£0.013m owed from this company as at 31 March 2021.

Following directors held office between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021:
Sharon Cox and Justin Elder.

A copy of the company's financial statements can be obtained by writing to:
2-24 Shrewsbury Road, London E7 8AL | Email: Justin.elder@earlystartgroup.com

Ixact Limited - Incorporated in April 2017. The company was established to provide street and estate cleaning services for the borough.

The companies 2020/21 financial statements reported a profit of £0.141m (Profit of £0.153m in 2019/20) and net assets of £0.260m (Net assets of £0.40m in 2019/20).

Total payments of £5.4m were made and £2.5m Income received from the company. £0.285m was owed from this company as at 31 March 2021.

Following directors held office between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021:

Anoop Goyal, Nurun Nehar and David Humphries (appointed on 8 October 2020), Robin Payne (appointed on 8 October 2020)

A copy of the company's financial statements can be obtained by writing to:
Chief Executive, Central Depot, Folkestone Road, London E6 6BX | Email: info@ixactlimited.com | www.ixactlimited.com

Mint Cleaning Limited - A subsidiary company wholly-owned by the Authority, established as a cleaning services provider.

The company's 2020/21 financial results disclosed a profit of £0.173m (Profit for 2019/20: £0.204m) and net assets of £0.629m (Net assets of £0.33m in 2019/20).

Payments of £6.5m was made during 2020/21 and £3.3m income received from the company. £0.310m was owed from this company as at 31 March 2021.

Following directors held office between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021:

Sandy Hamberger, Dean Pamerter, David Humphries (appointed 8 Oct 2020), Robin Payne (appointed 8 October 2020)

A copy of the company's financial statements can be obtained by writing to:
Chief Executive, Central Depot, Folkestone Road, London E6 6BX | www.mintcleaninggroup.com

Juniper Pursuits Limited - Juniper Pursuits Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Juniper Ventures Limited. The company's 2020/21 financial results disclosed a loss of £0.168m (Profit of £0.012m in 2019/20) and net assets of £0.381m (net assets of £0.52m in 2019/20).

Payments of £1.074m was made during 2020/21 and £0.189m income received from the company. £0.024m was owed from this company as at 31 March 2021.

Following directors held office between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021:

David Gibbs, Steve Giles, Michael Hales, Philippa Terry, Clare Tyler, and Jacinta Gasson-Mulcahy (appointed 1 April 2020)

A copy of the company's financial statements can be obtained by writing to:
29 The Old Town Hall, 29 Broadway, Stratford, London E15 4BQ | Email: michael.hales@juniperventures.co.uk

Juniper Ventures Limited - Incorporated in April 2017. The company was established to provide professional services to the council.

The company's 2020/21 financial results disclosed a loss of £0.023m (Profit of £0.034m in 2019/20) and net assets of £0.029m (Net assets of £0.051m in 2019/20).

Income of £0.270m received in 2020/21 and £0.077m was owed from the company as at 31 March 2021.

Following directors held office between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021:

David Gibbs, Steve Giles, Michael Hales, Philippa Terry and Clare Tyler, Jacinta Gasson-Mulcahy (appointed 1 April 2020)

A copy of the company's financial statements can be obtained by writing to:
29 The Old Town Hall, 29 Broadway, Stratford, London E15 4BQ | Email: michael.hales@juniperventures.co.uk | www.juniperventures.co.uk

38. Councils Association with External Bodies (contd.2)

Enabled Living Healthcare Limited

Enabled Living Healthcare is wholly owned subsidiary of the authority. The company's 2020/21 financial results disclosed a profit of £0.062m (£0.036m Profit in 2019/20) and net assets of £0.445m (Net assets of £0.383m in 2019/20)

Payments of £3.4m was made during 2020/21 and Income of £0.078m received from the company. £0.015m was owed from this company as at 31 March 2021.

Following directors held office between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021:

Mathew Sheehan, Martin Blow, Kirsten Smilge and Dorothy Coleman

A copy of the company's financial statements can be obtained by writing to:

7 Alpine Way, Beckton, London, E6 6LA | Email: info@enabledlivinghealthcare.co.uk | www.enabledlivinghealthcare.co.uk

Joint Venture

Health and Care Space Newham Limited is jointly controlled by London Borough of Newham and East London NHS trust. The company's 2020/21 financial results disclosed a profit of £1.2m (2019/20 loss of £0.390m), and net assets of £7.3m.

Payments of £0.864m was made during 2020/21.

Following directors held office between 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021:

Andrew Ireland, Steven Course, Colin Ansell and Mohit Venkataram.

A copy of the company's financial statements can be obtained by writing to:

Health and Care Space Newham Ltd, 1000 Dockside Road, Newham Dockside, London E16 2QU | Email: Ian.Gallagher@activenewham.org.uk

Investments

Active Newham - A Leisure Trust that has managed the Authority's leisure, sports and volunteering opportunities in Newham since January 2013. The Authority has 4 of 10 places on the Board of Trustees, and therefore no overall voting majority.

Full details of Members and their associated transactions with the Authority are disclosed within Note 37.

Total payments of £3.7m were made during 2020/21, and income of £0.714m was received during the year. £0.716m was owed from the company as at 31 March 2021.

Newham Learning Partnership (Hold Co) Limited - Immediate parent undertaking of Newham Learning Partnership (Project Co) Limited. The company was formed as a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for the construction and subsequent maintenance and management of two secondary schools in the Newham area under Private Finance Initiative (PFI) arrangements. The Authority holds 9% of the company's Ordinary shares and is therefore unable to exert significant influence over the company's decision-making processes.

Newham Learning Partnership (Project Co) Limited - A wholly-owned subsidiary of Newham Learning Partnership (Hold Co) Limited. The company provides construction and maintenance services to two secondary schools in Newham under a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract. The schools included under the PFI contract are Rokeby School and Lister Community School.

Total payments of £10.4m were made during 2020/21.

Newham Partnership Working Limited - A company limited by guarantee, this entity was incorporated in December 2011. The company's primary purpose is to provide Health and Safety, Human Resources, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and other associated support services to local schools. In the opinion of the company's directors, there is no one single controlling party. The Authority has the ability to appoint 3 of the 19 Board members in place, and is therefore unable to exert significant influence over the entity.

Total payments of £0.540m were made and an income of £0.054m was received during 2020/21. £0.026m was owed from the company as at 31 March 2021.

Newham Transformation Partnership Limited - This company was formed in December 2008 and provides design and construction services for new schools in Newham under the Building Schools for the Future initiative in addition to investing in joint ventures whose business activities include the provision of construction and maintenance services for new Borough schools. The company additionally supplies ICT services across a number of schools. Based upon a 10% shareholding, the Council is unable to control this entity.

Total payments of £0.796m were made during the year.

Newham Foundation - A company limited by guarantee, the Foundation was formed by the Authority and Newham College of Further Education in 2002 with the central aim of providing accommodation facilities and programmes for the improvement and development of education within the Borough. The Authority holds 19% of the overall voting rights established and is unable to exert significant influence over decision-making processes.

38. Councils Association with External Bodies (contd.3)

Associate

oneSource Partnership Limited - A dormant company which has not traded since incorporation in April 2014. The company's Ordinary share capital is divided equally between the Authority (50%) and the London Borough of Havering (50%).

Full details of Members and transactions with the Authority are disclosed below under Joint Committees.

Jointly Controlled Operations

Choice Homes UK – A partnership between 6 Local Authorities and 2 Housing Associations that provides a choice-based lettings service to East London residents. Since formation in 2002, the function has grown ostensibly and now services other London Boroughs, in addition to geographical areas outside of London. The Authority is 1 of 8 partners involved in the arrangement. Each has an equal vote, and therefore no overall voting majority exists. The partners make collective decisions on strategic matters including service growth and development.

Joint committees

OneSource is a public sector shared back-office support service which is supported by members through a joint committee arrangement. The joint committee receive key reports and make strategic decisions about OneSource's operation. OneSource was set up with a view to making savings by eliminating duplication, reducing senior management costs and introducing more efficient processes. OneSource started on 1 April 2014, when the London Boroughs of Havering and Newham contributed almost all their support services for the two authorities including HR, ICT, Finance, Legal services, Exchequer and Transactional services, Asset Management and Business services (Newham's Exchequer service was subsequently removed during the course of 2016/17). On the 1st April 2016 the London Borough of Bexley joined the joint committee arrangement. Bexley joined in a more limited capacity than Havering and Newham with oneSource providing Finance (excluding procurement) and Exchequer and Financial Transactional services to the London Borough of Bexley. The structure of OneSource changed again at 31 July 2020, when Bexley withdrew from the shared arrangement and Newham took the Finance Service out of OneSource.

The oneSource outturn position for 2020/21 is disclosed below and is split between the Newham, Bexley and Havering Authorities. The Newham share is charged against the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

oneSource	2019/20	2020/21
Net Expenditure	£'000	£'000
Exchequer and Transactional Se	6,550	7,080
Finance	10,638	8,923
Business Services	973	883
Legal and Governance	2,847	3,302
ICT	8,791	10,000
Asset Management	2,119	2,874
Strategic and Operational HR	3,043	3,446
Total Net Expenditure	34,961	36,508
Cost Sharing:		
London Borough of Newham	16,557	20,913
London Borough of Havering	15,852	15,595
London Borough of Bexley	2,552	
Total	34,961	36,508

As at 31 March 2020, the Authority owed £1.019m to the London Borough of Havering and £0.274m to the London Borough of Bexley. These amounts have not been paid during 2020/21 and are still owed. In addition, for the 2020/21 financial year, the Authority owes £1.494m to the London Borough of Havering, making the totals owed for the last two financial years £2.513m to LB of Havering and £0.274m to LB of Bexley.

The Newham Joint Committee Council Members are Mayor Fiaz, Councillors Ali and Paul, the Havering Joint Committee Council Members are Councillors Benham, Ramsey and White.

The following oneSource Chief Officers have joint managerial responsibility for services across both Authorities and as such have significant influence over the operational effectiveness and decision-making policies of this arrangement. Their roles are defined below:

Shared oneSource role	Employing Organisation	Period
Executive Director	London Borough of Newham	April 2020 - March 2021
Director of Asset Management	London Borough of Havering	April 2020 - March 2021
Director of Exchequer and Transactional	London Borough of Havering	April 2020 - March 2021
Director of Legal and Governance	London Borough of Newham	April 2020 - March 2021
Director of Human Resources	London Borough of Havering	April 2020 - March 2021
Director of Business Development	London Borough of Havering	April 2020 - March 2021
Director of Finance	London Borough of Newham	April 2020 - March 2021
Director of ICT	London Borough of Newham	April 2020 - March 2021

39. Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing

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

31 March 2020 £'000		31 March 2021 £'000
1,032,675	Opening CFR	1,088,206
	Capital investment	
82,872	Property, Plant and Equipment	90,037
-	Investment Properties	110,895
-	Intangible Assets	1,254
29,694	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute	15,760
19,537	Loans (and Investment) to Organisations	53,436
132,103		271,382
	Sources of finance	
(3,223)	Capital receipts	(7,174)
(47,114)	Government grants and other contributions	(31,175)
(16,951)	Major Repairs Reserve	(37,494)
(9,284)	MRP/loans fund principal including PFI / finance lease	(23,388)
(76,572)		(99,231)
1,088,206	Closing CFR	1,260,357

40. Leases

Authority as Lessor

Finance Leases

The Authority has leased out property at Stratford Centre, Caxton and Nene on finance leases with terms ranging from 77-136 years

The Authority has a gross investment in the lease, made up of minimum lease payments expected to be received over the remaining term. The minimum lease payments comprise settlement of the long-term receivable for the interest in the property acquired by the lessee and finance income earned by the Authority.

Minimum Lease Payments	2019/20	2020/21
	£'000	£'000
Finance Lease Receivable		
Current	417	430
Non - Current	56,136	55,707
Interest	77,353	75,412
Total	133,906	131,549

Gross Investment in Lease	2019/20	2020/1
	£'000	£'000
Not later than one year	2,357	2,357
Later than one year and not later than five years	9,427	9,427
Later than five years	122,122	119,765
Total	133,906	131,549

Minimum Lease Payments	2019/20	2020/21
	£'000	£'000
Not later than one year	417	430
Later than one year and not later than five years	1,801	1,858
Later than five years	54,335	53,839
Total	56,553	56,127

The minimum lease payments do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews. In 2020/21 £1.169m (£1.126m in 2019/20) additional rents were payable to the authority.

Operating Leases

The Future minimum lease payments due under non – cancellable leases in future years are set out below:

	2019/20	2020/21
	£'000	£'000
Within 1 year	10,225	15,534
Within 2 – 5 years	31,259	52,620
Over 5 years	50,842	403,493
Minimum Lease payments	92,326	471,647

40. Leases (contd.1)

Authority as a Lessee

Finance Leases

The Assets acquired under these leases are carried as Property, Plant and Equipment in the Balance Sheet at the following net amounts:

	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000
Other Land and Buildings		
Stratford Workshop	3,659	3,659
Industrial Site	588	588
Greenshields Industrial Estate	4,994	4,752
Novotel & IBIS (Accor)		108,564
Total	9,241	117,563

The future minimum lease payments at the end of each reporting period are set out below:

	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000
Finance Lease liabilities (net present MLP)		
Current	571	1,769
Non - Current (Note 36)	51,668	158,224
Finance Costs Payable in future years	34,682	107,252
	86,921	267,245

The increase in lease payments is due to the Council entering into a 50 year lease agreement with Accor to acquire 257 bedroom Novotel and 278 bedroom Ibis hotel. Located at Western Gateway, Royal Victoria Dock, London.

Minimum Lease payments

	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000
Within 1 year	1,724	5,395
Within 2 – 5 years	6,897	21,580
Over 5 years	78,299	240,269
Minimum Lease payments	86,920	267,244

The minimum lease payments do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews. In 2020/21 £381k (£295k in 2019/20) contingent rents were payable.

Operating Leases

The Future minimum lease payments due under non – cancellable leases in future years are set out below:-

	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000
Within 1 year	23,085	22,394
Within 2 – 5 years	2,532	711
Over 5 years	104	14
Minimum Lease payments	25,721	23,119

41. Private Finance Initiatives And Similar Contracts

As at 31st March 2021, the Authority has five long-term contracts in place under Private Finance Initiative (PFI) arrangement, details of which are summarised below:

(i) Schools PFI 1

This is a 25 year contract to design, build and operate 3 Schools - Kingsford Secondary, Plaistow and Kaizen Primary Schools. At the end of the contract, control of the assets revert back to the Authority. The Authority initially recognised these assets on the Balance Sheet. Kaizen has since become an academy and so is no longer included on the authority's balance sheet.

(ii) Schools PFI 2

Schools PFI 2 is a second PFI scheme to build and operate Cumberland Secondary School. The contract is for 25 years and has 16 years left to run. At the end of the contract, control of the assets revert back to the Authority. The Authority initially recognised these assets on the Balance Sheet however removed them when Cumberland became an academy.

(iii) Canning Town PFI

A 30 year contract for the refurbishment, maintenance and provision of landlord services for approximately 1,300 housing properties in Canning Town, East London. The Council has recognised these assets on the Balance Sheet.

(iv) Forest Gate PFI

A 20-year contract for the refurbishment, maintenance and provision of landlord services for approximately 1,300 housing properties in Forest Gate, East London. The Council has recognised these assets on the Balance Sheet.

(v) BSF Wave 1

This involves the design, building and operation of Lister and Rokeby Schools under Wave 1 of the Building Schools for the Future Programme. The scheme is for a term of 26 years, after which the assets will revert back to being controlled by the Authority. The assets are recognised on the Authority's Balance Sheet.

The value of assets held under the PFI schemes is summarised below:

2019/20				2020/21		
Council Dwellings	Other Land and Buildings	Total		Council Dwellings	Other Land and Buildings	Total
£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000
87,221	104,510	191,731	Net book value at 1 April	85,414	121,094	206,508
	8,700	8,700	Adjustment to opening balance			0
1,168	1,559	2,727	Additions	1,705	1,765	3,470
(1,817)	(2,282)	(4,099)	Depreciation and impairment	(1,779)	(2,433)	(4,212)
(379)	8,607	8,228	Revaluation	(637)	(2,140)	(2,777)
(779)	-	(779)	Disposals	(583)	-	(583)
85,414	121,094	206,508	Net book value at 31 March	84,120	118,286	202,406

Movements in liabilities resulting from PFI or similar contracts are disclosed below:

2019/20				2020/21		
Council Dwellings	Other Land and Buildings	Total		Council Dwellings	Other Land and Buildings	Total
£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000
(36,310)	(75,702)	(112,012)	Value at 1 April	(34,023)	(72,332)	(106,355)
2,287	3,370	5,657	Repayments made in year	2,214	3,882	6,096
(34,023)	(72,332)	(106,355)	Value at 31 March	(31,809)	(68,450)	(100,259)

41. Private Finance Initiatives And Similar Contracts (contd.1)

Future payments to be made

Payments

The Authority makes an agreed payment each year which is increased by inflation and can be reduced if the contractor fails to meet availability and performance standards in any year but which is otherwise fixed. Payments remaining to be made under the PFI contracts at 31st March (excluding any estimation of inflation and availability performance) are shown below.

2020/21	Schools			Dwellings			Total		
	Repayment of Liability	Interest	Service Charge	Repayment of Liability	Interest	Service Charge	Repayment of Liability	Interest	Service Charge
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Payment in 2021/22	4,453	5,874	3,410	2,873	2,899	6,440	7,326	8,773	9,850
Payments within 2-5 yrs	20,566	19,272	15,218	10,828	8,878	28,920	31,394	28,150	44,138
Payments within 6-10 yrs	25,162	12,465	15,068	13,398	3,840	25,142	38,560	16,305	40,210
Payments within 11-15yrs	18,269	4,001	7,020	4,710	626	11,357	22,979	4,627	18,377
Payments within 16-20 yrs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total future payments (excluding any future indexation)	68,450	41,612	40,716	31,809	16,243	71,859	100,259	57,855	112,575
2019/20	Schools			Dwellings			Total		
	Repayment of Liability	Interest	Service Charge	Repayment of Liability	Interest	Service Charge	Repayment of Liability	Interest	Service Charge
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Payment in 2020/21	3,882	6,222	3,747	2,214	3,123	6,898	6,096	9,345	10,645
Payments within 2-5 yrs	19,285	21,001	14,769	10,608	9,975	28,132	29,893	30,976	42,901
Payments within 6-10 yrs	28,172	14,984	16,542	15,540	5,371	29,542	43,712	20,355	46,084
Payments within 11-15yrs	19,332	5,497	8,833	5,352	883	13,680	24,684	6,380	22,513
Payments within 16-20 yrs	1,661	128	570	309	15	505	1,970	143	1,075
Total future payments (excluding any future indexation)	72,332	47,832	44,461	34,023	19,367	78,757	106,355	67,199	123,218

42. Termination Benefits

Termination benefits paid to staff whose employment was terminated in 2020/21 totalled £1.1m (£2.5m in 2019/20).

Further details can be found in Note 33 (Officers' Remuneration).

43. Pension Schemes Accounted for as Defined Contribution Schemes

Teachers

Teachers employed by the Authority are members of the Teachers' Pension Scheme, administered by the Teachers' Pensions Agency. It provides teachers with defined benefits upon their retirement and the Authority contributes towards the costs by making contributions based on a percentage of members' pensionable salaries.

In 2020/21, the Authority paid £17.2m (£14.8m in 2019/20) to Teachers' Pensions (the government agency responsible for administering teachers pensions throughout England and Wales) in respect of teachers' pension costs. The Authority is responsible for all pension payments relating to added years it has awarded upon early retirement outside the terms of the teachers' pension scheme, together with the related increases. These costs are accounted for on a defined contribution basis.

Public Health

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 transferred responsibility for Public Health to Local Authorities with effect from 1 April 2013. As a result, the Council now employs staff who pay into the NHS Defined Benefit Scheme. The scheme is administered by the Department of Health but is accounted for on a defined contribution basis.

In 2020/21, the Authority paid £1.3m (£882k in 2019/20) to the Department of Health Pension scheme in respect of pension costs.

44. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes

Participation in Pension Schemes

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its officers, the Authority makes contributions towards the cost of post-employment benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the Authority has a commitment to make the payments (for those benefits) and to disclose them at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

The Authority participates in post-employment schemes:

- The Local Government Pension Scheme, administered by London Borough of Newham - this is a funded defined benefit final salary scheme, meaning that the Authority and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pensions liabilities with investment assets.
- Arrangements for the award of discretionary post-retirement benefits upon early retirement - this is an unfunded benefit arrangement, under which liabilities are recognised when awards are made. However, there are no investment assets built up to meet these pension liabilities, and cash has to be generated to meet actual pension payments as they eventually fall due.
- The Newham Pension Scheme is operated under the Regulatory Framework for the Local Government Pension Scheme and the governance of the scheme is the responsibility of the Investments and Accounts Committee of London Borough of Newham. Policy is determined in accordance with the Pension Fund Regulations. The Investment Managers of the Fund are appointed by the Committee. Members of the Committee are disclosed on www.newham.gov.uk.
- The principal risks of this defined benefit scheme are the longevity assumptions, statutory changes, structural changes (ie large-scale membership withdrawals), changes to inflation, bond yields and the performance of the equity investments held by the scheme. These are mitigated to a certain extent by the statutory requirements to charge to the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account the amounts required by Statute as described in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

Discretionary Post-retirement Benefits

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

Transactions Relating to Post-employment Benefits

The costs of retirement benefits are recognised in the reported cost of services when they are earned by employees, as opposed to when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge that the Authority is required to make against Council Tax is based upon the cash payable in the year, and therefore the true cost of post-employment/retirement benefits is reversed out of the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account via the Movement in Reserves Statement. The transactions in this note have been recorded in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the General Fund and HRA balances (via the Movement in Reserves Statement) during the current year:

Multi-employer defined benefit plan

Contributions are set every three years as a result of the actuarial valuation of the Fund required by the Regulations. The latest actuarial valuation of the Fund will be carried out as at 31 March 2019 and set contributions for the period from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2024. There are no minimum funding requirements in the LGPS but the contributions are generally set to target a funding level of 100% using the actuarial valuation assumptions.

On an Employer's withdrawal from the Fund, a cessation valuation will be carried out in accordance with Regulation 64 of the LGPS Regulation 2013 which will determine the termination contribution due by the employer, on a set of assumptions deemed appropriate by the Fund Actuary.

In addition, as many unrelated employers participate in the Newham Pension Fund, there is an orphan liability risk. This is a risk where the employer leaves the Fund but does not have enough assets to cover their pension obligations and therefore the difference may fall on the remaining employers.

McCloud Judgement - Post Balance Sheet Events

The potential impact of the McCloud & Sargeant judgement was taken into account last year, and is already included in the starting position for this report. The impact is therefore incorporated in the roll forward approach and is remeasured as at 31 March 2021.

44. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (contd.1)

	2019/20			2020/21		
	Funded £'000	Unfunded £'000	Total £'000	Funded £'000	Unfunded £'000	Total £'000
Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement						
<i>Cost of Services:</i>						
Service cost	47,620	(1,734)	45,886	75,905	(1,589)	74,316
Administration Expenses	1,149		1,149	745		745
<i>Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure</i>						
Net interest expense	19,159	463	19,622	16,814	414	17,228
Total Post Employment Benefit Charged to the Surplus on the Provision of Services	67,928	(1,271)	66,657	93,464	(1,175)	92,289
<i>Remeasurement in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure</i>						
Return on Fund assets in excess of interest	78,711		78,711	(141,014)		(141,014)
Change in financial assumptions	(181,802)	(977)	(182,779)	477,895	1,988	479,883
Change in demographic assumptions	(1,537)	547	(990)	(23,575)	(262)	(23,837)
Other actuarial (gains)/losses on assets	(10,737)		(10,737)	-		-
Experience (gain)/loss on defined benefit obligation	(67,846)	(1,027)	(68,873)	(26,188)	(256)	(26,444)
Adjustment opening Pensions Reserve/liability	70		70	-	-	-
Total Remeasurements in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(183,141)	(1,457)	(184,598)	287,118	1,470	288,588

	2019/20			2020/21		
	Funded £,000s	Unfunded £,000s	Total £,000s	Funded £,000s	Unfunded £,000s	Total £,000s
Movement in Reserves Statement						
Reversal of net charges made to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services for post employment benefits	(67,928)	1,271	(66,657)	(93,464)	1,175	(92,289)
<i>Actual amount charged against General Fund and HRA Balances for pensions in the year</i>						
Employers' contributions payable to scheme	29,765	-	29,765	65,663	-	65,663
Net adjustment between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	(38,163)	1,271	(36,892)	(27,801)	1,175	(26,626)

Pensions Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet

	2019/20			2020/21		
	Funded £,000s	Unfunded £,000s	Total £,000s	Funded £,000s	Unfunded £,000s	Total £,000s
Present value of the defined benefit obligation	1,869,812	19,173	1,888,985	2,368,540	19,468	2,388,008
Fair value of plan assets	(1,199,568)	-	(1,199,568)	(1,383,377)	-	(1,383,377)
Net Liability in balance sheet	670,244	19,173	689,417	985,163	19,468	1,004,631

44. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (contd.2)

	2019/20			2020/21		
	Funded £'000	Unfunded £'000	Total £'000	Funded £'000	Unfunded £'000	Total £'000
Reconciliation of the Movements in the Fair Value of Fund Assets						
Opening fair value of assets	(1,259,103)	-	(1,259,103)	(1,199,568)	-	(1,199,568)
Adjustment opening Pensions Reserve/liabi	70		70	-		-
Interest on assets	(29,959)	-	(29,959)	(18,463)	-	(18,463)
Return on assets less interest	78,711	-	78,711	(141,014)	-	(141,014)
Other actuarial gains	(10,737)	-	(10,737)	-	-	-
Administration expenses	1,149	-	1,149	745	-	745
Contributions by employer	(29,765)	-	(29,765)	(65,663)	-	(65,663)
Contributions by scheme participants	(9,232)	-	(9,232)	(9,769)	-	(9,769)
Estimated benefits paid	56,578	-	56,578	62,306	-	62,306
Settlement prices paid	2,720	-	2,720	(11,951)	-	(11,951)
Closing fair value of assets	(1,199,568)	-	(1,199,568)	(1,383,377)	-	(1,383,377)

Reconciliation of the Movements in the defined benefit obligation

Opening defined benefit obligation	2,074,325	21,901	2,096,226	1,869,812	19,173	1,888,985
Current service cost	49,226		49,226	68,634		68,634
Interest cost	49,118	463	49,581	35,277	414	35,691
Change in financial assumptions	(181,802)	(977)	(182,779)	477,895	1,988	479,883
Change in demographic assumptions	(1,537)	547	(990)	(23,575)	(262)	(23,837)
Experience loss/(gain)	(67,846)	(1,027)	(68,873)	(26,188)	(256)	(26,444)
Liabilities settled	(5,748)	(1,734)	(7,482)	14,557	(1,589)	12,968
Estimated benefits paid	(56,578)		(56,578)	(62,306)		(62,306)
Past service costs & curtailments	1,422		1,422	4,665		4,665
Contributions by scheme participants	9,232		9,232	9,769		9,769
Closing defined benefit obligation	1,869,812	19,173	1,888,985	2,368,540	19,468	2,388,008

44. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (contd.3)

Assets

The return on the Fund (on a bid value basis) for the year to 31 March 2021 is estimated to be 13.08%.

The estimated asset allocation is as follows:

Employer asset share - bid value	31 March 2020		31 March 2021	
	£'000	%	£'000	%
Equities	662,495	55%	790,623	57%
Gilts	77,284	6%	52,677	4%
Other Bonds	84,831	7%	106,425	8%
Property	143,733	12%	141,829	10%
Cash	45,162	4%	86,099	6%
Other	186,063	16%	205,724	15%
Total	1,199,568	100%	1,383,377	100%

The following table provides a more detailed analysis of the Employer's assets as at 31 March 2021:

	Quoted/Unquoted	31 March 2021
Corporate Bonds		
UK	Quoted	7.7%
Overseas	Quoted	0.0%
Equities		
UK	Quoted	33.6%
Overseas	Quoted	20.0%
Property		
All	Unquoted	10.3%
Fixed Interest Government Securities		
UK	Quoted	0.7%
Overseas	Quoted	3.1%
Others		
Absolute return portfolio	Unquoted	8.1%
Hedge Fund	Unquoted	0.6%
Private Equity	Unquoted	3.0%
Private Debt	Unquoted	6.7%
Cash/Temporary Investments	Quoted	1.7%
Cash/Temporary Investments	Unquoted	1.1%
Debtors	Quoted	
Debtors	Unquoted	3.3%
Creditors	Quoted	
Creditors	Unquoted	0.1%
		100.0%
Total		100.0%

44. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (contd.4)

Basis for Estimating Assets and Liabilities

Liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method - an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent upon employee assumptions including mortality rates and salary levels.

The liabilities of the Local Government Pension Scheme and the Newham Pension Scheme have been estimated by Barnett Waddingham, an independent firm of actuaries. Pension Fund estimates are based upon the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 31 March 2021.

The significant assumptions used by the actuary are:

	2019/20		202/21	
	Funded	Unfunded	Funded	Unfunded
Life expectancy from age 65 years				
Retiring today				
Males	21.2	21.2	21.0	21.0
Females	23.9	23.9	23.8	23.8
Retiring in 20 years				
Males	22.8	n/a	22.4	n/a
Females	25.5	n/a	25.3	n/a
Financial Assumptions				
RPI increases (%p.a.)	2.7%	3.0%	3.2%	3.5%
CPI increases (%p.a.)	1.9%	2.0%	2.8%	2.8%
Salary increases (%p.a.)	2.9%	n/a	3.8%	n/a
Pension increases (%p.a.)	1.9%	2.0%	2.8%	2.8%
Discount rate (%p.a.)	2.4%	2.3%	2.0%	1.7%

An estimate of the Employer's future cashflows is made using notional cashflows based on the estimated duration above. These estimated cashflows are then used to derive a Single Equivalent Discount Rate (SEDR). The discount rate derived is such that the net present value of the notional cashflows, discounted at this single rate, equates to the net present value of the cashflows, discounted using the annualised Merrill Lynch AA rated corporate bond yield curve (where the spot curve is assumed to be flat beyond the 30 year point). The approach has changed from the "spot rate" approach adopted at the previous accounting date to reflect national auditor preferences.

Similarly to the approach used to derive the discount rate, the Retail Prices Index (RPI) increase assumption is set using a Single Equivalent Inflation Rate (SEIR) approach, using the notional cashflows described above. The single inflation rate derived is that which gives the same net present value of the cashflows, discounted using the annualised Merrill Lynch AA rated corporate bond yield curve, as applying the BoE implied inflation curve. As above, the Merrill Lynch AA rated corporate bond yield spot curve is assumed to be flat beyond the 30 year point and the BoE implied inflation spot curve is assumed to be flat beyond the 40 year point. The approach has changed from the "spot rate" approach adopted at the previous accounting date to reflect national auditor preferences.

The BoE implied inflation curve may suggest a higher rate of inflation, over longer terms, than actually expected by market participants due to a willingness to accept a lower return on investments to ensure inflation linked returns. To reflect this, we include an Inflation Risk Premium (IRP) adjustment such that our assumed level of future annual RPI increase is 0.25% p.a. lower than the SEIR calculated using the BoE inflation curve alone. This differs from the previous accounting date.

As future pension increases are expected to be based on the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) rather than RPI, we have made a further assumption about CPI which is that it will be 0.40% p.a. below RPI i.e. 2.80% p.a. We believe that this is a reasonable estimate for the future differences in the indices, based on the different calculation methods, recent independent forecasts and the duration of the Employer's liabilities. The difference between RPI and CPI is less than assumed at the previous accounting date. This reflects the anticipated reform of RPI inflation following the UK Statistics Authority's proposal to change how RPI is calculated and subsequent announcements from the Chancellor suggesting this reform is now likely to take effect from 2030.

Salaries are assumed to increase at 1.0% p.a. above CPI. This is consistent with the approach at the previous accounting date.

44. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (contd.5)

Sensitivity analysis

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions itemised in the previous table. The analysis below has been determined based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period and assumes for each change that the assumption analysed changes while all the other assumptions remain constant. The assumptions in longevity, for example, assume that life expectancy increases or decreases for men and women. In practice, this is unlikely to occur, and changes in some of the assumptions may be interrelated. The estimations in the sensitivity analysis have followed the accounting policies for the scheme, ie on an actuarial basis using the unit credit method.

	Impact on Defined Benefit Obligations		
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Adjustment to discount rate	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligations	2,323,255	2,368,540	2,414,753
Projected service cost	66,204	68,094	70,032
Adjustment to long term salary increase	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligations	2,371,510	2,368,540	2,365,592
Projected service cost	68,131	68,094	68,056
Adjustment to pension increases and deferred revaluation	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligations	2,411,375	2,368,540	2,326,509
Projected service cost	70,011	68,094	66,223
Adjustment to life expectancy assumption	+ 1 Year	None	- 1 Year
Present value of total obligations	2,492,457	2,368,540	2,251,144
Projected service cost	71,330	68,094	64,987

Risk Management

The Fund recognises that the inherent risks involved in many of its activities and its governance arrangements, described in the preceding section, are designed to ensure that risk management is undertaken at the highest level.

The Fund's approach to Risk Management is covered in the following policies:

- Investment Strategy Statement
- Funding Strategy Statement
- Socially Responsible Investment Policy
- Communications Policy
- Governance Policy

These are included within the Pension Fund Annual Report. In addition, risks are measured and managed via a central Risk Register which is continually revised and updated. The Risk Register is an addendum to the Investment Strategy Statement. Both the Pension Fund Annual Report and Investment Strategy Statement can be found at www.newham.gov.uk.

Impact on the Authority's Cash Flows

The objective of the Scheme is that employers' contributions are maintained at a constant rate. The Authority has agreed a strategy with the Scheme's actuary to achieve funding level of 100% during the next 20 years. Funding levels are monitored on an annual basis. The latest actuarial valuation was carried out at March 2019 and the contributions payable by the participating employers were reviewed as part of that valuation.

45. Contingent Liabilities

The following organisations are admitted bodies of the pension fund have a guarantee in place with the Authority to guard against the possibility of being unable to meet their pension obligations. The Authority guarantees to meet the pension obligations of these admitted bodies in the event of default:

Active Newham
Better Together
Change, Grow, Live
Early Start
Enabled Living
The Good Support Company
iXact
London Network for Pest Solutions
Mint
Public Realm Services

46. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

Newham Council is an Authority defined by the Local Government Act 1972 as primarily providing statutory services to the local population on a not-for-profit basis. As such, few financial instruments are used by way of commercial business. However, the funding mechanism means that during the year, the Authority may hold substantial assets and liabilities. The Authority uses financial instruments to manage the risks arising from holding assets and liabilities.

The authority's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks, including:

Credit Risk: the possibilities that other parties might fail to pay amounts due to the authority.

Liquidity Risk: The possibility that the authority might not have funds available to meet its commitments to make payments.

Market Risk: the possibility that financial loss may arise for the authority as a result of changes in such measures as interest rates.

The Authority's overall risk management procedures focus on the unpredictability of financial markets, and implementing restrictions to minimise these risks. The procedures for risk management are set out through a legal framework as described within the Local Government Act 2003 and the associated regulations. These require the Authority to comply with the CIPFA Prudential Code, the CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and Investment Guidance issued under the Local Government Act 2003. Overall these procedures require the Authority to manage risk in the following ways:

- by formally adopting the requirements of the Code of Practice;
- by approving annually in advance prudential and treasury indicators for the following three years limiting the Authority's overall borrowing:
 - its maximum and minimum exposures to fixed and variable rates;
 - its maximum and minimum exposures to the maturity structure of its debt;
 - its maximum annual exposures to investments maturing beyond a year; and
- by approving an investment strategy for the forthcoming year setting out its criteria for both investing and selecting investment counterparties in compliance with Government Guidance.

These are required to be reported and approved at or before the Council's Annual Council Tax Setting Budget or before the start of the year to which they relate. These items are reported with the Annual Treasury Management Strategy which outlines the detailed approach to managing risk in relation to the Authority's financial instrument exposure. Actual performance is also reported annually to Members.

The annual Treasury Strategy which incorporates the prudential indicators was approved by the Council on 2nd March 2020 and the mid-year treasury Strategy was approved by Council on 14th December 2020 and is available on the Council website. The key limits within the Strategy were:

- The Authorised Limit for 2020/21 was set at £1,975m (*£1,877m 2019/20). This is the maximum limit of external borrowing or other long term liabilities
- The Operational Boundary was expected to be £1,975m (*£1,877m 2019/20). This is the expected level of debt and other long term liabilities
- The maximum amounts of net fixed and variable interest rate exposure were set at £1,000m and £350m (£900m and £250m 2019/20)

These policies are implemented by a central treasury team. The Authority maintains written principles for overall risk management, as well as written policies covering specific areas, such as interest rate risk, credit risk, and the investment of surplus cash through Treasury Management Practices (TMPs). These TMPs are a requirement of the Code of Practice and are reviewed regularly.

Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions, as well as credit exposures to the Authority's customers. Deposits are not made with banks and financial institutions unless they meet the minimum requirements of the investment criteria outlined above.

46. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments (contd.1)

This risk is minimised through the Annual Investment Strategy, which requires that deposits are not made with financial institutions unless they meet identified minimum credit criteria, in accordance with the Fitch, Moody's and Standard and Poor's Ratings Services. The Annual Investment Strategy considers maximum amounts and time limits in respect of each financial institution. Deposits are not made with banks and financial institutions unless they meet the minimum requirements of the investment criteria outlined above. An exception is made for part-nationalised banks. Additional selection criteria are also applied after this initial criterion is applied. Details of the Investment Strategy (part of the annual treasury management strategy mentioned above) can be found on the Council's website.

No breaches of the Authority's counterparty criteria occurred during the reporting period and the Authority does not expect any losses from non-performance by any of its counterparties in relation to deposits and bonds.

The Authority's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to its investments in banks and building societies of £68m cannot be assessed generally as the risk of any institution failing to make interest payments or repay the principal sum will be specific to each individual institution. Recent experience has shown that it is rare for such entities to be unable to meet their commitments. A risk of irrecoverability applies to all of the Authority's deposits, but there was no evidence at the 31 March 2021 that this was likely to crystallise. The figures quoted below all represent principal balances only.

Long term £000s	31-Mar-20		Credit Rating	31-Mar-21	
	Short term £000s			Long term £000s	Short term £000s
		(1,800)	AAA		(30,000)
		(3,000)	AA-		
(15,000)		(90,000)	A+		(25,000)
		(15,000)	A		
		0	A-		(5,000)
			BBB (UK government part owned)		
(20,000)		(142,000)	Local authorities	(20,000)	(139,000)
		(20,000)	Unrated -other		(8,000)
(5,000)			Unrated Corporate Bonds		
(40,000)		(271,800)	Total Investments	(20,000)	(207,000)

Using the expected credit loss model the calculated loss allowance for investments at amortised cost is negligible therefore having no impact on the carrying value of investments.

Credit risk arise from the Council's exposure to other debtors; this excludes monies from government and public institutions. Payments for services are either required in advance or due at the time the service is provided.

Write off of debtors is subject to Council procedures.

The Council Long term debtor is mainly in relation to lease agreements, Loans to subsidiary undertakings and shared equity interest. Shared equity interest has been carried at fair value and therefore no requirement to calculate an impairment allowance. The lease agreement has been reviewed using a simplified approach for calculating the expected credit loss. Due to the low level of risk the loss allowance has been based on a lifetime expected credit loss based on probability of repayment. The calculated loss allowance for lease receivables is negligible therefore having no impact on the carrying value. Credit risk on lease receivables is mitigated by its legal ownership of the assets leased, which can be repossessed if the debtor defaults on the lease contract.

For loans provided to subsidiary undertakings, expected credit loss has been based on the Council agreeing to defer counterparty loan repayments for a period during which the Counterparty's liquidity position is constrained. The credit loss results from the opportunity cost of not being able to reinvest the deferred repayments until a later date. The calculated expected credit loss is negligible therefore having no impact on the carrying value.

Other collateral and soft loans balances have been reviewed for expected credit loss and have been assessed based on the simplified approach looking at probability of default which has resulted in no change in carrying value.

The debtor balances as per Note 22 have been reviewed for loss allowance, providing details of material balances. These debtors have been grouped into Housing, Adult Social Care and Other. For each category of debt there has been an assessment of recoverability based on past collection rates therefore using the probably matrix to determine the loss allowance.

46. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments (contd.2)

Liquidity Risk

The Authority has ready access to borrowings from the Money Markets to cover any day to day cash flow need, and the PWLB and money markets for access to longer term funds. There is no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments. Instead the risk is that the Authority will be bound to replenish a significant proportion of its borrowings at unfavourable interest rates. The Authority sets limits on the proportion of its fixed rate borrowing for specified periods. The strategy is to ensure that no more than:

- (a) 90% of fixed interest rate loans are due to mature within a five year period; and
- (b) 90% of variable interest loans are due to mature within a two year period.

The maturity analysis of the Authority's financial liabilities is as follows:

	31 March 2020	31 March 2021
	Carrying Amount	Carrying Amount
	£'000	£'000
Public Works Loans Board	358,882	357,272
Market debt	490,418	455,237
Total	849,300	812,509

Maturity analysis of financial liabilities

	31 March 2020	31 March 2021
	£'000	£'000
Less than 1 year	153,119	95,312
Between 1 and 2 years	55,320	102,147
Between 2 and 5 years	25,737	10,000
Between 5 and 10 years	4,854	4,854
More than 10 years	610,270	600,196
Total	849,300	812,509

The Authority has a number of market Lender Option, Borrowers' Option (LOBO) loans within its borrowing portfolio. As at the 31st March 2021 21% of the total portfolio was made up of LOBO debt.

Newham has 11 LOBO loans - they are by type and nominal value

	31 March 2021
	£000
Vanilla LOBO (6)	95,000
Stepped LOBO (3)	30,000
Zero to Par LOBO (2)	40,000
Total	165,000

The Authority has a number of market Lender Option, Borrowers' Option (LOBO) loans within its borrowing portfolio. The nature of LOBO agreements is that after an initial fixed period, at periodic intervals throughout the loan, the lender has the option of amending the interest rate. At this point, if the revised interest rate is deemed unacceptable by the Authority, as the borrower it has the option to repay the loan without penalty. To mitigate the risk of having to repay these loans ahead of the actual maturity date, the Authority keeps under review the potential for lenders to propose changes to the interest rate at the scheduled dates within each agreement. This is done through assessing the probability of the interest rates being revised both in the current market environment and during stressed market conditions. To date the probability of lenders seeking to revise interest rates on the Authority's LOBO loans has been low, although this may be influenced in the future by changes to the lenders appetite to reschedule their loan books.

46. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments (contd.3)

Market Risk

Interest Rate Risk: The Authority is exposed to risks arising from movements in interest rates.

The Authority is exposed to risk in terms of its interest rate movements on its borrowings and investments. Movements in interest rates have a complex impact on the Authority. For instance, a rise in interest rates would have the following effects:

Borrowing at variable rates - the interest expense charged to the Surplus / Deficit on the Provision of Services will rise.

Borrowings at fixed rates - the fair value of the liabilities will fall.

Investments at variable rates - the interest income credited to the Surplus /Deficit on the Provision of Services will rise

Investments at fixed rates - the fair value of the assets will fall.

Borrowings are not carried at fair value, so nominal gains and losses on fixed rate borrowings would not impact on the Surplus and Deficit on the Provision of Services or Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. However, changes in interest payable and receivables on variable rate borrowings and investment will be posted to the Surplus / Deficit on the Provision of Services and affect the General Fund Balance. Movements in the fair value of fixed rate investments that have quoted market prices will be reflected in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.

The Treasury Management Strategy aims to mitigate these risk by setting an upper limit of £1,000m on net external debt that can be subject to fixed interest rates and £350m on net external debt subject to variable rates. At 31 March 2021 100% of the debt portfolio was held in fixed rate instruments.

Investments are also subject to movements in interest rates. The Authority is making use of money market funds which pay a variable rate of interest. This risk has to be balanced against actions taken to mitigate credit risk.

If all interest rates had been 1% higher (with all other variables held constant) the financial effect would be:

	2019/20	2020/21
	£'000	£'000
Decrease in interest payable on variable rate borrowings	0	0
Increase in interest receivable on variable rate investments	(4,048)	(3,044)
Impact on Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(4,048)	(3,044)

The approximate impact of a 1% fall in interest rates would be as shown above but with the movements being reversed. These assumptions are based on the same methodology as used in the 'Fair Value' disclosure note.

Price Risk: The Authority does not invest in equity shares and therefore is not subject to any price risk (i.e. the risk that the Authority will suffer loss as a result of adverse movements in the price of financial instruments). The Authority has investment in equity in relation to its own subsidiaries which is for the purpose of service delivery.

Foreign Exchange Risk: The Authority, has no financial assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies and thus has no exposure to loss arising from movements in exchange rates.

Housing Revenue Account - Income and Expenditure Statement

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

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
	Income:	
(83,553)	Rent from Dwellings (gross)	(83,485)
(1,476)	Rent from Other Properties (gross)	(1,185)
(8,459)	Tenant contributions to Services and Facilities	(8,438)
(7,039)	Leaseholder contributions to Services and Facilities	(6,591)
(7,315)	Government subsidy towards the financing of PFI Schemes	(7,315)
(900)	Contribution Towards Expenditure	(769)
<u>(108,742)</u>	Total income	<u>(107,783)</u>
	Expenditure:	
15,818	Repairs and Maintenance	17,165
46,623	Supervision and Management	55,422
2,947	Rent, rates, taxes and other charges	4,404
19,337	Depreciation and amortisation of non-current assets	17,819
16,674	Revaluation of non-current assets	26,271
105	Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	-
135	Debt Management Costs	169
1,287	Movement in Impairment Allowance	3,253
<u>102,926</u>	Total expenditure	<u>124,503</u>
(5,816)	Net income of HRA services as included in whole Authority Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	16,720
205	HRA services share of Corporate and Democratic Core	205
<u>(5,611)</u>	Net income of HRA services	<u>16,925</u>
	HRA share of the operating income and expenditure included in the whole Authority Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:	
13,990	Gain on sale of HRA non-current assets	619
59,537	Interest payable and similar charges	12,673
(717)	Movement on the fair value and income - Investment Properties	945
(3,802)	HRA Interest and investment income	(3,145)
(18,806)	HRA share of capital grants and contributions receivable	(3,592)
<u>50,202</u>	Total	<u>7,500</u>
<u>44,591</u>	(Surplus) for year on HRA services	<u>24,425</u>

Statement of Movement on the Housing Revenue Account

<u>2019/20</u> <u>£'000</u>		<u>2020/21</u> <u>£'000</u>
44,591	(Surplus) on the HRA Income and Expenditure Statement	24,425
(54,544)	Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	(15,057)
(9,953)	Net increase before transfers to or from reserves	9,368
(72,254)	Balance on the HRA as at the end of the previous reporting period	(82,207)
(82,207)	Balance on the HRA as at the end of the current reporting period	(72,839)

47. Notes to the Movement on the Housing Revenue Account Statement

<u>2019/20</u> <u>£'000</u>		<u>2020/21</u> <u>£'000</u>
(45,574)	Difference between interest payable and similar charges including amortisation of premiums and discounts determined in accordance with the Code and those determined in accordance with Statute	1,169
(13,990)	Gain on sale of HRA non-current assets	(619)
(1,387)	HRA share of contributions to or from the Pensions Reserve	(200)
(14,306)	Transfers from capital adjustment account	(39,079)
20,769	Transfer from the Major Repairs Reserve	23,215
(56)	Difference between any other item of income and expenditure determined in accordance with the Code and determined in accordance with statutory HRA requirements	457
(54,544)	Net additional amount required by statute to be debited or credited to the HRA balance for the year	(15,057)

Further details on the amounts required by Statute to be debited or credited to the HRA balance for the year can be found in Note 9.

48. Numbers and Types of Dwellings in the Housing Stock

2019/20 Number	Type of dwelling	2020/21 Number
3,189	Low rise flats	3,200
4,880	Medium rise flats	4,904
3,239	High rise flats	3,248
4,620	Houses	4,578
15,928	Total	15,930

49. Balance Sheet Valuation of HRA Assets

31 March 2020 £'000		31 March 2021 £'000
	Operational assets	
1,190,676	Dwellings	1,179,562
108,323	Other land and building	144,266
	Non-Operational assets	
59,766	Surplus assets not held for sale	20,496
6,136	Assets held for Sale	-
33,897	Investment properties	32,853
360	Assets Under Construction	15,986
1,399,158		1,393,163

50. Vacant Possession

As at 31st March 2021, the vacant possession value of dwellings within the HRA was £4.718 billion (£4.763 billion as at 31st March 2020). The difference between vacant possession value and the Balance Sheet value of dwellings within the HRA shows the economic cost to government of providing council housing at less than open market rents, net of the impairment to the value of the housing Stock.

51. Major Repairs Reserve

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

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
(64,549)	Balance at 1 April	(68,373)
(16,167)	Depreciation: Stock	(16,112)
(3,170)	Non-stock	(1,707)
(1,432)	Additional Contribution to MRR	(5,396)
16,945	Major Repairs Reserve applied	37,494
<u>(68,373)</u>	Balance at 31 March	<u>(54,094)</u>

52. Capital Expenditure and Financing

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
	Expenditure	
33,361	Council Dwellings, Land and other Property	62,406
	Financing	
(16,945)	Major Repairs Reserve	(37,494)
(3,138)	RTB Receipts	(7,137)
(10,961)	Loans Fund	(10,935)
(2,317)	Capital Grants and Contributions	(6,840)
<u>(33,361)</u>		<u>(62,406)</u>

53. Capital Receipts

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
20,389	Sales of Council Dwellings	11,719
996	Sales of Land and Other Property	4,898
<u>21,385</u>		<u>16,617</u>

54. Depreciation and Amortisation

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
16,167	Dwellings	16,112
2,752	Other land and buildings	1,547
418	Surplus assets not held for sale	160
19,337	Total	17,819

The total depreciation charge for Council assets during 2020/21 was £17.819m. This is £1.518m lower than 2019/20 and is linked to the in-year asset revaluations, which resulted in increasing useful life of many assets and thereby reducing their annual depreciation charge.

55. Impairment Losses

The Authority is required to disclose the value of impairment together with an explanation of any impairment losses in the financial year in respect of Land, Dwellings and Other Property within the Authority's HRA.

During 2020/21, there was no impairment losses recognised in the accounts (none in 2019/20).

56. Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute

This is expenditure which would be funded from revenue under normal accounting practice but is financed from capital resources under legislation. During 2020/21, HRA revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute totalled £0.0m (£0.105m in 2019/20).

57. Rent Arrears

The total gross rent arrears at 31 March 2021 was £12.869m, an increase of £1.693m (15%) from the balance of £11.176m at 31 March 2020. The Authority has made provision for possible uncollectable debts of £11.397m (£9.187m at 31 March 2020). The provision is based on the Authority's experience of write-offs over the last 5 years, known future debt to be written off and the estimated impact of future changes to the Housing Benefits system.

Collection Fund 2020/21

The Collection Fund is an agent's statement that reflects the statutory obligation on the London Borough of Newham (as the billing authority) to maintain a separate Collection Fund. The statement shows the transactions of the Billing Authority in relation to the collection from taxpayers and distribution to local authorities and the Government of council tax and non-domestic rates. The surplus and deficit on the Collection Fund is shared between the preceptors: Central Government, Greater London Authority and London Borough of Newham. Any residual surplus or deficit at the end of the financial year relating to London Borough of Newham is taken into account in setting the level of Council Tax for the following year.

2019/20				2020/21				
Council Tax	Business Rates	Business Rates Supp.	Total		Council Tax	Business Rates	Business Rates Supp.	Total
£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
(108,502)			(108,502)	Income	(109,343)			(109,343)
0				Income from Council Tax	(3,690)			(3,690)
	(164,983)		(164,983)	Transfer from the General Fund		(75,612)		(75,612)
	169		169	Income from Business Rates		867		867
		(5,006)	(5,006)	Transitional Relief - Business Rates			(2,342)	(2,342)
				Business Rate Supplements				
				Contributions towards previous years' Collection Fund deficit:				
	2,490		2,490	Central Government		0		0
	(4,337)		(4,337)	London Borough of Newham		0		0
	(921)		(921)	Greater London Authority		0		0
(108,502)	(167,582)	(5,006)	(281,090)	TOTAL INCOME	(113,033)	(74,745)	(2,342)	(190,120)
				Expenditure				
				Precepts				
	35,518		35,518	Central Government		50,406		50,406
79,764	68,194		147,958	London Borough of Newham	85,756	45,823		131,579
25,290	38,359		63,649	Greater London Authority	27,090	56,515		83,605
				Business Rate Supplement				
		4,996	4,996	Payment to Greater London Authority			2,332	2,332
		10	10	Cost of collection			10	10
				Charges to Collection Fund				
1,668	0		1,668	Write-offs of uncollectable amounts	4,264	0		4,264
846	(278)		568	Increase/(decrease) in bad debt provision	3,887	697		4,584
	4,762		4,762	Increase in provision for appeals		3,419		3,419
	373		373	Cost of collection		378		378
				Other transfers				
	1,806		1,806	Enterprise Zone		2,448		2,448
				Apportionment of previous year's estimated surplus				
			-	Central Government		3,978		3,978.00
790			790	London Borough of Newham	1,098	7,128		8,226
241			241	Greater London Authority	348	4,010		4,358
108,599	148,734	5,006	262,339	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	122,443	174,802	2,342	299,587
97	(18,848)	0	(18,751)	(Surplus)/Deficit arising during the year	9,410	100,057	0	109,467
(468)	3,565	0	3,097	(Surplus)/Deficit b/f at 1 April	(371)	(15,283)	0	(15,654)
(371)	(15,283)	0	(15,654)	(Surplus)/Deficit c/f at 31 March	9,039	84,774	0	93,813

Notes to the Collection Fund

58. Calculation of the Council Tax Base

The Council Tax is calculated per equivalent Band D property. In order to determine the number of equivalent Band D properties, the Council Tax Base is calculated. All properties are categorised into one of eight bandings depending upon the valuation of the property. An adjustment is then made for properties that are subject to discounts such as single person or non-residency. The resulting number of properties per valuation banding is then adjusted to calculate the number of equivalent Band D properties, using a defined ratio. Finally the tax base is adjusted to reflect an anticipated collection rate of 96.80% for 2020/21.

2019/20			Council Tax band			2020/21		
Number of chargeable dwellings	Band D equivalent dwellings	Council tax payable	Band	Ratio to Band D	Property value £	Number of chargeable dwellings	Band D equivalent dwellings	Council tax payable
3,161	2,107	887.59	A	6/9	up to 40,000	3,207	2,138	922.18
22,826	17,753	1,035.53	B	7/9	40,001 - 52,000	22,707	17,661	1,075.89
41,103	36,536	1,183.46	C	8/9	52,001 - 68,000	41,434	36,830	1,229.58
18,983	18,983	1,331.38	D	1	68,001 - 88,000	20,388	20,388	1,383.28
3,623	4,428	1,627.24	E	11/9	88,001 - 120,000	4,126	5,043	1,690.67
953	1,377	1,923.11	F	13/9	120,001 - 160,000	1,226	1,771	1,998.08
179	298	2,218.98	G	15/9	160,001 - 320,000	225	376	2,305.56
15	31	2,662.77	H	2	320,001 and over	34	68	2,766.56
90,843	81,514					93,347	84,275	
	(2,608)				Less Allowance for Non-Collection		(2,697)	
	78,906				Council Tax base		81,578	

59. Income from Business Rates

Under the arrangements for uniform business rates, the Council collects National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) or business rates for its area, based on local rateable values and multipliers set by Central Government. There are two multipliers:

- (i) the small business multiplier was 49.9p (49.1p in 2019/20); and
- (ii) the standard multiplier was 51.2p (50.4p in 2019/20).

The total amount, less reliefs and other reductions, is shared between the Department of Communities and Local Government, who receive 33% (2019/20 25%), and the London Borough of Newham and Greater London Authority, who retain 30% (2019/20 48%) and 37% (2019/20 27%) respectively.

The total business rateable value for Newham at 31 March 2021 was £410,794,141 (2019/20 £405,238,419).

60. Going Concern

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21 (the Code), which is based upon International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as amended for the UK public sector. The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis.

In carrying out its assessment that this basis is appropriate, made for the going concern period to 30th October 2022, management of the Council have undertaken forecasting of both income and expenditure, the expected impact on reserves, and cashflow forecasting.

Our most recent year-end balances, as reported in these statements are as follows:

Date	General Fund	Earmarked reserves
31/03/21	£4.3m	£232m

Our expected General Fund and Earmarked Reserve position has a predicted balance of £10 million and £170 million at 31-03-2023. This is in-line with the approved budget approach to build General Fund reserves back up to appropriate levels across the medium term as detailed in the 2021/22 Budget Setting report. Furthermore, approximately £6-8 million of the earmarked reserves could be re-directed to manage any unforeseen risk with minimal disruption to services should the need arise.

Our cash flow forecasting and assessment of the adequacy of our liquidity position demonstrates positive cash balances throughout the going concern period, and no expectation of external borrowing other than to support the capital programme which is consistent with our plans and normal practice.

The key assumptions within this forecast included the achievement of £35m savings by 31/03/2023 and that government grant and other funding levels will remain within the assumptions laid out within the July Finance Review reported to cabinet on 20th July 2021. We have considered a downside scenario where around 15% of the agreed savings are either delayed or not delivered and the above projections would not be significantly affected with both minimum levels of reserves and liquidity remaining through the same period.

The Council has also made substantial investment in affordable housing and investment property through its subsidiary companies, Populo Limited and Future New Homes Limited, and is satisfied that both remain financially viable during the going concern period.

On this basis, the Council have a reasonable expectation that it will have adequate resources to continue in operational existence throughout the going concern period maintaining the provision of its services. For this reason, alongside the statutory guidance, we continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing these financial statements.

Pension Fund Accounts

2020/21 Pension Fund Accounts

2019/20 £'000		Notes	2020/21 £'000
	Dealings with members, employers and others directly involved in the fund:		
56,167	Contributions	7	93,149
5,255	Transfers in from other pension funds		5,750
61,422			98,899
(59,283)	Benefits	8	(64,169)
(8,537)	Payments to and on account of leavers	9	(9,400)
(67,820)			(73,569)
(6,398)	Net withdrawals from dealing with members		25,330
(8,624)	Management expenses	10	(7,824)
(15,022)	Net additions/deductions including fund management expenses		17,506
	Returns on investments		
28,249	Investment income	11	22,984
(230)	Taxes on income		(125)
(77,854)	Profit and losses on disposal of investments and changes in the Market value of investments	12	176,865
(49,835)	Net return on investments		199,724
(64,857)	Net increase/decrease in the assets available for benefits during the year	15a	217,230
1,436,011	Opening net assets of the Fund		1,371,154
1,371,154	Closing net assets of the Fund		1,588,384

Net Asset Statement

2019/20 £'000		Notes	2020/21 £'000
1,357,306	Investment assets		1,528,794
(32,177)	Investment liabilities		(35,414)
46,497	Cash deposits		43,749
1,371,626	Total invested assets	12	1,537,129
2,004	Current assets	19	52,718
(2,476)	Current liabilities		(1,463)
(472)	Net current assets		51,255
1,371,154	Net assets of the Fund available to fund benefits at 31 March		1,588,384

Notes to the Pension Fund Accounts

Note 1: Description of Fund

The London Borough of Newham Pension Fund ('the Fund') is part of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and is administered by the London Borough of Newham. The Local Authority is the reporting entity for this Fund.

The following description of the Fund is a summary only, for more detail reference should be made to the Fund's Annual Report 2020/21.

a) General

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

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

It is a contributory defined benefit pension scheme administered by the London Borough of Newham to provide pensions and other benefits for pensionable employees of the London Borough of Newham and a range of other scheduled and admitted bodies within the borough. Teachers are not members as they are included within other national pension schemes.

The Fund is overseen by the Pensions Committee (the Committee), of the London Borough of Newham supported by the Local Pension Board ('the Board') and day to day operations have been delegated to the Statutory Section 151 officer.

b) Membership

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

Organisations participating in the Fund include:

- Scheduled bodies, which automatically entitled to be members of the Fund.
- Admitted bodies, which are other organisations that participate in the Fund under an admission agreement between the Fund and the relevant organisation. Admitted bodies include voluntary, charitable and similar bodies or private contractors undertaking a local authority function following outsourcing to the private sector.

31 March 2020	Membership	31 March 2021
54	Number of employers with active members	54
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES IN SCHEME		
5,357	London Borough of Newham	5,052
4,017	Other employers	3,983
9,374	Total	9,035
NUMBER OF PENSIONERS		
7,306	London Borough of Newham	7,437
454	Other employers	512
7,760	Total	7,949
NUMBER OF DEFERRED MEMBERS		
10,297	London Borough of Newham	10,124
1,737	Other employers	2,014
12,034	Total	12,138
29,168		29,122

c) Funding

Benefits are funded by contributions and investment earnings. Contributions are made by active members of the Fund in accordance with [The LGPS Regulations 2013](#) and range from 5.5% to 12.5% of pensionable pay for the financial year ending 31 March 2021. Employee contributions are matched by employers contributions which are set based on triennial actuarial funding valuations. The last full valuation of the Fund was at 31 March 2019, employer contribution rates range from 12% to 28.1% of pensionable pay, the average employer primary rate is 17.0%.¹

d) Benefits

Prior to 1 April 2014, pension benefits under the LGPS were based on final pensionable pay and length of pensionable service.

From 1 April 2014, the scheme became a career average scheme, whereby members accrue benefits based on their pensionable pay in that year at an accrual rate of 1/49th. Accrued pension is updated annually in line with the Consumer Prices Index.

There are a range of other benefits provided including early retirement, disability pensions and death benefits. For more details, please refer to the Fund's scheme handbook available from <http://www.yourpension.org.uk/handr/Newham-Publications.aspx>.

Note 2: Basis of Preparation

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Fund's transactions for the 2020/21 financial year and its year-end position as at 31 March 2021. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the [Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21](#) ("the code") which is based upon International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as amended for the UK public sector, and Guidance on Investment Valuations issued by the Pensions Research Accountants Group (PRAG).

Paragraph 3.3.1.2 of the Code requires disclosure of any accounting standards issued but not yet adopted. No such accounting standards have been identified for 2020/21 by the Pension Fund.

¹ <https://www.newham.gov.uk/downloads/file/1173/lbn-actuarial-valuation-2019>

The accounts report on the net assets available to pay pension benefits. The accounts do not take account of obligations to pay pensions and benefits which fall due after the end of the financial year, nor do they take account of the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits. The Code gives administering authorities the option to disclose this information in the net assets statement, in the notes to the accounts or by appending an actuarial report prepared for this purpose (see [Note 18](#)).

GOING CONCERN STATEMENT

Management's assessment of the entity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The Local Government Pension scheme (LGPS) is a statutory defined benefit scheme and is effectively guaranteed by Government. It operates on a funded basis, which means that contributions from employees and employers are paid into a fund which is then invested, from which pension benefits are paid as they fall due.

The Newham Pension Fund reduces investment risk by diversifying its investments across a number of different types of global assets; these include shares; equities; property; government bonds and company bonds; infrastructure; and private debt. This diversification means that not all assets are affected by economic events.

From time to time the Fund experiences economic downturns and a long-term view must be taken of investment returns. For this reason the actuary carries out a smoothing exercise when assessing the valuation of the fund's assets.

The concept of a going concern assumes that the pension fund functions and services will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations remain in force with no expectation of any plans to wind up the Newham Pension Fund or the Local Government Pension Scheme. The Newham Pension Fund continues to operate as usual.

In carrying out its assessment that this basis is appropriate, made for the going concern period to 31st October 2022.

What is the process management followed to make its assessment?

In line with statutory requirements the Fund undertakes a valuation every three years to determine the ratio of the Funds' assets to its liabilities. This funding position is a summary statistic often quoted to give an indication of the health of the fund. The Fund's triennial valuation at 31 March 2019 reported that the fund had sufficient assets to cover 96% of the accrued liabilities.

The purpose of the valuation is to review the current funding strategy and ensure the Fund has a contribution plan and investment strategy in place that will enable it to pay members' benefits as they fall due.

Actuarial revaluations are used to set future contribution rates and underpin the Fund's most significant investment management policies, for example in terms of the balance struck between longer term investment growth and short term yield/return. Any deficits are financed through increased contributions agreed with the actuary and are financed by Council, admitted and scheduled bodies contributions.

The Funds Investment Strategy Statement (ISS) sets out its strategic asset allocation in order to deliver the investment returns which the fund requires to achieve full funding over the longer term. The ISS is continually developed and updated at each quarterly Pensions Committee. The employer covenant is reviewed on a quarterly basis by the Funds Administrator – Local

Pensions Partnership Administration (LPPA) to provide early warning of any employer at risk of defaulting on their liabilities and to ensure adequate bonds or guarantees are in place to mitigate that risk. The March 2020 covenant review revealed no material risk to the Fund.

The Fund also monitors the timeliness and value of contributions, this will help us to intervene early if we suspect that an employer is struggling to meet their pension obligations.

The Fund's Investment Advisor reports quarterly to the Pensions Committee at which fund manager performance is reviewed and discussed to ensure that the investment strategy remains on track.

What are the assumptions on which the assessment is based including whether the key assumptions underlying the budgets and/or forecasts appear appropriate in the circumstances?

Details on the assumptions used in the valuation are contained within the actuary's 2019 valuation report and Funding Strategy Statement dated July 2019.

The Fund monitors budgets and cash flow on a monthly basis. Cash flow will include predictable payments, such as the monthly pension payroll, or more unpredictable payments such as transfer out payments, retirement lump sums or death benefits. The fund is maturing which means that the cash flow position of the Fund is now negative, contributions from employers and employees are not sufficient to meet the payments of benefits due without needing to utilise investment income, or liquidate investment assets. However, this has been forecast for a number of years and the Committee took steps to invest in income yielding assets.

In establishing an acceptable working cash balance, we wish to determine a sum that is sufficient to cover predictable benefit payments, taking account of expected cash flow, whilst also providing a buffer to meet unpredictable payments together with any deterioration in cash inflow.

	Cash Balance	Cash Balance Forecast		
	31/03/2021 £m	31/03/2022 £m	31/03/2023 £m	31/03/2024 £m
Balance b/f	28	30	10	5
Income	285	58	74	91
Outgoings	(283)	(78)	(79)	(82)
Balance	30	10	5	14

What are Management's plans for future action?

The Pension Fund Committee continue to monitor manager performance and review the Fund's ISS taking advice from the schemes advisors and officers and take any remedial actions to the portfolio where necessary.

The next triennial valuation is due to take place in 2022. This will assess the funding level at that time and contributions rates and the investment strategy will be reviewed and revised as necessary to ensure that there are sufficient assets to fund the liabilities. The Fund will continue to keep the funding position under review.

The Fund maintains a balance of cash sufficient to meet operational requirements, and this will continue to be monitored on a monthly basis. Currently the cash flow position of the Fund is negative, meaning the contributions from employers and employees are not sufficient to meet the payments of benefits due without needing to utilise investment income, or liquidate investment assets. The Funds cash position is monitored regularly and reported on a quarterly basis to the Pensions Committee.

The fund also has a currency hedge in place to remove currency risk from non-sterling denominated assets.

Note 3: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Fund account – revenue recognition

a) Contribution income

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

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

Employer deficit funding contributions are accounted for on the basis advised by the Fund actuary in the rates and adjustment certificate issued to the relevant employing body. Additional employers' contribution in respect of ill-health and early retirements are accounted for in the year the event arose. Any amount due in the year but unpaid will be classed as a current financial assets.

b) Transfers to and from other schemes

Transfers in and out relate to members who have either joined or left the Fund.

Individual transfers in/out are accounted for when received or paid. Transfers in from members wishing to use the proceeds of their additional voluntary contributions (see below) to purchase scheme benefits are accounted for on a receipts basis and are included in Transfers in.

c) Investment income

- Interest income is recognised in the Fund as it accrues, using the effective interest rate of the financial instrument as at the date of acquisition or origination.
- Dividend income is recognised on the date the shares are quoted ex-dividend. Any amount not received by the end of the reporting period is disclosed in the net assets statement as a current financial asset.
- Distributions from pooled funds are recognised at the date of issue. Any amount not received by the end of the reporting period is disclosed in the Net Asset Statement (NAS) as a current financial asset.
- Changes in the value of investments (including investment properties) are recognised as income and comprise all realised and unrealised profits/losses during the year.

Fund account – expense items

d) Benefits payable

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

e) Taxation

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

f) Management expenses

The Fund discloses its management expenses in accordance with the CIPFA guidance [Accounting for Local Government Pension Scheme Management Expenses \(2016\)](#), all items of expenditure are charged to the Fund on an accruals basis as follows:

Administrative expenses

All staff costs of the pension administration team are recharged to the Fund. Associated management, accommodation and other overheads are apportioned to this activity and charged as expenses to the Fund.

Oversight and governance costs

All staff costs associated with oversight and governance are recharged to the Fund. Associated management, accommodation and other overheads are apportioned to this activity and charged as expenses to the Fund.

Investment management expenses

Investment management expenses are charged directly to the Fund as part of management expenses and are not included in, or netted off from, the reported return on investments.

Fees of the external investment managers and custodian are agreed in the respective mandates governing their appointments. Broadly, these are based on the Market value of the investments under their management and therefore increase or decrease as the value of these investments change.

Where an investment manager's fee note has not been received by the year end date, an estimate based upon the Market value of their mandate as at the end of the year is used for inclusion in the Fund account. In 2020/21 £0.611m of fees are based on such estimates (2019/20 £0.793m).

Private Equity management fees are estimated by taking a portion of the total management fees of the private equity partnership based on the percentage of the Fund holdings with the partnership. In 2020/21 £0.416m of fees is based on such estimates (2019/20: £0.335m).

Net assets statement

g) Financial assets

Investment assets are included in the financial statements on a fair value basis as at the reporting date. A financial asset is recognised in the NAS on the date the fund becomes party to the contractual acquisition of the asset. From this date any gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of asset are recognised in the Fund account.

The values of investments as shown in the NAS have been determined at fair value in accordance with the requirements of the Code and IFRS13 (see Note 14). For the purposes of disclosing levels of fair value hierarchy, the Fund has adopted the classification guidelines recommended in *Practical Guidance on Investment Disclosures* (PRAG/Investment Association, 2016).

h) Foreign currency transactions

Dividends, interest and purchases and sales of investments in foreign currencies have been accounted for at the spot market rates at the date of transaction. End-of-year spot market exchange rates are used to value cash balances held in foreign currency bank accounts, Market values of overseas investments and purchases and sales outstanding at the end of the reporting period.

i) Derivatives

The Fund uses derivative financial instruments to manage its exposure to specific risks arising from its investment activities. The Fund does not hold derivatives for speculative purposes.

j) Cash and cash equivalents

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

k) Financial liabilities

A financial liability is recognised in the NAS on the date the Fund becomes party to the liability. The Fund recognises financial liabilities relating to investment trading at fair value as at the reporting date, and any gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the liability between contract date, the year-end date and the eventual settlement date are recognised in the Fund account as part of the Change in Value of Investments.

Other financial liabilities classed as amortised costs are carried at amortised cost i.e. the amount carried in the NAS is the outstanding principal repayable plus accrued interest. Any interest charged is accounted for on an accruals basis and included in administration costs.

l) Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits

The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is assessed on a triennial basis by the scheme actuary in accordance with the requirements of International Accounting Standard (IAS) 19 and relevant actuarial standards. As permitted under the Code, the Fund has opted to disclose the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits by way of a note to the NAS ([Note 18](#)).

m) Additional voluntary contributions

The Fund provides an additional voluntary contributions (AVC) scheme for its members, the assets of which are invested separately from those of the fund. AVCs are not included in the accounts in accordance with section 4(1) (b) of The LGPS (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016 but are disclosed as a note only ([Note 20](#)). The AVC provider is Clerical Medical and contributions are also collected for life assurance policies provided by Utmost Life and Pensions.

n) Contingent assets and contingent liabilities

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place giving rise to a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed or otherwise by the occurrence of future events.

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place prior to the year-end giving rise to a possible financial obligation whose existence will only be confirmed or otherwise by the occurrence of future events. Contingent liabilities can also arise in circumstances where a provision would be made, except that it is not possible at the balance sheet date to measure the value of the financial obligation reliably.

Contingent assets and liabilities are not recognised in the NAS but are disclosed by way of

narrative in the notes.

Note 4: Critical judgements in applying accounting policies

Pension fund liability

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

This estimate is subject to significant variances based on changes to the underlying assumptions which are agreed with the actuary and have been summarised (see Note 18).

Actuarial revaluations are used to set future contribution rates and underpin the Fund's most significant investment management policies, for example in terms of the balance struck between longer term investment growth and short-term yield/return.

Note 5: Assumptions made about the future and other major sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported. Estimates and assumptions are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and future expectations. The items in the NAS for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the following year are as follows.

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if actual results differ from assumptions
Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits (Note 18)	Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, salary increases, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and returns on fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the fund with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.	The effects on the present value of total pension obligation in individual assumptions can be measured. For instance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a 0.1% increase in the discount rate assumption would result in a decrease in the pension liability of £55m a 0.1% increase in assumed earnings inflation would increase the value of liabilities by approximately £4m, and a one year increase in assumed life expectancy would increase the liability by approximately £141m.
Private equity, private debt and real assets investments (Note 14)	Private equity investments are valued at fair value in accordance with <i>International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines 2012</i> . These investments are not publicly listed and as such there is a degree of estimation involved in the valuation.	The total private equity investment in the financial statements is £259m. There is a risk that this investment may be under or overstated in the accounts.
Diversified alternative funds (Note 14)	The fund of funds is valued at the sum of the fair values provided by the administrators of the underlying funds plus adjustments that the fund of funds' directors or	The total diversified alternative fund value in the financial statements is £9m. There is a risk that this investment may be under or overstated in the accounts. The

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if actual results differ from assumptions
	independent administrators judge necessary. These investments are not publicly listed and as such there is a degree of estimation involved in the valuation.	custodian reports a tolerance of +/- 5% around the net asset values on which the hedge fund of funds valuation is based. This equates to a tolerance of +/- £0.5m.

Note 6: Events after the Reporting Date

The Written Ministerial Statement relating to the consultation on amendments to the statutory underpin (also known as the McCloud remedy) was issued on 13 May 2021. The Statement confirms much of what our actuary had already expected and adjusted future liabilities to allow for. However, a degree of uncertainty remains and we await a promised full response later this year.

In due course, primary legislation for public service pensions will be taken through Parliament and then regulations will be made to make the changes for the LGPS, with the expectation they will come into force on 1 April 2023. This is a non-adjusting event.

A link to the Statement is here [Written statements - Written questions, answers and statements - UK Parliament](#)

Note 7: Contributions Receivable

2019/20	By Category	2020/21
£'000		£'000
13,468	Employees contributions	13,982
	Employers contributions:	
29,495	Normal contributions	66,988
11,364	Deficit recovery contributions	10,854
1,840	Augmentation contributions	1,325
42,699	Total Employers contributions	79,167
56,167	Total	93,149

2019/20	By Authority	2020/21
£'000		£'000
38,134	Administering Authority	74,956
6,756	Admitted Body	6,065
11,277	Scheduled Body	12,128
56,167	Total	93,149

Note 8: Benefits Payable

2019/20	By Category	2020/21
£'000		£'000
(46,698)	Pensions	(48,788)
(11,100)	Commutation and lump sum retirement benefits	(13,396)
(1,485)	Lump sum death benefits	(1,985)
(59,283)	Total	(64,169)

£'000	By Authority	£'000
(54,118)	Administering Authority	(58,510)
(2,590)	Admitted bodies	(2,572)
(2,575)	Scheduled bodies	(3,087)
(59,283)	Total	(64,169)

Note 9: Payments to and on account of leavers

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
(545)	Refunds to members leaving service	(335)
(7,992)	Individual transfers	(9,065)
(8,537)	Total	(9,400)

Note 10: Management Expenses

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
(670)	Administrative costs	(724)
(7,283)	Investment management expenses	(6,542)
(671)	Oversight and governance costs	(558)
(8,624)	Total	(7,824)

Note 10a: Investment Management Expenses

2020/21	Management Fees	Transaction Costs	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Asset pool	(127)	-	(127)
Pooled equity	(82)	(122)	(204)
Equity	(2,327)	(131)	(2,458)
Fixed income	(592)	(106)	(698)
Pooled fixed income	32 ²	(8)	24
Managed Alternatives	(474)	(154)	(628)
Pooled property Investments	(770)	-	(770)
Private debt	(110)	(69)	(179)
Real assets	(676)	(654)	(1,330)
	(5,126)	(1,244)	(6,370)
Custody Fees			(172)
Total			(6,542)

2019/20	Management Fees	Transaction Costs	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Asset pool	(106)	-	(106)
Pooled equity	(76)	(37)	(113)
Equity	(2,214)	(68)	(2,282)
Fixed income	(443)	(491)	(934)
Pooled fixed income	4	(18)	(14)
Managed Alternatives	(87)	-	(87)
Pooled property Investments	(746)	-	(746)
Private debt	(213)	(269)	(482)
Real assets	(1,938)	(431)	(2,369)
	5,819	1,314	(7,133)
Custody Fees			(150)
Total			(7,283)

Note 10b: External Audit Costs

2019/20	2020/21
£'000	£'000
(60) External audit	(51)
(60)	(51)

This includes proposed fees for the 2019/20 Pension Fund audit. A sum of £51k is also proposed for 20/21, both awaiting approval by Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (PSAA).

² Pooled fixed income received management fee rebates

Note 11: Investment Income

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
2,466	Fixed interest securities	1,832
8,991	Equities	5,771
37	Pooled equities	122
4,142	Pooled property	3,502
3,230	Pooled fixed income	3,093
5,693	Private debt	6,046
2,581	Private equity	1,179
-	Real assets	141
407	Diversified alternatives	850
702	Interest on cash deposits	448
28,249	Total	22,984

Note 12: Investments

Market Value as at 31 March 2020	Analysis of Investments	Market Value as at 31 March 2021
£'000		£'000
359,578	Equities	238,245
93,242	Fixed interest securities	85,441
	Pooled funds - additional analysis	
131,838	Fixed income unit trust	131,923
296,005	Equity unit trust	607,784
22,211	Managed alternatives	21,415
450,054		761,122
164,479	Pooled property investments	161,833
	Other Investments	
45,001	Private equity	47,130
60,908	Real assets	75,446
90,086	Private debt	106,411
-	Social Housing	39,594
195,995		268,581
57,537	Diversified Alternatives	8,976
150	Shares in London CIV	150
46,497	Cash deposits	43,609
	Other investment assets	
2,589	Investment income due	2,355
1,828	Amount receivable for sales	2,091
31,854	Derivative assets	1,047
-	Spot FX contracts	140
36,271		5,633
	Investment liabilities	
(31,077)	Derivative liabilities	(36,461)
(1,100)	Amounts payable for purchases	-
(32,177)		(36,461)
1,371,626	Total investment assets	1,537,129

Note 12a: Reconciliation of Movements in Investments and Derivatives

	Market value as at 31 March 2020 £'000	Purchases during the year and derivative payments £'000	Sales during the year and derivative receipts £'000	Change in Market Value during the year £'000	Market value as at 31 March 2021 £'000
Equities	359,578	74,153	(305,188)	109,702	238,245
Fixed interest securities	93,242	63,843	(62,141)	(9,503)	85,441
Pooled investments	450,054	233,172	(15,654)	93,550	761,121
Pooled property investments	164,479	5,291	(3,479)	(4,458)	161,833
Private equity/debt & real assets	195,996	85,882	(17,101)	3,805	268,581
Diversified alternatives	57,537	29,907	(84,227)	5,759	8,976
Shareholding in London CIV	150	-	-	-	150
	1,321,036	492,248	(487,790)	198,855	1,524,348
Derivative contracts:					
Futures	-	2	-	(2)	-
Purchased/written options	10,103	-	-	(44,450)	(34,347)
Forward currency contracts	(9,327)	13,853	(27,076)	21,482	(1,068)
	1,321,812	506,103	(514,867)	175,886	1,488,934
Other Investment balances:					
Cash deposits	46,497			870	43,609
Investment income due	2,589			-	2,355
Amount receivable for sales of investments	1,828			-	2,091
Amounts payable for purchases of investments	(1,100)			-	-
Spot FX Contracts	-			109	139
	1,371,626			176,865	1,537,129

	Market value as at 31 March 2019	Purchases during the year and derivative payments	Sales during the year and derivative receipts	Change in Market value during the year	Market value as at 31 March 2020
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Equities	401,854	89,912	(70,551)	(61,637)	359,578
Fixed interest securities	84,219	34,824	(34,719)	8,918	93,242
Pooled investments	456,681	23,368	-	(29,995)	450,054
Pooled property investments	144,973	22,750	(7,286)	4,042	164,479
Private equity/debt & real assets	135,036	68,285	(14,781)	7,456	195,996
Diversified alternatives	58,329	13,495	(10,689)	(3,598)	57,537
London collective investment vehicle	150	-	-	-	150
	1,281,242	252,634	(138,026)	(74,814)	1,321,036
Derivative contracts:					
Purchased/Written options	-	-	-	10,103	10,103
Forward currency contracts	936	9,586	(5,892)	(13,957)	(9,327)
	1,282,178	262,220	(143,918)	(78,668)	1,321,812
Other Investment balances:					
Cash deposits	102,568			967	46,497
Investment income due	2,534			-	2,589
Amount receivable for sales of investments	854			(8)	1,828
Amounts payable for purchases of investments	(3,457)			34	(1,100)
Spot FX Contracts	4			(179)	-
	1,384,681			(77,854)	1,371,626

Note 12b: Investments analysed by Fund manager

Market value as at 31 March 2020 £'000	%	Fund manager	%	Market value as at 31 March 2021 £'000
<i>Investments aligned with London CIV asset pool</i>				
296,009	21.6	Legal and General (LGIM)	39.6	607,786
<i>Investments managed outside of the London CIV asset pool</i>				
169,651	12.4	Aberdeen Standard	11.7	179,967
29,170	2.0	Arcmont	2.3	35,854
21	-	Baring	-	21
25,207	1.8	Brightwood	2.1	32,560
6,348	0.5	Brockton	0.5	6,956
158,745	11.6	CBRE	10.2	157,320
-	-	Cheyne	2.6	39,594
52,828	3.9	Fiera Capital	4.4	66,995
49,530	3.6	HarbourVest	3.5	53,679
28,440	2.1	In-house temporary cash deposits	-	-
8,609	0.6	KGal Capital	0.6	9,525
150	-	London Collective Investment Vehicle	-	150
364,188	26.6	Longview	16.2	249,509
22,211	1.6	Man FRM	1.4	21,415
58,762	4.3	Morgan Stanley	0.7	10,607
1,637	0.1	Northern Trust cash deposits	0.2	3,267
18,017	1.3	Payden & Rygel	0.7	10,489
37,676	2.7	Permira	2.8	43,683
39,626	2.9	River & Mercantile	0.5	7,752
4,801	0.4	Robeco	-	-
1,371,626	100	Total investment assets	100	1,537,129

Individual investments exceeding 5% of net assets

	Market value as at 31 March 2020 £'000	% of total fund %	Market value as at 31 March 2021 £'000	% of total fund %
LGIM – Global Equity Index	-	-	232,841	15.15
Aberdeen World Opportunistic Bond	109,018	7.95	121,436	7.90
LGIM - <15YR Index-linked gilts	84,549	6.16	84,646	5.51
CBRE Global Alpha Fund	69,062	5.04	-	-
	262,629		438,923	

Note 12c: Stock Lending

The Fund does not carry out stock lending directly, and is an investor of a pooled fund with the passive equity manager, LGIM, who carry out stock lending as part of the Fund's activities. Stock Lending occurs in limited number of overseas equities index funds.

The Stock Lending programme is managed and administered by the custodian of the funds (Citibank) within the risk control parameters set by LGIM. The programme has been operating for over 10 years and enjoys an indemnity from Citibank. Stock lending is only undertaken with counterparties who have satisfied the requirements in terms of market capability and minimum credit standing.

All income arising from stock lending less the custodian/administrator's costs are credited to the Funds lending the stocks. LGIM does not receive any revenue from the stock lending. As at 31 March 2021, the value of quoted equities on loan was £166m (2020/21: £120m). These equities continue to be recognised in the Fund's financial statements.

Note 13: Analysis of Derivatives

Objectives and policies for holding derivatives

Most of the holding in derivatives is to hedge liabilities or hedge exposures to reduce risk in the Fund. Derivatives may be used to gain exposure to an asset more efficiently than holding the underlying asset. The use of derivatives is managed in line with the investment management agreement agreed between the Fund and the various investment managers.

The Fund currently has exposure to forward currency contracts and the purpose of this is to reduce the Fund's exposure to fluctuations in exchange rates. The Fund managers who use forward currency contracts are Aberdeen Standard and River and Mercantile. A breakdown of forward contracts held by the Fund as at 31 March 2021 is given below:

Open forward currency contracts

Settlements	Currency bought	Local value	Currency sold	Local value	Asset value	Liability value
		000		000	£'000	£'000
Up to one month	GBP	53,866	USD	(73,710)	446	(3)
Up to one month	USD	2,605	GBP	(1,875)	13	-
One to six months	GBP	91,897	USD	(129,600)	-	(2,021)
One to six months	GBP	50,123	EUR	(58,200)	495	-
Open forward currency contracts at 31 March 2021					(955)	(2,024)
Net forward currency contracts at 31 March 2021						(1,069)
Prior year comparative						
Open forward currency contracts at 31 March 2020					1,699	(11,027)
Net forward currency contracts at 31 March 2020						(9,328)

Purchased/written options

As part of its risk management strategy, the fund purchases equity option contracts that protect it from falls in value in its main investment markets.

Investment underlying option contract	Expires	Put/Call	Notional Holdings	Market Value as at 31/03/2020	Notional Holdings	Market Value as at 31/03/2021
			£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets						
Overseas equity purchased	One to three months	Put	-	-	60	92
Overseas equity purchased	Over three months	Put	67	30,155	-	-
				30,155		92
Liabilities						
Overseas equity written	One to three months	Put	-	-	(76)	(26)
Overseas equity written	Over three months	Put	(85)	(17,606)	-	-
Overseas equity written	One to three months	Call	-	-	(60)	(34,412)
Overseas equity written	Over three months	Call	(67)	(2,444)	-	-
				(20,050)		(34,438)
Net purchased/written options				10,104		(34,346)

Note 14: Fair Value - Basis of Valuation

Description of asset	Valuation hierarchy	Basis of valuation	Observable and unobservable inputs	Key sensitivities affecting the valuations provided
Market quoted investments	Level 1	Published bid market price ruling on the final day of accounting period	Not required	Not required
Quoted bonds	Level 1	Market value based on current yields	Not required	Not required
Exchange traded pooled investments	Level 1	Closing bid value on published exchanges	Not required	Not required
Overseas bond options	Level 2	Fixed income securities are priced based on evaluated prices provided by independent pricing services.	Evaluated price feeds	Not required
Pooled investments - unit trusts	Level 2	Closing bid price where bid and offer are published	NAV-based pricing set on a forward pricing basis	Not required
Structured equity	Level 2	Estimated valuation reported by counterparty	Market information such as interest rates, equity values, implied volatility, implied dividends	Reported values are estimates and do not represent trading value to enter into or close a position.
Pooled investments-property funds	Level 3	Closing bid price where bid and offer are published	NAV-based pricing set on a forward pricing basis	Valuations could be affected by material events occurring between the date of the financial statements provided and the Fund's own reporting date, by changes to expected cashflows, and by any differences between audited and unaudited accounts.
Pooled investments-hedge funds	Level 3	Closing bid price where bid and offer are published	NAV-based pricing set on a forward pricing basis	Valuations could be affected by material events occurring between the date of the financial statements provided and the Fund's own reporting date, by changes to expected cashflows, and by any differences between audited and unaudited accounts.
Private (Unquoted) equity / debt and real assets	Level 3	Comparable valuation of similar companies in accordance with <i>International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines (2012)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation multiple Revenue multiple Discount for lack of marketability Control premium 	Valuations could be affected by material events occurring between the date of the financial statements provided and the Fund's own reporting date, by changes to expected cashflows, and by any differences between audited and unaudited accounts.

Sensitivity of assets valued at Level 3

Having analysed historical data and current market trends, and consulted with independent investment advisors, the Fund has determined that the valuation methods described above are likely to be accurate to within the following ranges, and has set out below the consequent potential impact on the closing value of investments held at 31 March 2021.

The figures set out below are our assessment (rounded for simplicity) of the 1 year volatility for the asset classes held. Markets experienced significant levels of volatility in the months leading up to 31 March 2021 and the valuation ranges allow for that heightened volatility. However, in the longer-term, we expect these ranges to return to levels similar to those shown in last year's accounts.

Description of asset	Assessed valuation range (+/-)	Value as 31 March 2021 £'000	Value on increase £'000	Value on decrease £'000
Pooled investments-hedge funds	15%	8,439	9,705	7,173
Private equity	15%	47,130	54,200	40,061
Property funds	10%	126,640	139,304	113,976
Private debt*	10%	106,411	117,051	95,769
Real assets**	10%	75,446	72,112	59
Social Housing	10%	39,594	43,553	35,635
Total		403,660	435,924	351,614

*Private debt is combined totals of the following managers; Arcmont, Brightwood & Permira

**Real assets is combined totals of the following managers; Fiera & KGAL

Note 14a: Fair Value Hierarchy

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

Level 1 –where the fair values are derived from adjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Comprise quoted equities, quoted fixed securities, quoted index linked securities and unit trusts.

Level 2 – Assets and liabilities at level 2 are those where quoted market prices are not available; for example, where an instrument is traded in a market that is not considered to be active, or where valuation techniques are used to determine fair value.

Level 3 – Assets and liabilities at level 3 are those where at least one input that could have a significant effect on the instrument's valuation is not based on observable market data.

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

	Quoted market price	Using observable inputs	With significant observable inputs	
Values at 31 March 2021	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £'000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss				
Bonds	-	85,441	-	85,441
Equities	238,245	-	-	238,245
Pooled investments	-	761,658	8,439	770,097
Pooled property investments	8,186	27,008	126,640	161,834
Private equity	-	-	268,581	268,581
Derivative assets	-	1,047	-	1,047
Cash deposits	43,609	-	-	43,609
Other investment assets	290	-	-	290
Investment income due	705	1,650	-	2,355
Amounts receivable for sale	-	2,091	-	2,091
Net investment assets	291,035	878,895	403,660	1,573,590
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss				
Derivative liabilities	-	(36,461)	-	(36,461)
Total	291,035	842,434	403,660	1,537,129

	Quoted market price	Using observable inputs	With significant observable inputs	
Values at 31 March 2020	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £'000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss				
Bonds	-	111,259	-	111,259
Equities	359,578	-	-	359,578
Pooled investments	24,375	442,933	23,080	490,388
Pooled property investments	8,182	27,356	128,942	164,479
Private equity	-	-	195,995	195,995
Derivative assets	(814)	31,854	-	31,040
Cash deposits	46,497	-	-	46,497
Other investment assets	150	-	-	150
Investment income due	845	1,744	-	2,589
Amounts receivable for sale	-	1,828	-	1,828
Net investment assets	438,812	616,974	348,017	1,403,803
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss				
Payable for investment purchases	-	(1,100)	-	(1,100)
Derivative liabilities	-	(31,077)	-	(31,077)
Total	438,812	584,796	348,017	1,371,626

Note 14b: Reconciliation of Fair Value Measurements within Level 3

	Market value as at 31/03/2020 £'000	Transfers in/out of level 3 £'000	Purchases £'000	Sales £'000	Unrealised gains (losses) £'000	Realised gains (losses) £'000	Market value as at 31/03/2021 £'000
Pooled investments- hedge funds	23,080	-	5,480	(20,762)	(195)	835	8,439
Private equity	45,001	-	7,584	(8,105)	(3,060)	5,710	47,130
Property funds	128,942	-	5,280	(3,479)	(3,983)	(120)	126,640
Private debt	90,086	-	26,913	(8,393)	(2,196)	1	106,410
Real assets	60,908	-	11,385	(603)	(6,144)	9,900	75,446
Social Housing	-	-	40,000	-	(406)	-	39,594
Total	348,017	-	96,642	(41,342)	(15,983)	16,326	403,660

Unrealised and realised gains and losses are recognised in the profit and losses on disposal and changes in the Market value of investments line of the Fund of account.

Note 15: Classification of Financial Instruments

Accounting policies describe how different asset classes of financial instruments are measured, and how income and expenses, including fair value gains and losses are recognised. The following table analyses the carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities by category and Net Asset Statement heading.

Market value as at 31 March 2020			Market value as at 31 March 2021		
Fair value through profit and loss £'000	Assets at amortised cost £'000	Liabilities at amortised cost £'000	Fair value through profit and loss £'000	Assets at amortised cost £'000	Liabilities at amortised cost £'000
			Financial assets		
359,578	-	-	238,245	-	-
93,242	-	-	85,441	-	-
450,054	-	-	761,121	-	-
164,479	-	-	161,833	-	-
195,995	-	-	268,581	-	-
57,537	-	-	8,976	-	-
150	-	-	150	-	-
-	46,531	-	-	73,244	-
31,854	-	-	1,047	-	-
2,589	-	-	2,495	-	-
1,828	-	-	2,091	-	-
-	854	-	-	21,989	-
1,357,306	47,385	-	1,529,981	95,233	-
			Financial liabilities		
-	-	(31,077)	-	-	(36,461)
-	-	(2,476)	-	-	(1,463)
-	-	(1,100)	-	-	-
-	-	(34,635)	-	-	(37,924)
1,357,306	47,385	(34,635)	1,529,981	95,233	(37,924)

Note 15a: Net Gains and Losses on Financial Instruments

31 March 2020 £'000		31 March 2021 £'000
	Financial Assets	
(74,814)	Fair value through profit and loss	198,855
1,002	Other investment balances	979
	Financial Liabilities	
(3,854)	Fair value through profit and loss	(22,969)
(188)	Other investment balances	-
(77,854)	Total	176,865

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

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

Note 16: Nature and Extent of Risks arising from Financial Instruments

Risk and risk management

The Fund's primary long-term risk is that the Fund's assets will fall short of its liabilities (i.e. promised benefits payable to members). Therefore the aim of investment risk management is to minimise the risk of an overall reduction in the value of the Fund and to maximise the opportunity for gains across the whole Fund portfolio. The Fund achieves this through asset diversification to reduce exposure to market risk (price risk, currency risk and interest rate risk) and credit risk to an acceptable level. In addition, the Fund manages its liquidity risk to ensure there is sufficient liquidity to meet the Fund's forecast cash flows. The Fund manages these investment risks as part of its overall Fund risk management programme.

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

Market risk

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

In general, excessive volatility in market risk is managed through the diversification of the portfolio in terms of geographical and industry sectors and individual securities. To mitigate market risk, the Fund and its investment advisors undertake appropriate monitoring of market conditions and benchmark analysis, and manage any identified risk in two ways:

- the exposure of the Fund to market risk is monitored through a factor risk analysis, to ensure that risk remains within tolerable levels

- specific risk exposure is limited by applying risk-weighted maximum exposures to individual investments.

Equity futures contracts and exchange traded option contracts on individual securities may also be used to manage market risk on equity investments. It is possible for over-the-counter (OTC) equity derivative contracts to be used in exceptional circumstances to manage specific aspects of market risk.

Other price risk

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

The Fund is exposed to share and derivative price risk. This arises from investments held by the Fund for which the future price is uncertain. All securities investments present a risk of loss of capital. The Fund is exposed to share and derivative price risk. This arises from investments held by the Fund for which the future price is uncertain. All securities investments present a risk of loss of capital. Except for shares sold short, the maximum risk resulting from financial instruments is determined by the fair value of the financial instruments. Possible losses from shares sold short are unlimited.

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

Other price risk – sensitivity analysis

In consultation with its investment advisors, the Fund has determined that the following movements in market price risk are reasonably possible for 2020/21, assuming that all other variables, in particular foreign exchange rates and interest rates, remain the same:

Asset type	Movement %	Market value as at 31 March 2021 £'000	Movement on increased value £'000	Movement on decreased value £'000
Equities*	15	238,245	273,982	202,508
Fixed interest securities	10	85,441	93,985	76,897
Pooled funds	10	761,121	837,233	685,009
Pooled property investments	10	161,833	178,016	145,650
Private equity	15	47,130	54,200	40,061
Private debt	10	106,410	117,051	95,769
Real assets	10	75,446	82,991	67,901
Diversified alternatives	15	8,976	10,322	7,630
Social housing	10	39,594	43,553	35,635
London collective investment vehicle	15	150	173	128
Cash and cash equivalents	0	43,609	43,609	43,609
Other investment assets	0	5,635	5,635	5,635
Investment liabilities	0	(36,461)	(36,461)	(36,461)
Total Investment assets		1,537,129	1,704,289	1,369,970

* unhedged position

Asset type	Movement %	Market value as at 31 March 2020 £'000	Movement on increased value £'000	Movement on decreased value £'000
Equities	20	359,578	431,494	287,662
Fixed interest securities	20	93,242	111,890	74,594
Pooled funds	20	450,054	540,065	360,043
Pooled property investments	20	164,479	197,375	131,583
Private equity	15	45,001	51,751	38,251
Private debt	20	90,086	108,103	72,069
Real assets	10	60,908	66,999	54,817
Diversified alternatives	15	57,537	66,168	48,906
London LGPS CIV	20	150	180	120
Cash and cash equivalents	0	46,497	46,497	46,497
Other investment assets	0	36,271	36,271	36,271
Investment liabilities	0	(32,177)	(32,177)	(32,177)
Total Investment assets		1,371,626	1,624,616	1,118,636

Interest rate risk

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

The Fund's direct exposure to interest rate movements as at 31 March 2021 and 31 March 2020 is set out below. These disclosures present interest rate risk based on the underlying financial assets at fair value.

Interest rate – risk sensitivity analysis

The Fund recognises that interest rates can vary and affect both income to the Fund and the carrying value of Fund assets, both of which affect the value of the net assets available to pay benefits. A 100 basis point (BPS) movement in interest rates is consistent with the level of sensitivity applied as part of the Fund's risk management strategy. The Fund's investment advisor has advised that there is a low probability that long-term average rates are expected to move less than 100 basis points (1%) from one year to the next and experience suggests that such movements are unlikely.

The analysis that follows assumes that all other variables, in particular exchange rates, remain constant, and shows the effect in the year on the net assets available to pay benefits of a +/- 1% change in interest rates.

Asset type	Market value as at 31 March 2021 £'000	Value on 1% price increase £'000	Value on 1% price decrease £'000
Cash and Cash equivalents	43,609	44,045	43,173
Fixed interest securities	85,441	86,295	84,587
Cash balances	29,635	29,931	29,339
Total	158,685	160,272	157,098

Asset type	Market value as at 31 March 2020 £'000	Value on 1% price increase £'000	Value on 1% price decrease £'000
Cash and Cash equivalents	46,497	46,962	46,032
Fixed interest securities	225,080	227,330	222,829
Cash balances	34,716	35,063	34,368
Total	306,293	309,355	303,229

Interest Receivable

Asset type	Market value as at 31 March 2021 £'000	Value on 1% price increase £'000	Value on 1% price decrease £'000
Cash and Cash equivalents	702	709	695
Fixed interest securities	1,650	1,666	1,633
Total	2,352	2,375	2,328

Asset type	Market value as at 31 March 2020 £'000	Value on 1% price increase £'000	Value on 1% price decrease £'000
Cash and Cash equivalents	1,074	1,085	1,063
Fixed interest securities	1,744	1,762	1,727
Total	2,818	2,847	2,790

This analysis demonstrates that a 1% increase in interest rates will not affect the interest received on fixed interest assets but will reduce their fair value, and vice versa. Changes in interest rates do not impact on the value of cash and cash equivalent balances but they will affect the interest income received on those balances.

Currency risk

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

Asset type	Market value as at 31 March 2021 £'000	Value on 10% price increase £'000	Value on 10% price decrease £'000
Overseas quoted equities	219,948	241,943	197,953
Overseas public sector quoted	49,620	54,582	44,658
Overseas fixed interest unit trusts	131,923	145,115	118,731
Overseas equity unit trusts	166,002	182,602	149,402
Overseas managed alternatives	21,415	23,557	19,274
Overseas pooled property	82,003	90,203	73,803

investments			
Overseas private debt	106,410	117,051	95,769
Overseas real assets	75,446	82,991	67,901
Total	852,767	938,044	767,490

Asset type	Market value as at 31 March 2020 £'000	Value on 10% price increase £'000	Value on 10% price decrease £'000
Overseas quoted equities	326,915	359,606	294,223
Overseas public sector quoted	58,481	64,329	52,633
Overseas fixed interest unit trusts	131,838	145,021	118,654
Overseas equity unit trusts	119,883	131,872	107,895
Overseas managed alternatives	22,211	24,432	19,990
Overseas pooled property investments	81,844	90,029	73,660
Overseas private debt	90,086	99,095	81,077
Overseas real assets	11,385	12,524	10,247
Total	842,643	926,907	758,379

a) Credit risk

Credit risk represents the risk that the counterparty to a transaction or a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the Fund to incur a financial loss. The Market values of investments generally reflect an assessment of credit in their pricing and consequently the risk of loss is implicitly provided for in the carrying value of the Fund's financial assets and liabilities. The selection of high quality fund managers, counterparties, brokers and financial institutions minimises credit risk that may occur through the failure to settle a transaction in a timely manner. The Fund has also set limits as to the maximum sum placed on deposit with individual financial institutions. In addition, the Fund invests an agreed percentage of its Funds in the money markets to provide diversification. Money market funds chosen all have AAA rating from a leading ratings agency, as shown below.

Summary	Rating	Asset value as at 31 March 2020 £'000	Asset value as at 31 March 2021 £'000
Held with Custodian			
Northern Trust custody cash accounts	AAA	18,057	43,609
Money market funds			
BNP Paribas	AAA	-	20
Federated Prime Rate	AAA	-	9,500
Bank current accounts			
Lloyds	AA-	35	135
Total		18,092	73,244

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

Credit risk may also occur if an employing body not supported by central government does not pay contributions promptly, or defaults on its obligations. The Fund has not experienced any actual defaults in recent years and the current practice is to obtain a guarantee before admitting new employers so that all pension obligations are covered in the event of that employer facing financial difficulties. All contributions due at 31 March 2021 and 31 March

2020 (£1.1m and £1.1m respectively) were received in the first two months of the respective financial year.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk represents the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Fund's cash holding under its treasury management arrangements at 31 March 2021 was £32.9m (31 March 2020: £1.7m).

The Fund also has access to an overdraft facility for short-term cash needs (up to seven days). This facility is only used to meet timing differences on pension payments. As at 31 March 2021 the balance on this facility stood at £0 (31 March 2020: £0).

The Fund defines liquid assets as assets that can be converted to cash within three months. Illiquid assets are those assets which will take longer than three months to convert into cash. As at 31 March 2021 the value of liquid assets represented 72.5% of the total Fund value (31 March 2020: 73.7% of the total Fund assets).

b) Refinancing risk

The key risk is that the Authority will be bound to replenish a significant proportion of its financial instruments at a time of unfavourable interest rates. The Fund does not have any financial instruments that have a refinancing risk as part of its treasury management and investment strategy.

Note 17: Funding Arrangements

In line with the [Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013](#), the Fund's actuary undertakes a funding valuation every three years for the purpose of setting employer contribution rates for the forthcoming triennial period. The last such valuation took place as at 31 March 2019 and the next valuation is due to take place as at 31 March 2022.

The key elements of the funding policy are:

- to ensure the long-term solvency of the Fund, i.e. that sufficient funds are available to meet all pension liabilities as they fall due for payment
- to ensure that employer contribution rates are as stable as possible
- to minimise the long-term cost of the scheme by recognising the link between assets and liabilities and adopting an investment strategy that balances risk and return
- to reflect the different characteristics of employing bodies in determining contribution rates where it is reasonable to do so
- to use reasonable measures to reduce the risk to other employers and ultimately to the authority tax payer from an employer defaulting on its pension obligations.

The aim is to achieve 100% solvency over a period of 20 years and to provide stability in employer contribution rates by spreading any increases in rates over a period of time. Normally this is three years but in some cases a maximum period of 12 years can be granted. Solvency is achieved when the funds held, plus future expected investment returns and future contributions are sufficient to meet expected future pension benefits payable. When an employer's funding level is less than 10% of the 100% funding target, then a deficit recovery plan will be put in place requiring additional employer contributions.

At the 2019 actuarial valuation, the Fund was assessed as 96% funded (85% at the March 2016 valuation). This corresponded to a deficit of £58m (2016 valuation: £201m) at that time.

Individual employers' rates will vary depending on the demographic and actuarial factors particular to each employer.

In addition to the primary contribution rate, most employers also pay a secondary contribution rate depending on the demographic and actuarial factors particular to each employer. Full details of the contribution rates payable can be found in the 2019 actuarial valuation report and the funding strategy statement on the fund's website.

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

Financial assumptions

Assumed returns at	31 March 2020	31 March 2019
Discount rate	2.35%	2.40%
Pension increases	1.90%	2.40%
Salary increases	2.90%	3.90%

Mortality assumptions

Future life expectancy based on the actuary's fund-specific mortality review was as follows.

Life expectancy from age 65		31 March 2020	31 March 2019
Retiring today	Males	21.2	21.6
	Females	23.8	24.0
Retiring in 20 years	Males	22.7	23.3
	Females	25.4	25.8

Commutation assumptions

Members will exchange half of their commutable pension for cash at retirement;

50:50 option

Less than 1% of active members (evenly distributed across age, service length and salary range) have taken up the 50:50 option.

Note 18: Actuarial Present Value of Promised Retirement Benefits

In addition to the triennial funding valuation, the Fund's actuary also undertakes a valuation of the Fund liabilities, on an IAS 19 basis, every year using the same base data as the funding valuation rolled forward to the current financial year, taking account of changes in membership numbers and updating assumptions to the current year. This valuation is not carried out on the same basis as that used for setting Fund contribution rates and the Fund accounts do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits in the future. In order to assess the value of the benefits on this basis, the actuary has updated the actuarial assumptions (set out below) from those used for funding purposes (see Note 17). The actuary has also used valued ill-health and death benefits in line with IAS 19.

2019/20		2020/21
£m		£m
(2,163.3)	Present value of promised retirement benefits	(2,770.3)
1,372.7	Fair value of scheme assets (bid value)	1,578.5
790.6	Net Liability	1,191.8

An allowance for the potential impact of the McCloud & Sargeant judgement is included in the present value of promised retirement benefits.

As noted above, the liabilities above are calculated on an IAS 19 basis and therefore will differ from the results of the 2019 triennial funding valuation (see Note 17) because IAS 19 stipulates a discount rate rather than a rate which reflects market rates.

Note 19: Current Assets

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
480	Contributions due – employees	414
635	Contributions due – employers	680
854	Prepayments	21,989
35	Cash balances	29,635
2,004	Total Current Assets	52,718

Note 20: Additional Voluntary Contributions

Market value at		Market value at
31 March 2020		31 March 2021
£'000		£'000
802	Clerical Medical	1,029
156	Utmost Life and Pensions	160
958	Total	1,189

AVC contributions of £0.058m were paid directly to Clerical Medical during the year (£0.038m 2019/20). There have been no further contributions to Utmost in either financial year.

These amounts are not included in the Fund accounts in accordance with Regulation 4 (1) (b) of the LGPS (Management and Investment of funds) Regulations 2016.

Note 21: Agency Services

The Fund pays discretionary awards to the former teachers of the London Borough of Newham, the amounts are fully reclaimed.

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
307	Payments on behalf of London Borough of Newham	320
307	Total	320

Note 22: Related Parties

The Fund is administered by the London Borough of Newham. During the reporting period, the Council incurred costs of £0.94m (2019/20: £0.88m) in relation to the administration of the Fund and was subsequently reimbursed by the Fund for these expenses (see Note 10). As at 31 March 2021 the Council owed the Fund £20.3m (2019/20 £0m). As at 31 March 2021 the Fund owed the Council £0m (2019/20 £1.45m).

Of the Pensions Committee members there are no active members of the LGPS and four deferred members; Councillor John Gray, Councillor James Asser, Councillor Joshua Garfield (vice-chair) and Councillor Zulfiqar Ali.

The pension fund is a minority shareholder in London LGPS CIV Ltd. Shares valued at £0.15m at 31 March 2021 (£0.15m at 31 March 2020) are included as long-term investments in the net asset statement. A mixed portfolio of pension fund investments is managed by the regional

asset pool as shown in [Note 12b](#). During 2020/21 a total of £0.13m was charged to the pension fund by London CIV in respect of investment management services (£0.1m in 2019/20).

Note 22a: Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel are members of the Pension Fund committee, the Corporate Director of Resources, the Director of Exchequer and Transactional Services and the Head of Pensions & Treasury for oneSource. Total remuneration payable to key management personnel which is recharged to the Fund is set out below:

2019/20		2020/21
£'000		£'000
38	Short-term benefits	35
1,085	Post-employment benefits	1,381
1,123	Total	1,416

Note 23: Contingent Liabilities and Contractual Commitments

Outstanding capital commitments for private debt, property, private equity, real assets and social housing at 31 March 2021 totalled £139m (31 March 2019: £246m). There are no contingent liabilities to report.

Four admitted body employers in the Fund hold insurance bonds and ten admitted bodies have a guarantee in place with the Local Authority to guard against the possibility of being unable to meet the pension obligations. These bonds/guarantees are drawn in favour of the Fund and payment will only be triggered in the event of employer default. No such defaults have occurred in either 2020/21 or 2019/20.

Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2020/21

The London Borough of Newham (LBN) is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for. The Council also has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

In discharging this overall responsibility, the Council is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions including arrangements for the management of risk.

Newham's Local Code of Corporate Governance has been reviewed in early 2021 and presented to the Council's Corporate Management Team (CMT) and Audit Committee and is consistent with the principles of the CIPFA / SOLACE Framework *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government*. Details of the refreshed local code of corporate governance is included in this statement. The Council's Financial Regulations are set out in Part 8 of the Constitution available on our website.¹

The governance framework comprises the systems processes, cultures and values, by which we direct and control the activities of the Council, and is informed by both the legal requirements that all local authorities are subject too, as well as the good governance agenda being pursued by Mayor Fiaz and her administration. Through the framework, we monitor the achievement of our strategic objectives and consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate and cost-effective services. We take responsibility for conducting an annual review of the effectiveness of our governance framework, including the system of internal control, which has been strengthened following the establishment of an Internal Governance Review led by an independent Commissioner.² An action plan to improve the governance of the authority is led by CMT and actively monitored at Cabinet and by individual lead members and the Audit Committee.

The review of effectiveness is informed by assessments from each Corporate Director, the Head of Internal Audit, the Corporate Statutory Officers, the Council's external auditors and other review agencies and inspectorates. This statement meets the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 in relation to the publication of an Annual Governance Statement.

Opinion

Overall, we can confirm that the Council has appropriate systems and processes in place to ensure that good governance is maintained in line with CIPFA's 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework, 2016'. Whilst

¹ <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeId=1331>

² <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=294&MID=13129#AI70979>

we are satisfied that these generally work and can be regarded as fit for purpose, we have identified some areas for improvement.

Progress made in dealing with the significant governance issues (SGI) identified in 2019/20, and also remaining SGI's from previous Annual Governance Statements, are detailed in Table 1. The Corporate Director of Resources will lead on arrangements for overseeing progress, working closely with the Chief Executive and other senior officers as appropriate.

Our review of compliance against the Local Code of Corporate Governance and the Financial Management Code is detailed in the relevant sections within this statement. The governance framework has been in place within the LBN for the year ended 31 March 2021 and up to the approval of the annual accounts.

Organisational Structure

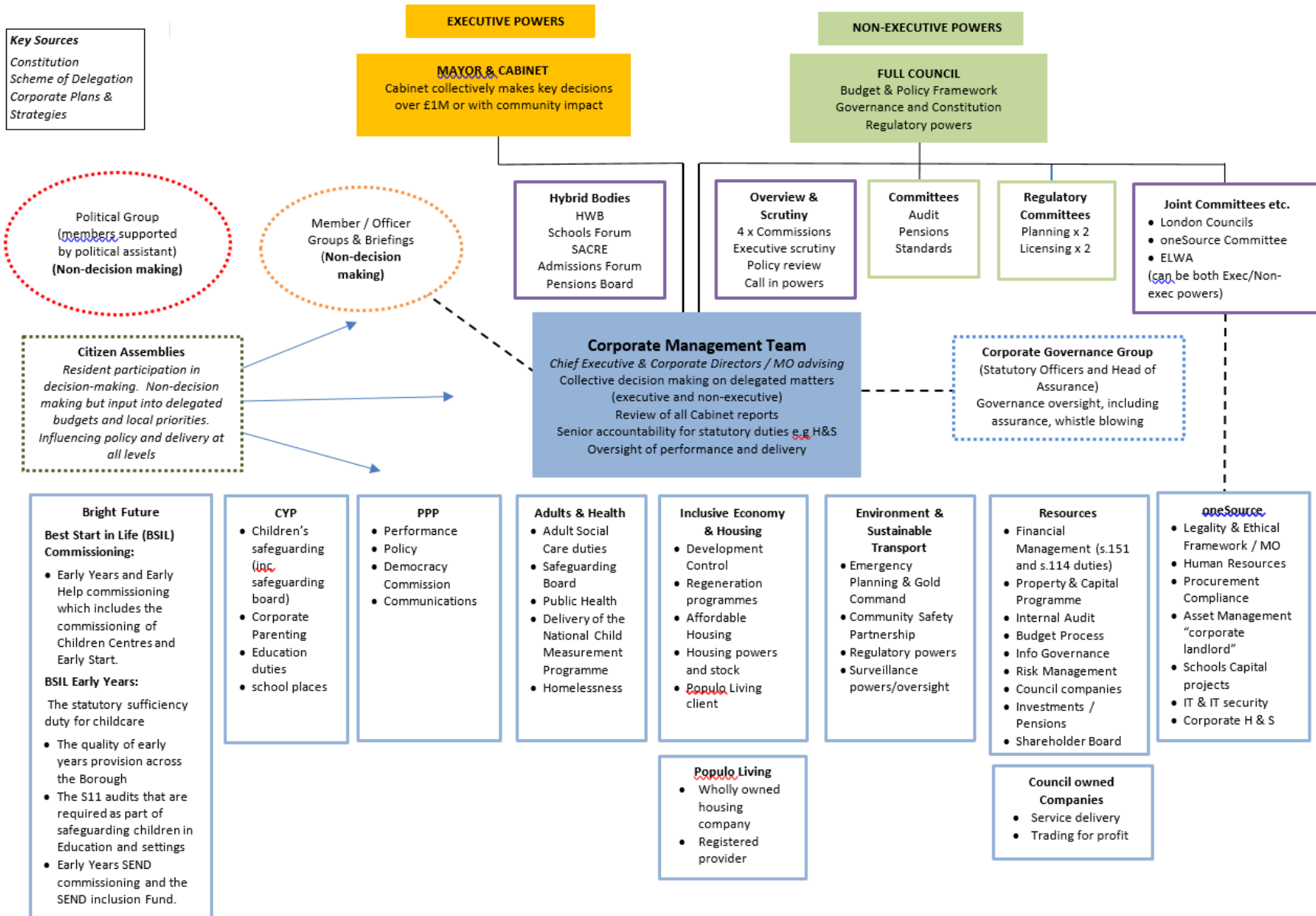
The following reflects the roles and responsibilities regarding the Council's overall organisational arrangements in 2020/21:

- The Mayor and her executive of Cabinet leads, alongside elected members are accountable for strategic and major policy decisions determined at either formal Cabinet meetings, Council meetings or committees of Full Council as per Diagram 1 below.
- The Chief Executive is responsible for ensuring that the Council's overall governance and organisational structure is fit for purpose.
- The Council's corporate directors and directors are responsible for determining the best methods of delivering priorities and performance management.
- The managing director of oneSource is responsible for delivering a number of strategic and operational shared services, including IT, HR, procurement, legal, and asset & property management.

Governance Framework in Newham 2021/22

The following diagram (1) presents the overall governance framework in Newham with subsequent sections detailing the arrangements in place.

OUTLINE GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK IN NEWHAM 2021/22: THE GOLDEN THREAD



Decision-making and Governance

The Council has a directly elected Mayor and Cabinet model of executive decision-making. All executive functions are exercisable by the Mayor, who may delegate those powers to Cabinet, a committee of cabinet members, individual cabinet members and officers. At Mayoral Proceedings³ on 15 October 2018 and at Full Council⁴ meeting on 29 October 2018, the Mayor delegated almost all executive decision-making powers to Cabinet (effectively ending the series of Mayoral Proceedings meetings and making Cabinet a collective decision making body).⁵

Full Council retains those functions which are prescribed as 'non-executive'. Additionally, if the law allows, Full Council may delegate those powers to committees or officers. Both executive and non-executive functions may be delegated to the oneSource Joint Committee and onwards to officers if determined by the respective partner authorities.

Executive Decision-making: Mayor and Cabinet

In May 2021 a referendum was held with a choice between retaining the directly elected Mayoral model and a committees system. The subsequent referendum outcome was to retain the directly elected Mayoral model.

The Mayor is directly elected every four years and is the Council's political leader as well as senior executive decision maker. The Mayor can appoint a Cabinet of between two to nine other members. Newham's Cabinet at the end of 2020/21 comprised of the Mayor and eight additional cabinet members.

Cabinet is the executive decision making body of the Council, with decisions of a financial impact exceeding £1M, or those have a significant impact on the community (decisions impacting significantly on those living and working in two or more of the borough's wards) being decided at Cabinet meeting, along with the area of policy reserved for the executive.

The Mayor retains the power to make decisions in certain circumstances, e.g. in cases of urgency. At the same time, the Mayor also agreed a Scheme of Delegation to Officers for all other decisions, including key decisions with a value between £500,000 and £1m.⁶ The Chief Executive also has power to make all key decisions in cases of emergency to protect the Council's legal or financial interests or on the grounds of health and safety.

³ <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=296&MIId=12129>

⁴ <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=295&MIId=12173&Ver=4>

⁵ <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=295&MIId=12173&Ver=4>

⁶ <https://www.newham.gov.uk/Council/schemes-delegation/1>

The Wider Executive

At the end of 2020/21, the Mayor had also appointed five deputy Cabinet members to support the role of Cabinet members, as well as three commissioners to drive inter-disciplinary working across the executive on cross-departmental priorities being advanced by the administration - such as social integration and skills development.

While deputy Cabinet and commissioners have no decision-making power and are not members of Cabinet, they contribute to policy and support the Mayor and Cabinet in delivery the programme on which the Mayor was elected. The composition of the wider executive can be found on the Council's website.⁷

In addition to the public monthly Cabinet meetings, briefing meetings for cabinet and wider executive members are held weekly; alongside a monthly meeting with the member of the CMT - to ensure progress across a range of corporate priorities and issues.

Non-Executive Decision-making: Full Council and Committees

Full Council is the meeting of all 60 Councillors⁸ and the Mayor; meeting details can be found on the Council's website.⁹ Full Council has the powers reserved to it by law or the constitution called non-executive powers. In November 2018, Full Council agreed a Scheme of Delegation (SOD) to officers' non-executive powers, which is detailed in a report published on the Council's website.¹⁰

Committees

Full Council delegates most of its operational functions to either committees of members or officers. Committees are largely in regulatory, conduct, or governance areas, including licensing and planning where they determine individual applications applying the Council's policies. The Council has an advisory committee for functions such as ethical conduct (the Standards Advisory Board) and an Overview & Scrutiny Committee with an additional four standing scrutiny commissions. Details around the scrutiny function and topics can be found on the Council's website.¹¹

Committees are largely established under section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 and must comply with rules of procedure in the constitution. Details of the Council's committees can be found on the Council's website.¹²

⁷ <https://www.newham.gov.uk/Council/Cabinet/1>

⁸ One vacancy existed during 2020/21, now filled as a result of a ward by-election, May 2021

⁹ <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeId=295>

¹⁰ <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=295&MIId=12173&Ver=4>

¹¹ <https://www.newham.gov.uk/council/scrutiny>

¹² <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/mgListCommittees.aspx?bcr=1>

The Council Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic

Covid-19 and its impact across the world has been one of the greatest challenges in modern history, with the UK being one of the most severely affected nations - with approximately 4.3 million overall cases being reported as of March 2021.¹³ As a borough, Newham has been hit particularly hard by the pandemic. The borough suffered a significant number of infections and deaths by comparison with other comparable local authorities in the United Kingdom.¹⁴

As identified in Newham's Health and Wellbeing Strategy, one of the biggest underlying issues facing the borough is health inequality.¹⁵ In addition, there are also other inter-related issues that affect Newham which also exacerbate the challenges faced around Covid-19 - such as issues of overcrowding in accommodation and intergenerational transmission due to the higher than average numbers of residents living in large multi-generational households.

Council and the community standing together was the outstanding feature of Newham's the response to the Covid-19 emergency. The citizens who served as Covid-19 Health Champions, Young Health Champions, and members of Vaccine Peer Support Network made a vital difference. Newham with partners pioneered responses centred around the needs of our citizens including hyper local vaccination pop ups in our communities, Enhanced Isolation Hotel Support, and Help Newham which are national examples of best practise. The Council actively supported our most vulnerable residents and households through our Newham Food Alliance initiative, working with over 200 voluntary, community and faith organisations, to make isolation support befriending calls, deliver food packages and provide offers of support. The Council engaged a diverse range of voluntary, community and faith sector organisations to help it to provide support to residents.

The Council initially responded to the emergency by adapting its pre-existing business continuity plans alongside the requirements of the Coronavirus Act 2020 and new regulations brought in by national government (along with using any existing regulations related to emergency and contingency planning). In summary, and in the context of this AGS, these decisions related to putting in place temporary adaptations to decision making 1) service changes, covering existing services and the rationale for future change; 2) making provision for additional delegations to the Chief Executive and Corporate Directors to respond urgently to the emerging position in light of the Covid-19 public health threat; and 3) Setting out the governance safeguards in place to record and allow for post hoc scrutiny of decisions.

Conversely, the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) Regulations 2020 imposed the closure of specified categories of non-essential

¹³ <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/mar/19/covid-world-map-which-countries-have-the-most-coronavirus-vaccinations-cases-and-deaths> , accessed 30/3/2021

¹⁴ https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/cases#card-cases_by_area_whole_pandemic data retrieved on 26 March 2021

¹⁵ <https://www.newham.gov.uk/downloads/file/2595/50-steps-strategy-document>, pg. 6

businesses which included a number of Council premises such as libraries and leisure centres.

Temporary changes to decision-making were part of the Council's response to the national Covid-19 outbreak, which severely restricted its capacity and ability to deliver services to its residents and other stakeholders, including its statutory duties and discretionary services. The Council needed to act proactively to the fast moving and unpredictable spread of Covid-19.

In light of the above, all Council's decisions were made in this context and Council and service priorities were agreed by Cabinet on the 3rd April 2020 with the report available online.¹⁶ At the meeting, Cabinet also agreed to delegate additional powers to officers in relation to Covid-19 related matters. Additional powers focused on urgent changes to service provision where required and increased expenditure limits and grounds for contracts waivers.

A further report on the actions taken and Council approach in response to the Covid-19 pandemic was received by Cabinet 13th May 2020, and available online.¹⁷ During this period, a number of urgent reports were also received by Cabinet, these can be identified in the series of special meetings in the Cabinet calendar of meetings available online.¹⁸

Despite these temporary changes to decision making, oversight by the Mayor and her Cabinet remained; with the Mayor instituting a Covid-19 Executive Response Group comprising of a sub-committee of Cabinet which met weekly to discuss and examine the Council's response; weekly updates to all members of the Cabinet and wider executive, weekly update briefings to all Councillors; alongside daily updates provided to the Mayor by the Chief Executive,

On the 8th September 2020, Cabinet received a report entitled 'Covid-19 Response: review of decision making and delegations to officers' which reviewed the effectiveness of decision-making during the period. In summary, the report stated that in addition to the controls outlined above, the Council's governance arrangements remained robust and transparent, in that:

- Cabinet meetings have continued to take place remotely, including ability for public deputations.
- Full Council, regulatory and other committees had or were establishing virtual meetings.

In light of the review, Cabinet agreed to remove the additional delegated officer authority relating to Covid-19, granted at the 3rd April 2020 Cabinet meeting.

As 2021/22 progresses through a period of hope and recovery, Newham has developed and agreed a new strategy and corporate plan. Our 'Towards a Better Newham: Our Recovery and Reorientation Strategy and Action Plan' was approved at Cabinet, 3rd November 2020. The strategy and plans set out the

¹⁶ <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=294&MIId=13045>

¹⁷ <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=294&MIId=12566>

¹⁸ <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteId=294>

Newham Council's overarching response to the unprecedented impact of Covid-19 on our residents, businesses, communities and economy.¹⁹

Newham's Command and Control Arrangements during Covid-19

Newham's gold command and control structure was established in March 2020 with the stated aim of supporting Newham's communities during the Covid-19 pandemic and the following recovery period by:

- Maintaining the continuity of Council services.
- Supporting Newham's vulnerable families and residents.
- Supporting Newham's businesses and communities.
- Providing community leadership.

The role of the arrangements was to manage the impact of the pandemic on the Council, ensure appropriate support and resources were provided to support the response, and to liaise with political, government and other stakeholders while providing strong leadership to staff.

The command and control arrangements comprised:

1. A Covid-19 Cabinet sub-committee comprising of the Mayor and key portfolio holders.
2. A Council Covid-19 Gold (the Chief Executive) supported by two Deputy Covid19 Golds (Corporate Directors).
3. A Council Covid-19 Gold Group encompassing Corporate Directors and senior Directors of key services, responsible for giving strategic direction and meeting 3 times weekly.
4. A Covid-19 Silver responsible for the operational delivery of the Council strategy.
5. A Council Silver Group meeting twice weekly, charged with the coordination of the operational delivery of the response. Delivery was achieved through themed multi-discipline Working Groups, responsible for the delivery of specific areas of the Council's response.

To ensure their efficacy, the arrangements were kept under continuous review, evolving in response to the changing demands of the pandemic epidemiology and Government directives. As Newham moves through the government road map to the lifting of all restrictions in 2021, a scaled back version of the arrangements continue through 2021 and are managing the return to business as usual for both the borough and the Council.

COUNCIL PERFORMANCE DURING COVID-19

During 2020/21, the Council's response included re-prioritisation and redirection of resources in order to save lives as well as maintain frontline priority services.

¹⁹ <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=97241&optionId=0>

Over 300 staff and other resources were reallocated to key service areas to support the pandemic relief efforts. This reallocation to some extent adversely impacted on the performance level and standard of services that the Council usually provides. The impact of Covid-19 restrictions imposed on services can be seen in a number of areas including: Council tax collection rate, number of fixed penalty notices issued for fly-tipping, littering, and food safety enforcement and many other.

Since the Council refreshed its strategic framework 'Towards a Better Newham: Our Recovery and Reorientation Strategy and Action Plan' in November 2020, Cabinet has received quarterly reports tracking the delivery of the corporate plan and associated performance measures.

The refocus also resulted in the identification of some actions in the corporate delivery plan which are either delayed or are on track to deliver but with risks and related appropriate remedial actions. In spite of the impact of Covid-19 and the limited central government support, many corporate delivery plan actions continued to be delivered, and performance across many areas was maintained.

Monitoring of the corporate plan actions and Council performance is reported quarterly at Cabinet and published on the Council website, with the March Cabinet 2021 report available online.²⁰

The Investment Activities Oversight Board

The Investment Activities Oversight Board ('IAOB'), previously named the Shareholder Board, is mandated to provide a key governance function for the Council's investment portfolio. It ensures correct application of the associated governance framework providing the Council with strategic oversight of all interests and investments; increasing transparency and communication, governance and control.

The IAOB provides scrutiny and direction on all the Council's wholly owned Local Authority Trading Companies (LATCOs), ensuring compliance with existing agreements, business plans and delivery of optimal value for money. The portfolio currently includes five wholly owned companies (following the transfer of the three LATCOs (Public Realm Services, iXact & Mint) back into the Council), one limited shareholding (49%) company and one company which is limited by guarantee.

The portfolio generated turnover of £50m in FY20/21, employing c.1000 FTE of which 63% are Newham residents (including the three internalised companies). In addition the portfolio also pay all their directly employed staff LLW with the exemption of ESE, work has commenced with the company to ensure going forward LLW is adhered. The portfolio also contributed £2.8m in dividend to LBN since externalisation, a further £100k dividend is projected for FY20/21.

²⁰ <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=294&MId=13354&Ver=4>

This is greatly reduced from the previous financial year due to the loss of the dividend previously attributed to the three internalised companies.

The companies are:

Wholly Owned Local Authority Trading Companies (LATCOs) :

- Early Start Education Ltd
- Early Start Group Ltd
- Enabled Living Healthcare Ltd
- Juniper Ltd
- London Network for Pest Solutions Ltd

Limited Shareholding (49%):

- The Language Shop Ltd

Limited by Guarantee:

- Better Together Ltd

Each company is managed by their own board of directors, which includes a Council-appointed Non-Executive Directors ('*NED*'). There has been a NED refresh programme, which has seen the Strategic Investment team recruit and train a new cohort of NEDs for the LATCO portfolio before undertaking a board appointment process. Corporate boards meet on a monthly basis and have their own external audit arrangements in place. All wholly owned LATCOs are Teckal compliant and are within the scope of Regulation 12, requiring 80% of core contracts to be sourced from the local authority.

The Council is required to ensure achievement of 'value for money' as per the Council's Contract Standing Orders and its fiduciary duties to the tax payer. Commissioners are required to ensure that value for money is achieved via routine market analysis during the life of the contract, allowing them the ability to assess comparable prices. KPIs, which fulfil Local Authority requirements and form part of the periodic monitoring that the commissioners undertake during the life cycle of a contract.

Compliance with the Financial Management Code (FMC) 2021

In December 2019 CIPFA published the Financial Management Code to establish the principles of strong sustainable financial management.

The principles set out in the code are: Leadership; Accountability; Transparency; Standards; Assurance and Sustainability. These principles have been translated into a suite of financial management standards. The financial management team has conducted a self-evaluation exercise against these standards.

1. To understand its current standing in compliance with the code.
2. To develop an action plan to meet any improvement areas to ensure full compliance in 2021/22.

3. To serve as a continued reference to inform continuous improvement.

When the code was launched in 2019, whilst not statutory during 2020/21, Newham had already embarked on a journey of evaluating and improving financial management and internal control following an administration change. In May 2018 the Mayor invited CIPFA to review the Council's financial position, and in 2019 established an Internal Controls Commission to review and advise on how the Council could establish best in class financial management and internal controls.²¹ The commission presented a report to Full Council in July 2020²² which laid out a series of recommendations which are being implemented.

A number of actions have since been taken including improvements to capital programme management and governance, programme management, amending the constitution including financial and procurement regulations and decision making governance, and developing and delivering a communications and training programme to highlight and embed the new principles.

To support this, the Council has also implemented a new Enterprise Resource Management system (Oracle Fusion) in 2020 to improve access, ownership, and accountability of people, financial, and performance management, and has similarly supported this roll out with a training programme. Work is ongoing to ensure the system, processes, and training enable and provide assurance on the execution of the approach and enable a culture of compliance across the organisation.

Amidst the uncertainties impacting local government including awaited policy guidance in key cost driving areas such as adult social care and health, and carbon neutrality, and funding uncertainty of business rates reform and fairer funding, the Council recognises the importance of maintaining a focus on the medium to long-term and has re-developed its corporate plans and produced a budget that will support the delivery of those plans. In March 2020 the Council set a 3 year balanced budget which laid firm foundations for long-term policy development.

This has of course been curtailed by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic which has had a testing effect on Council budgets despite various support streams provided by central government.

The Council has reacted in a way that is in line with the above mentioned principles and during the year has adapted corporate plans to reflect the requirements of recovery from Covid-19 'Towards a better Newham' which was published in November 2020. The revised budget has been aligned to support its delivery and plans.

²¹ <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=294&MID=13129#AI70979>

²² <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=295&MID=13116>

Reflecting the exceptional uncertainty presented by a myriad of contributing factors the 2021/22 budget has been set on a 2 year basis. The Council is also working to improve long-term financial planning and following a review of the capital programme, is developing a long-term capital strategy.

In conclusion, The Council has been making considerable improvements since the launch of the FMC and assesses itself to be advanced in a journey toward full compliance - with further actions identified to ensure this is achieved in 2021/22, and processes in place to keep this under review and drive continued improvement with a report planned for audit committee during the year to ensure the FMC is embedded.

Head of Assurance’s Opinion on the Control Environment

The Public Sector Internal Audit Standards state that the Head of Internal Audit, must deliver an annual internal audit opinion on the effectiveness of the Council’s, risk management, internal control, and governance processes. Last year the overall opinion was that limited assurance could be provided. This year’s opinion has been broken down between the three categories to provide a more meaningful interpretation.

Area	Assurance	Meaning	Work planned to improve Newham’s control environment
Governance	Moderate	A generally sound system of governance is in place as highlighted in the audit of ‘COVID 19 governance arrangements’. However, some areas for improvement were identified i.e. updating the Local Code of Corporate Governance.	The Local Code of Corporate Governance has been updated and presented to the CMT and Audit Committee. Compliance with this newly refreshed code is reported in this Annual Governance Statement and will be monitored by the Audit Committee during 2021/22.
Risk Management	Limited	Significant gaps, weaknesses or non-compliance were identified for example; no up-to-date corporate or directorate risk registers existed. Improvement is required.	Work has already begun to refresh the risk management framework in Newham. A revised risk policy and risk strategy has been drafted and an updated corporate risk register has been presented to the CMT and Audit Committee. By the end of 2021/22 we aim to have updated Directorate level risks, to have introduced new risk appetite statements, and to have documented mitigating controls in the corporate risk register.
Internal Control	Limited	Significant gaps, weaknesses or non-compliance were identified across different areas of the Council for example: Procurement, ICT infrastructure, ICT Asset Management, Payments to Foster Carers and Leavers. Improvement is required.	The Internal Controls Commission report (July 2020) identified long-standing issues of non-compliance across Newham. Whilst progress has been made in tackling these issues the strength of our internal control environment is not yet where we want it to be. Investment in better management reporting and a focus on ‘internal control measures’ in monthly performance reports will help to drive a more controls conscious

			Council. Progress in implementing recommendations to strengthen controls will be monitored by the Audit Committee during 2021/22.
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External Audit

The Statement of Accounts is prepared in accordance with the CIPFA / LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom. The accounts are then audited in accordance with the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the National Audit Office.

Each year the Council receives a report (known as the ISA260 report) from its external auditor on the results of the audit of the financial statements. The most recent audit letter indicated that the Council's financial statements give a true and fair view of the Council's affairs and of the authority's income and expenditure and cash flows for the year, and have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the CIPFA / LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom.

The external audit also highlighted significant improvements in the preparation of the Council's accounts, which were produced to a better quality standard than had been the case for some years. The auditor's opinion on the accounts was signed in December 2020, approximately two months earlier than last year despite the impact of the pandemic.

Evaluation against the local code of corporate governance

The following section highlights each of the seven governance principles set out in the 2016 CIPFA framework 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government', and the arrangements in place demonstrating how we meet these governance principles.

Any areas for further improvement identified as part of this annual review form an action plan (in addition to Council actions relating to the Independent-led Internal Control Commission)²³ which the Corporate Director of Resources will lead on arrangements for overseeing whilst working with the Chief Executive and other members of the Corporate Management Team.

²³ <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=294&MID=13129#AI70979>

Evaluation of Compliance with Local Code of Corporate Governance

Principles	Action plan
<p>1) Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the role of the law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain formal codes of conduct defining standards of behaviour expected for Members and Officers. • Ensure induction is provided for all new Members when they are elected on expected standards of behaviour. • Publish an Annual Governance Statement which reviews the effectiveness of the Council's governance framework. • Maintain shared HEART values (Honesty, Equality, Ambition, Respect and Together) which underpin an ethos of good governance. • Require all Members to complete and maintain a register of interests declaration. • Require all new staff to complete register of interests declaration, and require all staff to maintain a register and/or declare interests as appropriate. • Maintain a register of interests and seek declarations to be made at the start of all Council meetings, ensure gifts and hospitality for members recorded with their declarations of interests and published. • Publicise gifts and hospitality policy to both members and officers. • Maintain a framework which addresses the risks of fraud and corruption including an Anti-Fraud & Corruption Strategy and a whistleblowing policy. • Maintain effective systems to protect the rights of staff, including whistleblowing policy which is accessible and regularly communicated. • Maintain arrangements to investigate complaints against Members and Officers including alleged misconduct. • Consideration of Equalities Act 2010 for decisions brought to Cabinet. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain an effective Standards Committee along with the Council's Monitoring Officer role to monitor and maintain the Council's ethical standards and performance, reporting to Full Council as necessary. • Establish a TRID (Tackling Racism, Inequality and Disproportionality) programme to ensure all officers and residents are treated fairly. 	
<p>2) Ensure openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure Council meetings are accessible on you tube. • Publish Agendas, minutes, report packs and meetings calendars for Council meetings together with a formal notice of each meeting displayed on the Council's web page. • Provide a variety of opportunities for the public to engage effectively with the Council including rights to information, petition, participation and how to complain or comment. • Maintain partnerships with the community sector and forge stronger relationships with the local voluntary sector. • <i>Use the publication scheme to set out information available to view or download including under the requirements of the Transparency Code 2015.</i> • Use social and print media to engage with residents and stakeholders, including the Council website, My Account, Twitter, Facebook, and specific Newham publications. • Ensure compliance with requirements under the Transparency Code 2015 which are published on the Council's website and intranet. • Publish annual statement of accounts and auditors report to inform stakeholders and service users of the previous year's achievements and outcomes. • Establish Community Assemblies to engage residents in decisions for community projects. • Encourage and assist citizens to inspect the statement of accounts in accordance with regulations. • Consult with stakeholders in the planning process. 	<p>We should publish the transparency code 2015 on our website and undertake a review to ensure adherence</p>

3) Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's Borough Plan makes a clear statement of the Council's purpose and vision, which forms the basis for all corporate & service planning. • Publish on the Council's website the various reports to communicate the Council's activities and achievements including its financial position and performance. • Prioritise resources to deal with competing demands and consider the impact of decisions in the Medium Term Financial Strategy. • Maintain a capital programme setting out the Council's longer term investment requirements linked to policy objectives. • Enhance social value contracts in procurement where possible. • Council declared a Climate Emergency on April 2019, with plans and updates being provided at Cabinet. ²⁴ 	
4) Determining the actions necessary to optimise the achievements of the intended outcomes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's Borough Plan makes a clear statement of the Council's purpose and aims, which forms the basis for corporate and service planning. • Regularly report on key performance Indicators which have been established for each Directorate. • Budgets are prepared in accordance with organisational objectives and regularly reported Upon. • Senior managers and members are provided with timely financial and performance information. • Develop and maintain a programme and project function to deliver identified savings. • Reviews operations, performance and use of assets on a regular basis to ensure their continuing effectiveness. 	
5) Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it	

²⁴ <https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/documents/s137789/Climate%20Emergency%20Action%20Plan%20Report%20Cabinet%20FINAL.pdf>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly review the scheme of delegation and Constitution. • Maintain officer and member induction programmes. • Develop the capabilities of members through member training, particularly members on regulatory committees. • Set out roles and responsibilities of the Council’s Cabinet, Full Council, other committees and individual members through the Constitution. • Set out a protocol for working relationship by maintaining an officer/member protocol. • Maintain an effective workforce plan to enhance the strategic allocation of resources. • Assess the skills required by officers through the appraisal process to open a constructive and continual conversation around the values staff bring, where they want to be and how the organisation support them to get there. • Ensure arrangements are in place to maintain the health and wellbeing of the workforce. • Work effectively with partner organisations. 	
6) Managing risks and performance through robust internal controls and strong public financial management	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain an effective Audit Committee independent of Cabinet and Scrutiny functions with at least 3 independent members. • Maintain an effective Scrutiny function. • Maintain a corporate Risk Management Policy and Strategy and ensure robust and integrated risk management arrangements for managing risks. • Ensure key risks are reported to the CMT and Audit Committee on a regular basis. • Undertake a risk based programme of internal audits which are informed by the Council’s risk registers. • Manage performance by adherence to the Performance Management Framework through the monitoring of service delivery including planning; specification; execution and independent post implementation review. • Maintain a regular programme of member training. 	<p>Enhancement of existing risk management will commence in April 2021 and will report quarterly to the Audit Committee.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage officer performance through the appraisal process. • Maintain sound financial procedure rules to ensure consistency and clear financial protocols • Maintain a transparent complaints and feedback procedure. • Ensure effective anti-fraud and corruption arrangements. • Ensure external auditors produce annual audit reports and the annual audit letter and report to the Audit Committee. • Ensure effective information governance arrangements are in place to support compliance with existing and emerging legislation for data protection. • Ensuring financial management supports decision making and provides sufficient information to support the delivery of the Council's objectives. • Maintain policies dealing with various aspects of data management including security and data protection, Freedom of Information Act, information asset registers, and general records management. 	
7) Implementing good practice in transparency, reporting and audit to deliver effective accountability	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain compliance with the local government Transparency Code 2015 and publish all required information in a timely manner. • Maintain effective and accessible arrangements for dealing with complaints. • Publish all Committee reports unless there is a statutory reason not to do so. • Maintain and regularly communicate whistleblowing policies. • Ensure performance information is prepared on a consistent and timely basis. • Produce regular finance and budget monitoring reports for members reporting on. • performance, value for money and stewardship of resources. • Produce regular budget manager reports. • Maintain an effective Internal Audit function which conforms to the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) and the CIPFA Statement on the Role of the Head of Internal Audit. • Carry out Peer Reviews and inspection from regulatory bodies and implement recommendations Including those from external and internal audit. 	<p>See previous comments on transparency code review</p> <p>Internal Audit to undertake an EQA during 2022/3</p> <p>Audit Committee to undertake an effectiveness assessment</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain an effective scrutiny function which encourages constructive challenge.• Maintain an effective Audit Committee independent of the Cabinet and Scrutiny Committees.	Scrutiny to undertake an effectiveness assessment
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Updates on 2019/20 and Continuing Significant Governance Issues – TABLE 1:

The review process to support the production of the Annual Governance Statement for 2020/21 has provided the following updates to the Significant Governance issues identified in 2019/20 and previous statement SGI's still active:

Control Area	Governance Issue	Update	Responsible Officer for subsequent action
COMPLETED – Adult Social Care	Good Support Group - Whistleblowing incident.	Update In 2019/20 a significant governance issues was disclosed in respect of GSG. This has been addressed by transferring the service back to the Council and we are in the final administrative stages of winding up the company.	Colin Ansell, Corporate Director for Adults and Health. Tim Aldridge, Corporate Director of for Children and Young People.
COMPLETED – Community Safety	Review and Update Borough Emergency Plan	The Borough's CMP details the Council's response to emergencies of all types within the Borough and in support of incidents elsewhere in London. The Contingency Management Plan (CMP / Emergency Plan) had not been periodically reviewed. The CMP Plan has been now formally reviewed in Q4 2020/21. In addition, a new Business Continuity Plan and system, aligned to ISO 22301, is due to be in place by Summer 2021.	Jamie Blake, Corporate Director of Environment and Sustainable Transport.

<p>ON-GOING</p> <p>Inclusive Economy and Housing</p>	<p>Fire Safety in Tall Blocks.</p>	<p>Issue: This is an ongoing risk known to the Council. The Council's Regeneration, Housing and Environment Scrutiny Commission scrutinised this issue early in 2018, in response to Grenfell.</p> <p>Update: All ACM (Aluminium Composite Material) cladding has been removed from Council owned tall blocks. There is now an ongoing programme of cladding remediation works to tall blocks for other cladding systems including HPL (high-pressure laminate) cladding. One block is close to completion with a further four blocks due to start on site in Summer 2021. Two contracts for the replacement of fire doors in blocks have been procured and will commence on site Summer 2021. A Cladding Scrutiny Commission has been established.</p>	<p>Dave Hughes, Corporate Director for Inclusive Economy and Housing.</p>
<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>Children Social Care</p>	<p>Youth Offending Team (YOT) Inspection.</p>	<p>Issue: HMIP (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons) conducted a single inspection of Newham Youth Justice Services in June 2019. The overall rating was Requires Improvement, with an emphasis on investing in the workforce, quality of recording, timeliness of assessments and improving operational management oversight.</p> <p>Updates /Action: An improvement board is in place to review progress against a service improvement plan. This includes self-evaluation against HMIP standards, and benchmarking performance against other Local Authority areas. Additional investment has been made following the 2019 inspection to reduce caseloads and increase oversight. Further activity including support from the Youth Justice Board and peer reviews are scheduled in 2021. Progress is also reviewed through the local Youth Justice Partnership Board.</p>	<p>Tim Aldridge, Corporate Director of for Children and Young People.</p>

<p>ON-GOING</p> <p>Children Social Care</p>	<p>External OFSTED Inspection</p>	<p>Issue: Ofsted published an inspection report in March 2019 on Children Social Service in Newham following an inspection of the service in February 2019. The Overall rating was: Inadequate. Ofsted however found that children identified as in need of help and protection are effectively safeguarded.</p> <p>Action / Update: As part of DfE intervention an Improvement Advisor has been appointed, with regular improvement boards taking place. DfE have also provided additional funding to support improvement activities, and Leeds City Council are the Partner in Practice. OFSTED have conducted four further visits since March 2019. Two letters have been published, with the latest pending. Improvements in practice have been recognised, with further work ongoing to continue to deliver improvements. Two further monitoring visits are expected prior to the next graded inspection which is likely to take place in 2022.</p>	<p>Tim Aldridge, Corporate Director of for Children and Young People.</p>
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<p>ON-GOING</p> <p>Corporate wide, supported by Central Services</p>	<p>Project Management and controls</p>	<p>Issue, raised as SGI in the AGS of 2019/20: In terms of the Internal Auditors opinion and the activities delivered by the Council's internal auditing programme, it has not been possible to provide assurance over the project management control environment.</p> <p>Update since initially identified: Since the last annual governance statement, a significant amount of work has been developed through the Change and Insight function to improve and review the quality of project and programme management controls across the organisation. This includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertaking a portfolio wide review of the capital programme, including establishing improved project and programme governance processes, improved processes at the Strategic Investment Board and increasing the frequency and robustness of monitoring of projects and programmes through VERTO 2. Establishing a cross-organisational training and development plan relating to programme, project and change management 3. Kicking-off the 'Good Change Network' which has met throughout 2020-2021 bringing together a community of practice and common approaches to delivering change across the organisation 4. Commissioning and initiating the work to establish a Newham Change Framework which will further embed the future expectations and standards for good quality programme and project management across the organisation. 5. There are a number of key further actions planned for 2021-2022. 	<p>Jessica Crowe, Corporate Director for People, Policy and Performance.</p>
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Significant Governance Issues 2020 / 21 – TABLE 2

Corporate Directors are required to consider whether there have been any significant governance issues. For the purposes of this review we have defined a significant governance issue as something that:

- Seriously prejudiced or prevented achievement of one or more principal objectives.
- Resulted in the need to seek additional funding to resolve the issue.
- Required a significant diversion of resources.
- Had a material impact on the accounts.
- Resulted in significant public interest or has seriously damaged the reputation of the Council.
- Resulted in formal actions by the Section 151 (Corporate Director, Resources) or Monitoring Officer (Corporate Director, Governance).
- Received significant adverse commentary in an external inspection report and was not or cannot be addressed in a timely manner.

No significant governance issues were identified for 2020/21 in addition to SGIs from previous statements or related to governance issues highlighted elsewhere in this statement.

We propose over the coming year to take steps to address the above matters to further enhance our governance arrangements. We are satisfied that these steps will address the need for improvements that were identified in our review of effectiveness and will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rokhsana Fiaz', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rokhsana Fiaz OBE
Mayor

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Althea Loderick', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Althea Loderick
Chief Executive

Glossary

Accounting Period - The period of time covered by the Council's accounts. The Council's financial year is from the period 1 April to the following 31 March.

Accounting Policies - The specific principles, bases, conventions, rules and practices applied by the Council in preparing and presenting the financial statements.

Accounting Standards - A set of rules explaining how accounts are to be kept (See 'International Financial Reporting Standards').

Accrual - The recognition of income and expenditure in the year that these amounts occur and not when any cash is received or paid.

Accumulated Absences Account - This account represents the value of leave rolled over from one financial year to another. This reserve account is used to avoid reducing General Fund reserves.

Actuary - An independent adviser to the Authority regarding the year-end financial position of the Pension Fund.

Actuarial Valuation - Every three years the Actuary reviews the assets and liabilities of the Pension Fund and reports on the Fund's financial position and recommended employers' contribution rates. The last full valuation of the Scheme was in 2013.

Agency Services - Services provided by, or for, another Local Authority or Public Body where the costs of carrying out the service are reimbursed.

Amortisation - The write-off of an intangible asset or loan balance to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement over an appropriate period of time.

Amortised Cost - The carrying value of an asset or liability in the Balance Sheet, whose value has been increased via the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Balance Sheet - A statement of all the assets, liabilities and other balances of the Authority at the end of an accounting period.

Billing Authority - Refers to a Local Authority that is responsible for the collection of tax, both on behalf of itself and other local authorities in its area.

Budget - A forecast of future expenditure plans for the Council. Detailed revenue budgets are prepared for each year and it is on the basis of these figures that Council Tax is determined. Budgets are revised throughout the year for changes as necessary.

Capital Adjustment Account - Represents amounts set aside from revenue resources or capital receipts to finance expenditure on Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE) or for the repayment of external loans or certain other capital financing transactions.

Capital Expenditure - Expenditure on the purchase of new PPE or expenditure which adds to the value of an existing PPE asset.

Capital Financing Requirement - Represents the Authority's underlying need to borrow for a capital purpose.

Capital Grants Receipts In Advance - Balances of capital grants and contributions that have conditions which may require future repayment if not spent.

Capital Grants Unapplied - Grant balances that are used to fund future capital expenditure.

Capital Receipt - Income received from the sale of PPE such as land or buildings.

Capital Receipts Reserve - Represents proceeds from the sale of PPE available to meet future capital investment needs.

Carrying Value - In relation to the year-end value of Long Term Assets, the carrying amounts are based on the original costs of individual assets less any depreciation, amortisation or impairment costs recorded against these assets.

Cash Equivalents - Highly liquid, low-risk investments that can be easily and readily converted into cash.

Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) - A professional accountancy body specialising in the public sector. CIPFA promotes best practice by issuing accounting guidance updates and Codes of Practice.

Collection Fund - A statutory account which receives Council Tax and National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) to cover the costs of services provided by the Council and its precepting authorities.

Collection Fund Adjustment Account - The Collection Fund Adjustment Account represents the Council's share of the Collection Fund Surplus or Deficit for the year.

Community Assets - Assets that a Local Authority intends to hold in perpetuity, that have no determinable useful life and that may have restrictions on their disposal. Examples of Community Assets are parks and historic buildings.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement - A statement showing the expenditure and income of the Council's services during the year demonstrating how costs have been financed from general Government grants and income from local taxpayers.

Contingent Liability - Where possible "one-off" future liabilities or losses are identified but the level of uncertainty is such that the creation of a provision within the accounts is not appropriate.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) - Measures the average change in retail prices of a basket of goods and services purchased by most UK households in order to provide an indication of the rate of inflation. The CPI includes some financial services in the basket of goods not included within the separate RPI calculation. CPI is the official measure of the inflation of consumer prices in the United Kingdom.

Creditors - Monies owed by the Council to external parties for goods and services received. Creditors are referred to as Payables within the Balance Sheet and supporting notes.

Debtors - Monies owed to the Council by individuals and organisations. Debtors are also referred to as Receivables within the Balance Sheet and supporting notes.

Dedicated Schools Grant - Grant monies provided by the Department for Education (DfE) that are ring-fenced to schools' budgets.

Deferred Capital Receipts - The balance of outstanding mortgages granted mainly to purchasers of Council Houses.

Deferred Income – Receipt In Advance - This represents an amount received as a result of the Council entering into a building lease. The receipt is subsequently released over the term of the lease.

Deferred Liabilities - These are future liabilities that the Council is contractually obliged to pay in future years. These liabilities often relate to Private Finance Initiative (PFI) schemes.

Defined Benefit Pension Scheme - An employer pension scheme which defines benefits independently of the contributions payable. Within this type of scheme, the Council is committed to a specified monthly benefit on retirement for employees that is predetermined by a formula based on the employee's earnings history, rather than depending directly on individual investment returns within the Pension Fund.

Depreciation - The measure of the wearing out, consumption or other reduction in the useful economic life of PPE assets, whether arising from use, the passage of time or obsolescence through technological or other changes.

Earmarked Reserves - Amounts set aside for a specific purpose to meet future expenditure commitments or potential liabilities, for which it is not appropriate to establish separate provisions.

Fair Value - In relation to the value of financial instruments, this is the amount for which an asset can be exchanged or a liability settled between knowledgeable and willing parties in an arm's length transaction.

Finance Lease - A lease that substantially transfers the risks and rewards associated with the ownership of an asset to the lessee.

Financial Instrument - A contract that gives rise to the creation of a financial asset for one entity and a corresponding financial liability or equity instrument of another.

Financial Instruments Adjustment Account - This account represents the balance of deferred discounts relating to the premature redemption of Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) debt.

Flippable Accrual - A range accrual note where the issuer has the option to amend the interest rate to an alternative measure at specified dates in the future.

General Fund (GF) - The main revenue account from which the costs of providing the majority of the Council's services are met.

Greater London Authority (GLA) - A strategic Local Authority with a capital-wide role.

Gross Spending - The total cost of providing services before any income such as government grants, fees and charges are deducted.

Group Accounts - Where a Council has a material interest in a separate entity, this entity's assets and liabilities may need to be incorporated within a set of Group Accounts. If an Authority does control an entity, for accounting purposes, it is defined as a subsidiary.

Heritage Asset - An asset with historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities that is held and maintained principally for its contribution to knowledge and culture.

Historic Cost - Where the cost of an asset is defined by past purchase price rather than current market value.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) - A summary account within the Statement of Accounts maintained separately from the General Fund in order to itemise the specific income and expenditure relating to the provision of Council Housing.

Inverse Floating LOBO - These LOBOs have a reference rate - this being the GBP 10 year SWAP rate. The interest rate payable is calculated by taking the agreed and fixed 'coupon rate' less the reference rate (GBP 10 year SWAP rate), so, as rates increase, the interest payable by the borrower is reduced. Call dates cannot be exercised until the first agreed date and thereafter vary from 1 year to every 5 years.

Impairment - A decrease in the value of PPE caused by a consumption of economic benefit or by a general reduction in price levels.

Infrastructure Assets - Inalienable assets; expenditure on which is only recoverable by continued use of the asset created. There is no prospect of future sale or alternative use. Examples include roads, bridges and tunnels.

Intangible Assets - Non-financial long-term assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and controlled by the Council, for instance purchased software licences.

Interest Rate Risk - The uncertainty of interest paid or received on variable rate financial instruments and the effect of fluctuations in interest rates on the fair values of such instruments.

International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) - The set of international accounting standards issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). Local Authorities are required to produce accounts based on IFRS.

Inventories - Comprises the value of stocks held and work in progress that has not been completed at year-end.

Investment Properties - Properties that are held by the Council solely to earn rental income and/or for capital appreciation purposes rather than for the delivery of services.

Lender Option Borrower Option (LOBO) – LOBO's are a long term borrowing instrument commonly used by banks. It is an alternative lender option to the Governments Public Works Loan Board. In simple terms the instrument gets its name because the lender has an option to set revised interest rates at predetermined dates and at which point the borrower has the option to accept the revised rates or pay the debt in full without penalty.

Levy - Payments to bodies such as the Environment Agency. The costs of running these bodies are funded by Local Authorities in the area concerned as determined by their Council Tax base. Such costs are met from the Council's General Fund.

Long Term Assets - Assets that yield benefit to the Council and the services provided for a period of greater than one year.

Long Term Borrowing - Loans that the Council has taken, in line with the Council Treasury Management Strategy, where the amount borrowed are for longer than a 12 month period.

Long Term Liabilities - Amounts that are payable by arrangement within a period of greater than one year.

Major Repairs Reserve - Represents the funds available to meet capital investment needs in respect of Council Housing.

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) - The amount that has to be charged to revenue to provide for the redemption of debt. This provision does not apply within the HRA.

Movement In Reserves Statement - A summary of the Council's reserves at the year-end date split between usable and unusable reserves.

National Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) Pool - Non-Domestic Rates (Business Rates) are paid into a central pool controlled by Central Government. These funds are subsequently redistributed to Councils on the basis of resident population.

Net Book Value - Applicable to the year-end value of PPE after depreciation has been deducted.

Net Realisable Value - The open market value of an asset less any expenses incurred in realising the asset.

Non-Current Assets Held for Sale - Items of PPE whose carrying amount is to be recovered principally through a sale rather than by continued use by the Council.

Operating Lease - A lease other than a finance lease; a lease which permits the use of an asset without substantially transferring the risks and rewards of ownership.

Outturn - The actual level of expenditure and income for the year.

Precept - The charge made by the Greater London Authority on the Council to finance its net expenditure.

Private Finance Initiative (PFI) - Contracts whereby private sector suppliers provide services and/or capital investment in return for a unitary payment subject to agreed performance targets.

Projected Unit Credit Method - Pension Scheme valuation method whose key feature is to assess future service cost. The Actuary calculates the employer's contribution rate which will meet the cost of benefits accruing in the year following the valuation date.

Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE) - The land and building assets under the Council's control or ownership. Such assets have a physical existence and are expected to be used for a period exceeding one year.

Provisions - Amounts set aside for liabilities and losses which are certain or very likely to occur but where the exact amount or timing of the payment are uncertain.

Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) - Central Government agency which funds the majority of Local Government borrowing.

Registered Social Landlord - A not-for-profit, independent housing organisation registered with the Housing Corporation under the Housing Act 1996 which owns and manages social housing.

Reserves - Amounts set aside to fund items of anticipated expenditure that do not fall within the definition of a provision. These include general reserves or balances which every Council must maintain as a matter of prudence.

Retail Price Index (RPI) - Measures the average change in retail prices of a basket of goods and services purchased by most UK households so as to provide an indication of the rate of inflation. The RPI includes mortgage interest payments and Council Tax in the basket of goods not included in the CPI. The measure is published monthly by the Office for National Statistics.

Revaluation Reserve - Represents the increase in value of the Council's land and building assets from 1 April 2007 onwards.

Revenue Contributions to Capital Outlay (RCCO) - The Council's use of revenue monies to fund capital expenditure.

Revenue Expenditure - The day-to-day expenditure of the Council including costs such as wages and salaries, goods and services and capital financing charges.

Revenue Support Grant (RSG) - A general grant paid by Central Government to Local Authorities.

Right to Buy - The Council is legally required to sell Council Homes to tenants at a discount where the tenant wishes to buy their home. The cash amounts received from such sales are capital receipts, some of which will be retained by the Council to fund capital expenditure, whilst the remainder must be paid over to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) under pooling arrangements.

Service Level Agreements (SLA) - Agreements between operational units that state the price and specifications of the support service by one function to another.

Short Term Borrowing - Loans that the Council has taken, in line with the Council Treasury Management Strategy, where the amount borrowed needs to be repaid within 12 months.

Soft Loan - A loan that the Council provides at an interest rate below the established market rate to community or other not-for-profit organisations.

Stepped LOBO - These loans have agreed dates when the interest rate is 'stepped' up to another. Again, the lender does not have the option to change these rates but can demand repayment on the next call date. Call dates for these loans vary from every 2 years to every 10 years.

Support Services - Activities of a professional, technical and administrative nature which are not Council services in their own right, but which support front-line departments such as Finance, Information Technology and Human Resources.

Surplus Assets - Those assets which are not being used to deliver services but which do not meet the criteria to be classified as either Investment Properties or Non-Current Assets Held for Sale.

Unusable Reserves - These represent reserve balances that cannot be spent as part of an Authority's medium-term financial plan. Examples include the Revaluation Reserve and Capital Adjustment Account.

Usable Reserves - Reserve balances that can be spent within an Authority's medium-term financial plan. As best practice, all organisations must review reserve levels to ensure long-term financial stability. Usable reserves include the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).

Value for Money (VfM) - This term is used to describe the relationship between the Economy, Efficiency, and Effectiveness (known as the 'three Es') of a service, function or activity. Value for money is high when there is an optimum balance between all three.

Vanilla LOBO - These are fixed rate loans, the interest rate the borrower pays cannot be changed by the lender, the lender does though have the option to request repayment of the loan on the next call date. The call dates are set out in the loan documentation and vary from between every 6 months to every 3 years.

Zero to Par LOBO - The interest rate payable on these loans is fixed. Interest is not paid to the lender but added to the loan principal - or compounded. If the lender exercises their call option, only the interest compounded to date is payable by the borrower, thereafter the loan is converted to a vanilla type LOBO with the borrower paying interest to the lender annually and the lender able to exercise their call option every 5 years. If the lender does not exercise their option to receive the compounded interest, the principal plus compound interest is repaid (at Par) on the maturity date.

Abbreviations used in Statement of Accounts

AGS	Annual Governance Statement
BSF	Building Schools for the Future
CAA	Capital Adjustment Account
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group
CFR	Capital Financing Requirement
CIES	Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
CIPFA	Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy
CPI	Consumer Price Index
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DfE	Department for Education
DSG	Dedicated Schools Grant
DWP	Department for Work and Pensions
EIR	Effective Interest Rate
ELWA	East London Waste Authority
EY	Ernst and Young LLP
GAAP	Generally Accepted Accounting Principles
GLA	Greater London Authority
HMRC	Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs
HRA	Housing Revenue Account
IAS	International Accounting Standard
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standards
LABGI	Local Authority Business Growth Incentive
LASAAC	Local Authority (Scotland) Accounts Advisory Committee
LATS	Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme
LBN	London Borough of Newham
LGPS	Local Government Pension Scheme
LOBO	Lender's Option – Borrower's option
LPFA	London Pensions Fund Authority
MHCLG	Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government
MMI	Mutual Municipal Insurance
MRA	Major Repairs Allowance
MRP	Minimum Revenue Provision
NCS	Net Cost of Services
NPV	Net Present Value
NRV	Net Realisable Value
NNDR	National Non-Domestic Rates
PFI	Private Finance Initiative
PPA	Prior Period Adjustment
PPE	Property, Plant and Equipment
PwC	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
PWLB	Public Works Loans Board
REFCUS	Revenue Expenditure Funded by Capital under Statute
RICS	Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors
RPI	Retail Price Index
RSG	Revenue Support Grant
RTB	Right To Buy
SeRCOP	Service Reporting Code of Practice
VAT	Value Added Tax
VfM	Value for Money
WDA	Waste Disposal Authority
WGA	Whole of Government Accounts