

# People Overview & Scrutiny

Date: **19 February 2026**

Time: **4.30pm**

Venue: **Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall, Norton Road, Hove, BN3 3BQ - HTH/CC**

Members: **Councillors:** O'Quinn (Chair), Gauge (Deputy Chair), Cattell, Lyons, Mackey, McLeay, Parrott, Shanks, Sheard and Winder.

**Co-Optees:** Lesley Hurst (Church of England diocesan representative), Maria Cowler (Catholic Church diocesan representative), Sara Fulford (Older People's Council), Joanna Martindale (Community Works Rep), Adam Muirhead (Community Works Rep), Fiona England (PaCC), and Dr Anusree Biswas Sasidharan (Community Works).

Contact: **Luke Proudfoot**  
Overview & Scrutiny Officer

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Chief Executive

Hove Town Hall  
Norton Road  
Hove BN3 3BQ

Date of Publication - Wednesday, 11 February 2026

# AGENDA

Part One

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## 41 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

a) **Declaration of Substitutes:** Where Councillors are unable to attend a meeting, a substitute Member from the same Political Group may attend, speak vote in their place for that meeting.

(b) **Declarations of Interest:**

(a) Disclosable pecuniary interests;

(b) Any other interests required to be registered under the local code;

(c) Any other general interest as a result of which a decision on the matter might reasonably be regarded as affecting you or a partner more than a majority of other people or businesses in the ward/s affected by the decision.

In each case, you need to declare:

(i) the item on the agenda the interest relates to;

(ii) the nature of the interest; and

(iii) whether it is a disclosable pecuniary interest or some other interest.

## 42 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

To consider the following items raised by members of the public: (a) Petitions: To receive any petitions presented by members of the public to the full Council or to the meeting itself; (b) Written Questions: To receive any questions submitted by the due date of 10am on the 13<sup>th</sup> February; (c) Deputations: To receive any deputations submitted by the due date of 10am on the 9<sup>th</sup> February.

## 43 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

To consider the following matters raised by Members: (a) Petitions: To receive any petitions submitted to the full Council or to the meeting itself. (b) Written Questions: To receive any written questions from members. (c) Letters: To consider any letters submitted by Members. (d) Notices of Motion: To consider any Notices of Motion.

## 44 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATION

## 45 SCRUTINY OF BUDGET 2627: GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET & HRA PROGRAMME.

5 - 472

Contact Officer: Luke Proudfoot

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The closing date for receipt of public questions and deputations for the next meeting is 12 noon on the fourth working day before the meeting.

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### **Further information**

For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Luke Proudfoot, (, email [Luke.Proudfoot@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:Luke.Proudfoot@brighton-hove.gov.uk)) or email [democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

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- Items that make a noise (e.g. whistles, loud hailers, mega phones); and,
- Banners, placards and flags or similar items.

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- Do not re-enter the building until told that it is safe to do so



# Brighton & Hove City Council

## People Overview & Scrutiny

## Agenda Item 45

**Subject:** Scrutiny of Budget 2627: General Fund Revenue Budget & HRA Programme.

**Date of meeting:** 19th February 2026

**Report of:** Chair of People Overview & Scrutiny

**Contact Officer:** Name: Luke Proudfoot  
Email: luke.proudfoot@brighton-hove.gov.uk

**Ward(s) affected:**

**Key Decision:** No

**For general release**

### **1. Purpose of the report and policy context**

- 1.1 This report presents an update on the budget process since the last special meeting held on 19th January 2026 to People Overview & Scrutiny Committee for its consideration.
- 1.2 The appendices to this report include the Budget & Capital Investment HRA Programme 2026-27 and Medium Term Financial Strategy (and its appendices), and the General Fund Revenue Budget, Capital and Treasury Management Strategy (and its appendices) which were considered at Cabinet on 12th February 2026. The HRA Programme was not part of the draft budget and this will be the first consideration of this paper by scrutiny committees.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That People Overview & Scrutiny Committee notes the Budget & Capital Investment HRA Programme 2026-27 and Medium Term Financial Strategy (and its appendices), and the General Fund Revenue Budget, Capital and Treasury Management Strategy (and its appendices) and makes comments or recommendations on these proposals to Cabinet if it so chooses.

### **3. Context and background information**

- 3.1 People Overview & Scrutiny Committee held a special meeting on 19th January 2026 where it considered the Cabinet report dated 11th December 2025. The minutes from this meeting were circulated to Cabinet. The Committee made the following additional recommendations:

1. That the public health budget be examined with all information about the grant and what it can be used for at an additional scrutiny meeting.
  2. That a full account of consultations with unions and community groups be brought to this meeting or a future scrutiny.
  3. That People O&S committee agrees to use its scheduled meetings to scrutinise, at the earliest opportunity, Adult Social Care improvement planning, with a specific focus on the successful implementation and delivery of supporting people to successfully live in their own homes and as part of the wider community.
  4. People O&S committee recommends that the final budget papers include details of the council's engagement with the Treasury and with the Department for Housing, Communities & Local Government regarding the financial settlement for Brighton & Hove, with specific focus on funding for housing and homelessness.
- 3.2 The Budget & Capital Investment HRA Programme 2026-27 and Medium Term Financial Strategy (Appendix 1), and the General Fund Revenue Budget, Capital and Treasury Management Strategy (Appendix 2) are presented to People Overview & Scrutiny Committee for consideration. The committee may choose to make specific recommendations or comments which will be shared with members in advance of Full Council on 26th February 2026 where the final budget will be considered.
- 3.3 In response to recommendation 1 from the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting on 19th January the Director of Public Health, Dr Nicola Lang, has provided Appendix 15 PH Grant spend for Cabinet Feb 2026.
- 3.4 Recommendation 3 from the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> January will be taken up in a future scheduled meeting of the committee.
- 4. Analysis and consideration of alternative options**
- 4.1 If People Overview & Scrutiny members do not agree to make specific recommendations or comments to Cabinet, the draft minutes of the scrutiny meeting will be shared with members in advance of Council's consideration of the final budget proposals on 26th February.
- 5. Community engagement and consultation**
- 5.1 None undertaken in relation to this report. Members should refer to the Cabinet report (see appendices) for details of community engagement and consultation undertaken in relation to the draft budget proposals.
- 6. Financial implications**
- 6.1 Committee's attention is drawn to the financial implications contained within the appendix to this report.

Name of finance officer consulted: John Hooten Date consulted: 04.02.26

## **7. Legal implications**

- 7.1 Committee's attention is drawn to the detailed legal implications provided within the Reports which form Appendices 1 & 2.

Name of lawyer consulted: Victoria Simpson Date consulted: 05.02.26

## **8. Risk implications**

- 8.1 None specifically to this report. Members are referred to the implications in the Cabinet report (see appendices).

## **9. Equalities implications**

- 9.1 None specifically to this report. Members are referred to the implications to the Cabinet report (see appendices).

## **10. Sustainability implications**

- 10.1 None specifically to this report. Members are referred to the implications to the Cabinet report (see appendices).

## **10. Health and Wellbeing Implications:**

- 10.1 None specifically to this report. Members are referred to the implications to the Cabinet report (see appendices).

## **Other Implications**

### **11. Procurement implications**

- 11.1 None specifically to this report. Members are referred to the implications to the Cabinet report (see appendices).

### **12. Crime & disorder implications:**

- 12.1 None specifically to this report. Members are referred to the implications to the Cabinet report (see appendices).

## **13. Conclusion**

- 13.1 People Overview & Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the Budget & Capital Investment HRA Programme 2026-27 and Medium Term Financial Strategy, and the General Fund Revenue Budget, Capital and Treasury Management Strategy (and its appendices) and to make any comments or recommendations on these proposals to Cabinet if it chooses.

## **Supporting Documentation**

## **1. Appendices**

1. Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> February Item 125: General Fund Revenue Budget, Capital & Treasury Management Strategy 2026-27
2. Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> February Item 125: Budget allocation 2026/27
3. Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> February Item 125: Detailed Savings 2026/27
4. Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> February Item 125: Fees & Charges 2026/27
5. Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> February Item 125: MTFs
6. Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> February Item 125: Capital Strategy
7. Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> February Item 125: Treasury Management Strategy Statement
8. Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> February Item 125: Equalities Impact assessments
9. Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> February Item 125: Second Homes Premium: Service Accommodation Exception
10. Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> February Item 126: Budget & Capital Investment HRA Programme 2026-27 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy
11. Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> February Item 126: Appendix 1
12. Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> February Item 126: Appendix 2
13. Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> February Item 126: Appendix 3
14. Cabinet 12<sup>th</sup> February Item 126: Appendix 4
15. PH Grant spend for Cabinet Feb 2026

# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Cabinet

## Agenda Item 125

**Subject:** General Fund Revenue Budget, Capital & Treasury Management Strategy 2026/27

**Date of meeting:** Cabinet: 12 February 2026  
Budget Council: 26 February 2026

**Report of:** Cabinet Member for Finance and City Regeneration

**Lead Officer:** Name: Chief Finance Officer

**Contact Officers:** Name: John Hooton, Haley Woollard

**Email:** [john.hooton@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:john.hooton@brighton-hove.gov.uk)  
[haley.woollard@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:haley.woollard@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

**Ward(s) affected:** All Wards

**Key Decision:** Yes

**Reason(s) Key:** Expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the expenditure of the City Council's budget, namely above £1,000,000 and is significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral divisions (wards).

**For general release**

### 1 Purpose of Report & Policy Context

- 1.1 This report includes the proposed General Fund Revenue and Capital Budget 2026/27 together with a Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) covering the 4-year period 2026/27 to 2029/30.
- 1.2 The council aims to align all spending, ringfenced and un-ringfenced, to support the achievement of Council Plan outcomes and priorities. The General Fund budget in particular is an expression of the Council Plan in financial terms and aims to ensure that revenue and capital budgets and investment plans are aligned to achieving the outcomes of the Council Plan for a 'better Brighton and Hove for all'.

### 2 Recommendations:

That Cabinet recommends to Council the following:

- 2.1 That Council approves the Administration's proposed General Fund revenue and capital budget and Council Tax increase on the Brighton and Hove element of the council tax for 2026/27, comprising:
  - i) A general Council Tax increase of 2.99%;
  - ii) An Adult Social Care Precept increase of 2.00%;
  - iii) The council's net General Fund budget requirement for 2026/27 of £341.476m;

- iv) The 2026/27 budget allocations to services as set out in Appendix 1 incorporating budget savings proposals detailed at Appendix 2;
  - v) The one-off resource allocations as set out in the table at paragraph 6.78;
  - vi) A recommended working balance of between £12.000m to £15.000m (approximately 4% of the net budget) to be maintained over the period of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.
- 2.2 That Council approves the changes to Fees & Charges set out in Appendix 3 that relate to any non-executive functions which have not already been approved.
- 2.3 That Council notes that Exceptional Financial Support of £15.000m has been requested from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to assist with the setting of a legally balanced budget in 2026/27;
- 2.4 That Council notes the plans to address future projected budget shortfalls set out in the 4-Year Medium Term Financial Strategy at Appendix 4.
- 2.5 That Council approves the Capital Strategy for 2026/27 at Appendix 5 comprising:
- i) Funding for investment in transformation and change, supported by the flexible use of capital receipts as set out in paragraph 11.2;
  - ii) The capital resources and proposed borrowing included at Annex A of the Capital Strategy;
  - iii) The Capital Investment Programme for 2026/27 of £239.816m included at Appendix 5 incorporating allocations to strategic funds.
- 2.6 That Council approves the Treasury Management Strategy Statement as set out in Appendix 6 comprising:
- i) The Annual Investment Strategy;
  - ii) The Prudential and Treasury Indicators;
  - iii) The Minimum Revenue Provision policy;
  - iv) The authorised borrowing limit for the year commencing 1 April 2026.
- 2.7 That Council notes and considers the Equalities Impact Assessments to cover all relevant budget proposals as set out in Appendix 7.
- 2.8 That Council approves serviced accommodation to be an exception to the council tax premium determination for second homes as described in Section 16 and Appendix 8.
- 2.9 That Council further notes that approval of the budget is an indicative resourcing decision to be taken in the context of the explanation given in the Legal Implications in Section 20.
- 2.10 That Council notes that supplementary information needed to set the overall council tax, including a detailed Budget Book, will be provided for the Budget Council meeting as listed in paragraph 14.1.

That Cabinet agrees the following:

- 2.11 The changes to Fees & Charges set out in Appendix 3 that relate to executive functions

- 2.12 That the council's S151 Chief Financial Officer be authorised to make any necessary technical, presentational or consequential amendments to this report before submission to Budget Council.

### **3 Context and Background Information**

#### **Overview**

- 3.1 As reported to Cabinet on 11 December 2025, the context for budget setting remains very challenging. There are significant budget pressures arising from increases in demand from statutory services, most significantly in emergency and temporary accommodation, but also in respect of adults and children's placements, and home to school transport. In addition, there are various other pressures across the council in terms of demand, pressures on income sources and the cost of providing services over and above inflation. These pressures are the key drivers of the budget shortfalls over the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), as the anticipated increase in resources is largely expected to fund the inflationary increase in the cost of delivery services over the period not the additional demand pressures noted above.
- 3.2 Compounding this, the government's review of the allocation of local government resources under the Fair Funding Review, coupled with the Business Rates Reset, has resulted in the Council's core spending power increasing much more slowly than the assumptions within the MTFS, resulting in lower resources to be able to fund services across the Council. Consequently, the December report estimated an expected budget gap of nearly £25 million in 2026/27 and more than £87 million over the 4-year MTFS period.
- 3.3 The council's financial sustainability is also impacted by the low level of reserves held compared to other similar sized authorities. Brighton and Hove City Council has one of the lowest levels of reserves of any unitary authority, and has done for some considerable time, and is therefore unable to withstand significant financial shocks at a time where financial risks to councils are arguably greater than they have ever been. The external auditors, Grant Thornton, have raised a significant weakness in respect of financial sustainability over recent years, and the Council's financial sustainability was the top recommendation in the Local Government Association's corporate peer challenge in April 2025.
- 3.4 The December report described the substantial amount of work undertaken on the Council's budget position, particularly in terms of working to reduce/mitigate pressures. Savings proposals of £12.446m were identified, which left a remaining gap of £12.480m towards which officers have been working to develop further proposals and transformation. The December report made it clear that the failure to find sufficient proposals would result in the authority requiring to request Exceptional Financial Support from the government.
- 3.5 The Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement was announced on 17 December 2025, which resulted in the council receiving £27.416m less resources over the multi-year settlement period of 2026/27 to 2028/29 compared to the prevailing MTFS assumptions. £19.283m has already been assumed in the December report, and therefore the position has deteriorated by a further £8.133m, of which £1.731m is an additional impact in 2026/27. More information is included in section 4.

- 3.6 The below table shows how the 2026/27 budget gap has moved since reported to Cabinet in December:

<b>Table 1: 2026/27 Budget Gap</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>Budget Gap per December Cabinet Report</b>	<b>24.926</b>
Funding Update from Provisional LGFS	1.731
Council Tax Base update (reported to Cabinet on 22 January 2026)	(0.708)
Other grant funding changes	(1.097)
Business Rates changes for BHCC owned properties	0.218
Review of pressures and commitments	0.152
Deferral of Planned Reserves Contribution	(1.125)
Creation of a one off revenue risk provision	1.125
<b>Budget Gap before Savings Proposals</b>	<b>25.222</b>
Draft Saving Proposals within December report	(12.446)
<b>Remaining Budget Gap</b>	<b>12.776</b>

- 3.7 The Council has developed a comprehensive portfolio of transformation programmes to address both the demands the authority is facing and to exploit opportunities to address the Council's financial sustainability in the medium term. Appendix 4 provides more detailed information about these programmes, but in summary, the activity includes:

- Workstreams to reduce demand and cost of statutory services in Homelessness, Temporary & Emergency Accommodation, Adult Social Care and Children's services. This includes, for example, reducing the high cost of spot purchased temporary accommodation by developing long term contractual arrangements for accommodation, increasing Council owned housing supply, as well as increasing preventative work to reduce demand on the homelessness service.
- Workstreams that act as financial levers to the council, such as to increase income through greater commercialisation, rationalise the operational property estate, saving money through better procurement and contract management
- Workstreams to ensure the council is geared up to deliver significant change through investing in digital technology and an organisational change programme.

The transformation portfolio feeds into the medium term financial plan, and, as set out in Appendix 4, enable the Council to get to a balanced position over the 4 year period from 2026 to 2030.

- 3.8 The level of pressures, particularly in emergency and temporary accommodation, means that it has been incredibly challenging to balance the 2026/27 budget without impacting on the Council's financial resilience to an unacceptable level. Further savings have been identified to reduce the gap, but given the exceptional demand pressures on emergency and temporary accommodation and social care, alongside very low levels of reserves, the Council has requested Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) of £15 million from the government. This is part of a strategy to fully fund service pressures going into 2026/27, protect and increase levels of reserves, and provide sufficient time for savings to be delivered through the transformation portfolio.

- 3.9 It is important to note that EFS is not additional money from the government; it is a flexibility that enables the Council to capitalise revenue expenditure on a one off basis and spread this cost over a longer period of time (typically 20 years). Should the Council's application for EFS be approved, it must be seen as one off support for 2026/27. The cost of undertaking EFS for 2026/27 is reflected in the MTFs, and MTFs is balanced over a 4 year period. The delivery of the Council's transformation programmes must be seen as a top priority to ensure that this approach to long term financial sustainability can be turned into reality. The use of EFS is described further in Section 8.

### ***National Context***

- 3.10 The Local Government Finance Policy Statement (policy statement) was published by the government on 20 November 2025, outlining the government's approach to funding local government over the multi-year settlement period of 2026/27 to 2028/29. In addition, the government also published its outcome responses to both the Fair Funding Review 2.0 (FFR) consultation and the Business Rates Reset (BRR) consultation; both of which were consulted upon earlier in 2025.
- 3.11 The Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement (Provisional LGFS) was published on 17 December 2025. This largely confirmed the Council's assumptions that funding would be significantly reduced compared to the assumptions in the 2025/26 budget and medium term financial strategy. The announcement is the first multi-year settlement since 2016, providing certainty for the council as to its level of resources over the three-year period to 2028/29. This will in turn facilitate planning and provide certainty over the extent of the transformation activity required over the next three years.
- 3.12 The policy statement set out that an additional £3.4 billion new grant funding would be delivered through the multi-year settlement. Taken together with the 2.99% core council tax and 2.0% ASC precept, this will result in a 2.6% real terms increase in core spending power across the multi-year period across the whole of local government, however there are significant variations within this overall average figure. The FFR and BRR will ultimately redistribute funding across all local authorities, and therefore actual changes in core spending power will be very different across local authorities.
- 3.13 The government published its Autumn Budget on 26 November 2025, which announced several changes that will impact on Local Authorities going forwards. Most notably, the budget confirmed that the government's plans for Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) reforms will be announced early in the new year, including the announcement that the current statutory override will be extended for a year. Additionally, the government will not be expecting local authorities to meet future funding implications for SEND within the general fund once the override ends at the end of 2027/28.

### ***Local Financial Planning Context***

- 3.14 The Targeted Budget Management (TBM) Month 9 report (elsewhere on this agenda) shows a forecast overspend of £4.861m for 2025/26. The most significant two drivers of the overspend are emergency and temporary accommodation pressures, as well as a provision for a pressure from housing benefit subsidy. The Council also has pressures on adult social care placement costs, and to a lesser extent, children's social care placement costs. These are the same key drivers of the council's service pressures

across the MTFs. Strict and significant recruitment and spending controls alongside other financial management actions have been in place throughout the year in order to bring the Council's financial position towards balance. TBM2 at the beginning of the year set out a projected overspend of £15.486m in 2025/26, and subsequent to that additional pressures have emerged, for example in respect of housing benefit subsidy loss (£4.775m) and a planning legal challenge. The current overspend at TBM9 is a considerable improvement against over £20m of pressures, however clearly more work is needed to bring the position into balance.

- 3.15 The Council's reserves are at a critically low level, and one of the lowest levels in the country across unitary authorities. This creates significant issues in terms of the Council's inability to withstand financial shocks (for example unexpected costs or increases in demand for statutory services). The target level of un-ringfenced General Fund reserves (i.e. General Fund working balance and General risk reserve) over the MTFs period is £12-15 million. Given the current overspend position at TBM9, the Council's Chief Finance Officer has applied the general risk provision agreed as part of the December Update in order to mitigate the in-year overspend position.
- 3.16 The Council has received a number of recommendations in respect of its level of reserves and lack of financial sustainability. The external auditors have raised a significant weakness in respect of financial sustainability, and the LGA Corporate Peer Challenge highlighted financial sustainability as the Councils top issue, noting that it needed to prioritise a plan to increase its level of reserves at pace. The approach set out in paragraphs 3.1 to 3.8 will enable the Council to protect and enhance general and specific risk reserves, as well as move to longer term financial sustainability over the next 4 years through the delivery of its transformation programme.

#### **4 Resources and Planning Assumptions 2026/27**

##### ***Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement (LGFS)***

- 4.1 The provisional LGFS was announced on 17 December 2025. Local Government funding allocations from 2026/27 onwards have undergone considerable change with the implementation of the Fair Funding Review (FFR) and a full Business Rates Reset (BRR). The changes are significant and complex.
- 4.2 The provisional LGFS provided detailed allocations for all local authorities for the period of 2026/27 to 2028/29. A number of changes were made to the allocation methodology (compared to what was indicated in the consultation), some of which benefited and others which have negatively impacted the Council.
- 4.3 The Council will receive £27.416m less resources over the multi-year settlement period of 2026/27 to 2028/29 compared to the prevailing MTFs assumptions. £19.283m has already been assumed in the December report, and therefore the position has deteriorated by a further £8.133m between 2026/27 and 2028/29. The key drivers are as follows:
- New funding floors were introduced for authorities that will suffer the highest reductions in funding, and the government announced they will maintain the Recovery Grant, introduced in 2025/26. The Council will not be in receipt of either of these. This means that the increase in overall

funding will be lower than previously modelled as some of the increase will be required to fund these elements that the Council will not receive.

- Newer data on deprivation indices and population will be used to calculate funding needs, the combination of which result in a lower allocation for the Council.
- The MTFs had assumed an additional allocation for food waste funding. However, it appears as though the funding is integrated into the provisional LGFS within the overall envelope already announced.

4.4 Allocations will be transitioned over the settlement period, and therefore whilst overall resources will increase each year, the council's Revenue Support Grant will reduce each year to reflect the transition to the Council's new funding allocation. The net reduction for 2026/27 compared to assumptions within the Budget Update in December is £1.731m.

4.5 The Final LGFS is expected to be announced on 9 February 2026, after this paper is published. Any changes to the Council's allocation will therefore be reported as part of the Budget Report to Budget Council on 26 February 2026.

### **Government Grants**

4.6 One key priority for the government within the FFR was the simplification of grant allocation. This has been achieved as follows:

- Sixteen separate grant streams consolidated into the Revenue Support Grant.
- Four new consolidated grants which have specific conditions against them:
  - Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse Grant
  - Children, Families and Youth Grant
  - Public Health Grant
  - Crisis and Resilience Fund

### ***Revenue Support Grant (RSG) and Better Care Fund (BCF)***

4.7 The government has rolled in a number of grants to the RSG. Future RSG allocations are now informed by a new needs assessment formula which was consulted on during the summer of 2025.

4.8 The main grants for the council that have been rolled in are:

- Social Care Grant
- ASC Market Sustainability & Improvement Fund
- Employer National Insurance Contribution (NIC) Grant
- New Homes Bonus
- The Temporary Accommodation element of the Homelessness Prevention Grant

4.9 After the roll in of grants, the Council's RSG for 2026/27 is £75.522m which is a reduction of £1.252m when comparing the 2025/26 RSG and rolled in grant allocations. The RSG allocation will reduce by a further £9.042m in 2027/28 and £8.889m in 2028/29.

4.10 The BCF is a legal requirement for Local Authorities to pool funds with the NHS. The 2026/27 allocation has been maintained at the same level as

2025/26 (£11.669m). The government's 10 Year Health Plan announced reform to the BCF to focus on integrated services. The government have not announced allocations for the BCF in 2027/28 and 2028/29, but instead have presented them within RSG within these years. However, for the purposes of budgeting, the Council has assumed its share of BCF will be maintained at the same value for 2027/28 and 2028/29, and have reduced the published RSG by the same amount.

### ***Children's Families & Youth Grant***

- 4.11 The Children's, Families and Youth Grant will consist of the Families First Partnership (FFP) programme, which will bring together existing streams for Children's Social Care Prevention Grant and the Supporting Families element of the Children & Families Grant. In addition, the government announced £866 million of new funding to support children's social care reform, of which the Council will receive £1.102m in 2026/27.

### ***Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse***

- 4.12 The government has bought together the Rough Sleeping grant, the Domestic Abuse Accommodation Support grant and the prevention and relief element of the Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG) so that all elements of revenue grant for homelessness prevention are within one grant stream. The remainder of the HPG (relating to temporary accommodation) has been rolled into RSG.
- 4.13 The government consulted separately on the methodology for funding allocations of the HPG from 2026/27 onwards, which indicated the Council would see a significant reduction in funding due to the change in assessing the proportion of the population at risk of homelessness.
- 4.14 The Council's total allocation for this grant will be £9.353m for 2026/27 (a reduction of £1.373m compared to 2025/26), £8.924m for 2027/28 and £8.068m in 2028/29.

### ***Public Health Grant (PH)***

- 4.15 The PH grant has been consolidated with the separate Smoking Cessation grant, the Drugs and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Improvement Grant and the Individual Placement & Support Grant. The Council's allocation for these grants in 2025/26 is £29.375m. The provisional allocations over settlement period are £29.751m in 2026/27, £30.006m in 2027/28 and £30.288m in 2028/29.
- 4.16 The PH grant continues to be ringfenced for public health functions.

### ***Crisis & Resilience Fund***

- 4.17 The new Crisis and Resilience Fund consolidates Household Support Fund (HSF) and Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP). Until now, both the HSF and DHP have been announced either six-monthly or annually, so building this into the full settlement period provides the Council with the ability to plan the best use of this funding.
- 4.18 The council's allocation for these funding streams in 2025/26 is £4.503m. The Council's allocations over settlement period are £3.982m in 2026/27, £3.980m in 2027/28 and £3.841m in 2028/29.

### ***Council Tax***

- 4.19 The Council Tax taxbase report was agreed by Cabinet at its meeting of 22 January 2026. Assuming a Council Tax increase of 4.99% is agreed, and

taking into account changes to the tax base, the total projected Council Tax income in 2026/27 is £210.010m. This is an increase of £12.386m compared with 2025/26.

### ***Business Rates***

- 4.20 The government implemented a full Business Rates Reset (BRR), alongside the Fair Funding Review (FFR). This results in the redistribution of all accumulated growth within the Business Rate system based on the measure of each authority's need. Thereby providing a new Baseline Funding Level (BFL) for business rates for 1 April 2026 with the opportunity to retain growth until the next reset.
- 4.21 In 2026/27 there is a 100% safety net meaning that no authority will receive less than the BFL set. The Council's net share of local business rates retained is assumed to be £58.442m, which is in line with the council's BFL set in the provisional LGFS.
- 4.22 Locally, the actual Business Rates income will reflect the local economy rather than each authority's BFL. This results in each authority having to make a top up or tariff payment to the government which reflects the difference between their BFL and business rates income (otherwise known as the Business Rates Baseline, or BRB). The BRB for Brighton & Hove is calculated at £80.712m and results in a tariff payment of £22.270m. This includes a change in the treatment of mandatory reliefs and funded discretionary reliefs where the government will take responsibility for funding these.
- 4.23 Future years business rates retained from 2027/28 includes annual growth assumptions of 0.5% which is inclusive of levy payments that will be due on all growth.
- 4.24 The government announced on 27 January 2026 that in 2026/27, eligible pubs and live music venues will receive a 15% business rates relief, and then a real terms freeze for a further 2 years. Local Authorities are expected to be compensated for the cost of this relief.

### ***Other Government Grants***

- 4.25 The grant allocations for 2026/27 have been included within the summary budget at Appendix 1. Some grant allocations for next year have not yet been announced and where these are critical to the setting of the 2026/27 budget, a rolled-forward estimate has been included.

### ***Fees & Charges***

- 4.26 The council's Corporate Fees & Charges Policy requires that all fees and charges are reviewed at least annually and should normally be increased by a minimum of either the assumed corporate standard inflation rate, statutory increases, or actual increases in the costs of providing a service to reflect cost inflation.
- 4.27 Over recent years, fees & charges have become an increasingly important element of the council's financial sustainability following real terms government grant reductions since 2010. Services therefore benchmark non-statutory fees and charges with other providers and councils to ensure that charges are comparable and competitive within the local context and can maximise discretionary income to protect essential services wherever feasible. However, fees & charges must normally be set to recover costs, demand (price elasticity) and, where commercial, market conditions.

4.28 Increases to discretionary fees & charges above the assumed corporate rate of inflation (3.0%), and changes to concessions or subsidies, require member approval. Increases in fees and charges above the corporate rate of inflation may generate budget savings and, where this is the case, are normally reflected in savings proposals set out in Appendix 3.

## 5 Revenue Investment to Support Council Plan Priorities

5.1 The Council Plan 2023 to 2027 (as refreshed in July 2025) sets out a vision for Brighton & Hove to be a city to be proud of, a healthy, fair and inclusive city where everyone thrives. To deliver the vision of a Better Brighton and Hove for All, the council aims to be a responsive and learning council with well-run services and will focus on the four key outcomes of the plan over the next four years as detailed in the MTFFS at Appendix 4.

5.2 The General Fund budget requires investment and to fund pressures in order to deliver the Council Plan priorities. Whilst there is a need for investment to deliver all of the priorities, the most substantial investments are required in services supporting the delivery of a “Fair and Inclusive City” and a “Healthy City where People Thrive”. This reflects the challenge the Council faces with the high levels and demand and costs for the council’s Social Care services, and in recent years the significantly increasing cost and demand for Temporary and Emergency Accommodation within the City (TA and EA). Strategic measures have been put in place to address the considerable challenge with TA & EA, which are being implemented to reduce the cost of TA and EA, including the Homes & Homelessness Transformation Plan as described in the December Budget Update.

5.3 In total, there are proposed ongoing investments of £28.098m to support services that contribute to Council Plan outcomes. The full list of proposed investments to support Council Plan priorities and associated outcomes in 2026/27 is set out in the table below. Investments over the remainder of the 4-year Medium Term Financial Strategy are set out in Appendix 4.

<b>Priority Supported</b>	<b>Proposed Council Plan Investments and service pressures</b>	<b>Recurrent Investment 2026/27</b>
		<b>£m</b>
<b>A City to be Proud of</b>	Rental Loss associated with the closure of New England House	1.200
	Tree Disease Management	0.300
	Investing in the future of service delivery (including revenue impact of assets to deliver services)	0.600
	All other investments and pressures	1.680
	<b>Total Investments - A City to be Proud of</b>	<b>3.780</b>
<b>A Fair and Inclusive City</b>	Housing – Temporary and Emergency Accommodation	11.106
	Loss of Housing Benefit Subsidy	2.400
	All other investments and pressures	0.365
	<b>Total Investments - A Fair &amp; Inclusive City</b>	<b>13.871</b>

A Healthy City that helps people to thrive	Home to School Transport	1.285
	Children's Agency Placements	1.811
	Children's Disability Placements	0.483
	Supporting Adults with Physical Needs	0.621
	Supporting Adults with Learning Disability Needs	0.490
	Supporting Adults with Mental Health Needs	0.698
	Supporting children with complex needs in-house	0.301
	Family Hub & preventative children's services	0.637
	Support for Increased SEN Demand	0.366
	Other Educational Services & Support	0.547
	<b>Total Investments - A Healthy City</b>	<b>7.239</b>
A Responsive and Learning Council with Well-run Services	Investment in Emergency Planning service	0.150
	Estimated cost of changes in Digital Innovation service	0.390
	Income pressure within commercial property portfolio	0.201
	Change in Government policy for Councillors in the Local Government Pension Scheme	0.100
	Investment in Cyber Security	0.220
	Council owned building Business Rate changes	0.218
	All other pressures & investments	1.929
	<b>Total Investments - Well-Run Services</b>	<b>3.208</b>
<b>TOTAL COUNCIL PLAN INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>28.098</b>	

### **Commitments**

- 5.4 The budget projections for 2026/27 includes commitments of (£3.872m), reflecting corporate changes and decisions already made, as well as changes in presentation of funding due to the implementation of the Fair Funding Review as at 1 April 2026. The total commitments are shown in Table 3 below:

<b>Table 3: Commitments in the 2026/27 budget:</b>	
	£m
Reversal of 2025/26 Risk Provision	(1.747)
Reversal of 2025/26 New Homes Bonus one off allocation	1.014
Reduction in Crisis & Resilience Fund to support General Fund Expenditure	0.200
Other budget changes	(0.137)
<b>Subtotal included in Table 6</b>	<b>(0.670)</b>
2025/26 Pay Award above modelled allowance	0.827
Change in Financing Costs	0.913
Change in Employers Pension Contribution	(6.832)
Reduction in Homelessness Funding	1.373
Creation of 2026/27 Risk Provision	1.125
Change in contribution to reserves	(0.608)
<b>Total Budget commitment</b>	<b>(3.872)</b>

## 6 Reserves Position and One-Off Funding

### *Latest Financial Performance in 2025/26*

- 6.1 Targeted Budget Management (TBM) is the council's system of budget monitoring and the TBM Month 9 (December) report included in the February Cabinet agenda indicates an improved forecast overspend of £4.861m on the General Fund.
- 6.2 The report describes that one of the significant drivers of the overspend is the cost of and demand for emergency and temporary accommodation, alongside the demand for other statutory services, pressure on income sources, and a potential increase in the Council's Housing Benefit Subsidy loss.
- 6.3 The report indicates a number of recovery measures that have been put in place to help improve the position over the year including strategic financial recovery measures for temporary accommodation, tightened spending and recruitment freezes. The position is also supported by the release of the one off risk provision (£1.747m), deferral of the planned contribution to the working balance (£1.125m) and application of previously earmarked reserves and balances (£1.109m).
- 6.4 The TBM Month 9 report includes the forecast of the 2025/26 council tax collection fund and business rates collection fund positions. The Council's share of the council tax collection fund is a forecast deficit of £1.071m, which is a result primarily due to a lower collection rate than anticipated. In addition, the Council's share of the business rates collection fund is a forecast deficit of £1.427m, primarily due to the increase in cost of appeals. Therefore, after allowing for a contribution from the Section 31 timing reserve of £0.730m, the total collection fund deficit that is required to be funded as part of the 2026/27 budget is £1.768m.

### *One-off Resource Liabilities and Proposed Allocations*

- 6.5 The Working Balance is recommended to be increased to a minimum of £12.000m to meet general risks applicable to a unitary authority. An overspend in 2022/23 resulted in the working balance being reduced by £3.374m to £5.626m. A repayment was made in 2024/25, and an additional

contribution was made in 2024/25 from the underspend within the year to bring the balance to £7.840m.

- 6.6 The planned repayment of £1.125m in 2025/26 has been deferred within TBM Month 9 to support the in-year financial position. If the TBM outturn improves significantly, this will be reviewed to ascertain whether some or all of the planned 2025/26 repayment can be made. However, there is some way to go for the position to improve, and therefore the current assumption is that the working balance will remain at £7.840m on 31 March 2026.
- 6.7 Table 4 identifies the potential one-off resources and liabilities that will need to be taken into account in setting the 2026/27 budget. At this stage, this assumes that spending in 2025/26 will reduce further by at least £1.661m from the TBM Month 9 (December) projection. This is based on the assumption that recruitment and spending controls will continue until at least the end of the financial year and takes into account trends in recent years which saw improvements between the month 9 forecast and the final outturn position of £1.853m (2021/22), £3.553m (2022/23), £2.257m (2023/24) and £4.401m (2024/25) respectively.
- 6.8 There is a risk that the TBM position will not improve as much as anticipated, or that the council cannot increase its application of Flexible Use of Capital Receipts by the value anticipated. This risks further drawdown from the Working Balance in 2025/26. Any change to the TBM position by the end of the financial year will be reflected in the 2025/26 outturn report to a meeting of the Cabinet, usually in June.

<b>Table 4: Projected One-off Resources</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>Revenue Budget position 2025/26 (TBM):</b>		
Forecast outturn overspend as at TBM Month 9: December	-4.861	
Potential amendment of capitalisation of transformation costs using Flexible Use of Capital Receipts	+3.200	
Projected further improvement between Month 9 and Outturn due to spending and recruitment controls	+1.661	
Sub-total Estimated Year-end TBM Outturn		<b>+0.000</b>
<b>Collection Fund Position:</b>		
Estimated 2025/26 Council Tax collection fund net deficit	-1.071	
Estimated 2025/26 Business Rates Retention collection fund deficit	-1.427	
Contribution from Section 31 grant timing reserve	0.730	
Sub-total Collection funds net position		<b>-1.768</b>
<b>2026/27 Resources:</b>		
Exceptional Financial Support		<b>+1.768</b>
<b>Projected One-off Resources from 2026/27</b>		
		<b>+0.000</b>
<b>One-off Allocations in 2026/27:</b>		
None		-
<b>Total One-off allocations</b>		
		-
<b>Balance</b>		<b>0.000</b>

**7 Savings Proposals**

- 7.1 As noted above, there is a significant projected budget shortfall next year and for each year of the 4-year MTFS. To balance the budget therefore requires substantial annual savings programmes as has been the case since at least 2010.
- 7.2 The savings package proposed totals £20.749m for 2026/27. Savings proposals are provided at Appendix 2 and are accompanied by Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) at Appendix 7 where appropriate. Medium-term transformation and savings programmes to address future projected budget shortfalls are included in the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

**8 Exceptional Financial Support**

- 8.1 The council is required to set a legally balanced budget for the forthcoming financial year. Within the Local Government Finance Policy Statement, published in November 2025, the government committed to the continuation of the Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) framework to provide support for local authorities facing exceptional pressures. The number of local authorities accessing EFS has increased in recent years, underlining the exceptional financial pressures being faced by many local authorities.
- 8.2 Due to the exceptional pressures being faced by the Council, particularly in Homelessness, and Emergency and Temporary Accommodation, the Council has requested EFS to support a balanced position in 2026/27. The budget report is therefore being recommended on the basis that the request for EFS is granted.
- 8.3 When EFS is granted, the government provides a capitalisation directive to the Council to allow it to capitalise revenue expenditure on a one-off basis. This has two important implications:
  - The EFS will need to be funded either by capital receipts, or by borrowing. As there is already pressure on the council’s capital receipts, the working assumption is that borrowing will be required to fund the request. The repayment cost of borrowing £15 million is approximately £1.250m per year;
  - Any budget gap funded by EFS increases the budget gap in the following year.
- 8.4 A total of £15 million has been requested; whilst the budget shortfall for 2026/27 is £4.473m, the amount requested recognises that to become financially sustainable, the Council will need to replenish its reserves and balances to provide a more generous buffer to meet unexpected future risks and pressures.
- 8.5 The below table outlines how the EFS is expected to be used. The final expected application of EFS will be reported as part of the 2025/26 TBM Outturn report.

<b>Table 5: Expected application of EFS</b>	
	£m
Fund exceptional revenue pressures for TA and homelessness	4.473
Fund 2025/26 net Collection Fund deficit (Table 4)	1.768

Replenish planned General Risk Reserve used in 2025/26	1.109
Increase General Risk reserve	2.790
Increase working balance to £12 million	4.160
Top up Earmarked Reserves	0.700
<b>Total EFS Requested</b>	<b>15.000</b>

## 9 Medium Term Financial Plan 2026/27 to 2029/30

9.1 The Medium Term Financial Strategy 2026/27 to 2029/30 (MTFS) has been developed to complement the Council Plan and is an expression of the how the council aims to support its priorities and invest in transformation and change in financial terms. The MTFS is provided at Appendix 4.

9.2 The MTFS sets out key financial planning assumptions over the 4-year period together with high level information about transformation and savings programmes aimed at addressing projected future budget shortfalls and achieving financial sustainability. Key assumptions covered by the MTFS include:

- Known commitments arising from previous approvals;
- The revenue implications of financing the council's Capital Investment Programme;
- Council Tax increases, Adult Social Care precepts and taxbase forecasts;
- Business Rate Retention increases and taxbase forecasts;
- Fees & Charges increases;
- Government Grant funding projections;
- Corporate inflation provisions and assumptions including pay, prices and pensions;
- Anticipated investment requirements to support Council Plan priorities.

9.3 A summary of the 4-year MTFS is provided in the table below:

<b>Table 6: Medium Term Financial Strategy 2026 to 2030</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29</b>	<b>2029/30</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>Net Budget Requirement B/Fwd</b>	<b>332.804</b>	<b>341.476</b>	<b>349.068</b>	<b>354.335</b>
Remove net one-off short term funding and expenditure	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<b>Adjusted Budget Requirement B/Fwd</b>	<b>332.804</b>	<b>341.476</b>	<b>349.068</b>	<b>354.335</b>
Standard Pay and Inflation – Expenditure	12.881	12.943	13.280	13.663
Standard Inflation – Income	(3.213)	(3.553)	(3.462)	(3.559)
Investment in priorities across Homes & Adult Social Care services	12.915	13.744	15.242	15.970
Investment in priorities across Families, Children & Wellbeing services	5.640	3.074	2.685	2.552
Investment in priorities across City Operations services	3.240	0.481	0.185	0.139
All other priority investments	6.303	1.326	1.050	1.000
Changes in Grant Funding – Homelessness Funding	1.373	0.428	0.857	0.000
Commitment – change in contribution to/from reserves	(0.608)	2.498	0.000	0.000
Commitment – Change in Financing Costs (except EFS impact)	0.913	1.618	0.620	(0.172)

Commitment – 2025/26 Pay Award above 2.75% assumption	0.827	0.000	0.000	0.000
Other Commitment - Impact of previous decisions made (Detailed further in Table 3 for 2026/27)	(0.670)	0.817	0.826	1.598
Reduction in Employers Pension Contribution	(6.832)	0.000	0.000	0.000
2026/27 Risk provision	1.125	(1.125)	0.000	0.000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>366.698</b>	<b>373.727</b>	<b>380.351</b>	<b>385.526</b>
Available funding (below)	(341.476)	(349.068)	(354.335)	(369.229)
<b>Budget Shortfall</b>	<b>25.222</b>	<b>24.659</b>	<b>26.016</b>	<b>16.297</b>
<b>Plans to balance shortfalls:</b>				
<i>Transformation and Savings Plans</i>	(20.749)	(30.382)	(26.016)	(16.297)
<i>Exceptional Financial Support (EFS)</i>	(15.000)	15.000	0.000	0.000
<i>Less: Contributions to reserves from EFS (working balance, risk reserve &amp; earmarked reserved)</i>	8.759	(8.759)	0.000	0.000
<i>Less: Funding of net Collection Fund Balances</i>	1.768	(1.768)	0.000	0.000
<i>Cost of funding Exceptional Financial Support*</i>	0.000	1.250	0.000	0.000
<b>Budget Requirement C/Fwd</b>	<b>341.476</b>	<b>349.068</b>	<b>354.335</b>	<b>369.229</b>
<b>Funding:</b>				
Revenue Support Grant (RSG)	75.522	66.480	57.591	57.591
Locally retained Business Rates	58.442	60.193	61.833	63.491
Net Collection Fund position	(2.498)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Council Tax including Adult Social Care Precepts	210.010	222.395	234.911	248.147
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>341.476</b>	<b>349.068</b>	<b>354.335</b>	<b>369.229</b>

\*Year 1 cost of EFS is built into cashflow forecasts within the Financing Costs budget

9.4 The MTFs indicates that transformation and savings programmes will need to deliver savings and efficiencies of £93.444m over the 4-year period to achieve a balanced and sustainable position.

## 10 Staffing Implications (General Fund Services)

10.1 An estimate of the posts to be deleted in relation to the budget proposals has been made and indicates that approximately 94 full time equivalent (fte) posts are expected to be deleted from the council's staffing structure, approximately 2.6% of total staffing. Many of these posts will already be held vacant in lieu of savings proposals but some may initially result in staff being potentially placed at risk of redundancy. This is difficult to estimate with certainty but approximately 40 fte staff (not headcount) have been identified as potentially at risk at this stage of the process. There are no expected TUPE implications expected as a result of the proposals. This information has been shared with the council's recognised trades unions and the staff affected in advance of the release of this report.

10.2 The council is continuing to work on an Organisational Change transformation programme that will explore potential savings through a number of measures including use of digital innovation, functional alignment and/or integration of services and service redesign to identify further potential savings. A high level estimate of 22 fte post deletions and 11 fte placed at risk of redundancy are included in the total for organisational change. Any proposals that arise from

these changes will be subject to consultation, and final proposals may result in more or less fte changes as and when they come forward.

- 10.3 As in previous years, actual numbers of staff affected will be highly dependent on the detailed options proposed and on the outcome of formal consultation with staff and unions which will often lead to changes to the original proposals. As previously experienced, it is likely that any reductions in posts will be resolved through normal turnover, or through redeployment to other vacancies across the council, thereby minimising the risk of redundancies as far as possible.
- 10.4 If the proposals do potentially place any staff at risk of redundancy the council will support them by:
- Providing appropriate support to staff throughout the change process to enable them to maximise any opportunities available;
  - Controlling recruitment and ensuring there is a clear business case for any recruitment activity;
  - Managing redeployment at a corporate level and maximising the opportunities for movement across the organisation;
  - Managing the use of temporary or agency resources via regular reports to Directorate Leadership Teams (DLT's);
  - Inviting applications for voluntary severance where appropriate to staff affected by budget proposals, subject to viability and approval on a case by case basis.
- 10.5 These measures will remain in place as consultation with trade unions, staff and other stakeholders is undertaken. Where necessary, a targeted voluntary approach to releasing staff in areas undergoing change will be managed to support service redesigns whilst ensuring that the organisation retains the skills that will be needed for the future.

## 11 The Innovation Fund & the Strategic Transformation Portfolio

- 11.1 The government extended the ability of all Local Authorities to use capital receipts to support the transformation of services to deliver savings and efficiencies (known as the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts) to March 2030.
- 11.2 The Innovation Fund was established for the 2025/26 budget to enable the flexible use capital receipts to support the delivery of transformation to achieve a balanced MTFs. There are a number of strands of activity, but most notably, the Transformation Portfolio which have been established to deliver a wide range of programmes to underpin the delivery of the MTFs. These were described in the Budget Update presented to Cabinet in December, and are included in more detail in the MTFs at Appendix 4. Table 7 shows the indicative Innovation Fund over the MTFs.

<b>Table 7: Indicative Innovation Fund</b>				
<b>Category of Investment</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29</b>	<b>2029/30</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Transformation & Innovation strategic programmes	3.400	1.900	0.600	0.600
Invest-to-Save business cases	0.700	0.100	0.300	0.300
Digital and AI Development	1.550	1.550	1.550	1.550
Managing Staffing Changes (exit packages)	1.250	0.500	0.500	0.500

Enabling Resources (e.g Project Officers, Workstyles Team, HR etc)	3.326	3.326	2.326	1.326
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.226</b>	<b>7.376</b>	<b>5.276</b>	<b>4.276</b>

## 12 Capital Strategy and Capital Investment Programme

12.1 The Prudential Framework requires local authorities to produce a Capital Strategy which is to be presented and approved by full Council each year. The purpose of the Capital Strategy is to provide a single place for transparency and accountability of local authority non-financial investments and its Capital Investment Programme, including any commercial investments in property or loans to third parties.

12.2 The aim of the Capital Strategy is to ensure members are fully conversant with the risks of capital investments and are aware of how the risks are proportional to the council's core service activity. The document will include:

- The proposed Capital Investment Programme
- The Governance & Risk Framework
- Potential and pending non-financial<sup>1</sup> investments
- An overview of the council's risk exposure

12.3 The revised Prudential Code for Capital Finance issued in 2021 prohibits Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) lending to local authorities that plan to borrow to buy commercial assets primarily for yield. The PWLB will still be available to all local authorities for refinancing. In order to borrow from the PWLB, local authorities are now required to submit a summary of their planned capital spending and PWLB borrowing for the following three years. The Capital Strategy and Treasury Management Strategy are compliant with the new code and do not include capital investment activity where the primary purpose is commercial yield.

12.4 The Capital Strategy forms part of the General Fund budget report to ensure that the link between capital and revenue decisions is maintained and to ensure that budget resourcing decisions are taken in the context of the full range of proposed revenue and capital budgets, resources, investments and savings.

### ***Capital Investment Programme***

12.5 As previously, a 5-year capital programme has been developed and the associated capital financing implications will be included in the MTFS.

12.6 The capital expenditure estimates incorporate planned rolling investment programmes alongside major infrastructure projects. The key rolling programmes, including those re-focused to support Council Plan priorities, are as follows:

- Investment in Housing Stock and acquisition through the Housing Revenue Account;
- The Education Capital programme, which provides investment from central government for Education Capital Maintenance, High Needs provision and Devolved Formula Capital for schools;

<sup>1</sup> Non-Financial investments are investments in capital assets such as plant, property, equipment, hardware and software.

- Disabled Facilities Grants to help maintain people in their homes;
- The Local Transport Plan (LTP) to support sustainable transport and transport infrastructure;
- The Digital, Data and Technology Strategy (DDaT) and other IT&D investments including the Corporate Systems Improvement programme for HR, Finance, Payroll and Procurement systems, to ensure the council is able to continue to improve its on-line services, improve the capture and use of data, and make use of emerging technologies and AI to improve automation and efficiency;
- The Asset Management Fund (AMF) to ensure the strategic elements of the Asset Management Plan can be supported;
- The Commercial Asset Investment Fund (CAIF) to protect and enhance the income generated from the existing commercial and farmland property portfolios;
- Corporate Planned Maintenance (PMB) to ensure the operational elements of the Asset Management Plan are supported and that backlog maintenance does not build up unduly;
- The Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) to support the advancement of major regeneration schemes and initiatives, and;
- The Vehicle Fleet and plant replacement annual programme.

12.7 Capital receipts from the sale of surplus land and buildings support the capital programme and the projections are regularly reviewed. The Capital Strategy allows for an assessment of the potential social value of surplus or underperforming assets against the potential disposal value and where possible will aim to maximise the use of assets to enhance social value across a 4-year Asset Management Plan. Assets for disposal are also considered for suitability as council housing sites and for potential appropriation to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) but this must comply with the duty of obtaining best consideration.

12.8 The detailed capital programme is set out in Appendix 5 (and will be included in the council's Budget Book) and shows the approved and proposed capital investments for each corporate directorate.

12.9 The overall Capital Investment Programme for 2026/27 is £239.816m. The proposed investments are summarised as follows:

Table 8: Capital Investment Programme 2026/27	£m
<b>Housing</b> including New Homes for Neighbourhoods, the Home Purchase scheme, the Eastergate Road housing project, the Moulsecoomb Hub project, the Housing Joint Venture, and conversions within the Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	112.987
<b>Net Zero Programme</b> including Carbon Neutral and Net Zero investment, Seafront Heritage Lighting programme, Zero Emission buses, Communal Bin Infrastructure and carbon reduction measures to operational buildings	4.695
<b>Parks &amp; Open Spaces</b> including parks infrastructure, Stanmer Pond restoration and Stanmer Park security	1.402
<b>Sport &amp; Recreation</b> including works to the Prince Regent leisure centre and improvements to Seafront facilities	0.563

<b>Transport &amp; Highways</b> reflecting the Local Transport Grant (LTG) and Maintenance grant allocations for 2026/27, Active Travel programme for the A259, and upgrades to the CCTV programme	10.450
<b>Schools Investment</b> to provide educational places for pupils based on demographic changes in the city	1.419
<b>Regeneration</b> including Madeira Terraces, King Alfred Leisure Centre, Valley Gardens Phase 3, The Royal Pavilion Estate, New England House and Brighton Marina to River Adur Coast protection works	55.423
<b>Tackling Inequality</b> including Temporary Accommodation purchase, Better Care/Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) projects, Universal Free School Meals and the Knoll House redevelopment	12.632
<b>Building Maintenance</b> including Planned Maintenance, Education and Social Care Buildings Maintenance, the Asset Management Fund, Brighton Centre essential maintenance, Public Conveniences, Seafront Railings upgrade, and structural repairs within the HRA	23.626
<b>IT&amp;D &amp; Innovation</b> including The Innovation Fund, the Digital Transformation programme, the Corporate Systems Improvement Programme, investment in digital services for customers, and ongoing investment in the IT&D infrastructure and Digital Data & Technology (DDaT) project	14.119
<b>Vehicles &amp; Equipment</b> for the council's vehicle fleet replacement programme	2.500
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2026/27</b>	<b>239.816</b>

12.10 The Capital Strategy at Appendix 5 also sets out the expected profile of investments over the 5-year period and indicates how the programme will be funded from a combination of government capital grants, capital receipts, capital reserves, HRA direct revenue funding, external contributions and prudential borrowing.

### 13 Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategy

13.1 The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) and Annual Investment Strategy (AIS) are now incorporated in the budget report to ensure that inter-related financial decisions and strategies can be considered together. The council is required to operate a balanced budget, which broadly means that cash raised during the year will meet cash expenditure. Part of the Treasury Management operation is to ensure that this cash flow is adequately planned, with cash being available when it is needed (liquidity) and that surplus monies are only invested into counterparties and instruments commensurate with the council's risk appetite.

13.2 Another important function of the Treasury Management service is the funding of the council's capital plans. The capital plans provide a guide to the council's borrowing need, which is essentially the longer term cash flow plan, to ensure the council can meet its approved capital spending obligations.

13.3 The strategy reflects best practice as set out in the CIPFA Prudential code and the CIPFA Treasury management Code of Practice. The Treasury Management Practices and schedules identify the practices and procedures that will be followed to achieve the aims of the TMSS and that underpin the council's Treasury Management function.

- 13.4 An important change from the TMSS from previous years is that the strategy includes the effect of exceptional financial support on the Council's Capital Financing Requirement and TMSS, on the assumption that the Council's application to the government will be granted.
- 13.5 The AIS for 2026/27 is also incorporated within Appendix 6 to this report. The AIS gives priority to security and liquidity.
- 13.6 Security is achieved by:
- selecting only those institutions that meet stringent credit rating criteria or, in the case of non-rated UK building societies, have a substantial asset base; and
  - limiting exposure risk by limiting the amount invested with any one institution.
- 13.7 Liquidity is achieved by limiting the maximum period for investment and matching investment periods to cash flow requirements.
- 13.8 There are no changes proposed to the council's AIS or risk appetite for 2026/27.

## **14 Budget Book 2026/27**

- 14.1 The council produces an annual Budget Book which aims to support understanding and transparency of the council's budget by providing:
- A summary of the overall council budget 2026/27;
  - A detailed list of anticipated government grants;
  - Basic information about each major service area including service statistics;
  - Information at sub-divisional levels to aid understanding of the wide range of services and teams in each service directorate;
  - Analysis of spending and income by category (subjective analysis);
  - Staffing information for each service;
  - Analysis of budget movements between years;
  - Analysis of savings and investments;
  - Summary information on capital investments;
  - Summary MTFS projections and assumptions.
- 14.2 The Budget Book will be provided to Budget Council as an appendix to the Supplementary Information agenda item.

## **15 Council Tax Setting**

- 15.1 The Administration is proposing a council tax increase of 4.99% which includes a 2% Adult Social Care precept allowed by government within the local government finance settlement. A council tax increase of 4.99% results in a Band D council tax of £2,180.01 for the council's element, an increase of £103.62 from 2025/26.
- 15.2 In order to propose an overall Council Tax for the city, the Council Tax set by other precepting authorities needs to be known and this information will be included in the Supplementary Information item to Budget Council.

### ***Supplementary Information for Budget Council***

15.3 Not all of the budget and council tax information needed to set the budget and council tax is available at present. Therefore, additional information will need to be provided for Budget Council. This will include:

- Any other grants that are announced before Budget Council;
- The agreed Council Tax set by East Sussex Fire Authority and Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner;
- The statutory Council Tax calculations required under the 1992 Local Government Finance Act;
- The full budget and Council Tax resolution for Budget Council;
- Other information as necessary including a detailed Budget Book.

### ***Implementation of exemption for second homes premium***

15.4 At Full Council on 1 February 2024, it was agreed a new 100% Council Tax premium be applied to empty furnished properties (second homes) from 1 April 2025. Following this, a clarification to the premium determination is required in relation to serviced accommodation.

15.5 Serviced accommodation generally offers fully furnished homes (apartments, houses) for short to medium stays, blending the comfort of a home with hotel-like services, including kitchens, WiFi, cleaning, and utilities. Serviced accommodation is not specifically covered by the Levelling-Up and Regeneration Act 2023. They are not anyone's main home and so the premium for empty furnished properties does not apply.

15.6 To ensure transparency and clarity of Brighton & Hove's premium determination, approval is sought for serviced accommodation to be an exemption. If approved, this will come into effect from 1 April 2026. More detail is contained in Appendix 8.

## **16 Report of The Chief Financial Officer (Section 151) Under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003**

16.1 Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 requires the Chief Financial Officer (Section 151 Officer) of a local authority to report on the robustness of the estimates included in the budget and the adequacy of the reserves for which the budget provides. This report has to be considered by the Cabinet and full Council as part of the budget approval and council tax setting process.

### ***Robustness of Estimates***

16.2 There is inevitably an element of judgement in drawing up budget estimates of expenditure and income which are made at a point in time and may change as circumstances change. Global and national events affecting macro-economic factors such as inflation and interest rates continue to make this challenging as they can have significant and unexpected impacts on nearly every aspect of the council's budget. This statement on the robustness of estimates cannot therefore give complete assurance about the proposed budget for 2026/27 but aims to provide the Council with reasonable assurance that budget estimates have been based on the best information and assumptions available at the time, particularly in relation to economic forecasts and indicators, demand-led budget estimates, and pay award and inflation assumptions.

- 16.3 It also aims to demonstrate that sensitivity and risks have been considered. No local authority's reserves and balances are limitless and severe financial shocks can and do destabilise local authorities and can require government intervention should the Council's level of reserves and contingency be insufficient to cover these shocks or service pressures.
- 16.4 For 2026/27, pressures funding of £28.1 million has been identified to meet known commitments and support estimated inflationary and demand pressures including for core statutory demand-led services across Adults Social Care, Children's Safeguarding and Care services, and Homelessness services. These pressures have been calculated through detailed and robust financial analysis which has considered additional numbers of people requiring the Council's support through homelessness and social care services, analysis of market costs for housing or placements, and so on. This should ensure that services start from the position of being funded for known and projected cost and demand increases, the impact of some external factors is difficult to predict accurately. Macro-economic factors can fluctuate significantly but also the impact of increases in the National Living Wage and Employers' National Insurance may play out in different ways across the private, independent and third sectors from which the council procures and commissions over £300 million services each year.
- 16.5 These and other potential risks and sensitivities are considered in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (Appendix 4) which attempts to quantify risks and sets out the main remedies and mitigations available to the council. As seen in the current financial year, there have been significant pressures on finances, predominantly as a result of the huge pressures experienced in emergency and temporary accommodation, and to an extent in respect of social care placements. Strict and significant recruitment and spending controls alongside other financial management actions have been in place throughout the year in order to bring the Council's financial position towards balance. TBM2 at the beginning of the year set out a projected overspend of more than £15 million in 2025/26, and subsequent to that additional pressures have emerged, for example in respect of housing benefit subsidy (£4.7m) and a planning legal challenge. The current overspend at TBM9 is projected to be £4.8m, which is a considerable improvement against over £20m of pressures, however more work is needed to bring the position into balance.
- 16.6 The TBM Month 9 overspend forecast is still unmanageable given the Council's very low level of reserves and therefore work is needed to continue to address this overspend position. Taken as a whole, this position demonstrates that:
- The authority continues to adopt a proactive approach to managing its budget, taking appropriate financial management actions in sufficient time to avert overspending and any unplanned use of reserves or the Working Balance. While not an ideal scenario, given the financial challenges of the sector and successive very large annual savings requirements, the approach to in-year financial management is proving effective and enables the authority to live within very tight resource constraints albeit with some impacts on service delivery.
  - The authority continues to achieve substantial savings, supported by invest-to-save programmes that are backed by the use of capital receipt flexibilities.

- The authority has been able to maintain and build its reserves and provisions since overspending in 2022/23. However, given the context of huge service pressures, particularly in respect of emergency and temporary accommodation, it is the view of the Chief Finance Officer that the current level of reserves is too low to be considered adequate in the current financial planning climate. The plan to increase this level of reserves is set out in more detail below.

16.7 The budget set out in this report includes a number of measures to protect the Council against future financial planning risk. These are set out on the basis that the Council's application to government for £15 million of Exceptional Financial Support is granted. These are as follows:

- A Working Balance of £8 million which will be increased to £12 million to meet the revised recommended level;
- A risk provision held in revenue of £1.1m to enable the management of unexpected risks and pressures;
- A General Risk Reserve of £3.9 million to provide an additional safeguard for unexpected risks and pressures;
- Other Earmarked Reserves (excluding Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy) of approximately £12m that can be borrowed from internally in the short term;
- Approximately £17m in Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy resources held in lieu of agreed schemes that can also be borrowed from internally to manage short term pressures;
- Continued flexibility provided by the government's capital receipt flexibilities, allowing the council to capitalise more eligible revenue costs, for example, project managers, should it need to;
- Flexibility in the application of unringfenced grants including the Extended Producer Responsibility grant, Shared Prosperity Fund and many other grants that allow administrative costs to be charged to the grant;

16.8 Taking into account identified risks as set out in the MTFs (Appendix 4), the Council is recommended to maintain its working balance at between £12-15 million. The level on 1 April 2026, taking the recommendations in this report, is expected to be £12 million. This is just over 3.5% of the net General Fund budget. The Council should also continue to maintain a General Risk Reserve and other earmarked reserves to meet long term commitments and provide additional flexibility to manage any short term pressures. The Working Balance and other usable reserves are held to mitigate exceptional legal and financial risks including appeals and challenges, as well as potential billing failures, civil contingencies and other emergencies.

### ***Adequacy of Reserves***

16.9 The recommendation on the prudent level of the General Fund Working Balance has been based on the robustness of estimates information and a risk assessment of the budget included in the MTFs (Appendix 4).

16.10 As indicated above, current analysis of authority-level risks indicates that a working balance of between £12-15 million is prudent and appropriate having taken into account foreseeable risks in relation to the 2026/27 budget and in the context of other available short-term resources. Importantly, the 2026/27

budget also includes a risk provision of £1.1m, and will hold a General Risk reserve of £3.9m to mitigate against potential part-year effect savings.

- 16.11 These figures are set out on the basis that the Council's application to government for exceptional financial support is granted. It is important to note that this is not additional money, it is the flexibility to capitalise revenue spend/pressures and spread this cost over a longer period of time to help financial sustainability. The cost of borrowing from exceptional financial support has been factored into the MTFS. The delivery of the Council's transformation plan over the next 4 years is essential to support the achievement of the targets within the MTFS.
- 16.12 All specific reserves have been reviewed in detail to ensure they are set at an appropriate level as set out in Annex A of the MTFS. The council's earmarked reserves fulfil specific contractual, legal or financial risk requirements and are not therefore available to support the annual revenue budget. However, as noted above, they can be borrowed from internally to alleviate short term pressures, provided that provision for their replenishment is built into the budget and MTFS ahead of when they are required.

### ***Assurance Statement of the Council's Section 151 Officer***

- 16.13 In relation to the 2026/27 General Fund revenue budget, the Section 151 Chief Financial Officer has examined the budget proposals and considers that the budget is robust and deliverable while accepting that there are inherent risks. The budget is recommended on the assumption that the Council's application to government for exceptional financial support will be granted. This will enable the Council to fully fund service pressures (particularly in respect of emergency and temporary accommodation), and build sufficient reserves and risk provisions to leave the Council in a more financially resilient position. The delivery of the Transformation Programmes underpinning the MTFS is essential, ensuring that the application for exceptional financial support is only one off. Ongoing reliance on exceptional financial support would push up the Council's levels of debt and reduce financial sustainability in the medium term.
- 16.14 Should the Council's application for exceptional financial support not be granted, the Chief Financial Officer is likely to be in a position of needing to issue a Section 114 notice, requiring the Council to reconvene to consider alternative proposals to balance the budget
- 16.15 In terms of the adequacy of reserves, the Section 151 Chief Finance Officer considers a minimum working balance of between £12-15 million to be appropriate to manage risks, taking into account other available reserves and resource options.

## **17 Analysis & Consideration of any alternative options**

- 17.1 The budget process allows all parties to engage in the examination of budget proposals and to put forward viable alternative budget and council tax proposals to Budget Council on 26 February 2026. Budget Council has the opportunity to debate the proposals put forward by the Cabinet at the same time as any viable alternative proposals. Budget Council will normally be recommended to adopt special procedures at the start of the Budget Council meeting, which set out the procedure applicable to any alternative budget proposals put forward.

- 17.2 In this respect, a 'Budget Protocol' for managing alternative proposals (Budget Amendments) was presented to full Council on 29 January 2026 and determines both the number of allowable Budget Amendments and the process and timeline for their prior assessment and sign off by the council's Section 151 Chief Financial Officer, Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer.

## **18 Community Engagement & Consultation**

- 18.1 This report will be shared widely with key stakeholders and partners as it signals to all parties the anticipated financial challenge facing the council for next year and beyond.
- 18.2 The development of the council's budget and future plans is a major undertaking and proposals can affect a wide range of services and therefore have impacts on residents, businesses, visitors and staff. Appropriate and necessary statutory consultation and engagement will be undertaken with residents, service users, staff, unions, partners, business representatives and the community and voluntary sector.

### **General Information**

- 18.3 The Council's overarching budget proposals will be published through a range of channels to ensure that residents and community groups have an opportunity to feed into implementation plans with the Council as they are taken forward.

### **City Partners**

- 18.4 Information has been shared with City Partners through the City Management Board and other channels. In particular, the council continues to engage fully with the NHS Sussex Integrated Care System to ensure that the budget processes of the two organisations are aligned and communicated as far as practicably possible.

### **Business Engagement**

- 18.5 There is ongoing liaison and discussion with the Economic Partnership that covers potential funding sources and bids, city regeneration, economic growth, employment and apprenticeship strategies. Officers of the council and members of the Administration meet periodically with representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and B&H Economic Partnership to discuss the council's high-level plans and over-arching budget situation. Formal consultation will also take place with business rate payers in line with statutory guidance.

### **Schools Community**

- 18.6 The Schools Forum, a consultative body attended by representatives of all school phases, will primarily focus on the allocation of the ring-fenced Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding across the relevant budget 'blocks' but will also be periodically informed about the General Fund budget position and proposed changes to council services where these may have implications for schools. Engagement with the schools forum took place in January.

### **Third Sector Engagement**

- 18.7 A key stakeholder is the Community & Voluntary Sector, and communications and meetings with representatives of the sector have been undertaken to provide an opportunity to feedback views to the council and members which will inform final budget proposals. The Council funds lots of activity within the

voluntary and community sector, through the Thriving Communities Fund, the Household Support Fund (which will become the Crisis and Resilience Fund in 2026/27) and the Fairness Fund.

### **Staff and Union Engagement**

- 18.8 Consultation and engagement with staff and unions is also very important. The scale of financial challenge indicates further significant impacts on the configuration and/or provision of services which will inevitably entail staffing changes. Meetings with the council's recognised unions, including appropriate officers and members of the Administration, have been scheduled regularly to keep unions abreast of developing proposals and to ensure they have sight of where support to their memberships may be required. The council's Joint Staff Consultation Forum will continue to provide a formal setting for sharing and raising matters relating to the overall budget process and development.
- 18.9 Detailed proposals have been shared with Departmental Consultative Groups (DCGs) and through line management. Formal consultation and engagement with directly affected staff will be undertaken as normal, including relevant union representation, under the council's Organisation Change Management Framework.

### **Specific Consultation**

- 18.10 It is recognised that specific consultation will be required for individual proposals. CLT and DLTs will lead on this engagement where there are changes to service delivery models or changes to policy frameworks that underpin how we provide services to residents and businesses.

## **19 Financial Implications:**

- 19.1 The financial implications are contained in the body and appendices of this report.

Finance Officer consulted: Haley Woollard

Date: 26/01/26

## **20 Legal Implications:**

- 20.1 Cabinet has the delegated power to formulate the council's revenue budget proposals, Capital Strategy, including the capital investment programme, and the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, including the Annual Investment Strategy, and to recommend their adoption by full Council as part of the overall budget setting process. This decision falls within the "Allocation of Responsibilities for Functions for the Cabinet" under Part 2E of the constitution. This report complies with the Council's process for developing the budget framework, in accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules as set out in Part 3D of the Constitution.
- 20.2 Whilst The budget decision is an indicative resourcing decision and does not necessarily constitute final approval of what policies will be implemented or what sums of money will be saved under the budget proposals. By approving this budget, an overall indicative budget envelope is agreed for Directorates and individual services for the 2026/27 budget, with the Corporate Leadership Team being required to meet the revenue budget for the delivery of Council Services.
- 20.3 Any decisions taken as part of the budget setting process are subject to compliance with relevant legal requirements, where appropriate, before

implementation. The revenue budget and capital strategy recommendations in the report do not commit the council to implement any specific savings proposal. When specific decisions on budget reductions are necessary, focused consultations and the full equality implications of doing one thing rather than another will be considered in appropriate detail. If it is considered necessary, in light of equality or other considerations, it will be open to those taking the decisions to spend more on one activity and less on another within the overall resources available to the council.

- 20.4 For these purposes, the “budget” includes the allocation of financial resources to different services and projects, and the setting of the council tax.
- 20.5 The Council has a legal obligation to set a balanced budget on an annual basis as prescribed in the Local Government and Finance Act 1992 and associated Regulations. The recommendations contained in this report will assist in the discharge of that obligation by full Council. In the event that the application to obtain Exceptional Financial Support is not agreed by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Cabinet will note the s 151 officer’s view that the Council will need to issue a Section 114 notice, requiring the Council to reconvene to consider alternative proposals to balance the budget.
- 20.6 The public sector equality duty applies to the decisions relating to the budget in this report. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 Cabinet is required to have due regard to the need to: eliminate unlawful discrimination harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and foster good relations between people who share protected characteristics and those who do not. Appendix 7 sets out the equality impact assessments of the budget proposals and will assist Cabinet in complying with this duty.
- 20.6 Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies to any member of Cabinet present at a meeting when making a recommendation relating to a council tax calculation, if at that time the member is due to pay council tax payments which have remained unpaid for at least two months. In those circumstances the member must as soon as practicable after the meeting’s commencement disclose the fact that the section applies and not vote on any question with respect to this matter. These provisions apply to this Cabinet meeting.

Lawyer consulted: Elizabeth Culbert

Date: 29/01/2026

## **21 Risk Implications**

- 21.1 There are a range of risks relating to the council’s short and medium term budget strategy including the ongoing economic impact of the higher inflationary environment, the impact of the cost-of-living crisis, further potential reductions in grant funding, the impact of legislative changes, and/or other changes in demands. The budget process will normally include recognition of these risks and identify potential options for their mitigation.
- 21.2 A range of risk sensitivities have been calculated and an assessment of these risks has been included in the MTFs at Appendix 4.

- 21.3 The delivery of the 2026/27 budget to a breakeven position by 31 March 2027 relies upon the delivery of the savings proposals outlined in Appendix 2. Officers will monitor the savings delivery monthly through the Savings & Innovation Delivery Board during 2026/27 and corrective actions will be taken to mitigate non-delivery if appropriate.

## **22 Equalities Implications**

- 22.1 In Brighton & Hove City Council a budget Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) process has been used to identify the potential disproportionate impacts of proposals on groups/individuals covered by legislation (the 'protected characteristics' in the Equality Act 2010) and actions to mitigate these negative impacts or promote positive impacts. This is a key part of meeting the requirements of the Act and demonstrating that the council is doing so.
- 22.2 In law, the potential impacts identified, and how far proposed actions mitigate them, must be given due regard by decision-makers when making budget and resource decisions. However, as noted under legal implications above, in setting the budget members are making resourcing decisions which remain subject to compliance with all necessary legal and statutory consultation requirements.
- 22.3 All proposals with a potential equalities impact in 2026/27 will have an EIA completed and provided to members of the relevant Scrutiny Committees and to all Members for the Budget Council. EIAs are cross-referenced with savings proposals in Appendix 2. Detailed EIAs are available at Appendix 7.
- 22.4 Note that, as in previous years, EIAs relating to staffing impacts are not published with the budget report as these may contain sensitive information. Instead, EIAs relating to staffing changes are provided as part of the relevant consultation paper issued to affected staff and recognised trade unions.

## **23 Sustainability Implications**

- 23.1 The council's revenue and capital budgets have been developed with sustainability as an important consideration to ensure that, wherever possible, proposals can contribute to reducing environmental impacts and support progress toward a carbon-neutral city.

## **24 Health and Well-being Implications**

- 24.1 The council's budget includes very substantial provision for expenditure on Adult and Children's Social Care, Public Health, Housing and Homelessness, Welfare Assistance (for example the Council Tax Reduction Scheme), Education and Skills, and many other essential services that support vulnerable people and children, and households on low incomes or experiencing homelessness. These services contribute significantly to the health and well-being of thousands of residents and the wider population, upholding the council's priority to support 'A healthy city that helps people to thrive' and engender 'A fair and inclusive city'.

## **25 Conclusion**

- 25.1 The council is under a statutory duty to set its budget and council tax before 11 March each year and must agree a lawful and balanced budget. This report sets out the budget assumptions to be used as the basis for Council Tax calculations in order to meet the statutory duty and the proposals to achieve a balanced budget, including the application the Council has made to MHCLG

for Exceptional Financial Support. The full details of 2026/27 revenue and capital budgets are appended to this report and will be brought together in an annual Budget Book which will be provided to Budget Council as a supplementary information item

## **Supporting Documentation**

### **Appendices:**

1. Budget Allocations 2026/27
2. Detailed savings 2026/27
3. Fees and Charges 2026/27
4. Medium Term Financial Plan 2026/27 to 2029/30
5. Capital Strategy 2026/27 to 2030/31 including the Capital Investment Programme 2026/27
6. Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2026/27
7. Equalities Impact Assessments (EIAs) – Individual Assessments
8. Second Homes Premium: Serviced Accommodation exception

Budget Allocations 2026/27 and changes from 2025/26

Appendix 1

	2025/26 Adjusted Base £'000	Inflation £'000	Service Pressures £'000	Commitments and Investments £'000	Exceptional Financial Support £'000	VFM & Other Savings £'000	2026/27 Original Budget £'000	Change over adjusted base £'000	Change over adjusted base %
Families, Children & Wellbeing	86,347	2,682	5,640	(1,739)	-	(1,870)	91,060	4,713	5.46
Homes & Adult Social Care	152,724	4,788	12,915	(251)	-	(7,862)	162,314	9,590	6.28
City Operations	49,957	1,435	3,240	(2,121)	-	(5,222)	47,289	(2,668)	(5.34)
Central Hub	31,909	817	2,514	(1,052)	-	(2,670)	31,518	(391)	(1.23)
<b>Total Directorate Spending</b>	<b>320,937</b>	<b>9,722</b>	<b>24,309</b>	<b>(5,163)</b>		<b>(17,624)</b>	<b>332,181</b>	<b>11,244</b>	<b>3.50</b>
Housing Benefit Subsidy	699	-	2,400	-	-	-	3,099	2,400	343.35
Bulk Insurance Premia	4,348	67	-	150	-	-	4,565	217	4.99
Capital Financing Costs	12,540	-	-	913	-	-	13,453	913	7.28
Corporate VFM Savings	(1,140)	(31)	1,171	-	-	(3,125)	(3,125)	(1,985)	174.12
Contingency and Risk Provisions	1,341	38	218	327	-	-	1,924	583	43.48
Un-ringfenced Grants	(984)	-	-	684	(15,000)	-	(15,300)	(14,316)	1,454.88
Levies to External Bodies	249	6	-	-	-	-	255	6	2.41
Other Corporate Budgets	(3,537)	(134)	-	(175)	-	-	(3,846)	(309)	8.74
<b>NET REVENUE EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>334,453</b>	<b>9,668</b>	<b>28,098</b>	<b>(3,264)</b>	<b>(15,000)</b>	<b>(20,749)</b>	<b>333,206</b>	<b>(1,247)</b>	<b>(0.37)</b>
Contributions to/ from(-) reserves	(1,649)	-	-	(608)	10,527	-	8,270	9,919	(601.52)
<b>BUDGET REQUIREMENT</b>	<b>332,804</b>	<b>9,668</b>	<b>28,098</b>	<b>(3,872)</b>	<b>(4,473)</b>	<b>(20,749)</b>	<b>341,476</b>	<b>8,672</b>	<b>2.61</b>
<b>Funded By:</b>									
Revenue Support Grant	76,774						75,522	(1,252)	(1.63)
Business Rates Local Share	60,519						80,712	20,193	33.37
							(22,270)	(23,936)	(1,436.73)
BRR Tariff/top up	1,666								
Business Rates Collection Fund surplus/(deficit)	(1,575)						(1,427)	148	(9.40)
Council Tax Collection Fund surplus/(deficit)	(2,204)						(1,071)	1,133	(51.41)
Council Tax	197,624						210,010	12,386	6.27
<b>Total</b>	<b>332,804</b>						<b>341,476</b>	<b>8,672</b>	<b>2.61</b>



Unit	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000	Total FTE 2025/26	Total 2026/27 FTE Deleted
Education & Learning	667	183.2	0.6
Family Help & Protection	724	531.9	4.2
Commissioning & Communities	479	161.4	5.0
Public Health*	0	65.1	4.6
<b>Families, Children &amp; Wellbeing Total</b>	<b>1,870</b>	<b>941.6</b>	<b>14.4</b>
Adult Social Care	2,696	589.2	17.1
Commissioning & Partnerships	23	59.3	0.6
Housing People Services	5,143	130.6	0.0
Homes & Investment	0	47.9	0.0
<b>Homes &amp; Adult Social Care Total</b>	<b>7,862</b>	<b>827.0</b>	<b>17.7</b>
City Infrastructure	3,119	313.9	10.2
Culture & Environment	615	227.7	3.0
Environmental Services	1,216	435.6	2.0
Place	230	91.6	1.3
Digital Innovation	42	122.7	0.0
<b>City Operations Total</b>	<b>5,222</b>	<b>1,191.5</b>	<b>16.5</b>
Cabinet Office	167	20.1	5.8
Corporate Leadership Office	0	13.1	0.0
Finance & Property	870	284.4	1.0
Governance & Law	244	99.9	4.1
People & Innovation	1,139	198.3	12.7
Contribution to Orbis	250	28.6	0.0
<b>Central Hub Total</b>	<b>2,670</b>	<b>644.4</b>	<b>23.6</b>
<b>Centrally-held Budgets Total</b>	<b>3,125</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>22.0</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>20,749</b>	<b>3,604.5</b>	<b>94.2</b>

\*A total of 4.6FTE deletions of vacant posts in Public Health are being proposed in order to fund £206,000 Schools Counselling service (Education & Learning) and £100,000 Domestic Abuse Related Death reviews (Commissioning & Communities)

## Families, Children & Wellbeing

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
<b>Families, Children &amp; Wellbeing Education &amp; Learning</b>		
Inclusion Support Service - Educational Psychology Service	<p>Summary of proposal: Deletion of vacant 0.6 FTE Team Administrator posts plus recurrent underspend within this cost centre</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: No risk or impact</p>	<b>27</b>
Inclusion Support Service - School Mental Health Service	<p>Summary of proposal: This service was originally introduced as a pilot on a one-off basis, but the council is now proposing to extend the service, to be funded from the Public Health Grant, which represents a saving to the General Fund budget.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: This funding may not be permanent, in which case, other funding would need to be found</p>	<b>200</b>
Inclusion Support Service - School Counselling	<p>Summary of proposal: Service to be funded by the Public Health Grant in 2026/27. The use of this funding is possible due to the deletion of vacant posts previously funded by PH</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: This funding may not be permanent, in which case, other funding would need to be found</p>	<b>206</b>
<p>Early Years - Management of the Early Years service including council nurseries. Support for private and voluntary nurseries, childminders, out of school childcare, childcare workforce training, and management and administration of free early years entitlement for 2/3/4 year olds. Oversight of the Holiday Food and Activity Programme. Statutory duty to secure sufficient childcare places and information, advice and training to childcare providers and to complete an annual childcare sufficiency assessment. Early Years providers pay for most training courses.</p>	<p>Summary of proposal: A small element of the Early Years Central team (0.5FTE) will now be funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: No risk as reallocation of funding to Early Years Block</p>	<b>24</b>

<b>Section / Service Area</b>	<b>Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks</b>	<b>Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000</b>
<p>Council Nurseries - Cherry Tree - Cherry Tree Nursery, Hollingdean, 50 places full day/year. Total budget is 759k including DSG. Council subsidy is 22%. Total number of children summer 22 - 48 including 8 funded 2 year olds, 21 Early Years Pupil Premium and 5 ASF children. Some children could not be offered places because unable to recruit staff. Autumn term total 63 (22 under 2's, 13 2's and 28 3-4's). Located in the 40% most disadvantaged areas of the city. Average percentage of children in receipt of EYPP 49.1%. Average percentage of children living in the 0 to 20% most disadvantaged areas of the city 44.2%. Average number of disadvantaged two year olds attending who are in receipt of EYFE 16.</p>	<p>Summary of proposal: Increases in nursery income through the DSG and anticipated increase in child numbers with the extension of early years entitlements to younger children.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: There is very little risk to the delivery of this saving as we already have the data and funding information to secure this amount without impacting upon the current nursery offer. See EIA 1.</p>	<b>60</b>
<p>Council Nurseries - Acorn - Acorn Nursery, North Portslade. 60 places full day/year. Total budget is 950k including DSG. Council subsidy is 24%. Total number of children summer 22 - 49 including. 10 funded 2 year olds, 4 Early Years Pupil Premium and 5 ASF children Autumn term to be confirmed. Located in the 30% most disadvantaged areas of the city. Average percentage of children in receipt of early years pupil premium (EYPP) 18.5%. Average percentage of children living in the 0 to 20% most disadvantaged areas of the city 34.9%. Average number of disadvantaged two year olds attending who are in receipt of EYFE 10.</p>	<p>Summary of proposal: Increases in nursery income through the DSG and anticipated increase in child numbers with the extension of early years entitlements to younger children.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: There is very little risk to the delivery of this saving as we already have the data and funding information to secure this amount without impacting upon the current nursery offer. See EIA 1.</p>	<b>90</b>
<p>Council Nurseries - Roundabout - Roundabout Nursery, Whitehawk. 86 places full day/year. Total budget is 1,132k including DSG. Council subsidy is 32%. Total number of children 115 summer 22 including 32 funded 2 year olds and 40 Early Years Pupil Premium and 10. Autumn term total 110 (12 under 2's, 45 2's and 53 3-4's). Located in the 10% most disadvantaged areas of the city. Average percentage of children in receipt of EYPP</p>	<p>Summary of proposal: The Council is exploring the option of Roundabout nursery being transferred to another early years provider.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: This saving will only be realised if we can agree with an alternative provider the same nursery offer as at present with staff transferring on the same terms and conditions under TUPE, with the intention that all subsidy is removed after</p>	<b>50</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
50.2%. Average percentage of children living in the 0 to 20% most disadvantaged areas of the city 74.2%. Average number of disadvantaged two year olds attending who are in receipt of EYFE 34.	an initial transfer grant. This will be challenging to achieve although we anticipate this may be an attractive proposition to another early years provider. See EIA 2.	
<p>Council Nurseries - Jump Start - Jump Start, Moulsecocomb, 34 places, full day/year. Total budget including DSG is 506k. Provides free meals for DSG funded children. Council subsidy is 48%. Total number of children summer 22 - 37. including 12 funded 2 year olds, 20 Early Years Pupil Premium and 5 ASF. Some children could not be offered places because unable to recruit staff.</p> <p>Autumn term total 27 (13 2's and 14 3-4's) Located in the 30% most disadvantaged areas of the city. Average percentage of children in receipt of EYPP</p> <p>66.8%. Average percentage of children living in the 0 to 20% most disadvantaged areas of the city 80.8%. Average number of disadvantaged two year olds attending who are in receipt of EYFE 14.</p>	<p>Summary of proposal: Increases in nursery income through the DSG and anticipated increase in child numbers with the extension of early years entitlements to younger children.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: There is very little risk to the delivery of this saving as we already have the data and funding information to secure this amount without impacting upon the current nursery offer. See EIA 1.</p>	10
<b>Education &amp; Learning Total</b>		<b>667</b>
<b>Family Help &amp; Protection</b>		
Fostering & Adoption - Payments to in-house carers for fostered and adopted children.	<p>Summary of proposal: The budget for adoption allowances has been underspent for a number of years. Proposal is for a budget reprofile to align the budget with actual expected spend. No direct impact is expected for families.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Risk is that demand for adoption allowances increases in future years.</p>	40
Social Work - Social work staffing teams.	<p>Summary of proposal: Front Door for Families (FDFP) Referral Officer role would be reduced by 1 FTE</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: This role screens all contacts to FDFP. Contacts have reduced by 13%, therefore this reduction can be</p>	41

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	managed without impacting service performance in providing children safeguarding services to the city in a timely way. Post vacant, no redundancy. See EIA 3.	
Social Work - Social work staffing teams.	<p>Summary of proposal: Proposal is to fund the CiC Mental Health Service from the Public Health Grant for 2026/27</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: This funding may not be permanent, in which case, other funding would need to be found</p>	<b>100</b>
Social Work - Expenditure incurred under Section 17 & 18 of the 1989 Children Act.	<p>Summary of proposal: Proposal is to fund Section 17 spend from the Household Support Fund</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Proposal is to fund Section 17 spend from the Household Support Fund. This fund may not be permanent, in which case, other funding would need to be found, or there would be an impact on families.</p>	<b>35</b>
Agency Placements - Residential, fostering and secure placements for looked after children provided by external agencies	<p>Summary of proposal: Separated Children Psychology Contract to be offset by funding from City of Sanctuary Action Plan. No impact on service delivery anticipated</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Funding from City of Sanctuary reduces in the future and impacts on this service.</p>	<b>40</b>
Adolescent Service - Support and supervision to young people at risk of exploitation, some of whom are at risk of becoming involved in the Criminal Justice System and preventative work for children and young people at risk of becoming involved in offending.	<p>Summary of proposal: Extended Adolescence Service (EAS) post (currently vacant).</p> <p>Deletion of vacant BSO post (0.6 FTE)</p> <p>Additionally, proposal to use the Public Health grant to fund part of the RUOK service (£42k)</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Reduced capacity to provide direct work support to vulnerable teenagers and divert from entering care. Risk that more children enter care, resulting in pressure upon</p>	<b>115</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	child care placements, including residential care. RUOK savings of £42k can be made through offsetting against Public Health funding - no impact upon service delivery. See EIA 4.	
Partners in Change Hub & specialist assessments - Lead practitioners and adult workers supporting social workers to manage risk effectively within families; specialist assessments to support social work decision making	Summary of proposal: Reduce Professional Education Consultant Service  Delivery risk & impact: 0.8 FTE role provides statutory support and assessment of newly qualified social workers. There has been a reduction in the number of newly qualified social workers recruited and therefore less support is needed. See EIA 5.	56
Family Hubs - The Family Hubs transformation completed in September 2024 with the new model in place to deliver support for children, young people and families.	Summary of proposal: Alternative funding sources (Young Futures and Best Start) for Early Help Services and Family Hubs. Further non-staffing efficiencies.  Delivery risk & impact: Fund Service Manager post using Young Futures funding, which has no impact (£75k). Non staffing efficiencies has no impact (£37k). Fund 2 Family Hubs Support Worker (£80k) with Best Start funding to help meet DfE requirements.	192
Youth Services - Commissioned community and voluntary sector youth services provides a range of traditional youth services across the city, and include equality groups  Internal council services – Youth Participation Team provide a range of services for children and young people who are/have been in care or receiving social work support; this includes youth advocacy, Children in Care Council. The service also provides wider participation activities, e.g. Youth Council, Youth Wise. The service also provides an accredited Youth Arts Programme	Summary of proposal: Reduce Youth Arts by 0.8fte (vacant post).  Delivery risk & impact: Reduce the Youth Arts service to 0.4FTE remaining post, will result in a reduction in the opportunities to achieve a nationally accredited award. See EIA 6.	41
Youth Services - Commissioned community and voluntary sector youth services provides a range of traditional youth services across the city, and include equality groups	Summary of proposal: 0.5fte Youth Participation worker to be funded by Young Futures	24

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
Internal council services – Youth Participation Team provide a range of services for children and young people who are/have been in care or receiving social work support; this includes youth advocacy, Children in Care Council. The service also provides wider participation activities, e.g. Youth Council, Youth Wise. The service also provides an accredited Youth Arts Programme	Delivery risk & impact: No reduction in service	
Services for children with disabilities - Management, assessment, operations and administration. Direct payments, Family support services and short breaks	Summary of proposal: Renegotiate contracts for services for children with disabilities to achieve efficiencies and improved value for money.  Delivery risk & impact: No impact on service delivery anticipated	40
<b>Family Help &amp; Protection Total</b>		<b>724</b>
<b>Commissioning &amp; Communities</b>		
Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG) Commissioning	Summary of proposal: Saving of £75k by reducing the funding for Pan Sussex posts associated with the Pan Sussex Domestic Abuse Board. The posts are line managed by West Sussex County Council and focus primarily on East and West Sussex engagement. Officers from Brighton & Hove will continue to be a member of the Board. This reduction in budget may mean that East and West Sussex County Councils will have to increase their contributions. Additional saving achieved as reciprocal funding work has reached completion, so there is no impact from this saving.  £100k saving from Domestic Abuse Related Death reviews (DARDR) funded through the Public Health Grant. The use of this funding is possible due to the deletion of vacant posts previously funded by PH  Delivery risk & impact: Minimal impact on those who experience VAWG. Reduction in funding for the Transformation Manager	175

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	post at Stonewater Refuge. The project work of this post has now reached completion, so there is no impact from this saving. See EIA 7.	
Libraries	<p>Summary of proposal: A £100k reduction in public library services in 2026/27 follows £96k savings in 2025-26. Savings over the two years are achieved from reduction in opening hours at Jubilee and Hove Libraries and closure of some community libraries as presented to Cabinet in the Libraries Sustainability Plan in December 2025.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Majority of savings from Libraries staff revenue budget. Full savings from April 2026. DCMS require a needs analysis and 12 week public consultation to make significant changes to statutory library services. Further time would be required to complete staff consultation and changes with 60+ individuals affected. Public interest highly likely, especially with regard to full closures. See EIA 8.</p>	100
Commissioning - Commissioning & Brokerage teams, School Traded Service team and Home to School Transport	<p>Summary of proposal: Due to a reduction in predicted numbers of pupils requiring home to school transport there will be reduction in overall costs.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: None</p>	204
<b>Commissioning &amp; Communities Total</b>		<b>479</b>
<b>Families, Children &amp; Wellbeing Total</b>		<b>1,870</b>

## Homes & Adult Social Care

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
<b>Homes &amp; Adult Social Care</b>		
<b>Adult Social Care</b>		
<p>Community Care budget funding packages of care to meet statutory responsibilities across adult care groups including Learning Disability and Mental Health. Services include community support, home care, supported accommodation, residential and nursing care. - Physical Support &amp; Sensory Support Memory &amp; Cognition Support Mental Health Support Learning Disabilities</p> <p>4,387 budgeted capacity for 2025/26</p>	<p>Summary of proposal: A new purpose-built accommodation (“Brickfields”) for people living with physical disabilities and/or brain injuries. There are 28 apartments in total divided into flats and communal areas. The new accommodation will allow us to move people, where appropriate back to the city from more expensive accommodation. This is a positive development and may have the added benefit of bringing service users back to the city and closer to their families.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Assumes service provision for new service will be outsourced and mobilisation of service is not significantly delayed. See EIA 9.</p>	<b>300</b>
As above	<p>Summary of proposal: Increased Community Reablement offer to support independence for individuals as an alternative or reduction in care &amp; support needs</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: None. See EIA 9.</p>	<b>888</b>
As above	<p>Summary of proposal: Reducing the demand for council run or council funded services by increasing signposting and redirecting of individuals at the first point of contact with the local authority. This will include utilising alternative offer such as community and voluntary provision in the city.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: None. See EIA 9.</p>	<b>292</b>
As above	<p>Summary of proposal: Continued focus on meeting care and support needs in alternative ways and in home settings, avoiding residential and nursing care placements. A particular focus on working age service users.</p>	<b>816</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	Delivery risk & impact: None. See EIA 9.	
Learning Disabilities - In-house Services (Adults) - In-house Day Service In-house Residential In-house Respite Services In-house Shared Lives Service In-house Supported Living	Summary of proposal: Reprovision of in-house day services currently located in Wellington House. This would follow a statutory review of all service users' needs under the Care Act 2014. Reprovision would be sought in the independent and non-profit sector. If this proposal proceeds, Assessment staff would be relocated to office space elsewhere and the building repurposed or create a capital receipt.  Delivery risk & impact: Net of reprovision costs within Community Care budget. Assessment staff to be relocated to office space elsewhere. Capacity in day options market to meet need. See EIA 10.	400
<b>Adult Social Care Total</b>		<b>2,696</b>
<b>Commissioning &amp; Partnerships</b>		
Commissioning & Contracts - Adults Commissioning & Performance Team Executive Director Adult Services Safeguarding Team	Summary of proposal: Leadership Support Officer post deleted as part of redesign to strengthen support for Adult Social Care Improvement Plan  Delivery risk & impact: This 0.6 FTE post has been vacant for the past year and impact on leadership support in ASC is mitigated via the functional alignment and delivery of leadership support via the Corporate Leadership Office	23
<b>Commissioning &amp; Partnerships Total</b>		<b>23</b>
<b>Housing People Services</b>		
Temporary and Supported Accommodation - Temporary Accommodation	Summary of proposal: The budget for Temporary Accommodation is under severe financial pressure, with a forecast increase of £12m on the net General Fund. Four key workstreams are established, which will reduce the pressure, totalling £5.14m:	5,143

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing supply: of more affordable Temporary Accommodation (moving from spot to block-booked accommodation, exempt accommodation, EPC Grant Scheme and council owned TA)</li> <li>• Full Cost Recovery: Maximising full cost recovery for Temporary Accommodation costs.</li> <li>• Further improving effectiveness in prevention of homelessness: Reduce households placed in Temporary Accommodation with new Housing Advice Team.</li> <li>• Accelerating move on from Temporary Accommodation: direct offers of social housing to households in Interim Accommodation.</li> </ul> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Key risks include increasing demand for temporary accommodation, affordability constraints in the housing market and limited capacity in partner and support services to engage effectively in prevention work. These factors could impact the pace and sustainability of savings delivery and require close monitoring. See EIA 11.</p>	
<b>Housing People Services Total</b>		<b>5,143</b>
<b>Homes &amp; Adult Social Care Total</b>		<b>7,862</b>

## City Operations

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
<b>City Operations</b> <b>City Infrastructure</b>		
Transport Projects & Engineering	<p>Summary of proposal: Maximising income through advertising, exploring efficiencies and new opportunities that align with public health priorities (such as sugary foods etc). The saving can be kept under review and could be increased through monitoring and increasing volume of adverts.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Not securing sufficient advertisers</p>	<b>200</b>
Transport Projects & Engineering	<p>Summary of proposal: Withdraw Child Pedestrian training and refocus the team to prioritise Bikeability delivery. Many schools have been included in the safer kids for streets initiative, and each site will be reviewed to look into alternatives. The service receives grant income for Bikeability delivery and with additional support could run without general fund resources becoming cost neutral as a result.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Impact on the safety of children, young people and families who walk to school. Some resource would need to be retained to meet statutory road safety duty. Will result in loss of experienced staff. See EIA 12.</p>	<b>165</b>
Transport Projects & Engineering	<p>Summary of proposal: Removal of vacant Support Officer post</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Reduced capacity in the Transport policy team to ensure transport impacts of developments are well planned and managed.</p>	<b>35</b>
Transport Projects & Engineering	<p>Summary of proposal: Removal of vacant Transport apprentice post</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Lost opportunity to expand team</p>	<b>26</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	competence and capacity to deliver public transport improvements and develop technical skills in positions that are difficult to recruit to.	
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Digitalisation of all Permits benefits (residents, visitors, traders etc.). Digitising resident permits in the first year and second years relates to the reduced printing requirements.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Reduction in print and postage costs. Through the digitalisation of permits there will be a review of resources required later in the MTFP. See EIA 13.</p>	50
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Driving up utilisation of parking through the creation of a commercial website and enhanced marketing initiatives. Mirroring approaches already in place, i.e. Visit Brighton and Brighton Centre.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Income generated would need to be over and above the corporate inflation rate of 3%. Requires IT&amp;D resources to support the commercial website with a systems architect.</p>	100
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Extending parking hours in Central area (from 8pm to midnight or 24 hours like Westminster). This represents the net position based on the current modelling after consideration of the staff resource required to deliver this.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Review enforcement hours and consider extending parking restrictions in central city zones and seafront. This will incur costs in first year for new signage/increased on street (dependent on NSL contract) and CCTV enforcement. Additional benefits are it will make carparks a more attractive parking option and help resident permit holders. Cost Analysis</p>	15

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	happening as enforcement costs are high. This could be more but needs a full review of the associated enforcement costs. See EIA 14.	
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Introduce a new £40 penalty charge for when a bay is not suspended in advance</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: May get complaints about new charges for those needing urgent suspensions without ability to arrange in advance. See EIA 14.</p>	10
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Introduce more Paid Parking in Light Touch zones</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: This will be an inclusive change as more people will be able to park in areas that are restricted to permit holders. See EIA 15.</p>	50
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Introduction of new parking permit zones (in line with the Parking Scheme Priority Timetable). Work has already started regarding the implementation of new zones.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: New zones require large scale capital investment, dependent on borrowing, which is paid back over 7 years. Permit and PCN income is expected to cover the costs of setting up and enforcing the zone. See EIA 14.</p>	400
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Implementing new red routes (Western Road/Queens Road)</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: There is an initial spike in income when red routes are first introduced, however this falls away when schemes are embedded. It takes 2 years in implement a Red Route. Extra monitoring and enforcement resources will be</p>	50

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	required as well as investment in CCTV. Longer term strategy and plan to be determined. See EIA 14.	
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Introduce paid parking in locations where free parking bays are in place</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Lining and signing costs money without any revenue - so these areas are currently a cost to council resources without generating revenue. Would require consultation and further consideration of parking offers in the surrounding areas. See EIA 14.</p>	<b>53</b>
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Parking Permit income increases (Resident, Visitor, Trader, Business)</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Any increase in price for fees and charges allows for a decrease in demand from users. Members of the public may choose not or not be able to afford to pay to park on or off street due to price increases. This may create additional barriers and disadvantage for some older and disabled people who rely on private vehicles / visitors to access facilities and services. This could lead to inclusion issues with impacts on lower income residents as the amount they pay to park on and off street would increase. See EIA 14.</p>	<b>633</b>
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Barrier carpark income increases</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Any increase in price for fees and charges allows for a decrease in demand from users. Members of the public may choose not or not be able to afford to pay to park on or off street due to price increases. This may create additional barriers and disadvantage for some older and disabled people who rely on private vehicles / visitors to access facilities and services. This could lead to inclusion issues with</p>	<b>100</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	impacts on lower income residents as the amount they pay to park on and off street would increase. See EIA 14.	
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Surface carpark income increases</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Any increase in price for fees and charges allows for a decrease in demand from users. Members of the public may choose not or not be able to afford to pay to park on or off street due to price increases. This may create additional barriers and disadvantage for some older and disabled people who rely on private vehicles / visitors to access facilities and services. This could lead to inclusion issues with impacts on lower income residents as the amount they pay to park on and off street would increase. See EIA 14.</p>	<b>83</b>
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: On-street paid parking income increases (PaybyPhone, PayPoint, etc.)</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Any increase in price for fees and charges allows for a decrease in demand from users. Members of the public may choose not or not be able to afford to pay to park on or off street due to price increases. This may create additional barriers and disadvantage for some older and disabled people who rely on private vehicles / visitors to access facilities and services. This could lead to inclusion issues with impacts on lower income residents as the amount they pay to park on and off street would increase. See EIA 14.</p>	<b>956</b>
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Removal of vacant administrator post</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Impact on processing times for Blue Badge applications, currently a 9-week turn around, as capacity in the team further reduces. This will be mitigated by alignment of customer services roles across the wider service</p>	<b>35</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Removal of vacant Customer Service Apprentice post</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Lost opportunity to develop capacity and capability in customer services through training an apprentice into a skilled role, and providing an entry-level position into work for individuals, such as care leavers.</p>	20
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Removal of vacant Business Administrator Apprentice post</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Reduced capacity and opportunity to develop contract management expertise. This will be mitigated by a review and alignment of contract management skills and resources across services.</p>	20
Parking Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Removal of vacant Maintenance Technician post</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Reduction in technical resources to maintain car parks in the city and keeping them open. A review of technical skills across the service will be undertaken to explore whether there are opportunities to mitigate the loss.</p>	38
Regulatory Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Regulatory Services savings to service provision</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Staffing impacts. Will remove need for agency contractors</p>	80
<b>City Infrastructure Total</b>		<b>3,119</b>
<b>Culture &amp; Environment</b>		
Venues and Events	<p>Summary of proposal: Expand the city's income from filming and weddings by enhancing the range of services offered. This would involve a minor investment in materials, enabling the</p>	10

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	<p>council to charge higher fees for equipment hire. At present, only the venue is provided, which means the council is missing out on additional revenue opportunities from equipment and service hire. Ambition of increasing outdoor events income over the next 10 years, in line with the new events strategy.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Small upfront cost to licence new venue for weddings and marketing these through a delivery partner. Income expected from summer 2026.</p>	
Venues and Events	<p>Summary of proposal: The Brighton Centre is developing an unused area in the venue to develop a high value VIP and Hospitality space.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Possibility of some disruption to events in the Brighton Centre whilst construction is ongoing. This will be carefully managed around the programme of events. If there is project slippage in terms of build/construction this could impact on the VIP/Hospitality area being completed by Quarter 2, which runs the risk of losing out on the potential to capture shows in Quarter 2 2026/27.</p>	<b>100</b>
Sport and Leisure	<p>Summary of proposal: Develop a strategy to generate new income streams from the council's sports and leisure services, responding to increasing demand across the city (for example, through activities such as Padel, and use of land/estate for other activities e.g. BMX track).</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: This can only be surplus income over and above which has been assumed in the Withdean swimming pool business case. Dependent on staff to deliver pipeline of sites and expressions of interest.</p> <p>Requires a padel strategy to be drafted - 3 models: 1) we</p>	<b>50</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	procure it, 2) we build/manage, 3) we build/run. Likely to be procured and we take hire fee and/or % whichever higher.	
Sport and Leisure	<p>Summary of proposal: Develop a comprehensive commercial activation strategy, led by the new Commercial Executive role, to unlock new revenue opportunities. This strategy will include a review of areas such as heritage assets, expressions of interest for Sheepcote Valley and City Parks, seafront activation including BlackRock meanwhile uses, pop-up concessions, beach huts, new sports initiatives, and activating heritage buildings/assets in cemeteries.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Risk of not hitting the income targets through many new initiatives in a timely way. Dependent on market forces and the attractiveness of Brighton as a commercial destination for new activations.</p>	<b>250</b>
Sport and Leisure	<p>Summary of proposal: Bring Volks Railway into a cost neutral position by reviewing the business plan and ensuring income is maximised.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Risk of income levels not being achieved as this is dependent on demand.</p>	<b>71</b>
Sport and Leisure	<p>Summary of proposal: Removal of two vacant Venue Services Supervisor posts in the Brighton Centre</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Impact on resources to meet minimum standards and run events safely, efficiently and reliably at a busy venue and respond dynamically during peak seasons and periods of staff absence. The operating model will be reviewed to mitigate this impact.</p>	<b>74</b>
City Parks	Summary of proposal: Introduce additional car parking charges in city parks to generate new income streams for the council.	<b>15</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	Delivery risk & impact: To be explored and Outline Business Case for invest to save as locations are identified. See EIA 16.	
City Parks	<p>Summary of proposal: Removal of vacant Ranger post</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Capacity to take on additional work related to nature biodiversity, maintenance of land, volunteering, or education would be severely limited.</p>	45
<b>Culture &amp; Environment Total</b>		<b>615</b>
<b>Environmental Services</b>		
Strategy & Service Improvement	<p>Summary of proposal: Introduce a fee for collection of waste from third sector organisations.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Will require consultation to introduce a policy. Risk that the full year saving does not materialise, if the policy cannot be introduced in time. See EIA 17.</p>	50
Strategy & Service Improvement	<p>Summary of proposal: Introduce a charged for Christmas tree collection service</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: None. See EIA 18.</p>	10
Strategy & Service Improvement	<p>Summary of proposal: Introduce a fee for customers requesting bin replacements, the council does not currently charge for this service and this would provide residents the ability to purchase a new bin as and when they feel this is needed. If the bin is damaged by council operatives the replacement would be at the councils cost, and as determined necessary for health and safety reasons.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Risk that bins are not replaced, making collection potentially difficult. See EIA 18.</p>	60

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
Strategy & Service Improvement	<p>Summary of proposal: Introduce a new bin cleaning service available to both residents and businesses throughout the city.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Investment required for equipment. Conservative estimate. Full cost benefit analysis would be required. See EIA 18.</p>	<b>20</b>
Strategy & Service Improvement	<p>Summary of proposal: Introduce a commercial service to offer graffiti cleaning for a charge, making this service available both to other council departments and to external commercial clients.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Investment required for equipment. Conservative estimate. Full cost benefit analysis would be required.</p>	<b>40</b>
Strategy & Service Improvement	<p>Summary of proposal: Introduction of charging for high footfall public toilets</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Requires capital investment to install charging stations at the toilets. See EIA 19.</p>	<b>70</b>
Strategy & Service Improvement	<p>Summary of proposal: Stop supporting Brighton and Hove community composting project.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Existing links with the organisation, by stopping the funding it could create issues to support work already underway. Could inadvertently increase costs in food waste collection.</p>	<b>35</b>
Strategy & Service Improvement	<p>Summary of proposal: Implement service efficiencies and improve productivity through a review of the waste collection model and design of collection rounds.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Implementation plans for possible changes to the service delivery model will be developed during</p>	<b>375</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	2026 and agreed by Cabinet. This will include an analysis of any impacts on resources within the service and households in the city. Further investment to deliver the saving is likely to be needed. See EIA 20.	
Strategy & Service Improvement	<p>Summary of proposal: Review and restructure the projects and strategy function for Environmental services, bringing this together under one senior manager.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Any reduction in project resources will impact on capacity and scope to deliver further service improvements.</p>	<b>50</b>
Strategy & Service Improvement	<p>Summary of proposal: Removal of vacant Environmental Services Advisor post</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Digital transformation of Environmental Services is improving public access to data and information about performance, facilitating greater self-service. As this continues to embed, customer service-focused resources will be reviewed and realigned with the service need.</p>	<b>36</b>
Environmental Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Increased income from commercial and green waste to reflect the actual activity.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Potential risk that the introduction of other charges could impact on residents uptake on garden waste. This needs to be considered within the wider commercialisation strategy. See EIA 17.</p>	<b>340</b>
Environmental Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Full cost recovery from commercial event waste collection</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Include in Events Strategy - January</p>	<b>100</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
Fleet	<p>Summary of proposal: Rationalise the use of PPE and vehicle parts to deliver a saving.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: No delivery risk.</p>	30
<b>Environmental Services Total</b>		<b>1,216</b>
<b>Place</b>		
Net Zero	<p>Summary of proposal: Ensure the council is achieving value for money on its energy and water bills by reviewing metering arrangements and improving our ability to detect water leaks and abnormal energy use.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Will impact on multiple budgets across the council, rather than just the Energy &amp; Water team.</p>	60
Net Zero	<p>Summary of proposal: Cease paying for specific Climate Communications and Engagement to support the Net Zero programme</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: News stories would need to be managed by the central communications team. These are generally good news stories and counter misinformation but couldn't be prioritised with reduced capacity.            Reduced support for updating net zero pages of the website.            Loss of specialist communications and engagement support around market testing and potential procurement of private sector Net Zero partner.            Loss of specialist campaigns to encourage lower carbon behaviour change.</p>	60
Development Planning	<p>Summary of proposal: Make use of functionality within existing software to rationalise software licensing costs.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Dependent on IT&amp;D supporting with the</p>	10

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	upgrading of existing software. To date this has not been prioritised.	
Development Planning	<p>Summary of proposal: Introduce a Programme wide Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) between Planning and the Large Panel System Programme allowing for a smoother planning process.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: The current saving is the net income assumed from the programme wide PPA, actual income will need to be for more than to compensate for the loss of income from the site specific PPAs</p>	50
Development Planning	<p>Summary of proposal: Trial options for seeking external heritage comments on planning applications, which improve efficiency and increase resilience in the service.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Need to find a model which reflects the challenge of recruitment and retention of conservation officers, while also adding resilience and flexibility into the service.</p>	50
<b>Place Total</b>		<b>230</b>
<b>Digital Innovation</b>		
Digital Innovation	<p>Summary of proposal: Undertake a review to identify the old telephony lines that are redundant following the transition to new technology.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Low risk - will require resource time to implement.</p>	20
Digital Innovation	<p>Summary of proposal: Budget alignment to reflect changes in recruitment software contract.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Low risk</p>	22
<b>Digital Innovation Total</b>		<b>42</b>
<b>City Operations Total</b>		<b>5,222</b>

**Central Hub**

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
<b>Central Hub Cabinet Office</b>		
Policy	<p>Summary of proposal: Review of the Cabinet office function to align to the council priorities and provide a more efficiently run Cabinet Officer service.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: None</p>	<b>167</b>
<b>Cabinet Office Total</b>		<b>167</b>
<b>Finance &amp; Property</b>		
Building Surveying	<p>Summary of proposal: Pressure funding reinstated to the base budget, to be reversed and allocation of Planned Maintenance Budgets to be contained within current resource allocation.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: No delivery risk - reversing the pressure funding reduces the budget resource available for investment in the councils property portfolio. With the Rationalisation of properties this would be deemed low risk.</p>	<b>200</b>
Building Surveying	<p>Summary of proposal: Reduction in fee payable to Royal Pavilion &amp; Museums Trust (RPMT) for planned buildings maintenance as part of fee renegotiation.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: High risk yet to be negotiated so cannot be included yet. RPMT are requesting more investment not less.</p>	<b>63</b>
Building Surveying	<p>Summary of proposal: Removal of vacant Senior Estates Surveyor post</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Any reduction in project resources will impact on capacity and scope to deliver service function.</p>	<b>64</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
Estates Management	<p>Summary of proposal: New England House (NEH), running costs associated with the building including utility costs.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Decision about the sale of NEH has yet to be made. If not sold the savings will not be realised.</p>	300
Estates Management	<p>Summary of proposal: Bartholomew House - assuming transaction occurs before June 2026. Utilities, NNDR, Service Charge only - maintenance saved in People &amp; Innovation.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Net Savings based on the option taken forward for Bartholomew House. Net of maintenance costs of £72k saved in People &amp; Innovation.</p>	175
Financial services - Provides a full range of financial services including the S151 Chief Finance Officer, Financial Advice (Business Partnering) support to services, Medium-term Financial Planning and Annual Budget Preparation, Treasury Management, Taxation and Insurance services, management accounting, reporting and forecasting (TBM), account maintenance, and completion of statutory government returns and grant claims. It also provides contracted Services to Schools, South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA), the Coast to Capital LEP and the Housing Joint Venture (JV).	<p>Summary of proposal: Inflationary uplift for finance services provided in external contracts, including SDNPA and Housing JV, this will bring the budgets in line with the income due from external bodies.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: No risk, if not implemented the budgets will not reflect the income due.</p>	50
As above	<p>Summary of proposal: Contract efficiencies from increasing the amount of VAT work carried out in house compared to using external consultancy.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: No risk. Reflects new way of working.</p>	18
<b>Finance &amp; Property Total</b>		<b>870</b>
<b>Governance &amp; Law</b>		
Democratic Services - Democratic Services support all of the council's official and formal meetings such as Full Council,	Summary of proposal: Rationalise the budgets for corporate phones	2

<b>Section / Service Area</b>	<b>Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks</b>	<b>Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000</b>
Cabinet as well as any other Committee. Democratic services ensure the smooth and efficient management of the decision-making processes of the council.	Delivery risk & impact: No risk	
As above	<p>Summary of proposal: Removal of vacant apprentice post within team. The post is currently vacant and the team have absorbed the additional work.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Increases pressure on the team, risking some impact on service delivery.</p>	<b>25</b>
Local Land Charges - Maintain the local land charges register and sell reports based on the register to conveyancers	<p>Summary of proposal: Reduce staffing budgets to permanently recognise reduction in hours from one member of staff - 0.41 FTE of Scale 6. This is a reduction that has already been implemented.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: The service lacks resilience due to size of team, therefore some risk of impact on service delivery.</p>	<b>10</b>
<p>Registration Services - Deliver and generate income through the registration of births, deaths, marriages, civil partnerships and citizenship</p> <p>Coroner - A shared service with WSCC delivering support to HM Senior Coroner for West Sussex, Brighton &amp; Hove in their role investigating and explaining deaths within the jurisdiction</p> <p>Mortuary - Deliver body storage and postmortem provision to HM Senior Coroner for West Sussex, Brighton &amp; Hove and generate income by providing this service to other local authorities</p>	<p>Summary of proposal: Comprehensive transformation of registration services by streamlining processes, optimising resources and embedding efficiency into service delivery.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Implications of managing change and challenging old ways of working – potential staffing challenges during the transition period</p>	<b>60</b>
As above	Summary of proposal: Deletion of vacant posts totalling 2.52 FTE	<b>92</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	Delivery risk & impact: At TBM9 the Registration Services are forecasting a staffing underspend of £143k ahead of scheduled redesigns. The officer structure for service will be redesigned in two stages - initially the leadership team followed by all delivery levels. Although the deletion of these vacant posts reduces financial headroom, the revised budget will still enable growth in current staff numbers and the delivery of an efficient, customer and income-focused service.	
Legal services - Legal services advise officers and members on legal matters covering all areas of the council's responsibilities. As a legal practice, the council's Legal Services team also provides additional services to external clients such as charities, the East Sussex Fire Authority and other local authorities.	Summary of proposal: Salary saving - re-profiling within the Corporate Law Team  Delivery risk & impact: Low impact/risk – this change has taken effect.	10
As above	Summary of proposal: Increase in income (Right to Buy increased charges to other local authorities).  Delivery risk & impact: There is a risk of losing some of the legal services external income following the establishment of the Combined County Authority and following LGR as the external contracts in some areas will require renegotiation and retender.	10
As above	Summary of proposal: Software review – remove contract management software/removal of some online books/reduction in non-staffing budgets for training/phones etc  Delivery risk & impact: Reduced access to material to assisted staff with delivery of services. Impact considered low as sufficient alternatives in place.	35
<b>Governance &amp; Law Total</b>		<b>244</b>
<b>People &amp; Innovation</b>		
Health, Safety, Wellbeing, Facilities and Building Services - Facilities and Building Services	Summary of proposal: Asset rationalisation strategy, consideration of the sale or long lease of Bartholomew House	300

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	<p>and other operational assets.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Risk of assets disposals not being completed in the year and full savings not being met within timescales.</p>	
Health, Safety, Wellbeing, Facilities and Building Services - Facilities and Building Services	<p>Summary of proposal: Rationalising contracts - develop one facilities management contract.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Difficult to implement in timescales required.</p>	<b>70</b>
Organisational Development, Learning & Inclusion - Learning, Apprenticeships & Organisational Development	<p>Summary of proposal: Service redesign and refresh of the councils Learning, Skills &amp; Development offer to align with our 4 year transformation and innovation plan and operationalise the Learning Framework. Access new funding stream for ASC and future joint procurement of core social care and health and safety learning with partners in the city region. Currently provide learning and development to 16,000 users in the city region including BHCC, Adult social care sector, Schools and CVS.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Counters the priority to make the council a learning organisation that is continually innovating and improving by equipping council staff with the new skills and capability they need in the 2020s and beyond. Reduced organisational development capability to operationalise the Learning Framework and shift ways of working in complexity through agility, impacting ability to deliver Council Plan priorities, all of which is linked to our council performance and frontline delivery. Dependent on service restructure yet to launch/complete. Rationalising programme provision and model of delivery to increase use of digital solutions. Some reduction in strategic/delivery consultancy and support for key customers</p>	<b>277</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	and reprioritising to ensure delivery of key operational programmes (e.g. Family First, CQC action plan) with likely impact on offer to external adult social care providers. Future reliance on digital learning solutions predicated on full digital inclusion of staff with potential impacts on learning experience and accessibility, especially for disabled and neurodivergent staff. 2027/28 indicative saving via new funding stream for ASC from Learning & Development Support Scheme (LDSS) dependent on HR/operational services meeting eligibility data/reporting requirements (not confirmed). 2028/29 and 2029/20 savings indicative only and dependent on more strategic use of Apprenticeships Levy following upcoming relaxation of rules.	
Human Resources - Business Partnering, Advisory and Reward, Policy and Strategy	<p>Summary of proposal: Reduction in staffing budget. Review of the service operating model is underway to transform the way customer contact is managed within HR and enable a more efficient way of working freeing up senior HR staff from day to day queries and focus on complex work. The scope and extent of the service to the organisation will need to be reviewed to align with reduced levels of resource and to focus support to the organisation on the greatest need and organisational priorities.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Any reduction in capacity will reduce flexibility to react to ad hoc issues and reduce overall capacity for delivering "business as usual" service. HR activity has significantly increased in last 2 years with increases in suspensions, formal HR procedural work and rise in complexity.</p>	<b>68</b>
Human Resources - Business Partnering, Advisory and Reward, Policy and Strategy	Summary of proposal: Recharge part of cost of HR Manager policy and recruitment to the recruitment team budget which is funded by income that will cover this cost.	<b>15</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	Delivery risk & impact: Recruitment income is volatile as driven by recruitment volumes.	
Human Resources - Business Partnering, Advisory and Reward, Policy and Strategy	<p>Summary of proposal: Reprourement of combined staff benefits platform and Employee Assistance Programme offer expected to achieve savings on current overall costs</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: New provider presents risks in terms of quality of service provision and dependant on appointing one specific provider through a framework.</p>	13
Human Resources - Business Partnering, Advisory and Reward, Policy and Strategy	<p>Summary of proposal: Reduction in supplies and services budgets</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Reduced flexibility in overall budget to meet demands</p>	10
Human Resources - Business Partnering, Advisory and Reward, Policy and Strategy	<p>Summary of proposal: Removal of vacant HR Consultant Schools post</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Reduced capacity to support schools and the organisation which will require a reassessment of the services that are provided.</p>	45
Innovation - Drive continuous improvement and efficiency to enable delivery of the organisational priorities to better serve our customers and contribute towards robust governance.	<p>Summary of proposal: Reduced capacity within the Information Rights team (0.5 FTE manager + 0.7 FTE officer)</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Not currently meeting statutory duties. By reducing the budget, there is an increased risk that the council remains non-compliant and that performance declines further due to increasing demand. Significant risk to reputation.</p>	57
As above	<p>Summary of proposal: Reduced capacity within the Customer Feedback team (0.75 FTE manager and 0.4 FTE officer)</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Not currently meeting Ombudsman</p>	58

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	expectations some of which are statutory. By reducing the budget, there is an increased risk that the council remains non-compliant and that performance declines further due to increasing demand. Significant risk to reputation and increased risks around higher financial remedies.	
As above	<p>Summary of proposal: Reduced operational and development funding</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Risks associated with not having sufficient funding for requirements emerging during the year. Costs to communicate.</p>	<b>26</b>
Strategic Communications and Engagement	<p>Summary of proposal: Service redesign with a focus on strategic, creative and commercial capabilities leading to a reduction of 2.65 staff and a new service operating model.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Difficult if capacity couldn't stretch to demand. Would need a reduction in service offer. Strategic comms is required to deliver the full Council Plan vision and transformation through two-way communication and active engagement with residents, communities, staff and stakeholders which requires capacity. Increasingly complex and uncertain media and social media landscape and increasing costs in areas such as marketing outside of council control. Some roles funded elsewhere will be coming to an end meaning an overall reduction of strategic and creative capabilities.</p>	<b>140</b>
Strategic Communications and Engagement	<p>Summary of proposal: Increased advertising opportunities</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Increasing Street lighting banner advertising sites in key locations. As part of new contract for April '26 will be offering more locations for advertising and</p>	<b>60</b>

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
	therefore more opportunities for income generation. Also review into other opportunities including email advertising.	
<b>People &amp; Innovation Total</b>		<b>1,139</b>
<b>Contribution to Orbis</b>		
Contribution to Orbis - Orbis Services refers to the Orbis Operational Budget which covers Internal Audit, Procurement and the Integrated elements of IT&D, as well as Finance 'Centres of Expertise' for Treasury and Insurance. The contribution is based on an agreed contribution ratio (ACR) as specified in the Inter-Authority Agreement (IAA). There are also Sovereign-held budgets managed by Orbis services on behalf of the partners but where overall control rests with the funding authority (these are known as 'Mobo' budgets).	Summary of proposal: Efficiency savings expected from review of the Orbis Procurement service.  Delivery risk & impact: Saving delivery pending decision regarding the future of the Procurement Service.	<b>250</b>
<b>Contribution to Orbis Total</b>		<b>250</b>
<b>Central Hub Total</b>		<b>2,670</b>

## Centrally-held Budgets

Section / Service Area	Brief Summary of Budget Proposal / Strategy and Risks	Total Savings Proposed 2026/27 £'000
<b>Centrally-held Budgets</b> <b>Other Corporate Items</b>		
VFM savings - Corporately held savings	<p>Summary of proposal: Use of the Innovation Fund to capitalise transformation expenditure and resources across the organisation.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: The ability to extend the council's use of Flexible Use of Capital Receipts relies on the delivery of capital receipts through the disposal of property assets.</p>	2,000
VFM savings - Corporately held savings - other	<p>Summary of proposal: Delivering a programme of Organisational Change through Digital Transformation, Functional Alignment and review of structures and delivery models.</p> <p>Delivery risk &amp; impact: Delivery of the saving is dependent on sufficient individual programmes being agreed during the year.</p>	1,125
<b>Other Corporate Items Total</b>		<b>3,125</b>
<b>Centrally-held Budgets Total</b>		<b>3,125</b>

The following tables outline all fees & charges to be set for 2026/27, which are required to be approved by Cabinet in advance of the financial year. Additionally, some Registrars charges for 2027/28 and 2028/29 are also presented for approval in Table 1.

All fees & charges are assumed to be increased by the corporate inflation rate of 3.00%. Some fees and charges are recommended to increase by a rate other than the corporate inflation rate. Where this is the case, the rationale for the charge is outlined in the final column of the table, including where a fee or charge is set according to statute.

Some fees and charges have already been approved by Cabinet or a committee, such as the Licencing Committee. Where a fee or charge is already approved, this is detailed in the final column of the table.

Unless indicated (with a †), where VAT applies, all charges are shown inclusive of VAT.

**Summary Table**

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† - Indicates charge is shown exclusive of VAT

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<b>Table 1: Central Hub</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
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**Local Land Charges**

The market is price sensitive and council benchmarking results shows BHCC pricing is high in comparison to South-East average. The service has previously seen some loss of income resulting from the fees being non-competitive and therefore it is recommended that all local land charge fees remain at the 2026/27 prices.

Full local authority search (inc. LLC1 and Con29R)	£227.53	£227.53	0.0%	See above
LLC1 search only (non-vatable)	£66.88	£66.88	0.0%	See above
Con29R search only	£160.65	£160.65	0.0%	See above
Each additional parcel of land (LLC1) (Non-Vatable)	£13.39	£13.39	0.0%	See above
Each additional parcel of land (Con29R)	£16.12	£16.12	0.0%	See above
Each printed enquiry (Con29O)	£24.04	£24.04	0.0%	See above
Commons registration (question 22)	£24.04	£24.04	0.0%	See above
Each supplementary enquiry	£48.20	£48.20	0.0%	See above

**Mortuary Fees & Charges**

The mortuary provides:

- Services to HM Coroner for West Sussex and Brighton & Hove for deaths within Brighton & Hove.
- Body storage and post-mortem facilities for other local authorities.

Commercially negotiated contracts are in place for regular users of the mortuary. For ad hoc use of the mortuary - users will be charged according to the newly designed fees listed below. These new schedule of fees ensure the mortuary is covering the real and actual costs of body storage and management.

To maintain efficient body storage and support further commercialisation, Funeral Directors will be charged daily storage fees if they fail to collect the deceased within 5 working days after the Coroner releases the body. This charge will be introduced during 2026–27 following a consultation period with Funeral Directors to ensure they have appropriate workflows in place.

Body Storage & Management (0*-10 working days) *Date of receipt of body	New	£215.00	N/A	New fee
Post-mortem* *fee does not include Pathologist charges. Pathologists working from the mortuary will invoice separately	£305.00	£315.00	3.28%	Benchmarked against regional competitors
Forensic Post-mortem (additional charge)	£203.00	£350.00	72.41% (See note)	A forensic postmortem will cost £665 which is an increase of 30.9% from the previous scheme of £508

<b>Table 1: Central Hub</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Out of Hours Post-mortem (Additional charge)	£554.00	£500.00	-9.75% (See note)	An out of hours forensic postmortem will cost £1,165 which is an increase of 8.6% from the previous scheme fee of £1,065
Daily Body Storage & Management Charge (Post 10 working days & No release from HM Coroner)	New	£50.00	N/A	New fee
Out of Hours viewing (Additional charge)	New	£50.00	N/A	New fee
Specialist cleaning of premises where required after a PM	New	Cost + £25.00 administration fee	N/A	New fee
Transportation of specialist specimens	New	Cost + £25.00 administration fee	N/A	New fee
Body Storage (per day) – chargeable to Funeral Directors 5 working days post-Coroner/NHS release	New	£50.00	N/A	New fee

<b>Table 1: Central Hub</b>	<b>Agreed for 2026/27</b>	<b>Agreed for 2027/28</b>	<b>Proposed for 2028/29</b>	<b>Change % (From 27/28 to 28/29)</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>Registration Services</b>					
Fees in registration services are set a combination of one, two and three years in advance. A comprehensive review of all fees has taken place including benchmarking against the South East Registration Board and comparable urban authorities ensuring fees cover the real and actual costs of delivering the service.					
Fees for Non-Statutory Ceremonies have been aligned to those charged for Statutory Ceremonies until 2027/28. This practice is common among benchmarked authorities and covers the real and actual costs of bespoke scripts being written for couples.					
Statutory and non-statutory ceremony fees include the costs certificate. The certificates are optional and the relevant fees can be deducted on request.					
<b>Statutory Ceremony (Marriages and Civil Partnerships) Fees</b>					
Floral Room 'Bijou' Wednesday (9.30—11am)	£195.00	£215.00	£250.00	16.28%	See above
Regency Suite Monday-Thursday (9am-5pm)	£350.00	£380.00	£400.00	5.26%	See above

<b>Table 1: Central Hub</b>	<b>Agreed for 2026/27</b>	<b>Agreed for 2027/28</b>	<b>Proposed for 2028/29</b>	<b>Change % (From 27/28 to 28/29)</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Regency Suite Friday (9am-5pm)	£445.00	£480.00	£505.00	5.21%	See above
Regency Suite Saturday (9am-5pm)	£605.00	£640.00	£690.00	7.81%	See above
Regency Suite Sunday (9am-5pm)	£605.00	£640.00	£690.00	7.81%	See above
Regency Suite Bank Holiday (9am-5pm)	£765.00	£805.00	£865.00	7.45%	See above
Council Chamber Monday-Thursday (9am-5pm)	£770.00	£810.00	£850.00	4.94%	See above
Council Chamber Friday (9am-5pm)	£815.00	£850.00	£895.00	5.29%	See above
Council Chamber Saturday (9am-5pm)	£905.00	£940.00	£1,010.00	7.45%	See above
Council Chamber Sunday (9am-5pm)	£905.00	£940.00	£1,010.00	7.45%	See above
Council Chamber Bank Holiday (9am-5pm)	£1,020.00	£1,040.00	£1,120.00	7.69%	See above
Mayor's Parlour Monday-Thursday (9am-5pm)	£500.00	£540.00	£565.00	4.63%	See above
Mayor's Parlour Friday (9am-5pm)	£600.00	£640.00	£670.00	4.69%	See above
Mayor's Parlour Saturday (9am-5pm)	£850.00	£855.00	£920.00	7.60%	See above
Mayor's Parlour Sunday (9am-5pm)	£850.00	£855.00	£920.00	7.60%	See above
Mayor's Parlour Bank Holiday (9am-5pm)	£1,035.00	£1,040.00	£1,120.00	7.69%	See above
Approved Venue Monday-Thursday (9am-5pm)	£675.00	£705.00	£740.00	4.96%	See above
Approved Venue Friday (9am-5pm)	£735.00	£760.00	£800.00	5.26%	See above
Approved Venue Saturday (9am-5pm)	£765.00	£800.00	£860.00	7.50%	See above

<b>Table 1: Central Hub</b>	<b>Agreed for 2026/27</b>	<b>Agreed for 2027/28</b>	<b>Proposed for 2028/29</b>	<b>Change % (From 27/28 to 28/29)</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Approved Venue Sunday (9am-5pm)	£765.00	£800.00	£860.00	7.50%	See above
Approved Venue Bank Holiday (9am-5pm)	£835.00	£865.00	£930.00	7.51%	See above

<b>Table 1: Central Hub</b>	<b>Agreed for 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed for 2026/27</b>	<b>Proposed for 2027/28</b>	<b>Change % (From 25/26 to 26/27)</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>Non-Statutory Ceremony Fees</b>					
Regency Suite Monday-Thursday (9am-5pm)	£375.00	£350.00	£380.00	-6.67%	See above
Regency Suite Friday (9am-5pm)	£375.00	£445.00	£480.00	18.67%	See above
Regency Suite Saturday (9am-5pm)	£580.00	£605.00	£640.00	4.31%	See above
Regency Suite Sunday (9am-5pm)	£580.00	£605.00	£640.00	4.31%	See above
Regency Suite Bank Holiday (9am-5pm)	£725.00	£765.00	£805.00	5.52%	See above
Council Chamber Monday-Thursday (9am-5pm)	£785.00	£770.00	£810.00	1.91%	See above
Council Chamber Friday (9am-5pm)	£785.00	£815.00	£850.00	3.82%	See above
Council Chamber Saturday (9am-5pm)	£855.00	£905.00	£940.00	5.85%	See above
Council Chamber Sunday (9am-5pm)	£855.00	£905.00	£940.00	5.85%	See above
Council Chamber Bank Holiday (9am-5pm)	£975.00	£1,020.00	£1,040.00	4.62%	See above
External Venue Monday-Thursday (9am-5pm)	£495.00	£675.00	£705.00	36.36%	See above
External Venue Friday (9am-5pm)	£495.00	£735.00	£760.00	48.48%	See above

<b>Table 1: Central Hub</b>	<b>Agreed for 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed for 2026/27</b>	<b>Proposed for 2027/28</b>	<b>Change % (From 25/26 to 26/27)</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
External Venue Saturday (9am-5pm)	£525.00	£765.00	£800.00	45.71%	See above
External Venue Sunday (9am-5pm)	£525.00	£765.00	£800.00	45.71%	See above
External Venue Bank Holiday (9am-5pm)	£665.00	£835.00	£865.00	25.56%	See above

<b>Table 1: Central Hub</b>	<b>Agreed for 2026/27</b>	<b>Proposed for 2027/28</b>	<b>Proposed for 2028/29</b>	<b>Change % (From 26/27 to 27/28)</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>Ceremony Administration Fees</b>					
Amendment Fee All	£60.00	£75.00	£75.00	25.00%	See above
Administration Cancellation Fee All	£175.00	£175.00	£200.00	0.00%	See above
Out of Hours Supplement (5pm+) Monday-Thursday	£185.00	£195.00	£210.00	5.41%	See above
Out of Hours Supplement (5pm+) Friday	£185.00	£195.00	£210.00	5.41%	See above
Out of Hours Supplement (5pm+) Saturday	£185.00	£195.00	£210.00	5.41%	See above
Out of Hours Supplement (5pm+) Sunday	£185.00	£195.00	£210.00	5.41%	See above
Out of Hours Supplement (5pm+) Bank Holiday	£185.00	£195.00	£210.00	5.41%	See above
Premium Appointment	£25.00	£30.00	£35.00	20.00%	See above
Pre-Ceremony Meeting Monday – Friday	£55.00	£60.00	£60.00	9.09%	See above
Pre-Ceremony Meeting Saturday	£110.00	£120.00	£120.00	9.09%	See above

<b>Table 1: Central Hub</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>Approved Venue Licence Fees</b>				
One Room	£2,415.00	£2,415.00	0.0%	Fees held to encourage uptake from smaller venues – aligning licencing strategy with other urban authorities
Additional rooms (per room)	£505.00	£505.00	0.0%	
Licence Amendment Fee	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%	
<b>Private Citizenship Fees</b>				
Tuesday (individual)	£150.00	£170.00	13.33%	Benchmarked against South East authorities
Tuesday (family)	£300.00	£340.00	13.33%	Benchmarked against South East authorities
Any other day weekday (per citizen)	£250.00	£280.00	12.00%	Benchmarked against South East authorities
Saturday & Sunday (per citizen) <i>Only available if other ceremonies are taking place in Brighton Town Hall</i>	New	£170.00	N/A	New competitive fee will ensure more efficient use of staff hours during weekend working
<b>Consumables</b>				
Webcasting (Regency Suite)	£60.00	£75.00	25.00%	Benchmarked against South East authorities
Commemorative Certificate	£5.00	£5.00	0.00%	Covers costs at a price which is desirable
Confetti	£2.50 [per box]	£10.00 [3 boxes]	33.33%	Competitive price
Birth Wallets	£3.00	£3.00	0.00%	Covers costs at a price which is desirable
Deed Poll Re-issue	New	£38.50	N/A	Aligned to statutory fee for priority certificate
<b>Visit Brighton Fees and Charges</b>				
<b>Accommodation</b>				
<i>(Hotels, Guest Houses, Self Catering, Hostels &amp; Campus)</i>				
1-25 room properties	£789.00	£813.00	3.0%	
26-100 room properties	£864.00	£890.00	3.0%	
101+ room properties	£937.00	£966.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
* plus per room/property	£18.00	£18.50	2.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Business Directory	£494.00	£509.00	3.0%	
Restaurants	£494.00	£509.00	3.0%	
Activities	£520.00	£536.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Tour Guides	£235.00	£243.00	3.4%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

<b>Table 1: Central Hub</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>Attractions</b>				
<i>(Annual Visitors)</i>				
Up to 20,000 Visitors	£469.00	£484.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
20,001 to 200,000 Visitors	£1,454.00	£1,498.00	3.0%	
200,001 + Visitors	£2,341.00	£2,412.00	3.0%	
Cafes, Bars, Pubs & Clubs	£408.00	£421.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Language Schools	£433.00	£446.00	3.0%	
Shopping Centres / Areas	£1,356.00	£1,397.00	3.0%	
<b>Entertainment Venues &amp; Other</b>				
Up to 500 seats	£679.00	£700.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
501 to 1,000 seats	£1,196.00	£1,232.00	3.0%	
1001 + seats	£1,848.00	£1,904.00	3.0%	
Campsites	£371.00	£383.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Places of Worship	£125.00	£129.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Shops	£371.00	£383.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>CityParks Fees &amp; Charges</b>				
<b>CITY PARKS</b>				
Allotments Rents per square metre - 25% discount to allotment rent for senior citizens, full-time students, unemployed, disabled and community groups	£0.42	£0.44	4.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Allotments Waiting List Application	£21.40	£22.10	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Allotments Annual Administration Fee	£28.40	£29.30	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Tree Planting - dedicate a tree in a park	£407.00	£720.00	76.9%	Fee reflects cost of tree, planting, watering for 3 years and administration
Tree Planting - dedicate a street tree	On Request	On Request		
Copy of Tree preservation order (TPO)	£44.20	£45.60	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Bench dedication - Budget 1 (Phoenix Recycled)	New	£1,718.00	N/A	Fee reflects cost of bench, plaque, fixings transport, installation and administration
Bench dedication - Budget 2 (Ellwood/Phoenix Jubilee Recycled)	New	£2,108.00	N/A	Fee reflects cost of bench, plaque, fixings transport, installation and administration
Bench dedication - Budget 3 (Phoenix: Stanford Seat)	New	£2,238.00	N/A	Fee reflects cost of bench, plaque, fixings transport, installation and administration
Bench dedication - Budget 4 (Stanmer Special)	New	£2,498.00	N/A	Fee reflects cost of bench, plaque, fixings transport, installation and administration
High Hedge Complaint Fee	£693.00	£713.80	3.0%	
<b>CRICKET</b>				
Adult (wicket only)	£72.00	£74.20	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Junior (wicket only)	£38.40	£39.60	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Changing facilities	£44.20	£45.60	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Training strip - Aldrington	£23.10	£23.80	3.0%	
<b>STALLBALL, SOFTBALL &amp; ROUNDERS</b>				
First match booked	£34.80	£35.90	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

† - Indicates charge is shown exclusive of VAT

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Subsequent matches	£21.30	£22.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>CYCLING</b>				
Preston Park Cycle Track per hour - Club Events	£40.40	£41.70	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Preston Park Cycle Track per hour - Commercial Events	£67.40	£69.50	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Club season (once a week 2.5hrs for 3 months) [VAT exempt]	£223.10	£229.80	3.0%	
<b>TENNIS</b>				
Adult court per hour	£9.30	£9.60	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Junior court per hour (under 18's)	£5.70	£5.90	3.5%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Concessionary court per hour Compass Card, Over 65s, unemployed	£8.30	£8.60	3.6%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Junior court per hour weekday before 5 (including summer holidays)	£2.80	£2.90	3.6%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Concessionary court per hour weekday before 5 (including summer holidays)	£4.80	£5.00	4.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Season ticket	£125.50	£129.30	3.0%	
Junior season ticket	£19.30	£19.90	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Club season ticket	£43.00	£44.30	3.0%	
<b>FOOTBALL</b>				
Adult (pitch only)	£74.20	£76.50	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Changing facilities	£44.20	£45.60	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Junior (pitch only)	£21.30	£22.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Changing facilities	£44.20	£45.60	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Junior training, no requirements	£19.90	£20.50	3.0%	
5/7-a-side @Preston/Waterhall (per pitch)	£59.80	£61.60	3.0%	

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>PAVILIONS</b>				
Pavilion -Casual per day	£146.80	£151.30	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Play group Mile Oak per half day [always VAT exempt]	£19.90	£20.50	3.0%	
Table Tennis Mile Oak per evening [VAT exempt]	£33.10	£34.10	3.0%	
<b>RENTS</b>				
Waterhall [Brighton Rugby Club VAT exempt]	£5,347.60	£5,508.10	3.0%	
Patcham Utd (Horsdean pitch + pavilion season)	£2,556.80	£2,633.60	3.0%	
Brighton & Hove Cricket Club - Pitch	£986.80	£1,016.50	3.0%	
Brighton & Hove Cricket Club - Clubroom	£986.80	£1,016.50	3.0%	
Rottingdean croquet club	£1,494.80	£1,539.70	3.0%	
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>				
Hot Air Ballooning (flat year rate)	£404.80	£417.00	3.0%	
Cross Country (flat rate, no facilities)	£46.00	£47.40	3.0%	
School Sports (Initial 8x100m) [VAT exempt]	£94.30	£97.20	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
School Sports (overmarking) [VAT exempt]	£35.20	£36.30	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>CAR PARKING IN PARKS</b>				
<b>East Brighton Car Park - Monday to Sunday 9am to 8pm - Maximum stay 6 hours, no return within 4 hours</b>				
Up to 1 hour	£1.30	£1.40	7.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Up to 2 hours	£2.00	£2.10	5.0%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Up to 4 hours	£3.10	£3.20	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Up to 6 hours (Maximum)	£6.10	£6.30	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>Preston Park Car Park - Monday to Sunday 9am to 8pm - Maximum stay 6 hours, no return within 4 hours</b>				
Up to 1 hour	£1.70	£1.80	5.9%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Up to 2 hours	£3.40	£3.60	5.9%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Up to 4 hours	£6.60	£6.80	3.0%	

† - Indicates charge is shown exclusive of VAT

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Up to 6 hours (Maximum)	£8.40	£8.70	3.6%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>Stanmer Park (Chalk Hill, Church Car Park, Lower Lodges) - Monday to Sunday 9am to 8pm - Maximum stay 11 hours</b>				
Up to 1 hour	£1.30	£1.50	15.4%	Increase to further encourage sustainable transport and allow better balance of rates across the park
Up to 2 hours	£2.00	£2.20	10.0%	Increase to further encourage sustainable transport and allow better balance of rates across the park
Up to 4 hours	£3.10	£3.50	12.9%	Increase to further encourage sustainable transport and allow better balance of rates across the park
Up to 11 hours (maximum)	£6.10	£6.80	11.5%	Increase to further encourage sustainable transport and allow better balance of rates across the park
<b>Stanmer Park (Upper Lodges) - Monday to Sunday 9am to 8pm - Maximum stay 8 hours</b>				
Up to 1 hour	£1.30	£1.50	15.4%	Increase to further encourage sustainable transport and allow better balance of rates across the park
Up to 2 hours	£2.00	£2.20	10.0%	Increase to further encourage sustainable transport and allow better balance of rates across the park
Up to 4 hours	£3.10	£3.50	12.9%	Increase to further encourage sustainable transport and allow better balance of rates across the park
Up to 8 hours (maximum)	£6.10	£6.80	11.5%	Increase to further encourage sustainable transport and allow better balance of rates across the park
<b>Stanmer Park (Patchway) - Monday to Sunday 9am to 8pm - Maximum stay 11 hours</b>				
Up to 1 hour	£1.70	£1.70	0.0%	Freeze on Stanmer Patchway to allow better alignment across the park and support businesses in the centre of the park
Up to 2 hours	£3.40	£3.40	0.0%	Freeze on Stanmer Patchway to allow better alignment across the park and support businesses in the centre of the park
Up to 4 hours	£6.60	£6.60	0.0%	Freeze on Stanmer Patchway to allow better alignment across the park and support businesses in the centre of the park
Up to 11 hours (maximum)	£9.20	£9.20	0.0%	Freeze on Stanmer Patchway to allow better alignment across the park and support businesses in the centre of the park

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>Vale Park - Monday to Sunday 9am to 8pm - Maximum stay 6 hours</b>				
Up to 1 hour	£1.30	£1.40	7.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Up to 2 hours	£2.00	£2.10	5.0%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Up to 4 hours	£3.10	£3.20	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Up to 6 hours (Maximum)	£6.10	£6.30	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>Victoria Park (FURTHER DETAILS Subject to TRO Consultation)</b>				
Up to 1 hour	New	£1.40	N/A	TBC – pending TRO consultation
Up to 2 hours	New	£2.10	N/A	TBC – pending TRO consultation
Up to 4 hours	New	£3.20	N/A	TBC – pending TRO consultation
Up to 6 hours (Maximum)	New	£6.30	N/A	TBC – pending TRO consultation
<b>Outdoor Events Fees and Charges</b>				
<b>Application Fee (Non-refundable application fee for all events)</b>				
Commercial	£108.00	£112.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Charity	£54.00	£56.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Community	£27.00	£28.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>Hire of Parks &amp; Open Spaces</b>				
Commercial				
Small	£1,494.00	£1,539.00	3.0%	
Medium	£2,987.00	£3,077.00	3.0%	
Large (fee based on size, ticket sales, location etc)	To be negotiated	To be negotiated	N/A	
<b>Charity</b>				
Small (local)	£696.00	£717.00	3.0%	
Medium (regional)	£1,494.00	£1,539.00	3.0%	
Large (national)	£3,039.00	£3,131.00	3.0%	
<b>Community</b>				

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Small	£170.00	£176.00	3.5%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Medium	£371.00	£383.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Large	£727.00	£749.00	3.0%	
<b>Madeira Drive Hire</b>				
Daily Event Charge for road closure 6am until 6pm. Daily charge applicable for build and derig days is agreed on a case-by-case basis				
<b>Commercial</b>	£11,464.00	£11,810.00	3.0%	
Charity (National and Regional)	£3,786.00	£3,900.00	3.0%	
Enthusiast	£2,879.00	£2,970.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Community (Includes local charity)	£2,030.00	£2,095.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>Commercial Promotions - all sites</b>				
Per day (weekends and bank holidays)	£2,297.00	£2,370.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Per day (weekdays)	£2,030.00	£2,095.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>Reinstatement Deposit</b>				
Commercial	To be negotiated	To be negotiated	N/A	
Charity/Community	To be negotiated	To be negotiated	N/A	
<b>Advertising Sites</b>				
Poster Sites 10 Day Period - per poster, advertising rate only	£9.00	£9.50	5.6%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>Filming</b>				
Other - Managed through Sussex Film Office	To be negotiated	To be negotiated	N/A	
<b>News/ weather/ tourism</b>	£0.00	£0.00	N/A	
Student pieces (administration fee only)	£65.00	£67.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Unit Bases (24 hour hire)	To be negotiated	To be negotiated	N/A	

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Officer fees outside core hours (per hour)	£59.00	£61.00	3.4%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>Bereavement Services Fees &amp; Charges</b>				
Adult Cremation	£817.00	842.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Child Cremation	No Charge	No Charge	N/A	
Early service/ Public Health Cremation	£612.00	£631.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Direct Cremation - unattended	£460.00	£474.00	3.0%	
Cremation of body parts – no use of chapel	£134.00	£139.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Additional fee for Saturday Cremation	£309.00	£319.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Additional Fee for Sunday / BH cremation	£616.00	£635.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Additional 30 mins chapel time	£288.00	£297.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Use of chapel Mon – Fri – no linked burial or cremation	£350.00	£361.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Use of chapel Saturday – no linked burial or cremation	£659.00	£679.00	3.0%	
Use of Chapel Sunday / BH – no linked burial or Cremation	£966.00	£995.00	3.0%	
Witnessed Scattering of ashes in GOR – other Crematoria	£110.00	£114.00	3.6%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Witnessed Scattering in GOR – Saturday supplement	£148.00	£153.00	3.4%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Storage of cremated remains per month – after 3 months	£50.00	£52.00	4.0%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Split of Cremated remains	£21.00	£22.00	4.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Certified extract from Register of Cremations	£26.00	£27.00	3.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Visual Tributes – single photo	£15.00	£16.00	6.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Visual Tributes – additional single photo	£12.00	£13.00	8.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Visual Tributes – Basic Slideshow	£60.00	£62.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Visual Tributes – Music Tribute	£78.00	£81.00	3.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Visual Tributes – Themed Tribute	£96.00	£99.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Visual Tributes – Family supplied video	£42.00	£44.00	4.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Visual Tributes – Download link	£12.00	£13.00	8.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Visual Tributes – extra work/ extra 25 photos	£27.00	£28.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Visual Tributes – late fee	£21.00	£22.00	4.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Webcast – Live & 28 days	£65.00	£67.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Keepsake - DVD/ USB of Visual tribute/Webcast	£66.00	£68.00	3.0%	
Keepsake - DVD/ USB of Visual tribute/Webcast – extra copy	£33.00	£34.00	3.0%	
Keepsake – Video book	£102.00	£106.00	3.9%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Keepsake – Video book – extra copy	£66.00	£68.00	3.0%	
Keepsake – Memory Box	£150.00	£155.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Keepsake – Memory box – extra copy	£90.00	£93.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Right of Burial – excl. Woodland Valley – Resident	£1,026.00	£1,057.00	3.0%	
Right of Burial – excl. Woodland Valley – Non-Resident	£2,565.00	£2,642.00	3.0%	
Right of Burial – Woodland Valley - Resident	£1,112.00	£1,146.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Right of Burial – Woodland Valley – Non-Resident	£2,780.00	£2,864.00	3.0%	
Right of Burial – Child	No Charge	No Charge	N/A	

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Interment – Resident	£1,292.00	£1,331.00	3.0%	
Interment – Non-Resident	£3,230.00	£3,327.00	3.0%	
Interment – Child	No Charge	No Charge	N/A	
Interment – Saturday additional fee	£428.00	£441.00	3.0%	
Interment – Sunday/ BH additional fee	£640.00	£660.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Interment – additional fee for large coffin	£180.00	£186.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Interment – additional digging per foot over 3ft	£85.00	£88.00	3.5%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Right of Burial – Ashes plot - Resident	£850.00	£876.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Right of Burial – Ashes plot – Non-Resident	£2,125.00	£2,189.00	3.0%	
Interment - Cremated remains	£260.00	£268.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Interment – Cremated remains - Saturday additional fee	£360.00	£371.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Interment – Cremated remains -Sunday/ BH additional fee	£540.00	£557.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Scattering ashes in Cemetery – Mon -Fri	£136.00	£141.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Scattering ashes In a Cemetery – Saturday additional fee	£310.00	£320.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Scattering ashes in a Cemetery – Sunday/ BH additional fee	£540.00	£557.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Wooden ashes casket	£110.00	£114.00	3.6%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Wooden ashes casket – double size	£165.00	£170.00	3.0%	
Bio-degradable Urn	£50.00	£52.00	4.0%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Transfer of Right of Burial – Probate	£88.00	£91.00	3.4%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Transfer of Right of Burial – Statutory declaration	£150.00	£155.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Grave search	£28.00	£29.00	3.6%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Memorial permit – Single Headstone up to 2ft 6 inches	£173.00	£179.00	3.5%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Memorial permit – Single Headstone over 2ft 6 inches	£260.00	£268.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Memorial permit – Headstone for ashes plot – 21 x 16 x12	£160.00	£165.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Memorial permit - Tablet for Lawn Memorial Cemetery	£152.00	£157.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Memorial permit – Kerb set only	£144.00	£149.00	3.5%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Memorial permit – Additional cover slab or chippings	£134.00	£139.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Memorial permit – Additional inscription	£77.00	£80.00	3.9%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Memorial permit – Vase with inscription	£77.00	£80.00	3.9%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Book of Remembrance – 2 line entry	£155.00	£160.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Book of Remembrance – Extra line	£27.00	£28.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Book of Remembrance – Floral emblem (added to 5-line entry)	£90.00	£93.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Book of Remembrance – Badge/Crest (added to 5-line entry)	£96.00	£99.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Book of Remembrance – Illuminated Capital (added to 5-line entry)	£132.00	£136.00	3.0%	
Book of Remembrance – Coat of Arms (added to 5-line entry)	£144.00	£149.00	3.5%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Memorial Leaf – Initial purchase & 5 yr dedication	£252.00	£260.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Memorial Leaf – 5 yr renewal	£144.00	£149.00	3.5%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Recordia Panel – Initial purchase & 5yr dedication	£291.00	£300.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Recordia panel – 5 yr renewal	£144.00	£149.00	3.5%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Woodland Valley plaque – initial purchase & 5 yr dedication	£516.00	£532.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Woodland Valley plaque – extra line	£33.00	£34.00	3.0%	
Bulb commemoration	£84.00	£87.00	3.6%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Woodland walk plaque – initial purchase & 5 yr dedication	£489.00	£504.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Woodland walk plaque – 2 yr renewal	£126.00	£130.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Woodland walk plaque – additional year	£45.00	£47.00	4.4%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque in Rose bed – initial purchase & 5 yr dedication	£504.00	£520.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque in Rose bed – 2 yr renewal	£180.00	£186.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque in Rose bed – extra year	£54.00	£56.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque in Rose bed on Tree Rose – Initial purchase & 5 yr dedication	£540.00	£557.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque in Rose bed on Tree Rose – 2 yr renewal	£186.00	£192.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque in Rose bed on Tree Rose – extra year	£54.00	£56.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque on Tree – Initial purchase & 5 yr dedication	£651.00	£671.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque on Tree – 2 yr renewal	£240.00	£248.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque on Tree – extra year	£81.00	£84.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque on Tree – Yorkstone plinth	£135.00	£140.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Plaque in Children's Garden – Initial purchase & 5 yr dedication	£315.00	£325.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque in Children's Garden – 2 yr renewal	£102.00	£106.00	3.9%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque in Children's Garden – extra year	£39.00	£41.00	5.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Memorial Niche – initial purchase & 5 yr dedication	£858.00	£884.00	3.0%	
Memorial Niche – 5 yr renewal	£375.00	£387.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Memorial Niche – extra year	£60.00	£62.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Memorial Niche - Motif	£75.00	£78.00	4.0%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Memorial Niche – Photo plaque	£108.00	£112.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque on Memorial bench – initial purchase & 5 yr dedication	£1,650.00	£1,700.00	3.0%	
Plaque on Memorial bench – 2 yr renewal	£360.00	£371.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque on Memorial bench – extra year	£126.00	£130.00	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque on Shared Wooden Memorial bench – initial purchase & 5 yr dedication	£591.00	£609.00	3.0%	
Plaque on Shared Wooden Memorial bench – 2 yr renewal	£180.00	£186.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque on Shared Wooden Memorial bench – extra year	£45.00	£47.00	4.4%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque on Shared Eco Memorial bench – initial purchase & 5 yr dedication	£195.00	£201.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque on Shared Eco Memorial bench – 2 yr renewal	£78.00	£81.00	3.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plaque on Shared Eco Memorial bench – extra year	£27.00	£28.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>Seafront Fees and Charges</b>				
<b>Beach Huts</b>				
Beach Hut License Fee	£518.70	£534.27	3.0%	
Beach Hut Transfer Fee (10% of sale price)	Greater of 10% of sale price, or 4 times the licence fee	Greater of 10% of sale price, or 4 times the licence fee	N/A	
<b>Seafront Charges</b>				
Winch or Capstan Site	£160.00	£164.80	3.0%	
Beaching Permit for pleasure/sailing/rowing boat/kayak	£106.70	£110.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Beach Lock Site – small (self-build)	£160.00	£164.80	3.0%	
Beach Lock Site – large (self-build)	£213.30	£219.70	3.0%	
Beach Locker – (locker owned by council)	£266.60	£274.60	3.0%	
Beach Volleyball court hire (Peak) Mon - Fri 17:00 - 22:00 and all weekends	£32.00	£33.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Beach Volleyball court hire (Off Peak) All other times	£28.00	£28.90	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Beach Basketball Court	Free	Free	N/A	
<b>Beach Chalets</b>				
Hove	£1,783.90	£1,837.50	3.0%	
Madeira Drive	£1,228.90	£1,265.80	3.0%	
Saltdean East (old)	£1,043.30	£1,074.60	3.0%	
Saltdean West (new)	£2,060.00	£2,121.80	3.0%	
Rottingdean	£1,043.30	£1,074.60	3.0%	
Ovingdean	£1,165.80	£1,200.80	3.0%	
<b>Volks Railway</b>				
Adult single	£5.20	£5.40	3.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Adult return	£6.70	£7.00	4.5%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Child single	£3.30	£3.40	3.0%	
Child return	£4.20	£4.40	4.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Senior single	£3.80	£4.00	5.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Senior return	£5.20	£5.40	3.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Family single	£12.70	£13.10	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Family return	£17.30	£17.90	3.5%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Adult group return	£5.00	£5.20	4.0%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Child group return	£3.40	£3.60	5.9%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Halfway Adult single	£3.30	£3.40	3.0%	
Halfway child single	£2.30	£2.40	4.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
VERA Members/Special	£2.20	£2.30	4.5%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
5 yrs & under	Free	Free	N/A	
<b>Bandstand Ceremony Hire Fees</b>				
Bandstand - Peak (Friday/Saturday)	£844.60	£870.00	3.0%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Bandstand - Peak (Bank Holiday)	£906.40	£940.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Bandstand Off Peak (Wednesday/Thursday)	£648.90	£665.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Plus ground floor wing area	New	£160.00	N/A	New charge to compliment existing bandstand hire charges
<b>Transport Highways Fees and Charges</b>				
<b>HIGHWAYS</b>				
Vehicle Crossover Inspection - First inspection	£166.00	£182.60	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Vehicle Crossover Inspection - Proceeding to works	£496.00	£545.60	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
S50 Road Opening Charge – Works on apparatus with an existing licence	£227.00	£249.70	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service

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S50 Road Opening Charge – New Licence	£617.00	£678.70	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Works on the Highway (installation of ramps etc)	£439.00	£482.90	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Extension to existing highways road opening licence (vehicle crossovers, works within the highway, S50 change in end date)	New	£45.00	N/A	New charge for officer time to process change
Temporary Traffic Lights (application and approval of changes to traffic light junctions)	£151.00	£166.10	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Oversailing (permission to move materials/build temporary structures over the public highways)	£151.00	£166.10	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Officer time (When needed on site checking traffic management or traffic signals)	£64.00	£70.40	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Filming Traffic Management Charge	£605.00	£665.50	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Filming date change	New	£45.00	N/A	New charge for officer time to process change
<b>DEVELOPER-LED HIGHWAY WORKS (INCLUDING S278/38 AGREEMENTS)</b>				
<p><i>Note 1: For S278/38 agreement items –</i></p> <p>(a) <i>EVHW = Estimated Value of the Highway Works. This includes, inter alia, street lighting, electricals, statutory undertakers' works, and traffic management. For the purposes of the Advanced Fee this shall be based on an early estimate of the proposals prior to any technical review. For the DCIF it shall be based on the final agreed proposals granted Technical Approval.</i></p> <p>(b) <i>Fees exclude those for legal drafting, traffic regulation orders, structural/geotechnical AiP and commuted sums, which shall all be additional.</i></p> <p>(c) <i>Fees are based on a standard scope of activities. If this is exceeded then 'supplementary' fees will be due at a time charge rate of £88 hour ex VAT.</i></p> <p>(d) <i>In addition to these fees, applicants will be required to provide a legal undertaking at the point of application that they will pay any abortive costs that the Council may occur (including officer time @ £88 hour ex VAT) above the value of the advanced fee should the application not be completed for any reason.</i></p> <p><i>Note 2: Fees technical review items (where outside of the s278/38 agreement process)</i></p> <p>(a) <i>Fees exclude any meetings, which be additional per separate items</i></p> <p>(b) <i>Where the proposals include works at multiple disparate sites, include contiguous works over a very large area, or in other reasonable circumstances, these may be broken up and treated as separate schemes - each subject to separate fees.</i></p> <p><i>Note 3: For Road Safety Audit items –</i></p>				

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<p>(a) Fees include up to 2 rounds of review of each RSA submission (i.e. Audit Team proposal, Brief, Audit Report, Audit Response Report). Should further rounds of review be necessary to obtain approval then this will be subject to additional fees at a time charge rate of £88 hour ex VAT.</p> <p>(b) Fees exclude technical review and/or approval of the highway proposals themselves or of any input TS/TA derived traffic forecasts etc... for that may be required for RSA Briefs. Where approval of such inputs is required then this will be subject to separate fees per other items. Whilst RSA Briefs may nonetheless be approved in the absence of these, this will be subject to separate latter approval of such input documents. Until that is provided Designers proceed with any RSA at their risk.</p> <p>(c) Fees exclude the production of Exceptions Reports for where the Design Organisation proposes not to follow an RSA recommendation. Should they be required then this will be subject to additional fees at a time charge rate of £88 hour ex VAT.</p> <p>(d) Where the proposals include works at multiple disparate sites, include contiguous works over a very large area, or in other reasonable circumstances, these may be broken up and treated as separate schemes - each subject to separate fees.</p>				
<b>Pre Planning application advice &amp; Pre 278 Planning advice</b>				
Small scheme	New	£352.00	N/A	New charge to cover costs of staff time (based on 4 hrs)
Medium scheme	New	£704.00	N/A	New charge to cover costs of staff time (based on 8hrs)
Large scheme	New	£1,056.00	N/A	New charge to cover costs of staff time (based on 12 hrs)
<b>S278/38 'major works' agreement -</b>				
Design Check and Inspection Fee (DCIF) to be paid when agreement completed to cover all tasks within standard scope	20% EVHW	20% EVHW	N/A	
Advanced Fee (AF) to be paid at point of application to begin agreement process, but to be deducted from DCIF	10% EVHW (min £5,000)	10% EVHW (min £5,000)	N/A	
<b>S278 'minor works' agreement -</b>				
Design Check and Inspection Free (DCIF) to be paid when agreement completed to cover all tasks within standard scope	20% EVHW	20% EVHW	N/A	
Advanced Fee (AF) to be paid at point of application to begin agreement process, but to be deducted from DCIF	10% EVHW (min £2,000)	10% EVHW (min £2,000)	N/A	
<b>S278 'point works' agreement</b> (where council designs and executes very minor works on the applicant's behalf) - officer time to prepare, design, works quotation and agreement, and to	£1,909.00	£1,967.00	3.0%	

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<i>inspect/supervise/approve the works. Excludes cost of the works themselves which shall be confirmed in the agreement</i>				
<b>1no. round of technical review and written response, outside of S278/38 agreement process, of outline highway design proposals where -</b>				
Small scheme †	£686.00	£754.60	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Medium scheme †	£1,178.00	£1,295.80	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Large scheme †	£1,735.00	£1,908.50	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
<b>1no. round of technical review and written response, outside of S278/38 agreement process, of detailed highway design proposals excl. SUDS drainage and street lighting, where -</b>				
Small scheme	£943.00	£1,037.30	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Medium scheme	£1,393.00	£1,532.30	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Large scheme	£2,014.00	£2,215.40	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
<b>1no. round of technical review and written response, outside of S278/38 agreement process, to SUDS drainage proposals, where -</b>				
Small scheme	£399.00	£438.90	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Medium scheme	£699.00	£768.90	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Large scheme	£999.00	£1,098.90	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
<b>1no. round of technical review and written response, outside of S278/38 agreement process, to street lighting proposals, where -</b>				
Small scheme	£399.00	£438.90	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Medium scheme	£699.00	£768.90	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Large scheme	£999.00	£1,098.90	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>Road Safety Audit outside of S278/38 process, completion of all overseeing organisation tasks for an individual stage 1/1+2/2/3, where -</b>				
Small scheme †	£1,435	£1,578.50	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Medium scheme †	£1,885	£2,073.50	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Large scheme †	£2,613	£2,874.30	10.0%	Fee increase to ensure full cost recovery within the service
Attendance of 1 no. Highway Agreements Officer at 1 no. max 2 hour meeting to informally discuss highway design proposals outside of S278/38 agreement, incl. advance review of submitted info but excl. any written notes or formal written observations	£300.00	£309.00	3.0%	
Structural Approval in Principle to DMRB BD02	£798.00	£822.00	3.0%	
Geotechnical Approval in Principle to DMRB HD22/08	Time charge at consultancy rates	Time charge at consultancy rates	N/A	
<b>TRANSPORT NOTE/STATEMENT/ASSESSMENT SCOPING AND OTHER PRE-APPLICATION ADVICE</b>				
<i>Note 1: Where Planning Performance Agreements are proposed then the fees shall be calculated on a case specific basis and those below may not apply.</i>				
<i>Note 2: The below rates assume the availability of Council staff. Where Council staff are not available then the Council may be able to arrange for external Consultants to provide advice instead on its behalf. However, fees will then be determined on a case specific basis.</i>				
<i>Note 3: The written pre-application advice items are limited to Transport Note/Statement/Assessment screening and scoping (based in each instance on submitted screening/scoping notes), and general transport policy. Advice on highway design (including for any roads/spaces within the site), Road Safety Audit, Travel Plans, and CTMPs is excluded and subject to separate fees under other items. Advice/audit relating to junction/network modelling is included where this relates to up to 2 simple, non-signalised junctions that do not interact or feature other complicating factors (as modelled within Junctions 9 software). In all other circumstances such advice is excluded and shall be subject to separate fees under other items.</i>				
<b>1 no. round of written pre-application advice, excl. any meetings, for -</b>				
Minor development - householder only †	£343.00	£353.00	2.9%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Minor development – other †	£600.00	£617.00	2.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>1 no. round of written pre-application advice, incl. 1 no. clarification meeting prior to issue, for -</b>				
Major development - small (Transport Statement only) †	£900.00	£925.00	2.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Major development - medium (Transport Assessment) †	£1,286.00	£1,321.00	2.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Major development - large (Transport Assessment) †	£1,650.00	£1,695.00	2.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Major development - x.large (Transport Assessment and/or Environmental Statement) †	£2,099.00	£2,157.00	2.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Attendance of Team Manager at any clarification meeting in addition to the assigned Transport Case Officer †	£258.00	£265.00	2.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
1 no. round of network/junction modelling advice/audit with written response	Time charge at consultancy rates	Time charge at consultancy rates	N/A	
<b>Restricted Parking Permit Status</b>				
Single dwelling (individual property, where applicable)	New	£500.00	N/A	This proposed fee is for the developer / freeholder to start the process of reviewing this status and would cover staff time in reviewing the status.
Small developments (<10 dwellings)	New	£1,000.00	N/A	This proposed fee is for the developer / freeholder to start the process of reviewing this status and would cover staff time in reviewing the status.
Medium developments (10–49 dwellings)	New	£1,350.00	N/A	This proposed fee is for the developer / freeholder to start the process of reviewing this status and would cover staff time in reviewing the status.
Large developments (≥50 dwellings)	New	£2,500.00	N/A	This proposed fee is for the developer / freeholder to start the process of reviewing this status and would cover staff time in reviewing the status.
<b>TRAVEL PLANS</b>				
<i>Note 1: The scope for the monitoring fee items below includes 2no. rounds of review and written comment on each of 2 no. Travel Plans (to provide for later revisions after initial approval) and 3 no. Monitoring Reports. This is inclusive of any response to the Local Planning Authority on a related approval of details application or application to discharge a planning obligation. It also provides for 1 no. meeting with the Travel Plan author or Travel Plan Coordinator prior to submission of the first iteration of each document (5 meetings in total) and provision of related meeting notes. Any</i>				

† - Indicates charge is shown exclusive of VAT

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<i>additional fees outside this standard scope, including inter alia discussions about remedial actions, step-in activities and further meetings or rounds of review and comment on documents, are subject to further fees which shall be at a time charge rate of £88 hour ex VAT.</i>				
<b>1 no round of written pre-application advice on proposed Travel Plan (new or revised), incl. 1 no. clarification meeting before issue of advice</b>				
Small sites †	£986.00	£1,013.00	2.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Large sites †	£1,328.00	£1,365.00	2.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>1 no. round of review and written response to proposed CTMP (new or revised), excl. any meeting</b>				
Small sites †	£1,200.00	£1,233.00	2.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Large sites †	£1,564.00	£1,607.00	2.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>Monitoring fee</b>				
Small sites †	£6,619.00	£6,800.00	2.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Large sites †	£7,612.00	£7,820.00	2.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLANS (CTMP)</b>				
<i>Note 1: These fees are applicable to traffic management plans for both demolition and construction works, both of which may be required as part of wider Demolition and/or Constriction &amp; Environmental Management Plans (DEMP/CEMP). Discounts may be permitted for CTMPs related to demolition works only on a discretionary basis.</i>				
<i>Note 2: These fees exclude any highway licences, orders or permits, all of which are separately payable per other items.</i>				
<b>1 no. round of written pre-application advice on proposed CTMP (new or revised), incl. 1 no. clarification meeting before issue of advice:</b>				
Standard scheme †	£1,543.00	£1,585.00	2.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Large scheme †	£1,842.00	£1,893.00	2.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>1 no. round of review and written response to proposed CTMP (new or revised), excl. any meeting:</b>				
Standard scheme †	£1,714.00	£1,761.00	2.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Large scheme †	£2,057.00	£2,113.00	2.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

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<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>Monitoring Fee - First 12 months of works or any part thereof:</b>				
Standard scheme †	£8,846.00	£9,089.00	2.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Large scheme †	£11,759.00	£12,081.00	2.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>Monitoring Fee - Each additional 6 months of works or any part thereof:</b>				
Standard scheme †	£4,370.00	£4,490.00	2.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Large scheme †	£5,783.00	£5,942.00	2.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS – PLANNED (TEMPORARY) AND TOWN POLICE CLAUSES ACT ORDERS</b>				
<b>Administration &amp; advertising costs</b>				
1 to 5 Roads affected	£2,163.00	£2,228.00	3.0%	
6 to 20 Roads affected	£2,800.00	£2,884.00	3.0%	
21 to 50 Roads affected	£3,919.00	£4,037.00	3.0%	
51+ Roads affected	£5,598.00	£5,766.00	3.0%	
<b>TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS - NOTICES (TEMP - EMERGENCY)</b>				
Administration fee & officer time	£423.00	£436.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>SIGNS</b>				
Brown Tourist signs per 5 years	£446.00	£460.00	10.0%	Cost increasing to cover staff administration and sign production and erection
Neighbourhood watch signs	£57.00	£59.00	10.0%	Cost increasing to cover staff administration and sign production and erection
Development directional signs per first 5	£462.00	£476.00	10.0%	Cost increasing to cover staff administration and sign production and erection
Development directional signs each additional sign	£88.00	£91.00	10.0%	Cost increasing to cover staff administration and sign production and erection
<b>SCAFFOLD LICENCE</b>				
Initial 6 weeks	£108.00	£118.80	10.0%	Cost increasing to cover staff administration
Renewal subsequent 8 weeks	£108.00	£118.80	10.0%	Cost increasing to cover staff administration
Initial 6 weeks for 12m. length along the Public Highway	£335.00	£368.50	10.0%	Cost increasing to cover staff administration
Renewal subsequent 8 weeks for 12 meter length along Public Highway	£335.00	£368.50	10.0%	Cost increasing to cover staff administration

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<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Monitored contractor or retrospective licence for 6 weeks under 12 meters	£215.00	£236.50	10.0%	Cost increasing to cover staff administration
Monitored contractor or retrospective licence for 6 weeks over 12 meters	£443.00	£487.30	10.0%	Cost increasing to cover staff administration
<b>SKIP LICENCE</b>				
Returnable Deposit	£108.00	£118.80	10.0%	Cost includes staff time monitoring and checking licence
Deposit Processing Fees	£29.00	£31.90	10.0%	Cost includes staff time monitoring and checking licence
1 day Licence Standard Skip	£14.00	£15.40	10.0%	Cost includes staff time monitoring and checking licence
7 day Licence Standard skip	£44.00	£48.40	10.0%	Cost includes staff time monitoring and checking licence
28 day Licence Standard Skip	£81.00	£89.10	10.0%	Cost includes staff time monitoring and checking licence
1 day Licence Large Skip	£44.00	£48.40	10.0%	Cost includes staff time monitoring and checking licence
7 day Licence Large Skip	£81.00	£89.10	10.0%	Cost includes staff time monitoring and checking licence
Monitored contractor or retrospective licence fee	New	£100.00	N/A	Fees reflect staff time checking and chasing non licenced skips
28 day Licence Large Skip	£159.00	£174.90	10.0%	Cost increasing to cover staff administration
<b>HOARDING</b>				
Area of Hoarding per square metre initial 6 week application	£33.00	£34.95	5.9%	Cost increasing to cover staff administration
Area of Hoarding per square metre renewal 8 week application	£33.00	£34.95	5.9%	Cost increasing to cover staff administration
<b>BUILDING MATERIALS</b>				
Per week Including portable toilets	£51.00	£53.00	3.9%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Secure Hazardous Waste, Lockable Storage Containers, Temporary offices, Welfare facilities and Asbestos removal, decontamination units per square metre	£34.00	£36.00	5.9%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Crane. Tower cranes, mobile work platforms on the highway.	£158.00	£205.40	30.0%	Increase reflects time taken to check, administer and site compliance monitoring
<b>OBJECTS ON THE HIGHWAY</b>				
<b>Shop Display</b>				
New application or late renewal fee	£525.00	£557.00	6.1%	Uplift reflects costs of service, so extent of uplift ensures costs are recovered, rounded to nearest whole pound
Shop Display licence less than 5 square metres	£158.00	£168.00	6.3%	Uplift reflects costs of service, so extent of uplift ensures costs are recovered, rounded to nearest whole pound

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Shop Display licence more than 5 square metres	£368.00	£391.00	6.3%	Uplift reflects costs of service, so extent of uplift ensures costs are recovered, rounded to nearest whole pound
<b>Tables &amp; Chairs</b>				
New application or late renewal fee	£500.00	£500.00	0.0%	Fee at statutory maximum.
Table and Chair licence less than 5 Square meters	£150.00	£150.00	0.0%	Fee at statutory maximum.
Table and Chair licence more than 5 Square meters	£350.00	£350.00	0.0%	Fee at statutory maximum.
<b>A-Board Licence</b>				
New application or late renewal fee	£210.00	£223.00	6.2%	Uplift reflects costs of service, so extent of uplift ensures costs are recovered, rounded to nearest whole pound
Annual licence fee	£145.00	£154.00	6.2%	Uplift reflects costs of service, so extent of uplift ensures costs are recovered, rounded to nearest whole pound
<b>OTHER FEES</b>				
Highway Licence detail changes	£44.00	£46.00	4.5%	Uplift reflects costs of service, so extent of uplift ensures costs are recovered, rounded to nearest whole pound
One-off promotions per square metre	£44.00	£46.00	4.5%	Uplift reflects costs of service, so extent of uplift ensures costs are recovered, rounded to nearest whole pound
Temporary Event Advertising Signs - first 50 (each)	£16.00	£17.00	6.3%	Uplift reflects costs of service, so extent of uplift ensures costs are recovered, rounded to nearest whole pound
Temporary Event Advertising Signs - over 50 (each)	£9.00	£10.00	11.1%	Uplift reflects costs of service, so extent of uplift ensures costs are recovered, rounded to nearest whole pound
Highway pre-construction survey	£446.00	£460.00	3.1%	Uplift reflects costs of service, so extent of uplift ensures costs are recovered, rounded to nearest whole pound
<b>Cultivation Licence</b>				
Licence for individuals who wish to cultivate a highway verge or other highway green space adjacent to their property.	£51.00	£53.00	3.9%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

**Table 3: City Operations**

	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27	Change %	Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)
<b>Parking Fees and Charges</b>				
<i>Parking fees &amp; charges were frozen in 25/26. In 26/27 resident, traders, and business permits have been increased in line with inflation (3%) while other permits remain frozen for a second year. The exception to this is visitor and hotel permits which see an above inflation increase except in Light Touch zones which are frozen. In line with the Parking Review recommendation, we have worked to make our barrier carparks more attractive by freezing visitor tariffs and introducing new early bird, commuter and late-night tariffs in some locations. We have also worked to simplify on-street parking charges including a new unified seafront parking tariff from Maderia Drive to the King Alfred aimed at the visitor economy.</i>				
<b>Off-Street (Car Parks)</b>				
<b>Black Rock Car Park Summer rate</b>				
Up to 1 hour	£1.70	£2.90	70.59%	To bring this car park in line with King Alfred car parks summer charges
Up to 2 hours	£3.20	£4.50	40.63%	To bring this car park in line with King Alfred car parks summer charges
Up to 3 hours	£6.40	£7.50	17.19%	To bring this car park in line with King Alfred car parks summer charges
Up to 4 hours	£8.00	£10.00	25.00%	To bring this car park in line with King Alfred car parks summer charges
Up to 6 Hours	New	£13.00	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
Up to 12 Hours	£12.10	£18.00	48.76%	To bring this car park in line with King Alfred car parks summer charges
<b>Black Rock Car Park Winter rate</b>				
Up to 1 hour	£1.70	£1.80	5.90%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Up to 2 hours	£3.20	£3.40	6.30%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
Up to 3 hours	£6.40	£6.70	4.70%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
Up to 4 hours	£8.00	£8.40	5.00%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
Up to 6 Hours	New	£10.00	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
Up to 12 Hours	£12.10	£12.70	5.00%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
<b>King Alfred Car Park Summer rate</b>				

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<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
1 hour	£2.60	£2.90	11.50%	Introduce a new summer uplift tariff in addition to increasing the current (winter) tariff to reflect the carparks' seafront location.
2 hours	£4.10	£4.50	9.80%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
3 hours	£5.40	£5.90	9.30%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
4 hours	£6.80	£8.00	17.60%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
6 hours	New	£13.00	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
12 Hours	£13.40	£18.00	34.30%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
Quarterly Season Ticket	New	£359.40	N/A	Introduce a Quarterly Season Ticket to bring this in line with the other surface Car Parks
Annual season ticket	£1,350.30	£1,500.00	11.10%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
<b>King Alfred Car Park Winter rate</b>				
1 hour	£2.60	£2.70	3.80%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
2 hours	£4.10	£4.30	4.90%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
3 hours	£5.40	£5.70	5.60%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
4 hours	£6.80	£7.10	4.40%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
6 hours	New	£10.10	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
12 Hours	£13.40	£14.10	5.20%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
Quarterly Season Ticket	New	£359.40	N/A	Introduce a Quarterly Season Ticket to bring this in line with the other surface Car Parks
Annual season ticket	£1,350.30	£1,500.00	11.10%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
<b>Rottingdean Marine Cliffs Car Park Summer</b>				
1 hour	£1.70	£1.90	11.80%	Introduce a new summer uplift tariff in addition to increasing the current (winter) tariff.
2 hours	£3.30	£3.60	9.10%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
4 hours	£6.00	£6.60	10.00%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
6 hours	New	£8.20	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
12 hours	£8.00	£9.00	12.50%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
Quarterly season ticket	£86.80	£95.50	10.00%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
<b>Rottingdean Marine Cliffs Car Park Winter</b>				

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
1 hour	£1.70	£1.80	5.90%	Introduce a new summer uplift tariff in addition to increasing the current (winter) tariff.
2 hours	£3.30	£3.50	6.10%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
4 hours	£6.00	£6.30	5.00%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
6 hours	New	£7.50	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
12 hours	£8.00	£8.40	5.00%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
Quarterly season ticket	£86.80	£95.50	10.00%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
<b>Norton Road Car Park</b>				
1 hour	£1.50	£1.60	6.70%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
2 hours	£3.30	£3.40	3.00%	
4 hours	£6.40	£6.60	3.10%	
5 hours	£7.60	£7.80	2.60%	
9 hours	£9.40	£9.70	3.20%	
12 hours	£10.70	£11.00	2.80%	
Weekend - 1 hour	£1.70	£1.80	20.00%	Norton Road Carpark currently charges less at the weekend. Reverse this and introduce a higher weekend tariff of +13%
Weekend - 2 hours	£3.30	£3.70	12.10%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
Weekend - 4 hours	£6.10	£6.90	13.10%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
Weekend - 5 hours	£7.40	£8.40	13.50%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
Weekend - 9 hours	£9.00	£10.20	13.30%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
Weekend - 12 hours	£10.70	£12.10	13.10%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
Quarterly Season Ticket	New	£336.70	N/A	See 1 hour tariff narrative
Annual season ticket	£1,203.30	£1,325.60	10.20%	See 1 hour tariff narrative
<b>Rottingdean West Street Car Park Summer</b>				
1 hour	£1.70	£1.90	11.80%	Introduce a new summer uplift tariff in addition to increasing the current (winter) tariff
2 hours	£3.30	£3.60	9.10%	Introduce a new summer uplift tariff in addition to increasing the current (winter) tariff
3 hours	£4.80	£5.30	10.40%	Introduce a new summer uplift tariff in addition to increasing the current (winter) tariff
<b>Rottingdean West Street Car Park Winter</b>				

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
1 hour	£1.70	£1.80	5.90%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
2 hours	£3.30	£3.40	3.00%	
3 hours	£4.80	£4.90	2.10%	
<b>The Lanes Car Park</b>				
1 hour	£4.00	£4.00	0.00%	
2 hours	£11.00	£11.00	0.00%	
4 hours	£24.00	£24.00	0.00%	
6 hours	New	£29.00	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
9 hours	£33.50	£33.50	0.00%	
12 hours	New	£40.00	N/A	New 12-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 6 and 24 hours.
24 hours / Lost Ticket (Charged 24hrs where time of entry cannot be verified)	£40.50	£44.00	8.60%	Raised this tariff due to the introduction of the 6 hour tariff
Weekend - 1 hour	£6.00	£6.00	0.00%	
Weekend - 2 hours	£14.00	£14.00	0.00%	
Weekend - 4 hours	£26.00	£26.00	0.00%	
Weekend - 6 hours	New	£29.50	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
Weekend - 9 hours	£33.50	£33.50	0.00%	
Weekend - 12 hours	New	£40.00	N/A	New 12-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 6 and 24 hours.
Weekend - 24 hours / Lost Ticket (Charged 24hrs where time of entry cannot be verified)	£40.50	£44.00	8.60%	Raised this tariff due to the introduction of the 6 hour tariff
Evenings 18.00 – 24.00	£7.50	£10.00	33.33%	In line with new night time tariffs in Lanes and London Road
Night 24.00 – 08.00	£7.50	£10.00	33.33%	In line with new night time tariffs in Lanes and London Road
Lost ticket administration fee	£7.50	£10.00	33.33%	Reflecting increased Staff costs for administration
Weekend Evenings 18.00 - 24.00	£8.50	£12.00	41.18%	In line with new night time tariffs in Lanes and London Road
Weekend Night 24.00 – 08.00	£8.50	£12.00	41.18%	In line with new night time tariffs in Lanes and London Road

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Annual season ticket	£3,957.50	£4,155.00	5.00%	Season ticket price increase on average 10% and quarterly, monthly and weekly reducing in price.
Quarterly season ticket	New	£1,091.00	N/A	Smallest implementable increase at 10p increments
Monthly Season Ticket	£360.00	£378.00	5.00%	Given the Car Park's central location, the season ticket was raised above the 3% inflationary rate.
Weekly Season Ticket	New	£115.00	N/A	Introduced a quarterly, monthly and weekly Season ticket to be consistent with all barrier car parks
<b>London Road Car Park</b>				
1 hour	£2.00	£2.00	0.00%	
2 hours	£5.50	£5.50	0.00%	
4 hours	£10.50	£10.50	0.00%	
6 Hours	New	£14.00	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
9 hours	£16.00	£16.00	0.00%	
12 Hours	New	£20.00	N/A	New 12-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 6 and 24 hours.
24 hours / Lost Ticket (Charged 24hrs where time of entry cannot be verified)	£24.00	£24.00	0.00%	
Evenings 18.00 - 24.00	£7.50	Removed	N/A	Effectively replaced by new Evening Special offer below
Night 24.00 – 08.00	£7.50	Removed	N/A	Effectively replaced by new Evening Special offer below
Early Bird - Entry between 6am & 9am - 10 hours max stay	New	£10.00	N/A	Trial 2 new early bird rates for users who arrive between 6 – 9am Monday to Friday.
Commuter Rate – Entry between 6am & 9am -18 hours max stay	New	£15.00	N/A	Trial 2 new early bird rates for users who arrive between 6 – 9am Monday to Friday.
Evening Special – Arrive between 6pm & 10pm - 10 hours max stay	New	£10.00	N/A	Trial a new evening rate after 6 pm x 7 days a week (aimed at supporting the night-time economy in London Road and North Lanes)
Lost ticket administration fee	£7.50	£10.00	33.33%	Reflecting increased Staff costs for administration
Weekly	£88.50	£55.00	-37.90%	Reduced to fit in with tiered model
Monthly Season Ticket	£175.00	£200.00	14.30%	Season ticket price increase on average 10% and quarterly, monthly and weekly reducing in price.
Quarterly season ticket	£640.50	£600.00	-6.30%	Reduced to fit in with tiered model
Annual season ticket	£1,921.50	£2,000.00	4.10%	Season ticket price increase on average 10% and quarterly, monthly and weekly reducing in price

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Annual season ticket - Reduced Rate for Area Y permit holders and businesses of New England House, City Point or One Brighton	£1,281.00	£1,319.00	3.00%	
Quarterly season ticket - Reduced Rate for Area Y permit holders and businesses of New England House, City Point or One Brighton	New	£359.50	N/A	Rationalise Carpark Season Ticket tariffs so all carparks offer annual, quarterly, monthly and weekly season tickets with cost benefits for choosing the longer durations for reduced rate season ticket holders.
Monthly season ticket - Reduced Rate for Area Y permit holders and businesses of New England House, City Point or One Brighton	New	£123.00	N/A	Rationalise Carpark Season Ticket tariffs so all carparks offer annual, quarterly, monthly and weekly season tickets with cost benefits for choosing the longer durations for reduced rate season ticket holders.
<b>Regency Square Car Park</b>				
Winter - 1 hour (NEW)	£4.00	£4.00	0.00%	Introduce a new winter tariff, based on current weekday tariff
Winter - 2 hours (NEW)	£9.00	£9.00	0.00%	
Winter - 4 hours (NEW)	£17.00	£17.00	0.00%	
Winter - 6 hours (NEW)	New	£21.00	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
Winter - 9 hours (NEW)	£22.50	£22.50	0.00%	
Winter - 12 hours (NEW)	New	£26.00	N/A	New 12-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 6 and 24 hours.
Winter- 24 hours / Lost Ticket (Charged 24hrs where time of entry cannot be verified)	£32.00	£32.00	0.00%	
Summer - 1 hour (NEW)	£5.50	£5.50	0.00%	Introduce a new summer uplift tariff structure based on previous weekend tariff
Summer - 2 hours (NEW)	£10.00	£10.00	0.00%	
Summer- 4 hours (NEW)	£17.50	£17.50	0.00%	
Summer - 6 hours (NEW)	New	£22.00	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
Summer- 9 hours (NEW)	£24.00	£24.00	0.00%	

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Summer - 12 hours (NEW)	New	£28.00	N/A	New 12-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 6 and 24 hours.
Summer- 24 hours / Lost Ticket (Charged 24hrs where time of entry cannot be verified)	£34.50	£34.50	0.00%	
24 hours / Lost Ticket (Charged 24hrs where time of entry cannot be verified)	£25.00	£25.00	0.00%	
Brighton Centre conference delegates discounted rate (24hrs)	£24.00	Removed	N/A	
Evenings 1800 - 2400	£7.50	Removed	N/A	
Night 24.00 – 08.00	£7.50	Removed	N/A	
Lost ticket administration fee	£7.50	£10.00	33.33%	Reflecting increased Staff costs for administration
Evening Special – Arrive between 6pm & 10pm - 10 hours max stay (NEW)	New	£10.00	N/A	New evening special rate to support the night-time city economy.
Weekend Evenings 1800 - 2400	£8.50	Removed	N/A	
Weekend Night 24.00 – 08.00	£8.50	Removed	N/A	
Weekly Season Ticket	New	£70.00	N/A	Rationalise Carpark Season Ticket tariffs so all carparks offer annual, quarterly, monthly and weekly season tickets with cost benefits for choosing the longer durations.
Monthly Season Ticket	£160.00	£176.00	10.00%	Season ticket price increase on average 10% and quarterly, monthly and weekly reducing in price.
Quarterly season ticket	£525.50	£578.00	10.00%	Season ticket price increase on average 10% and quarterly, monthly and weekly reducing in price.
Annual season ticket	£1,746.00	£1,920.60	10.00%	Season ticket price increase on average 10% and quarterly, monthly and weekly reducing in price.
<b>Trafalgar Street Car Park</b>				
1 hour	£4.00	£4.00	0.00%	
2 hours	£10.50	£10.50	0.00%	
4 hours	£16.00	£16.00	0.00%	
6 hours	£17.50	£17.50	0.00%	
9 hours	£21.00	£21.00	0.00%	
12 hours	New	£24.00	N/A	New 12-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 6 and 24 hours.
24 hours / Lost Ticket (Charged 24hrs where time of entry cannot be verified)	£26.00	£26.00	0.00%	

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Evenings 18.00 - 24.00	£7.50	£7.50	0.00%	
Night 24.00 – 08.00	£7.50	£7.50	0.00%	
Lost ticket administration fee	£7.50	£10.00	33.33%	Reflecting increased Staff costs for administration
Weekly Season Ticket	£50.00	£65.00	30.00%	Increases reflect this is a popular carpark in prime North Lanes location and retains a premium over London Road Tariffs
Monthly Season Ticket	£175.00	£225.00	28.60%	Increases reflect this is a popular carpark in prime North Lanes location and retains a premium over London Road Tariffs
Quarterly season ticket	£640.50	£650.00	1.50%	
Annual season ticket	£1,915.50	£2,010.00	4.90%	Increases reflect this is a popular carpark in prime North Lanes location and retains a premium over London Road Tariffs
<b>Chapel Street Car Park</b>				
1 hour	£4.50	£4.50	0.00%	Car Park is Closed
4 hours	£8.90	£8.90	0.00%	
9 hours	£11.70	£11.70	0.00%	
24 hours	£19.30	£19.30	0.00%	
Annual Season Ticket	£1,425.00	£1,425.00	0.00%	
Monthly Season Ticket	£130.00	£130.00	0.00%	
<b>On-Street (Paid Parking)</b>				
<b>High Tariff (Area Y &amp; Z)</b>				
1 hour	£5.90	£5.90	0.00%	
2 hours	£9.90	£11.00	11.10%	This is a Central Location, and the above inflationary price increase reflects this.
4 hours	£16.60	£16.60	0.00%	
6 hours	New	£18.50	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
11 hours	New	£22.00	N/A	To align this with M & Y, which operate 11-hour tariffs
<b>High Tariff (Zones M &amp; Part of Y Central Brighton North - The Level, Dyke Road)</b>				
1 hour	£3.30	£4.90	48.50%	These Zones were in a Medium Tariff Band, it is being moved into High Tarriff bands

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2 hours	£7.40	£9.00	21.60%	This Zone is being moved into High Tarriff bands
4 hours	£10.70	£14.00	30.80%	This Zone is being moved into High Tarriff bands
6 hours	New	£16.00	N/A	This Zone is being moved into High Tarriff bands
11 hours	£17.20	£20.00	16.30%	This Zone is being moved into High Tarriff bands
<b>Medium Demand (Zones C, H, J &amp; N)</b>				
1 hour	£1.60	£2.20	37.50%	These Zones were in a Low Tariff Band, it is being moved into Medium Tarriff bands
2 hours	£3.30	£4.50	36.40%	These Zones were in a Low Tariff Band, it is being moved into Medium Tarriff bands
4 hours	£6.40	£9.00	40.60%	These Zones were in a Low Tariff Band, it is being moved into Medium Tarriff bands
6 hours	New	£11.00	N/A	These Zones were in a Low Tariff Band, it is being moved into Medium Tarriff bands
11 hours	£8.90	£14.50	62.90%	These Zones were in a Low Tariff Band, it is being moved into Medium Tarriff bands
<b>Low Tariff (Zones A, E, F, G I, K, O, Q, R, T, V, 10, 12)</b>				
1 hour	£1.60	£1.80	12.50%	To offset lower demand in these areas for paid parking
2 hours	£3.30	£3.50	6.10%	Scaling off the 1 hour tariff
4 hours	£6.40	£6.70	4.70%	Scaling off the 1 hour tariff
6 hours	New	£7.50	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
11 hours	£8.90	£9.50	6.70%	Scaling off the 1 hour tariff
<b>On-Street (Seafront Paid Parking)</b>				
<b>On-Street Seafront Summer (Pay &amp; Display)</b>				
<b>Seafront Summer - (1 March to 31 October)</b>				
1 hour (Current Madeira Drive West of Arch & Kings Road)	£5.40	£5.70	5.60%	All Seafront tariffs to be incorporated into the same summer and winter tariff structure
2 hours	£9.30	£9.80	5.40%	All Seafront tariffs to be incorporated into the same summer and winter tariff structure
4 hours	£15.70	£16.50	5.10%	All Seafront tariffs to be incorporated into the same summer and winter tariff structure
6 hours	New	£20.70	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
11 hours	£23.70	£24.90	5.10%	
<b>Seafront Summer (Bringing in East of Arch)</b>				
1 hour	£1.60	£5.70	256.30%	Aligned with Maderia Drive West of Arch & Kings Road
2 hours	£3.30	£9.80	197.00%	Aligned with Maderia Drive West of Arch & Kings Road
4 hours	£7.00	£16.50	135.70%	Aligned with Maderia Drive West of Arch & Kings Road
6 hours	New	£20.70	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
11 hours	£11.80	£24.90	111.00%	Aligned with Maderia Drive West of Arch & Kings Road
<b>Seafront Summer - Madeira Drive - (Bringing in New Steine)</b>				
1 hour	£3.30	£5.70	72.70%	Aligned with Maderia Drive West of Arch & Kings Road
2 hours	£7.40	£9.80	32.40%	Aligned with Maderia Drive West of Arch & Kings Road
4 hours	£10.70	£16.50	54.20%	Aligned with Maderia Drive West of Arch & Kings Road
6 hours	New	£20.70	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
11 hours	£17.20	£24.90	44.80%	Aligned with Maderia Drive West of Arch & Kings Road
<b>On-Street Seafront Winter (Pay &amp; Display)</b>				
<b>Seafront Winter (1 Nov to 28 Feb)</b>				
1 hour (Madeira Drive East & West of Arch & Kings Road)	£1.60	£3.30	106.30%	All Seafront tariffs (Black Rock to King Alfred) to be simplified into the same summer and winter tariff structure
2 hours	£3.30	£7.40	124.20%	Aligned with Maderia Drive West of Arch & Kings Road, and New Steine Tariffs
4 hours	£7.00	£10.70	52.90%	Aligned with Maderia Drive West of Arch & Kings Road, and New Steine Tariffs
6 hours (new)	New	£14.00	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
11 hours	£11.80	£17.20	45.80%	Aligned with Maderia Drive West of Arch & Kings Road, and New Steine Tariffs
<b>Seafront Winter (New Steine)</b>				
1 hour	£3.30	£3.30	0.00%	No Increase as this was the base for the Winter Tariffs
2 hours	£7.40	£7.40	0.00%	
4 hours	£10.70	£10.70	0.00%	
6 hours (new)	New	£14.00	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
11 hours	£17.20	£17.20	0.00%	
<b>Seafront Winter (Madeira Drive West of Arch &amp; Kings Road)</b>				

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1 hour (Current Madeira Drive West of Arch & Kings Road)	£5.40	£3.30	-38.89%	All Seafront tariffs (Black Rock to King Alfred) to be simplified into the same summer and winter tariff structure
2 hours	£9.30	£7.40	-20.43%	Aligned with Maderia Drive West of Arch & Kings Road, and New Steine Tariffs
4 hours	£15.70	£10.70	-31.85%	Aligned with Maderia Drive West of Arch & Kings Road, and New Steine Tariffs
6 hours	New	£14.00	N/A	New 6-hour tariff is introduced to bridge the gap between 4 and 12 hours.
11 hours	£23.70	£17.20	-27.43%	Aligned with Maderia Drive West of Arch & Kings Road, and New Steine Tariffs
<b>On-Street Seafront King Alfred to Lagoon (Pay &amp; Display)</b>				
<b>Seafront Summer (1 March to 31 October) - New Tariff</b>				
1 hour	New	£2.50	N/A	As Kingsway is currently allocated to Zones M, N, R and W, this change will reinstate Kingsway as a Seafront Tariff location with a lower tariff structure than Black Rock to King Alfred
2 hours	New	£4.90	N/A	
4 hours	New	£9.90	N/A	
6 hours (new)	New	£12.90	N/A	
11 hours	New	£15.90	N/A	
<b>Seafront Winter (1 Nov to 28 Feb) New Tariff</b>				
1 hour	New	£2.30	N/A	
2 hours	New	£4.50	N/A	
4 hours	New	£9.50	N/A	
6 hours (new)	New	£12.00	N/A	
11 hours	New	£15.00	N/A	
<b>Rottingdean High Street</b>				
1 hour	£1.60	£1.70	6.30%	Aligned with carpark, Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
2 hours	£3.30	£3.40	3.00%	
3 hours	£5.00	£5.10	2.00%	
<b>Roedean Road</b>				
1 hour	£1.60	£1.70	6.30%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
2 hours	£3.30	£3.40	3.00%	

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4 hours	£6.40	£6.60	3.10%	
<b>Madeira Drive Coach Park</b>				
4 hours	£14.80	£15.20	2.70%	Inflationary uplift only
8 hours	£23.30	£24.00	3.00%	
<b>Permits and Other</b>				
<b>Price Band Four - Light touch (Incorporating Zones L, P, S, W, U, X, 10, 11 &amp; 12)</b>				
Resident permit per household - 180 Days Standard Emission Vehicles (Current Light Touch)	£88.20	£90.85	3.00%	All permit fees to be increased in line with the standard 3% inflationary uplift
Resident permit per household - 180 Days Low Emission Vehicles - 25% Discount	£68.40	£70.45	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 180 Days (full scheme) - High Emission Vehicles ~75%	£147.60	£152.03	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 365 Days Standard Emission Vehicles	£164.25	£169.18	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 365 Days Low Emission Vehicles -25% discount	£124.10	£127.82	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 365 Days (full scheme) - High Emission Vehicles ~75% (NEW)	£284.70	£293.24	3.00%	
<b>Price Band Three – the Outer City (Zones A, E, F, G, I, K, P, R, T)</b>				
Resident permit per household - 90 Days Standard Emission Vehicles	£52.20	£53.77	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 90 Days Low Emission Vehicles Only -25% discount	£39.60	£40.79	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 90 Days High Emission Vehicles - 75% increase	£91.80	£94.55	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 365 Days Standard Emission Vehicles	£193.45	£199.25	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 365 Days Low Emission Vehicles -25% discount	£146.00	£150.38	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 365 Days High Emission Vehicles - 75% increase	£335.80	£345.87	3.00%	
<b>Price Band Two - Regency Ring (Zones N, C, H, J, O, Q and V)</b>				
Resident permit per household - 90 Days Standard Emission Vehicles	£52.20	£53.77	3.00%	

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Resident permit per household - 90 Days - Low Emissions (NEW)	£39.60	£40.79	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 90 Days- High Emission Vehicles ~75% increase	£91.80	£94.55	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 365 Days - Standard Emission Vehicles	£193.45	£199.25	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 365 Days Electric Vehicles Only 25% Discount (NEW)	£146.00	£150.38	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 365 Days - High Emission Vehicles ~75% Increase	£335.80	£345.87	3.00%	
<b>Price Band One - The Historic City Centre (Zones M, Y and Z)</b>				
Resident permit per household - 90 Days Standard Emission Vehicles	£62.10	£63.96	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 90 Days - Electric Vehicles Only 25% discount (NEW)	£46.80	£48.20	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 90 Days - High Emission Vehicles ~75%	£108.90	£112.17	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 365 Days - Standard Emission Vehicles	£251.85	£259.41	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 365 Days EV Vehicles Only - 25% Discount (NEW)	£189.80	£195.60	3.00%	
Resident permit per household - 365 Days - High Emission Vehicles ~75% Increase	£441.65	£454.90	3.00%	
<b>Visitor Permits</b>				
Visitor permit (Light Touch Zones L, P, S, W, U, X, 10, 11 & 12) (Visitors will be entitled to 52 Permits per year to speed up the transition towards digital permits)	£3.50	£3.50	0.00%	No increase as Permit only required for 2 hour hours per day.
Visitor permit (Zones A, N, C, H, J, O, Q, V A, E, F, G, I, K, R, T) (Visitors will be entitled to 52 Permits per year to speed up the transition towards digital permits)	£4.15	£5.00	20.50%	The increase reflects the subsidy provided to residents for their visitor permits when compared with equivalent on street parking charges. The proposed 6 and 11 hour parking fees are £11.00 and £14.50 in Medium Demand areas, and £7.50 and £9.50 in Low Demand areas. A half day visitor permit option may be introduced when the service transitions to digital permits.

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Visitor permit (Zones M, Y, Z) (Visitors will be entitled to 52 Permits per year to speed up the transition towards digital permits)	£5.35	£7.00	30.80%	The increase reflects the subsidy provided to residents for their visitor permits when compared with equivalent on street parking charges. The proposed 6 and 11 hour parking fees are £16.00 and £20.00 and £18.50 and £22.00 in the High Demand area. A half day visitor permit option will be introduced when the service transitions to digital permits
<b>Business Permits</b>				
Business Permit - 365 Days - Standard Emission Vehicles	£474.50	£488.74	3.00%	
Business Permit - 365 Days - Low Emission Vehicles 25% Discount	£354.05	£364.67	3.00%	
Business Permit - 365 Days - High Emission Vehicles ~75% Increase	£832.20	£857.17	3.00%	
Business Permit - 90 Days - Standard Emission Vehicles	£128.70	£132.56	3.00%	
Business Permit - 90 Days - Low Emission Vehicles 25% Discount	£95.40	£98.26	3.00%	
Business Permit - 90 Days - High Emission Vehicles ~75% Increase	£225.00	£231.75	3.00%	
<b>Traders Permits</b>				
Traders Permit - 365 Days - Standard Emission Vehicles	£854.10	£879.72	3.00%	
Traders Permit - 365 Days - Low Emission Vehicles ~25% Discount	£638.75	£657.91	3.00%	
Traders Permit - 365 Days - High Emission Vehicles ~75% Increase	£1,492.85	£1,537.64	3.00%	
Traders Permit - 90 Days - Standard Emission Vehicles	£299.70	£308.69	3.00%	
Traders Permit - 90 Days - Low Emission Vehicles ~25% Discount	£224.10	£230.82	3.00%	
Traders Permit - 90 Days - High Emission Vehicles ~75% Increase	£522.90	£538.59	3.00%	
Traders Permit - 30 Days - Standard Emission Vehicles	£150.00	£154.50	3.00%	

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Traders Permit - 30 Days - Low Emission Vehicles ~25% Discount	£112.20	£115.57	3.00%	
Traders Permit - 30 Days - High Emission Vehicles ~75% Increase	£261.60	£269.45	3.00%	
<b>Hotel Permits</b>				
Area C (24 hours)	£8.50	£10.00	17.60%	Hotels have been reselling these at a mark up price, update for the council retains a proportion of this
Area N (24 hours)	£8.50	£10.00	17.60%	Hotels have been reselling these at a mark up price, update for the council retains a proportion of this
<b>School Permits (1 year)</b>	£158.60	£158.60	0.00%	
<b>Doctors Permits</b>	£104.50	£104.50	0.00%	
<b>Car Club Bay</b>				
Car Club (1 year) Standard Emission	£96.73	£96.73	0.00%	
Car Club (1 year) Low Emission Vehicles ~25% Discount	£73.00	£73.00	0.00%	
Car Club (1 year) High Emission	£167.90	£167.90	0.00%	
<b>Professional Carers (1 year)</b>	£54.10	£54.10	0.00%	
<b>Unpaid Carers Permit</b>	£11.60	£11.60	0.00%	
<b>Dispensations</b>				
Dispensations (1 year) Standard Emissions	£150.00	£150.00	0.00%	
Dispensations (1 year) - Low Emission ~25% Discount	£112.50	£112.50	0.00%	
Dispensations (1 year) - High Emissions ~75% Increase	£262.50	£262.50	0.00%	
<b>Suspensions</b>				
Suspensions - daily charge for non-utilities	£51.00	£51.00	0.00%	
Suspensions - Community Events (daily charge for 15,000 attendants or less)	£25.00	£25.00	0.00%	
Suspensions - Utilities, Filming and Events over15,000 attendance in zones M, Y, Z (longer than 4 weeks increases to £80)	£75.00	£75.00	0.00%	
Suspensions - Utilities in all zones except M, Y, Z (longer than 4 weeks increases to £60)	£64.00	£64.00	0.00%	
Suspensions - administrative charge (50% reduction for residents)	£38.00	£38.00	0.00%	

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Suspensions - amendment / cancellation fee	£32.00	£32.00	0.00%	
Suspensions - daily charge for skips (longer than 4 weeks £25)	£25.00	£25.00	0.00%	
Suspensions - daily charge for building works (longer than 4 weeks £50)	£51.00	£51.00	0.00%	
NEW - Short Notice Applications less than seven working days' notice	£20.00	£20.00	0.00%	
Penalty Charge for Unsuspended Bays (NEW)	New	£40.00	N/A	Parking Services and NSL undertakes a large amount of work to charge residents/builders/utility companies for not suspending bays in advance but just charges the original cost of the bay suspension
<b>Administration fees</b>				
Permit Cancellation (Previously Surrender of Permit)	£10.60	Removed	N/A	Removed In line with the digitalisation of permits
Change of Vehicle	£10.60	Removed	N/A	Removed In line with the digitalisation of permits
Replacement Permit	£10.60	Removed	N/A	Removed In line with the digitalisation of permits
Issue of resident permit to Blue Badge holder (High emission)	£15.90	£15.90	0.00%	
Issue of resident permit to Blue Badge holder (Low & Standard emission)	£10.60	£10.60	0.00%	
Issue of Blue Badge	£10.00	£10.00	0.00%	
Blue Badge Bay Application fee	£15.00	£15.00	0.00%	
Blue Badge Bay - Individual disabled bay	£102.00	£102.00	0.00%	
Disabled Access Protection Lining Administration Fee	New	£15.00	N/A	To cover officer time in processing applications and site visits.
Access Protection Lining Administration Fee	New	£15.00	N/A	To cover officer time in processing applications and site visits.
<b>Zone B &amp; D Permits (Event parking)</b>				
Resident permit	£0.00	£0.00	N/A	
Business permit	£0.00	£0.00	N/A	
Carer	£0.00	£0.00	N/A	
School permit	£0.00	£0.00	N/A	
Resident visitor (one day)	£0.00	£0.00	N/A	
<b>Lining</b>				
Access Protection White Lines (per metre)	£19.00	£25.00	31.60%	There is an increase in the meterage rate in respect (Access Protection Marking) which is based at £21.42 per

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				meter, this would also be subject to an additional 12.5% uplift (Option A) and a further 1.3% (National Insurance uplift).
Replacing lining after crossover work (per metre)	£13.00	£25.00	92.30%	To bring in line with access protection white lines, which uses the same level of staff and resource
<b>Traffic Regulation Order for changes to parking restrictions</b>				
Administration, advertising costs, officer site visits, signing and lining costs	£2,250.00	£2,317.50	3.00%	
<b>Additional Search Enquiries</b>				
Solicitors and other agency - standard response	£45.00	£46.00	2.20%	
Solicitors and other agency queries - additional enquires	£40.00	£41.00	2.50%	

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>Planning Fees and Charges</b>				
<b>Household pre-application advice service (Inc VAT)</b>				
<b>Householder</b>				
Written response only	£150.00	£154.50	3.0%	
Virtual meeting with written response	£188.44	£194.10	3.0%	
Site meeting with written response	£230.25	£237.16	3.0%	
Follow Up written response only	£36.45	£37.55	3.0%	
<b>Householder - Listed building and conservation area where agreed necessary</b>				
Written response only	£396.64	£408.54	3.0%	
Virtual meeting with written response	£730.27	£752.18	3.0%	
Site meeting with written response	£835.09	£860.15	3.0%	
Follow Up written response only	£114.97	£118.42	3.0%	
<b>Additional consultant or specialist - where agreed or required</b>				
1 consultant	£92.39	£95.17	3.0%	
2 consultants	£92.39	£95.17	3.0%	
3 consultants	£92.39	£95.17	3.0%	
<b>Minor scheme pre-application advice service (Inc VAT)</b>				
<b>Minor developments (a) - five to nine residential units or between 500 metres squared to 999 metres squared for commercial developments</b>				
Written response only	£900.00	£927.00	3.0%	
Virtual meeting with written response	£1,500.00	£1,545.00	3.0%	
Site meeting with written response	£1,621.62	£1,670.27	3.0%	
Follow Up written response only	£185.82	£191.40	3.0%	
<b>Minor developments (b) - one to four residential units or commercial development up to 499 metres squared</b>				
Written response only	£750.00	£772.50	3.0%	
Virtual meeting with written response	£1,055.16	£1,086.82	3.0%	
Site meeting with written response	£1,159.96	£1,194.76	3.0%	
Follow Up written response only	£152.89	£157.48	3.0%	
<b>Small scale - for example an advertisement, air conditioning units or a small extension to commercial space</b>				
Written response only	£188.72	£194.39	3.0%	
Virtual meeting with written response	£377.15	£388.47	3.0%	
Follow Up written response only	£54.71	£56.36	3.0%	

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>Additional consultant, specialist or meeting - where agreed or required</b>				
1 consultant	£92.39	£95.17	3.0%	
2 consultants	£92.39	£95.17	3.0%	
3 consultants	£92.39	£95.17	3.0%	
Each meeting - for minor developments	£527.45	£543.28	3.0%	
Each meeting - for small scale developments	£188.72	£194.39	3.0%	
<b>Listed building pre-application advice service (Inc VAT)</b>				
<b>Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas</b>				
Written response only	£350.00	£360.50	3.0%	
Virtual meeting with written response	£541.96	£558.22	3.0%	
Site meeting with written response	£646.67	£666.08	3.0%	
Follow Up written response only	£78.55	£80.91	3.0%	
Additional meeting	£270.98	£279.11	3.0%	
<b>Major development pre-application advice service (Inc VAT)</b>				
<b>Over 49 residential units or 10,000 metres squared for commercial developments</b>				
Written response	£1,845.00	£1,900.35	3.0%	Charge formerly applied to developments of 100 residential units
Virtual Meeting - 2 hours maximum, with a written response	£3,075.00	£3,167.25	3.0%	Charge formerly applied to developments of 100 residential units
Site Meeting - 2 hours maximum, with a written response	£3,185.00	£3,280.55	3.0%	Charge formerly applied to developments of 100 residential units
Urban Design advice - advised for development schemes of this scale, per day or part thereof	£881.42	£907.87	3.0%	Charge formerly applied to developments of 100 residential units
<b>Over 26 and less than 99 50 residential units or between 5,000 metres squared and 9,999 metres squared for commercial developments</b>				
Written response	£1,200.00	£1,236.00	3.0%	
Virtual Meeting - 2 hours maximum, with a written response	£2,000.00	£2,060.00	3.0%	
Site Meeting - 2 hours maximum, with a written response	£2,105.00	£2,168.15	3.0%	
Urban Design advice - advised for development schemes of this scale, per day or part thereof	£881.42	£907.87	3.0%	
<b>Over 10 and less than 25 residential units or between 1,000 metres squared and 4,999 metres squared for commercial developments</b>				
Written response	£925.00	£952.75	3.0%	
Virtual Meeting - 2 hours maximum, with a written response	£1,540.00	£1,586.20	3.0%	

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Site Meeting - 2 hours maximum, with a written response	£1,645.00	£1,694.35	3.0%	
Urban Design advice - advised for development schemes of this scale, per day or part thereof	£881.42	£907.87	3.0%	
<b>Additional consultant or specialist, including attendance at meetings/site visits</b>				
1 consultant	£92.39	£95.17	3.0%	
2 consultants	£92.39	£95.17	3.0%	
3 consultants	£92.39	£95.17	3.0%	
<b>Follow up meetings</b>				
Each additional meeting with case officer - virtual and 2 hours maximum	£783.38	£806.89	3.0%	
1 consultant	£92.39	£95.17	3.0%	
2 consultants	£92.39	£95.17	3.0%	
3 consultants	£92.39	£95.17	3.0%	
<b>Planning Performance Agreements</b>				
<b>Residential / commercial</b>				
10 - 25 residential units/1,000m2 - 4,999m2 Commercial development	£26,970.00	£27,780.00	3.0%	
26 - 99 residential units / 5,000m2 - 9,999m2 Commercial development	£36,515.00	£37,615.00	3.0%	
100 - 174 residential units / 10,000m2 - 17,499m2 Commercial development	£41,565.00	£42,815.00	3.0%	
175 - 250 residential units / 17,500m2 - 24,499m2 Commercial development	£51,115.00	£52,650.00	3.0%	
Over 250 residential units / 25,000m2 Commercial development	Bespoke Fee	Bespoke Fee	N/A	
<b>Mixed Use</b>				
10 - 25 residential units/1,000m2 - 4,999m2 Commercial development	£29,780.00	£30,675.00	3.0%	
26 - 99 residential units / 5,000m2 - 9,999m2 Commercial development	£39,890.00	£41,090.00	3.0%	
100 - 174 residential units / 10,000m2 - 17,499m2 Commercial development	£44,940.00	£46,290.00	3.0%	
175 - 250 residential units / 17,500m2 - 24,499m2 Commercial development	£53,365.00	£54,970.00	3.0%	

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Over 250 residential units / 25,000m2 Commercial development	Bespoke Fee	Bespoke Fee	N/A	
<b>Variation to S106 Agreement (Excl. VAT)</b>				
Requests to vary S106 agreements associated with Householder Developments †	£675.00	£696.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Requests to vary S106 agreements associated with Small Scale Developments (Development that creates up to 499m2 of new floorspace or up to 4 residential units.) †	£1,849.00	£1,905.00	3.0%	
Requests to vary S106 agreements associated with Medium Scale Developments (Development that creates between 500m2 and 999m2 of new floorspace or between 5 and 9 residential units.) †	£3,649.00	£3,759.00	3.0%	
Requests to vary S106 agreements on Major and Large-Scale Developments (Development that create s between 1,000m2 or more of new floorspace or 10 or more residential units.) †	£5,315.00	£5,475.00	3.0%	
<b>Building regulations application fees - Work to a home, including extensions and loft and garage conversions</b>				
<b>Extension with a floor area not exceeding 15 square metres</b>				
Plan Check	£246.75	£254.25	3.0%	
Inspection	£571.25	£588.50	3.0%	
Building Notice	£854.25	£880.00	3.0%	
Regularisation	£1,068.50	£1,100.75	3.0%	
<b>Extension with a floor area not exceeding 60 square metres</b>				
Plan Check	£295.00	£304.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Inspection	£637.50	£656.75	3.0%	
Building Notice	£981.50	£1,011.00	3.0%	
Regularisation	£1,225.50	£1,262.50	3.0%	
<b>Extension with a floor area exceeding 60 square metres</b>				
Plan Check	£333.50	£343.75	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Inspection	£669.50	£689.75	3.0%	
Building Notice	£1,060.50	£1,092.50	3.0%	

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Regularisation	£1,325.25	£1,365.25	3.0%	
<b>Erection or extension of a non-exempt garage or carport up to 100 square metres</b>				
Plan Check	£206.50	£212.75	3.0%	
Inspection	£340.50	£350.75	3.0%	
Building Notice	£546.75	£563.25	3.0%	
Regularisation	£683.25	£703.75	3.0%	
<b>Loft conversion not more than 40 square metres</b>				
Plan Check	£278.75	£287.25	3.0%	
Inspection	£577.00	£594.50	3.0%	
Building Notice	£972.50	£1,001.75	3.0%	
Regularisation	£1,215.25	£1,251.75	3.0%	
<b>Loft conversion from 40 to 100 square metres</b>				
Plan Check	£370.50	£381.75	3.0%	
Inspection	£607.75	£626.00	3.0%	
Building Notice	£1,045.50	£1,077.00	3.0%	
Regularisation	£1,307.00	£1,346.25	3.0%	
<b>Conversion of a garage to a habitable room</b>				
Plan Check	£183.50	£189.25	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Inspection	£304.00	£313.25	3.0%	
Building Notice	£497.50	£512.50	3.0%	
Regularisation	£622.75	£641.50	3.0%	
<b>Building regulations application fees - Other work to a home, including underpinning (Inc VAT)</b>				
<b>Table A - Any one of these types of work</b>				
Replacement of 1-5 windows and or external doors - Building Notice	£182.50	£188.00	3.0%	
Replacement of 1-5 windows and or external doors - Regularisation	£227.25	£234.25	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Building Notice - replacement of 6-10 windows and or external doors or installation of 1 or more rooflights - electrical work other than a re-wire or where certification cannot be provided - cavity wall insulation - installation of a WC	£212.25	£218.75	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
- replacement of a defective beam - new door opening				
Regularisation - replacement of 6-10 windows and or external doors or installation of 1 or more rooflights - electrical work other than a re-wire or where certification cannot be provided - cavity wall insulation - installation of a WC - replacement of a defective beam - new door opening	£265.75	£273.75	3.0%	
Building Notice - renovation of a thermal element - replacement of 11 or more windows - energy saving system/appliance, i.e. replacement boiler or solar panels (not covered by a competent persons scheme) - removal of loadbearing wall to form a through room with an opening up to 3m in length - removal of a chimney breast	£261.50	£269.50	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Regularisation - renovation of a thermal element - replacement of 11 or more windows - energy saving system/appliance, i.e. replacement boiler or solar panels (not covered by a competent persons scheme) - removal of loadbearing wall to form a through room with an opening up to 3m in length - removal of a chimney breast	£324.50	£334.25	3.0%	
Building Notice - re-roofing - replacement bay windows up to 3 storeys - electrical re-wire	£321.25	£331.00	3.0%	
Regularisation - re-roofing	£401.25	£413.50	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
- replacement bay windows up to 3 storeys - electrical re-wire				
<b>Table B - Estimated cost of works</b>				
<b>Less than £5,000</b>				
Plan Check	£109.00	£112.50	3.2%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Inspection	£236.25	£243.50	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Building Notice	£315.25	£324.75	3.0%	
Regularisation	£396.75	£408.75	3.0%	
<b>Between £5,000 and £15,000</b>				
Plan Check	£183.50	£189.25	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Inspection	£378.50	£390.00	3.0%	
Building Notice	£618.00	£636.75	3.0%	
Regularisation	£740.25	£762.50	3.0%	
<b>Between £15,000 and £25,000</b>				
Plan Check	£236.25	£243.50	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Inspection	£546.75	£563.25	3.0%	
Building Notice	£784.25	£808.00	3.0%	
Regularisation	£979.25	£1,008.75	3.0%	
<b>Between £25,000 and £50,000</b>				
Plan Check	£267.25	£275.50	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Inspection	£759.00	£782.00	3.0%	
Building Notice	£1,121.25	£1,155.00	3.0%	
Regularisation	£1,402.25	£1,444.50	3.0%	
<b>Between £50,000 and £100,000</b>				
Plan Check	£353.50	£364.25	3.0%	
Inspection	£941.25	£969.50	3.0%	
Building Notice	£1,427.50	£1,470.50	3.0%	
Regularisation	£1,784.75	£1,838.50	3.0%	
<b>Above £100,000, email <a href="mailto:building.control@brighton-hove.gov.uk">building.control@brighton-hove.gov.uk</a></b>				

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>Building regulations application fees - Building new houses of no more than 3 storeys and not exceeding 300 square metres</b>				
<b>New Houses</b>				
<b>1 Dwelling House</b>				
Plan Check	£376.25	£387.75	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Inspection	£710.75	£732.25	3.0%	
Building Notice	£1,169.50	£1,204.75	3.0%	
Regularisation	£1,463.00	£1,507.00	3.0%	
<b>2 Dwelling Houses</b>				
Plan Check	£510.25	£525.75	3.0%	
Inspection	£1,062.50	£1,094.50	3.0%	
Building Notice	£1,724.25	£1,776.00	3.0%	
Regularisation	£2,155.00	£2,219.75	3.0%	
<b>3 Dwelling Houses</b>				
Plan Check	£552.50	£569.25	3.0%	
Inspection	£1,421.50	£1,464.25	3.0%	
Building Notice	£2,180.50	£2,246.00	3.0%	
Regularisation	£2,726.25	£2,808.25	3.0%	
<b>4 Dwelling Houses</b>				
Plan Check	£595.25	£613.25	3.0%	
Inspection	£1,773.50	£1,826.75	3.0%	
Building Notice	£2,632.25	£2,711.25	3.0%	
Regularisation	£3,289.25	£3,388.00	3.0%	
<b>For any projects with more than 4 new dwellings, over 3 storeys or exceeding 300 square metres please send an email to <a href="mailto:building.control@brightonhove.gov.uk">building.control@brightonhove.gov.uk</a></b>				
<b>Non-domestic work – such as alterations and extensions</b>				
<b>Less than £5,000</b>				
Full plans application (including VAT)	£357.75	£368.50	3.0%	
Regularisation (including VAT)	£447.25	£460.75	3.0%	
<b>Between £5,000 and £25,000</b>				
Full plans application (including VAT)	£516.00	£531.50	3.0%	
Regularisation (including VAT)	£645.75	£665.25	3.0%	
<b>Between £25,000 and £50,000</b>				
Full plans application (including VAT)	£941.25	£969.50	3.0%	
Regularisation (including VAT)	£1,176.50	£1,212.00	3.0%	

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>Between £50,000 and £100,000</b>				
Full plans application (including VAT)	£1,257.50	£1,295.25	3.0%	
Regularisation (including VAT)	£1,571.75	£1,619.00	3.0%	
<b>Fit-out of building up to 100 square metres</b>				
Full plans application (including VAT)	£850.75	£876.50	3.0%	
Regularisation (including VAT)	£1,062.50	£1,094.50	3.0%	
<b>If you estimate the cost of your building works is over £100,000, please send an email to <a href="mailto:building.control@brighton-hove.gov.uk">building.control@brighton-hove.gov.uk</a>.</b>				
<b>Building regulations - Other</b>				
Demolition Notice	£500.00	£515.00	3.0%	
<b>Regulatory Services &amp; Licences Fees &amp; Charges</b>				
<b>LICENCE TO STORE EXPLOSIVES</b>				
Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive and will be updated in line with national fee setting guidance.				
<b>Licence to store explosives where, by virtue of regulation 27 of, and Schedule 5 to, the 2014 Regulations, a minimum separation distance of greater than 0 metres is prescribed</b>				
1 Year	£202.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
2 Years	£266.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
3 Years	£333.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
4 Years	£409.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
5 Years	£463.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
<b>Renewal of licence to store explosives where a minimum separation distance of greater than 0 metres is prescribed</b>				
1 Year	£94.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
2 Years	£161.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
3 Years	£226.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
4 Years	£291.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
5 Years	£357.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
<b>Licence to store explosives where no minimum separation distance or a 0 metres separation distance is prescribed</b>				
1 Year	£119.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
2 Years	£154.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
3 Years	£190.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
4 Years	£226.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
5 Years	£260.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
<b>Renewal of licence to store explosives where no minimum separation distance or a 0 metres minimum separation distance is prescribed</b>				
1 Year	£59.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
2 Years	£94.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
3 Years	£132.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
4 Years	£166.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
5 Years	£202.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
Varying the name of licensee or address of site	£40.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
Transfer of licence	£40.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
Replacement of licence if lost	£40.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
<b>Licence to store petroleum, as per Provision of the Petroleum (Consolidation) Regulations 2014 under which a fee is payable:</b>				
<b>Storage Certificate</b>				
Not exceeding 2,500 litres	£42.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
Exceeding 2,500 litres but not exceeding £50,000 litres	£58.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
Exceeding £50,000 litres	£120.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
<b>Licence to keep petrol of a quantity:</b>				
Not exceeding 2,500 litres	£42.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
Exceeding 2,500 litres but not exceeding £50,000 litres	£58.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
Exceeding £50,000 litres	£120.00	TBC		Fees are set by the Health and Safety Executive.
<b>Weights and Measures:</b>				
Weights and Measures verification fees officer time per hour	£99.00	£102.00	3.0%	
Weights and Measures verification fees NAWI under 1 tonne	£77.00	£80.00	3.9%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Weights and Measures verification fees weights over 5kg under 500mg	£13.00	£14.00	7.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Weights and Measures verification fees other weights	£11.00	£12.00	9.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Weights and Measures verification fees liquid fuel first nozzle	£153.00	£158.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Weights and Measures verifications fees liquid fuel additional nozzle	£97.00	£100.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL</b>				
<b>Application Fee:</b>				
Part 1 reduced fee activity (other than PVR I and PVR II or VRs)	£155.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Standard process (includes solvent emission activities)	£1,650.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Additional fee for operating without a permit	£1,188.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
PVRI, SWOBs and Dry Cleaners	£155.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
PVR I and II combined	£257.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
VRs and other Reduced Fee Activities	£362.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Reduced fee activates: Additional fee for operating without a permit	£71.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
<b>Mobile plant (not using simplified permits):</b>				
for the first and second permits	£1,650.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
for the third to seventh applications	£985.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
for the eight and subsequent applications	£498.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
<i>Note: where an application for any of the above is for combined Part B and waste application, add an extra £297 to the above amounts.</i>				
<b>Annual Subsistence Charge:</b>				
Standard process Low	£772.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Standard process Medium	£1,161.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Standard process High	£1,747.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
PVRI, SWOBs and Dry Cleaners Low/Medium/High	£79.00 / £158.00 / £237.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
PVR I & II combined Low/Medium/High	£113.00 / £226.00 / £342.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Vehicle refinishers and other reduced fees Low/Medium/High	£228.00 / £365.00 / £548.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Mobile plant, for the first and second permits Low/Medium/High	£626.00 / £1,034.00 / £1,551.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
for the third to seventh applications Low/Medium/High	£385.00 / £617.00 / £924.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
eighth and subsequent permits Low/Medium/High	£198.00 / £316.00 / £473.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Late Payment Fee	£52.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Where direction under Reg 33, part B, solvent emissions, waste operations additional charge	add £104.00/ £156.00/ £207.00 depending on risk level	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
<i>Note - the additional amounts in brackets above must be charged where a permit is for a combined Part B and waste installation</i>				
Where a Part B installation is subject to reporting under the E-PRTR Regulation, add an extra £99 to the above amounts:				
<b>Pollution Release and Transfer Register:</b>				
Application* on subsistence charges if reporting applies	Additional £99.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Additional fee for operating without a permit	£1,188.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Annual Subsistence Low	£772.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Annual Subsistence Medium	£1,161.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Annual Subsistence High	£1,747.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Late Payment Fee	£52.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Substantial Variation: Standard process	£1,050.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Substantial Variation: If resulting in new PPC activity	£1,650.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Transfer	£169.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Partial transfer	£497.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Surrender	£0.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
<b>Transfer and Surrender:</b>				
Standard process transfer	£169.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Standard process partial transfer	£497.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
New Operator at low risk reduced fee activity (extra one-off subsistence charge - see Art 15 (2) of charging scheme)	£78.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Surrender: all Part B activities	£0.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Reduced fee activities: transfer	£0.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Reduced fee activities: partial transfer	£47.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
<b>Temporary transfer for mobiles:</b>				
First transfer	£53.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
repeat following enforcement or warning	£53.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
<b>Substantial Change:</b>				
Standard process	£1,050.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Standard process where the substantial change results in a new PPC activity	£1,650.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Reduced fee activities	£102.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
<b>Additional Fees for a late application where Reg 33 direction is issued:</b>				
Application for permit authorising any reduced fee activity	£71.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Application for permit authorising any other Part B activity or solvent emission activity	£71.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Where operating mobile plant in contravention to Reg 12	£1,188.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
Where direction issued under Reg 33 for single permit for part B, waste, solvent	£1,188.00	TBC		Set Nationally by DEFRA
<b>FOOD PREMISES REGISTER</b>				
Signal page copy	£12.00	£13.00	8.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Copy containing information regarding particular category (by hand)	£119.00	£123.00	3.4%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Copy containing information regarding particular category (by post)	£196.00	£202.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Full copy of register (by hand)	£364.00	£375.00	3.0%	
Full copy of register (by post)	£388.00	£400.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) re-inspection of premises requested by businesses	£193.00	£243.00	25.9%	Uplift reflects costs of service, so extent of uplift ensures costs are recovered, rounded to nearest whole pound.
<b>ANIMAL WELFARE</b>				
<b>Collection of reclaimed dogs:</b>				
Statutory charge (set by government)	£25.00	TBC		Set by Central Government
Dog warden charges (includes VAT)	£38.00	£40.00	5.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Kennelling per day (includes VAT)	£38.00	£40.00	5.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
administration charge (includes VAT)	£21.00	£22.00	4.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Vaccination (includes VAT)	£36.00	£38.00	5.6%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Dog Control Fixed penalty	£109.00	£113.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Noise Pollution - Domestic - Fixed Penalty	£134.00	£139.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Noise Pollution - Commercial - Fixed Penalty	£660.00	£680.00	3.0%	
<b>Animal Activity Licensing - New Applicants:</b>				
Domestic Dog Breeding (Total of Part A and Part B)	£406.00	£426.00	4.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Commercial Dog Breeding (Total of Part A and Part B)	£466.00	£489.00	4.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Domestic Dog Boarding (Total of Part A and Part B)	£388.00	£408.00	5.2%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Commercial Dog Boarding (Total of Part A and Part B)	£466.00	£489.00	4.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Cat Boarding (Total of Part A and Part B)	£429.00	£451.00	5.1%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Dog Day Care (Total of Part A and Part B)	£429.00	£451.00	5.1%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Exhibition of Animals (Total of Part A and Part B)	£466.00	£489.00	4.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Hiring Horses (Total of Part A and Part B)	£516.00	£541.00	4.8%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Pet Vending (Total of Part A and Part B)	£406.00	£426.00	4.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
<b>Animal Activity Licensing - Renewals</b>				
Domestic Dog Breeding (Total of Part A and Part B)	£368.00	£386.00	4.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Commercial Dog Breeding (Total of Part A and Part B)	£406.00	£426.00	4.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Domestic Dog Boarding (Total of Part A and Part B)	£330.00	£347.00	5.2%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Commercial Dog Boarding (Total of Part A and Part B)	£406.00	£426.00	4.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Cat Boarding (Total of Part A and Part B)	£368.00	£386.00	4.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Dog Day Care (Total of Part A and Part B)	£368.00	£386.00	4.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Exhibition of Animals (Total of Part A and Part B)	£406.00	£426.00	4.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Hiring Horses (Total of Part A and Part B)	£466.00	£489.00	4.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Pet Vending (Total of Part A and Part B)	£359.00	£377.00	5.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
<b>Animal Activity Licensing – Other:</b>				
Variation/transfer of licence	£128.00	£134.00	4.7%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Appeals/site visit (Total of Part A and Part B)	P.O.A.	P.O.A.	N/A	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Dangerous Wild Animals	£330.00	£340.00	3.0%	
Export Licences	£79.00	£82.00	3.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Zoo	£6,881.00	£7,088.00	3.0%	
Zoo (with dispensation)	£3,822.00	£3,937.00	3.0%	
<b>HEALTH PROMOTION / EDUCATION</b>				
<b>Training Courses:</b>				

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Food Safety Level 2 (previously Basic Food Hygiene)	£89.00	£92.00	3.4%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Intermediate Food Hygiene	£182.00	£188.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Food Safety Level 2 retake of exam	£41.00	£43.00	4.9%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Level 1 course for 10 people	P.O.A.	P.O.A.	N/A	
Level 1 course for 15 people	P.O.A.	P.O.A.	N/A	
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH</b>				
Contaminated Land Environmental Information Regulations Request (per hour)	£40.00	£42.00	5.0%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Export Health Certificate (EHC)	£136.00	£141.00	3.7%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Additional EHCs at the same visit (33% reduction)	£91.00	£94.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES</b> - Resumption of this service following a pause during covid pandemic. Private Water Supply (England) Regulations 2016. These regulations safeguard public health by ensuring that private water supplies are 'wholesome' and 'safe' to drink, setting quality standards similar to those of mains water supplies. The regulations cover all private supplies, although those serving a single dwelling will only be risk assessed and sampled upon request of the owner or occupier.				
<b>Commercial &amp; Large Domestic Supplies</b>				
- Group A Parameters Monitoring - Lab Analysis	New	At cost	N/A	
- Group B Parameters Monitoring - Lab Analysis	New	At cost	N/A	
- Sampling (each visit)	New	£151.00	N/A	
- Risk Assessment	New	Hourly rate	N/A	
- Investigation (each investigation)	New	Hourly rate	N/A	
- Granting an Authorisation	New	£111.00	N/A	
<b>Smaller Domestic Supplies New Charge</b>				
- Supply Monitoring - Lab Analysis	New	At cost	N/A	
- Sampling (each visit)	New	£151.00	N/A	
- Risk Assessment	New	Hourly rate	N/A	
- Investigation (each investigation)	New	Hourly rate	N/A	
- Granting an Authorisation	New	£111.00	N/A	
<b>Single Domestic Supplies New Charge</b>				
- Supply Monitoring - Lab Analysis (if requested)	New	At cost	N/A	
- Sampling (each visit)	New	£151.00	N/A	

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
- Risk Assessment (if requested)	New	Hourly rate	N/A	
<b>Work in Default (Hourly Rate):</b>				
Environmental Health Manager	£121.00	£125.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Senior EHO per hour	£112.00	£116.00	3.6%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
EHO/Senior Technical Officer	£99.00	£102.00	3.0%	
Technical Officer per hour	£90.00	£93.00	3.3%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Admin staff per hour	£53.00	£55.00	3.8%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>OTHER FEES</b>				
Language school inspection	£114.00	£118.00	3.5%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
Information to solicitors	£193.00	£199.00	3.1%	Inflated in line with corporate inflation; rounded to nearest denomination
<b>LICENCING FEES</b>				
<b>Sex Establishments and Venues</b>				
Sex Establishments - Grants	£4,540.00	£4,770.00	5.1%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Sex Establishments - Renewal	£4,150.00	£4,360.00	5.1%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Sex Establishments - Occasional	£2,450.00	£2,570.00	4.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Sex Establishments - Transfer	New	£1,000.00	N/A	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Sex Establishments - Variation	New	£1,000.00	N/A	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
<b>Street Trading</b>				
Upper Gardner Street	£620.00	£650.00	4.8%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Zone B	£750.00	£790.00	5.3%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Zone A 50 sq. ft.	£5,150.00	£5,410.00	5.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Zone A 42 sq. ft.	£4,220.00	£4,430.00	5.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Street Artists	£37.00	£39.00	5.4%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Misc. Short Term	£37.00	£39.00	5.4%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Farmers Maker (per stall)	£260.00	£270.00	3.8%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Small Street Marker (per occasion)	£370.00	£390.00	5.4%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
<b>Gambling Act</b>				
Existing Casino - Reg 6 and Reg 8 First Annual and Annual Fees	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Existing Casino - Reg 10 Change of circumstance	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Existing Casino - Reg 11 Variation	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Existing Casino - Reg 12 Transfer	£1,350.00	£1,350.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Existing Casino - Reg 13 Copy of Licence	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Existing Casino - Reg 14 Reinstatement	£1,350.00	£1,350.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Bingo Premises - Reg 5 (2) (a) Non-Conversion - Provisional Statement Premises	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Bingo Premises - Reg 5 (2) (b) Non-Conversion - Other Premises	£3,500.00	£3,500.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Bingo Premises - Reg 6 and Reg 8	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Bingo Premises - Reg 10	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Bingo Premises - Reg 11	£1,750.00	£1,750.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Bingo Premises - Reg 12	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Bingo Premises - Reg 13	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Bingo Premises - Reg 14	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Bingo Premises - Reg 15 Provisional Statement	£3,500.00	£3,500.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Adult Gaming Centre - Reg 5 (2) (a)	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Adult Gaming Centre - Reg 5 (2) (b)	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Adult Gaming Centre - Reg 6 and Reg 8	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Adult Gaming Centre - Reg 10	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Adult Gaming Centre - Reg 11	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Adult Gaming Centre - Reg 12	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Adult Gaming Centre - Reg 13	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Adult Gaming Centre - Reg 14	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Adult Gaming Centre - Reg 15	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Tracks - Reg 5 (2) (a)	£950.00	£950.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Tracks - Reg 5 (2) (b)	£2,500.00	£2,500.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Tracks - Reg 6 and Reg 8	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Tracks - Reg 10	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Tracks - Reg 11	£1,250.00	£1,250.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Tracks - Reg 12	£950.00	£950.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Tracks - Reg 13	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Tracks - Reg 14	£950.00	£950.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Tracks - Reg 15	£2,500.00	£2,500.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Family Entertainment Centre - Reg 5 (2) (a)	£950.00	£950.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Family Entertainment Centre - Reg 5 (2) (b)	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Family Entertainment Centre - Reg 6 and Reg 8	£750.00	£750.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Family Entertainment Centre - Reg 10	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Family Entertainment Centre - Reg 11	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Family Entertainment Centre - Reg 12	£950.00	£950.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Family Entertainment Centre - Reg 13	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Family Entertainment Centre - Reg 14	£950.00	£950.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Family Entertainment Centre - Reg 15	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Other - Reg 5 (2) (a)	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Other - Reg 5 (2) (b)	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Other - Reg 6 and Reg 8	£600.00	£600.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Other - Reg 10	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Other - Reg 11	£1,500.00	£1,500.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Other - Reg 12	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Other - Reg 13	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Other - Reg 14	£1,200.00	£1,200.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Betting Other - Reg 15	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Lotteries New - Reg 12	£40.00	£40.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Lotteries New - Reg 14	£40.00	£40.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Renewal - Reg 12	£20.00	£20.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Renewal - Reg 14	£40.00	£40.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
<b>Body Piercing &amp; Cosmetics</b>				
New premises fee	£170.00	£180.00	5.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
New practitioner fee	£170.00	£180.00	5.9%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Registration of both a new premises and new practitioner	£350.00	£370.00	5.7%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Other changes (including replacement certificates)	£16.00	£17.00	6.3%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
<b>Taxi Licence Fees and Charges</b>				
<b>Taxi Licence</b>				
Dual Drivers Licence (3 Year)	£380.00	£400.00	5.3%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Private Hire Drivers Licence (3 Year)	£300.00	£320.00	6.7%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence (Full Year)	£230.00	£240.00	4.3%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Private Hire Vehicle Licence (Full Year)	£200.00	£210.00	5.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Private Hire Operator Licence (1 or 2 Cars) - 5 year	£740.00	£780.00	5.4%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Private Hire Operator Licence (3 or more Cars) - 5 year	£740.00	£780.00	5.4%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Knowledge Test Fee	£50.00	£67.00	34.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Route Test Fee	£80.00	£80.00	0.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Vehicle Transfer Fee - Hackney Carriage	£230.00	£240.00	4.3%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
Vehicle Transfer Fee - Private Hire	£200.00	£210.00	5.0%	Agreed at Licensing Committee - Nov 2025
<b>Environmental Services Fee and Charges</b>				
<b>FLYERING LICENCES</b>				
One day licence	£80.00	£85.00	6.3%	Revised pricing structure to make it fairer across the service and ensure full cost recovery
Additional one day licence	New	£65.00	N/A	Revised pricing structure to make it fairer across the service and ensure full cost recovery
One week licence	£220.00	£235.00	6.8%	Revised pricing structure to make it fairer across the service and ensure full cost recovery
Additional one week licence	New	£65.00	N/A	Revised pricing structure to make it fairer across the service and ensure full cost recovery
One Month licence	New	£350.00	N/A	Revised pricing structure to make it fairer across the service and ensure full cost recovery
Additional one month licence	New	£65.00	N/A	Revised pricing structure to make it fairer across the service and ensure full cost recovery
Annual licence	£469.00	£490.00	4.5%	Revised pricing structure to make it fairer across the service and ensure full cost recovery
Additional Annual licence	New	£65.00	N/A	Revised pricing structure to make it fairer across the service and ensure full cost recovery
Additional Badge (cost per badge)	£51.00	DELETED	N/A	Revised pricing structure to make it fairer across the service and ensure full cost recovery
Fringe Badge	£51.00	DELETED	N/A	Revised pricing structure to make it fairer across the service and ensure full cost recovery
<b>Environmental Services</b>				
Annual Green (Garden) Waste Collection	£97.00	£102.00	5.2%	Uplift reflects 3% corporate inflation on agreed 25/26 fees that were not fully introduced for the year
<b>Bulky Waste Collection</b>				
Up to 3 items for collection	£60.00	DELETED	N/A	Revised pricing structure to reflect persistent organic pollutants regulations and price prohibitive factors of not offering collections of a single item

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Each additional item	£12.00	DELETED	N/A	Revised pricing structure to reflect persistent organic pollutants regulations and price prohibitive factors of not offering collections of a single item
1 item	New	£25.00	N/A	Revised pricing structure to reflect persistent organic pollutants regulations and price prohibitive factors of not offering collections of a single item
2 items	New	£45.00	N/A	Revised pricing structure to reflect persistent organic pollutants regulations and price prohibitive factors of not offering collections of a single item
3 items	New	£65.00	N/A	Revised pricing structure to reflect persistent organic pollutants regulations and price prohibitive factors of not offering collections of a single item
4 items	New	£85.00	N/A	Revised pricing structure to reflect persistent organic pollutants regulations and price prohibitive factors of not offering collections of a single item
5 items	New	£105.00	N/A	Revised pricing structure to reflect persistent organic pollutants regulations and price prohibitive factors of not offering collections of a single item
6 items	New	£120.00	N/A	Revised pricing structure to reflect persistent organic pollutants regulations and price prohibitive factors of not offering collections of a single item
White goods	£45.00	£47.00	4.4%	Revised pricing structure to reflect persistent organic pollutants regulations and price prohibitive factors of not offering collections of a single item
Sofas / Sofa beds (POP's)	New	£45.00	N/A	Revised pricing structure to reflect persistent organic pollutants regulations and price prohibitive factors of not offering collections of a single item
Armchairs (POP's)	New	£35.00	N/A	Revised pricing structure to reflect persistent organic pollutants regulations and price prohibitive factors of not offering collections of a single item
<b>Other Environmental Services</b>				
Christmas tree collection	New	TBC	N/A	Fee to be published next autumn
Bin Cleaning (Residents)	New	TBC	N/A	Fee to be published next autumn
<b>Bin Replacements (exemptions for operational damage and assisted needs)</b>				

<b>Table 3: City Operations</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Containers - 140L bin	New	£35.00	N/A	Introduce charges for the provision and replacement of household waste and recycling containers to recover costs, promote responsible use, and align with other councils.
Containers - 240L bin	New	£45.00	N/A	Introduce charges for the provision and replacement of household waste and recycling containers to recover costs, promote responsible use, and align with other councils.
Containers - 240L recycling bin	New	£15.00	N/A	Introduce charges for the provision and replacement of household waste and recycling containers to recover costs, promote responsible use, and align with other councils.
Containers - Black Recycling Box	New	£10.00	N/A	Introduce charges for the provision and replacement of household waste and recycling containers to recover costs, promote responsible use, and align with other councils.
Containers - Food waste caddies	New	FREE	N/A	Introduce charges for the provision and replacement of household waste and recycling containers to recover costs, promote responsible use, and align with other councils.
Containers - Garden Waste bin delivery fee (Bin included in subscription)	New	£20.00	N/A	Introduce charges for the provision and replacement of household waste and recycling containers to recover costs, promote responsible use, and align with other councils.
<b>Public Toilets</b>				
High footfall public toilets (Kings Esplanade, Dalton's Bastion, The Colonnade, Shelter Hall, West Pier Arches)	New	£0.50	N/A	Introduction of charging for high footfall
All Other Public Toilet Sites	New	FREE	N/A	Introduction of charging for high footfall

<b>Table 4: Families Children and Wellbeing</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
<b>Education &amp; Skills Fees &amp; Charges</b>				
Adult Education -Pound Plus (per hour)	£5.00	£5.00	0%	3% rounded to nearest pound. Rarely used charge.
<b>Nurseries Fees &amp; Charges</b>				
BHCC Family Hub Nurseries – Fees – Hourly Rate	£6.40	£6.60	3%	
BHCC Family Hub Nurseries – Fees – Meals	£2.82	£2.90	3%	
<b>Early Years and Childcare Training Courses Fees &amp; Charges</b>				
Full day face to face	£72.00	£74.00	2.8%	3% rounded to nearest pound
Half Day face to face	£48.00	£49.00	2.1%	3% rounded to nearest pound
Full day online (live)	£52.00	£54.00	3.8%	3% rounded to nearest pound
Half day online (live)	£31.00	£32.00	3.1%	3% rounded to nearest pound
Safeguarding face to face	£24.00	£25.00	4.2%	3% rounded to nearest pound
Safeguarding e-learning	£22.00	£23.00	4.5%	3% rounded to nearest pound
Paediatric first aid (per day)	£25.00	£26.00	4.0%	3% rounded to nearest pound
E-learning	£12.00	£12.00	0.0%	3% rounded to nearest pound
<b>Libraries Fees &amp; Charges</b>				
<b>Fines – Overdue Charges</b>				
Books & Spoken Word – adult borrowers	£0.40	£0.40	0.0%	No increase, cost of living crises, higher charges, fewer items returned. Charge high compared to ESx 25p; WSx 33p per day. Maximum fine increased from £12.80 to £14.80 (15.62%)
Books & Spoken Word – child and 16-19 yrs borrowers	£0.15	£0.15	0.0%	No increase in Children or young people fees or charges
Music CD	£0.40	£0.45	12.5%	Rounded to nearest 5p for operational reasons
DVD adult box sets	£1.25	£1.30	4.0%	Rounded to nearest 5p for operational reasons
DVD adult	£0.80	£1.00	25.0%	Price not increased 25/26
DVD child	£0.50	£0.50	0.0%	No increases for children
<b>Libraries - Reservations</b>				
Adult	£1.25	£1.30	4.0%	Rounded to nearest 5p operational reasons

Adult conc.	£0.60	£0.60	0.0%	No increase for concessions
Child	£0.60	£0.60	0.0%	No increases for children
Child conc.	£0.30	£0.30	0.0%	No increases for children
<b>Libraries – Computer Printing and Photocopying per page</b>				
A3 B&W	£0.50	£0.60	18.18%	Higher increase to offset no increase in A4, black and White. Rounded up to nearest 10p due to operational practicalities – coin operated equipment
A3 Colour	£1.90	£2.00	5.13%	Rounded up to nearest 10p due to operational practicalities – coin operated equipment
A4 B&W	£0.40	£0.40	0.0%	No increase, cost of living crises, A4 B&W a basic printing need.
A4 Colour	£1.30	£1.50	14.29%	Rounded up to nearest 10p due to operational practicalities – coin operated equipment. Higher increase to offset no increase in A4, black and White.
<b>Libraries - Exhibitions</b>				
Jubilee	£205.00	£225.00	10.0%	Increase to offset officer time for due diligence
Jubilee discount	£145.00	£155.00	7.14%	Increase to offset officer time for due diligence
Jubilee Info Point	£43.00	£46.00	7.14%	Increase to offset officer time for due diligence
Jubilee Info Point discount	£29.00	£31.00	7.14%	Increase to offset officer time for due diligence
Hove Info Point	£45.00	£46.00	7.14%	Increase to offset officer time for due diligence
Hove Info Point discount	£29.00	£31.00	7.14%	Increase to offset officer time for due diligence
Display Cabinet Hire	£23.00	£25.00	8.7%	Increase to offset officer time for due diligence
Community Libraries	£18.00	£20.00	10.53%	Increase to offset officer time for due diligence
Admin fee (non-refundable)	£46.00	£55.00	18.06%	Increase to offset officer time for due diligence
<b>Library Card Replacement</b>				
Standard card	£1.75	£1.80	3.0%	Fee increases in line with corporate inflation
Libraries extra card	£2.40	£2.45	2.06%	Rounded to nearest 5p
<b>Libraries – Computer Bookings</b>				
Adult	£1.20	£1.20	0%	Left at 25/26 fee to offset cost of living impact, digital exclusion. Offset by rises above 3% in other areas
<b>Libraries - Research</b>				
For private individual	£40.00	£40.00	0%	Service to be reviewed 26/27
For business/commercial	£60.00	£60.00	0%	Service to be reviewed 26/27
Image reproduction done by staff – service fee per image	£8.00	£8.00	0%	Service to be reviewed 26/27
Image reproduction done by library users – service fee per 15 mins	£8.00	£8.00	0%	Service to be reviewed 26/27
<b>Interlibrary loans – non SELMS stock</b>				

Adult/adult conc.	£10.30	£10.30	3%	In line with corporate increase
Child/child conc.	£3.10	£3.00	0%	No increase for children or young people
Interlibrary loans – SELMs authorities stock, by all borrowers	£4.00	£4.00	0%	Price set between Library Consortium (SELMS) member authorities, increased by 25% 25/26
<b>DVDs per week</b>				
Premium film borrowed by adults	£3.90	£4.00	2.53%	Rounded to nearest 5p
Other film borrowed by adults	£2.90	£3.00	3.37%	Rounded to nearest 5p
Box sets borrowed by adults	£5.80	£6.00	3.39%	Rounded to nearest 5p
Children's videos borrowed by children	£1.85	£1.85	0%	No increase in children or young people fees or charges
Concessionary and access card holders – premium films	£1.95	£1.95	0%	No increase in concessionary charges
Concessionary and access card holders – other films	£1.45	£1.45	0%	No increase in concessionary charges
Concessionary - Children's videos borrowers	£0.90	£0.90	0%	No increase in children or young people fees and charges
<b>CDs per week</b>				
Music CD	£1.25	£1.30	3.92%	Rounded to nearest 5p
Concessionary	£0.60	£0.60	0%	No increase in children or young people fees and charges
<b>Spoken Word hire charge for adult borrowers</b>				
Abridged spoken word books	£0.80	£0.85	6.02%	Rounded to nearest 5p
Unabridged spoken word books	£1.60	£1.65	3.12%	Rounded to nearest 5p
Language course	£2.10	£2.20	4.65%	Minimal income
Access card holders – language course	£1.05	£1.10	4.76%	Minimal income
<b>Events and activities</b>				
Coffee morning for adults pp	£1.00	£1.00	0%	Library officer time to manage change (coins) is not worth the increase. Offset by rises elsewhere
Events for adults pp	£5.00	£5.00	0%	Library officer time to manage change is not worth the increase. Offset by rises elsewhere
Book & Writing groups per year	£30.90	£40.00	29.45%	Price increase to greater reflect staff time taken to facilitate offer
Events/activities for children/young people (0-19)	£1.00	£1.00	0%	No increase for children or young people
<b>Room Hire Jubilee Library– full charge</b>				
Conf. Hall – 1 day	£660.00	£680.00	3.30%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Conf. Hall – 0.5 day	£440.00	N/A	N/A	Moved to hourly bookings
Conf. Hall - Hourly Rate	£110.00	£115.00	4.55%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Conf. Room 1 & 3 – 1 day	£330.00	£340.00	3.03%	Rounded close to inflation rate

Conf. Room 1 & 3 - 0.5 day	£210.00	N/A	N/A	Moved to hourly bookings
Conf. Room 1 & 3 -Hourly Rate	£52.00	£55.00	5.77%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Conf. Room 2 – 1 day	£370.00	£380.00	2.67%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Conf. Room 2 – 0.5 day	£260.00	N/A	N/A	Moved to hourly bookings
Conf. Room 2 hourly rate	£65.00	£68.00	4.62%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Conf. Room 4 – 1 day	£175.00	£180.00	2.86%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Conf. Room 4 – 0.5 day	£90.00	N/A	N/A	Moved to hourly bookings
Conf. Room 4 - hourly Rate	£22.00	£23.00	4.55%	Rounded close to inflation rate
121 Room – 1 day	£110.00	£115.00	4.45%	Rounded close to inflation rate
121 Room – part day per hour	£20.00	£21.00	5%	Moved to hourly bookings
BIPC large pod meeting space 1 day	£80.00	£80.00	0%	Pods not realising income target, no increase to encourage use
BIPC large pod meeting space for 1 hour	£20.00	£20.00	0%	Pods not realising income target, no increase to encourage use
BIPC small pod 1 day	£55.00	£55.00	0%	Pods not realising income target, no increase to encourage use
BIPC small pod meeting space per hour	£12.00	£12.00	0%	Pods not realising income target, no increase to encourage use
BIPC Workshop Space Full Day	£220.00	£230.00	4.55%	Rounded close to inflation rate
BIPC Workshop Hourly Rate	£35.00	£40.00	14.29%	Rounded close to inflation rate
BIPC Networking Area Full Day	£220.00	£230.00	4.55%	Rounded close to inflation rate
BIPC Network Area Hourly Rate	£35.00	£40.00	14.29%	Rounded close to inflation rate
BIPC Workshop & Network Area Full Day	£440.00	£450.00	2.27%	Rounded close to inflation rate
BIPC Workshop & Network Area Hourly Rate	£70.00	£80.00	14.29%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Rare Books Room -1 Day	£245.00	£253.00	3.16%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Rare Books Room - Per Hour	£40.00	£42.00	4.76%	Rounded close to inflation rate
<b>Room Hire – Jubilee Library – discount rate</b>				
Conf. hall – 1 day	£540.00	£560.00	3.7%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Conf. hall – ½ day	£360.00	N/A	N/A	Moved to hourly bookings
Conf. Hall hourly rate	£90.00	£95.00	5.56%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Conf. room 1 & 3 – 1 day	£260.00	£270.00	3.85%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Conf. room 1 & 3 – ½ day	£170.00	N/A	N/A	Moved to hourly bookings
Conf. Room 1 & 3 hourly rate	£42.00	£44.00	4.76%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Conf. room 2 – 1 day	£300.00	£310.00	3.33%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Conf. room 2 – ½ day	£220.00	N/A	N/A	Moved to hourly bookings
Conf. Room 2 hourly rate	£55.00	£57.00	3.64%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Conf. room 4 – 1 day	£145.00	£150.00	3.45%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Conf. room 4 – ½ day	£70.00	N/A	N/A	Moved to hourly booking

Conf. room 4 - hourly rate	£17.00	£18.00	5.88%	Rounded close to inflation rate
121 room – 1 day	£60.00	£63.00	5.0%	Rounded close to inflation rate
121 room – part day per hour	£16.00	£17.00	6.25%	Rounded close to inflation rate
BIPC large pod 1 day	£65.00	£65.00	0%	Pods not realising income target, no increase to encourage use
BIPC large pod part day for 1 hour	£13.00	£13.00	0%	Pods not realising income target, no increase to encourage use
BIPC small pod 1 day	£45.00	£45.00	0%	Pods not realising income target, no increase to encourage use
BIPC small pod part day per hour	£10.00	£10.00	0%	Pods not realising income target, no increase to encourage use
BIPC Workshop space 1 day	£180.00	£190.00	5.56%	Rounded close to inflation rate
BIPC Workshop space ½ day	£105.00	N/A	N/A	Moved to hourly bookings
BIPC Workshop Hourly Rate	£26.00	£30.00	15.38%	Rounded close to inflation rate
BIPC Networking Area 1 day	£180.00	£190.00	5.56%	Rounded close to inflation rate
BIPC Networking Area ½ day	£105.00	N/A	N/A	Moved to hourly bookings
BIPC Network Area Hourly Rate	£26.00	£30.00	15.38%	Rounded close to inflation rate
BIPC Workshop & Network Area Full Day	£360.00	£370.00	2.78%	Rounded close to inflation rate
BIPC Workshop & Network Area Hourly Rate Discount	£52.00	£64.00	18.75%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Rare Books room 1 day	£200.00	£206.00	3%	
Rare Books room ½ day	£115.00	N/A	N/A	Moved to hourly bookings
Rare Books Room - Per Hour	£28.00	£29.00	3.45%	Rounded close to inflation rate
<b>Room Hire - Hove Library and Community Libraries</b>				
Hove and Community Library Room Hire – 1 day	£200.00	£220.00	9.09%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Hove and Community Library Room Hire – 1 day Discount rate	£110.00	£121.00	9.09%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Hove and Community Library Room Hire – 1 hour	£25.00	£28.00	10.71%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Hove and Community Library Room Hire – 1 hour Discount rate	£13.00	£15.00	8.33%	Rounded close to inflation rate
Hove Library session	£55.00	N/A	N/A	Can't offer anymore due to move of Council Helpdesk into Library
Primary Library per session (am, pm or eve)	£55.00	N/A	N/A	Not offered anymore
Secondary Library per session (am, pm or eve)	£40.00	N/A	N/A	Not offered anymore
Community Libraries 121 per hour	£12.00	£15.00	22.22%	Rounded up/down close to inflation rate
<b>Library Sundry Charges</b>				
Evening supplement per hour	£95.00	£150.00	57.9%	Staff costs increasing (Kier no longer FOC)

Evening supplement per hour (discounted)	£75.00	£130.00	73.33%	Staff costs increasing (Kier no longer FOC)
Activity space in Jubilee Library CYP per hour	£29.00	£30.00	3.45%	Rounded up/down close to inflation rate
Teas and coffees	£2.25	£2.50	10.53%	Rounded up/down close to inflation rate
<b>Home to School Transport</b>				
Home to School transport – Parental contribution towards travel assistance - sixth form aged pupils	£453.90	£468.20	3.2%	Where travel assistance is agreed for a student of sixth form age (16 to 19 years old), a contribution towards the cost of travel is usually required. The contribution is reviewed annually. Students from families with a low income will not be required to make a financial contribution. The contribution is set at the same level as a Student City Saver which is the typical cost for a student traveling to their education in the city. In the academic year 2024 to 2025 this is £453.90 per year. This is the equivalent of a student City Saver ticket. The contribution payment will increase in line with Brighton & Hove Bus Company prices.
<b>School Meals – Primary Schools (DSG)</b>				
<i>This is a DSG budget not General Fund and only applies to those Primary &amp; Special schools who participate in the BHCC School Meals Contract. It therefore excludes all Secondary Schools, Academies and Free Schools.</i>				
<i>All secondary schools and secondary academies within the city and the Bilingual Primary School, City Academy Whitehawk and Moulsecomb Primary and West Blatchington, Benfield and Hangleton provide meals, including free meals to entitled pupils, through their own individually negotiated contracts</i>				
School Meals -Primary schools	£2.65	£2.85	7.5%	The cost of school meals to the local authority (schools) is inflated annually in accordance with the price review mechanism detailed in the school meals contract. The charge for school meals in primary schools has not increased since November 2024, when the price was set at £2.65 for Primary and Specials schools and £2.60 for nursery meals served in schools. The price will increase from January 2026 when the price of a meal will increase to £2.85 for Primary & Special school children and will remain at £2.60 for nursery pupils. The proposed price increase is much higher than anticipated, due to the change in government guidance regarding Employers National Insurance Contributions and continued higher food inflation. The contract requires the payment of the Living Wage (Living Wage Foundation) to employees and the Soil Associations Silver Food for Life. Any decision to increase the selling price to parents in 2025/26 should be made by June 2026 for implementation from 1st September 2026. We should note that the current charge for meals in East Sussex is £3.06 and in West Sussex

				£3.09 Any price increase agreed will be based on the contract price review terms or a minimum of 3% in line with the corporate inflation rate. The LWFLW rates indicate a 6.7% increase in labour costs, therefore the planned rate for September 2026 would be a minimum of £3.00.
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**Children in Care**

*It is Brighton and Hove City Council's policy to recoup a contribution from parents towards their child's maintenance, where a child is in care under a s.20 Children Act 1989 and where it is considered reasonable to do so.*

*This promotes parental responsibility and active involvement in the care of their child. BHCC endeavours to work in partnership with parents wherever possible by encouraging involvement in decision making and contributing to the costs associated with their child's care, providing this is in the best interests of the child.*

0 to 2 years	£192.50	£198.70	3.2%	The amount recoverable is set at 50% of the lowest foster care rate for the child's age band, which is considered fair and retrievable. The amount will be adjusted each year to reflect changes in the foster care rate.
3 to 4 years	£196.00	£202.30	3.2%	
5 to 10 years	£218.00	£225.00	3.2%	
11 to 15 years	£243.50	£251.30	3.2%	
16 to 17 years	£263.00	£271.50	3.2%	

**Table 5: Homes and Adult Social Care**

	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27	Change %	Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)
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**Travellers Sites Fees and Charges**

Travellers Transit Site – Pitch Fees	£91.47	£95.86	4.8%	CPI + 1%
Travellers Transit Site – Service Charge	£57.64	£60.41	4.8%	CPI + 1%
Travellers Permanent Site – Pitch Fees	£118.48	£124.17	4.8%	CPI + 1%
Travellers Permanent Site – Service Charge	£15.87	£16.63	4.8%	CPI + 1%

**Adult Social Care**

**MAXIMUM CHARGES FOR MEANS TESTED CARE FEES**

In-House home care (charge per hour)	£33.00	£34.00	3.03%	3% uplift rounded to nearest pound
In-House day care (charge per day)	£50.00	£52.00	3.85%	3% uplift rounded to nearest pound
In-House day care – drop in charge (charge per session)	£25.00	£26.00	4.00%	3% uplift rounded to nearest pound
In House residential care (charge per night)	£171.00	£176.00	2.92%	3% uplift rounded to nearest pound

**Fixed Rate charges**

Transport (return)	£5.10	£5.30	3.92%	3% uplift rounded to nearest 10p
Deferred Payment Agreement (residential care)	£658.00	£678.00	3.04%	3% uplift rounded to nearest pound

† - Indicates charge is shown exclusive of VAT

<b>Table 5: Homes and Adult Social Care</b>	<b>Current 2025/26</b>	<b>Proposed 2026/27</b>	<b>Change %</b>	<b>Rationale for Change or New Fee/Charge (Only for new fees/charges or increases above or below the 3% corporate target)</b>
Set-up fee – home care contract	£346.00	£356.00	2.89%	3% uplift rounded to nearest pound
Ongoing contract fee (self-funders) – charge per year	£109.00	£112.00	2.75%	3% uplift rounded to nearest pound
<b>Carelink Fees</b>				
Standard per month	£25.41	£26.17	2.99%	3% uplift rounded to nearest penny
Enhanced per month	£30.36	£31.27	3.00%	

# A better Brighton & Hove for all



## Medium Term Financial Strategy 2026/27 to 2029/30

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# 1 A BETTER BRIGHTON & HOVE FOR ALL

## Our Vision and Priorities

- 1.1 Our vision is for Brighton & Hove to be a city to be proud of, a healthy, fair and inclusive city where everyone thrives.
- 2.1 To deliver our vision we will work to be a responsive council with well-run services. We will focus on four outcomes over the next four years as set out in our Council Plan. For each of the outcomes shown below, we set out what we will do and how we will measure progress. The detailed delivery plans are set out in the council's directorate plans and service strategies.
  1. **A city to be proud of**  
Investing in our city  
An accessible, clean, and sustainable city
  2. **A fair and inclusive city**  
An inclusive and fairer city  
A city where people feel safe and welcome  
Homes for everyone
  3. **A healthy city that helps people to thrive**  
A better future for children and young people  
Living and ageing well
  4. **A responsive and learning council with well-run services**
- 3.1 To achieve these priorities we recognise that we need to operate as '**one council**' so far as residents, visitors and businesses are concerned, ensuring that we work seamlessly across our services and collaborate effectively with our partners and commissioned providers. The full details of our vision and priorities and how we will measure progress are set out in our Council Plan available here: [Brighton & Hove City Council plan 2023 to 2027](#)
- 4.1 The purpose of the Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) is to set out how the council will use its capital and revenue resources to support the priorities above and deliver its core services, many of which are statutory. The priorities above sit at the heart of the budget process, leading the approach to allocating resources and developing investment and transformation plans.

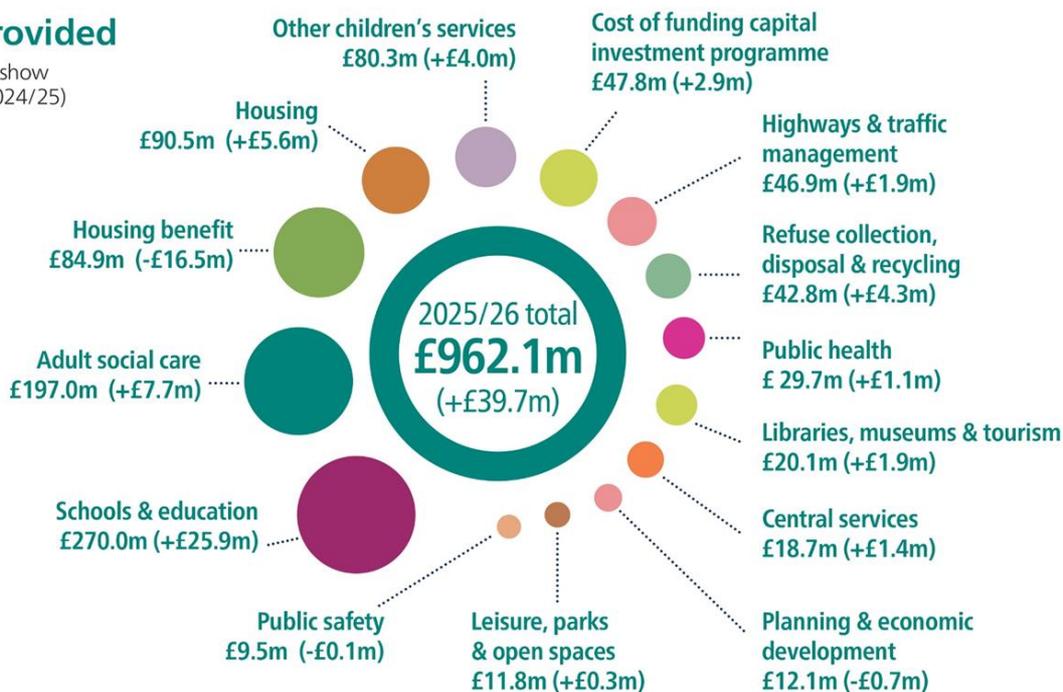
# 2 OUR CURRENT SERVICES AND BUDGET

- 2.1 Council staff deliver hundreds of different services for residents, businesses and visitors.
- 2.2 We conduct weddings, look after the seafront and downland, maintain the transport network, and maintain the city's parks and green spaces. Services we must provide by law include education services, children's safeguarding, children's and adult social care support, waste collection and disposal, planning and housing services, road maintenance, and library services.
- 2.3 In 2025/26 we are expecting to spend over £962 million delivering services for the city. It therefore costs £2.6 million a day to run council services. We are committed to spending this money as efficiently and economically as possible. The charts below show the major areas of service where money is spent followed by the primary sources of funding.

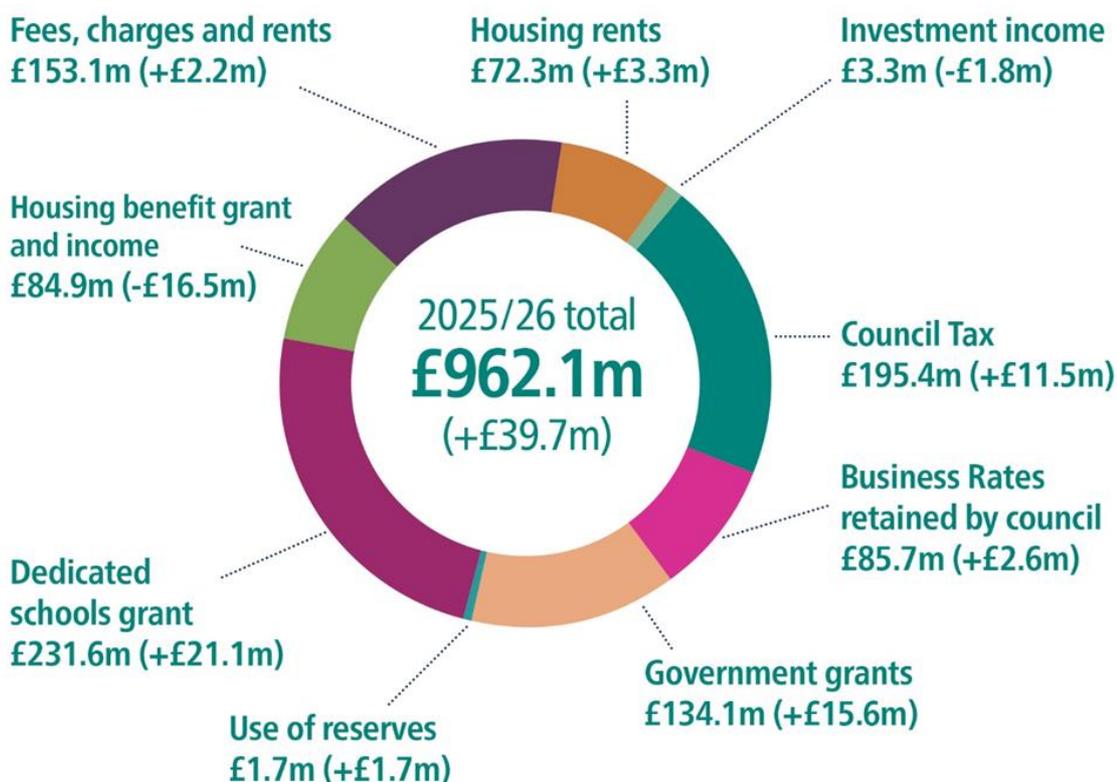
## Where the budget will be spent in 2025/26

### Services provided

(figures in brackets show the change from 2024/25)



## Where the funding comes from in 2025/26



### 3 DEVELOPING THE M [Figures in brackets denote changes from the previous year]

3.1 The period covered in this strategy represents a challenging time for local authority finances, with inherent uncertainty in the financial planning process and significant ongoing forecast increases in demand for key services. This also represents the most

challenging time for Brighton and Hove City Council's finances in its history. Setting out clear financial plans is an absolute priority as the Council moves towards greater financial sustainability over the next 4 years.

- 3.2 Nationally, public finances look very challenging over the medium term, which has put continuing pressure on Local Government finances. The government's review of the allocation of local government resources under the Fair Funding Review, coupled with the Business Rates Reset, has resulted in the Council's core spending power increasing much more slowly than the assumptions within the MTFS.
- 3.3 The Council is currently experiencing significant and unprecedented pressures on statutory services, particularly in respect of emergency and temporary accommodation, adults and children's social care and home to school transport. These pressures place a huge strain on the Council's budget. In response, a comprehensive transformation programme has been developed to ensure that the Council can remain financially sustainable over the coming years. This includes programmes to reduce demand for statutory services (emergency and temporary accommodation, adults and children's social care), to drive commercialisation and income generation, to reduce spend on contract and buildings, and to drive greater efficiency across the Council through digital innovation and functional alignment. The budget strategy identifies funding to resource these programmes, and is also underpinned by asset disposals to generate capital receipts (as the Council continues to use flexible use of capital receipts to fund transformation activity).

### **The Financial Outlook**

- 3.4 The provisional Local Government Financial Settlement (LGFS) was announced on the 17 December 2025, which resulted in the council receiving £27.416m less resources over the multi-year settlement period of 2026/27 to 2028/29 compared to the previous MTFS assumptions.
- 3.5 LGFS provides for a 2.1% real-terms increase in core spending power in 2026/27 but this assumes that councils will make full utilisation of the allowable Council Tax increase (2.99%) and Adult Social Care Precept (2.00%). As the MTFS sets out later, locally there are projected budget shortfalls of more than £93 million over the next 4 years, which is a common scenario across the much of the sector, clearly indicating that the Local Government settlement does not go far enough in addressing the financial challenges local authorities continue to face.
- 3.6 The outlook for 2026/27 remains very challenging. The Council is still experiencing the impact of recent economic conditions, suppressing many of the council's income sources such as planning incomes and commercial rents, while higher interest rates and the impacts of increased National Living Wage and Employer National Insurance rates have also put increased pressure on commissioned and contracted service costs as suppliers and providers experience a higher cost base. This has disproportionately impacted the cost of and demand for the Council's Homelessness and Temporary and Emergency Accommodation services, where there is an impact of higher rents for tenants, compounded by landlords exiting the rental market due to the new burdens under the Renters Rights Bills. In addition, the cost of social care providers and home to school transport services are particularly affected. There is also an ongoing national and local lack of sufficiency for children's and adult learning disability, and mental health social care places, which is also driving up costs.
- 3.7 The level of pressures, particularly in emergency and temporary accommodation, means that it has been incredibly challenging to balance the 2026/27 budget without impacting on the Council's financial resilience to an unacceptable level. Savings proposals have been identified to reduce the gap, but given the exceptional demand pressures on emergency and temporary accommodation and social care, alongside

very low levels of reserves, the Council has requested Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) of £15 million from the government. This is part of a strategy to fully fund service pressures going into 2026/27, protect and increase levels of reserves, and provide sufficient time for savings to be delivered through the transformation portfolio. The MTFs is fully balanced over a 4 year period, and has taken account of the costs associated with EFS borrowing.

3.8 The final budget for 2026/27 proposes a total net General Fund Budget of £341.476m, an increase of £8.672m from 2025/26. The budget includes savings proposals of £20.749m and the following recommendations to full Council on Council Tax and the Adults Social Care Precept as follows:

- A 2.99% increase in core Council Tax
- A 2.00% increase in the Adults Social Care Precept

3.9 The final 2026/27 Annual Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2026/27 to 2029/30 will be presented to Council for approval on the 26 February 2026.

### Components of the Medium Term Financial Planning Process

3.10 The budget setting and medium-term planning process is made up of four primary requirements as follows:

3.11 The main component parts of the budget and medium-term planning process are set out below:

- **The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)** – this provides high-level spending and funding estimates, assumptions and proposals over a 4-year planning period at a strategic or programme level.
- **The Annual Budget and Council Tax** – it is a legal requirement to set a balanced budget and Council Tax each year, funded by taxation, government grants, retained business rates and fees, charges and commercial rents.
- **The Capital Investment Programme** – this is a rolling 5-year investment programme for the construction, acquisition or improvement of capital assets in support of Council Plan priorities, primarily funded by capital grants, capital receipts, or borrowing.
  - The council's capital programme has been substantially reviewed to improve alignment with Council Plan priorities. A number of schemes were decommitted, resulting in reduced capital financing costs. This process will continue into 2026/27 and future years, overseen by an officer-led Capital Programme Board, to further improve alignment with priorities, continue to assess affordability, and consider opportunities to invest in new schemes that will support the Council Plan.
  - A Capital Programme review would entail a review of the Capital Financing budget in terms of the revenue implications of changes in capital decisions. The current capital investment plans results in substantial capital financing costs in the form of both interest and Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) charges for schemes supported by borrowing. Where schemes do not support Council Plan priorities they should therefore be decommitted or reduced as far as practicable to reduce pressures on the revenue
- **The Innovation Fund** – a fund that utilises capital receipts from the disposal of capital assets to fund *one-off* revenue costs to support change and transformation. This fund therefore enables the Strategic Transformation Portfolio, new Invest-to-Save business cases and other costs to underpin the delivery of council wide transformation and savings to achieve a balanced MTFs.

## 4 SERVICE STRATEGIES

- 4.1 As noted above, the council provides hundreds of services across the city. This requires significant organisation and management of a wide range of resources and assets, as well as monitoring the performance of contracted and commissioned services. The council is therefore structured into 3 major corporate directorates headed by a Corporate Director with the objective of working together as one council. The authority and its directorates are supported by corporate support functions including finance, legal, HR, IT&D and other functions.
- 4.2 This section provides information about the major corporate directorates and the service strategies they are putting in place over the medium term to support the achievement of the Council Plan priorities set out in Section 1. The strategies also provide high-level information about the services provided together with identification of the areas for potential savings and efficiencies as well as plans for investment and transformation to achieve continuous improvement and longer-term financial sustainability.

## 5 FAMILIES, CHILDREN & WELLBEING

### Supporting a Better Brighton & Hove for All

- 5.1 The Families, Children and Wellbeing Directorate brings together different services for children and families including education and learning, family help and protection, libraries, community cohesion, Public Health and support for skills and employment. Much of the education and special educational needs provision is funded through the ring-fenced Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). This budget strategy is focused on General Fund spend.
- 5.2 The main area of General Fund spend relates to the placement costs for children and young people in care. Spend on children's placements is under pressure given the national placement sufficiency issues. There is a national shortage of both foster care placements and residential provision. This has resulted in children being placed in provision based on availability rather than need, often at an inflated cost.
- 5.3 Nationally the number of children with child protection plans and children being brought into care has continued reduced slightly over the last reported 12 months. Over recent years the numbers in Brighton & Hove have been reducing in the context of national rises. During 2025 the number of children subject to a child protection plan has remained relatively steady. The number of children in care, including unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, has risen slightly with the complexity of need increasing.
- 5.4 There has continued to be high numbers of children and young people experiencing emotional health and wellbeing difficulties and this together with an increase in the number of children with disabilities and complex needs requiring special residential provision continues to place huge pressure on budgets. Both locally and nationally, there has been an increase in the number of adolescents requiring intensive support due to the vulnerability to exploitation in all its forms.
- 5.5 Our vision is for a Directorate that is ambitious and committed to working with others to provide services and support that provide a better Brighton and Hove for all. We want to support Brighton and Hove to be a healthy city, where people thrive; where children, young people and families have a better future. We are committed to operating as One Council, working together and across to both improve outcomes and reduce costs. Inevitably, this will require difficult decisions in balancing untargeted, non-statutory support with preventative, statutory and safeguarding provision.

## About the Services

5.6 There are four key branches in the directorate as follows:

### Education and Learning

This service area includes:

- Education including partnerships, school organisation, Access to Education and Hidden Children.
- Virtual School for children in care and those previously in care and those open to children's social work services.
- Inclusion Support Services for schools including Education Psychology services and Schools Wellbeing services.
- Special Educational Needs statutory service.
- Nurseries and Early Years.

### Family Help and Protection

This service area includes:

- Family Help and Protection services for children in need, those in need of protection, children in care and care experienced young people.
- Specialist Community Disability services for 0-25 including respite and short breaks provision.
- Fostering, family placement and permanence services for children in care.
- Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children services.
- Specialist Adolescence and youth justice services
- Front Door for Families which includes the MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub).
- Multi-disciplinary Partners in Change Hub.
- Contact and Family Group Conference Services.

### Commissioning and Communities

This service area includes:

- Commissioning services including children's placements; Home to School Transport.
- Community cohesion services including community safety, Prevent and Violence Against Women & Girls
- Libraries and customer.
- Safeguarding Children Partnership, Quality Assurance and Performance Management.
- Adult Education, Employment and Skills.
- Third Sector commissioning.

### Public Health

This service area includes:

- Starting Well and Healthy Child Programme (0-19).
- Mental Health and Suicide Prevention.
- Drug and Alcohol treatment and recovery.
- Sexual Health & contraception services.
- Healthy Lifestyles.
- Health Protection.
- Aging Well.

## Supporting the Council's Priorities

5.7 Below is a summary of work we have planned over the next four years that supports the priorities set out in the Council Plan:

### A city to be proud of

- Develop a Library Sustainability Plan to ensure a thriving provision of services for residents across the city

### A fair and inclusive city

- Refresh and deliver the Community Safety and Crime Reduction strategy.
- Implement the Combatting Drugs Strategy.
- Develop the Community Cohesion Roadmap
- Implement our City of Sanctuary action plan.
- Support schools in delivering equalities curriculums, including anti-racist education.
- Implement the Violence Against Women and Girls, Sexual and Domestic Abuse action plan.
- Support the Community and Voluntary Sector through the delivery of the grants programme.

### A healthy city that helps people to thrive

- Keep children and young people safe, ensuring no child or family is left behind and deliver our Corporate Parenting Strategy.
- Develop our prevention and family support work including delivering the government's Families First reforms of children's social care and Best Start Family Hubs.
- Support the provision of high quality and inclusive education from early years through to adult learning.
- Work with partners to deliver ambitious employment and training opportunities, including the Get Sussex Working Plan and the Connect to Work programme.
- Deliver the SEND Strategy and support inclusive education across the city's schools.
- Improve the mental and physical health of children through the Healthy Child Programme and schools' wellbeing service.
- Co-produce a Youth Strategy and deliver the Young Futures Hub pilot
- Enable people to live healthy and happy lives through the reduction of harm through the use of tobacco, alcohol and drugs.
- Help people be physically active and promote good mental health, reducing the risk of suicide.

### A responsive and learning council with well-run services

- Meet the needs of our residents and other customers through an improved customer offer in libraries.

### Medium Term Budget Strategy

5.8 We will work collaboratively within and across all directorates and with key partners to deliver safe and whole family services which focus on prevention, improving outcomes for all and provide value for money. We are committed to delivering inclusive and accessible provision.

5.9 To achieve this, we will:

- Work across the directorate and wider council to provide efficient, high-quality services that meet need and provide value for money.
- Explore opportunities to deliver services in partnership with others on both a Sussex and South-East regional basis.
- Commission services that meet statutory duties whilst supporting the delivery of a better Brighton and Hove for all, ensuring effective contract management is place.

### **Transforming Services and Managing Demands**

- 5.10 The directorate has reviewed all the services it delivers, identifying those that are essential and making efficiency savings wherever possible. Essential services include those that are statutory, those where a business case demonstrates the service is the best use of resources and those that generate income for the council.
- 5.11 The children's social care reforms as outlined in the forthcoming Children's Wellbeing & Schools Bill will have a significant impact upon how family help and protection is delivered in the city from 2026. This will be an opportunity to expand the scope of our Family Hubs and build upon our Outstanding children's social work services, meeting need at earlier point and thereby avoiding escalation into more costly interventions. The Brighton & Hove Children's Safeguarding Partnership has developed a partnership model of practice and the Right Support, Right Time continuum of need – it is anticipated these will support family help being provided at the earliest point, thereby reducing escalation into statutory services.
- 5.12 The council is part of the Department for Education's Regional Care Co-operative pilot, a partnership of 15 local authorities across the south-east who have committed to work together to through a joint commissioning and procurement approach to shape the children's placement market. It is anticipated this joint working and commissioning power will address sufficiency issues, resulting in the right placements for children being available at a cost that reflects market value as opposed to availability.
- 5.13 There are a number of savings that have been proposed in order to support the council's overall financial position. These include
- Identification of alternative funding streams to enable non statutory services to children and families to continue to be provided.
  - Children's Social Care transformation.
  - Youth Arts and Participation.
  - Family Help.
  - Adoption Allowances.
  - Transfer of Council run Nursery to an alternative early years provider.
  - Libraries savings.
  - General Efficiencies.

### **Investment in Services**

- 5.14 The following investment in services is planned to meet demographic and other cost increases to maintain investment in priority services and meet statutory requirements:
- Support for Children in Care.
  - Home to School Transport.
  - Support for Children with Disabilities.
  - Schools PFI Contract.
- 5.15 This investment will ensure the council is able to meet its statutory obligations to keep children safe, promote the education of children with SEND and support the development of a healthy city where people thrive.

## 6 HOMES AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE

### Supporting a Better Brighton & Hove for All

- 6.1 The Homes and Adult Social Care directorate was created in January 2025. The directorate primarily contributes to the council priorities of being a fair and inclusive city, a healthy city where residents thrive and providing responsive and well-run services. Both Adult Social Care and Housing have seen regulatory inspections and ratings being re-introduced by the Care Quality Commission (for Adult Social Care) and the Regulator for Social Housing (RSH) and Building Safety Regulator for Housing (for Housing). Following engagement with the RSH, the safety and quality of our housing stock was rated C3 and for ASC our inspection by CQC led to a rating of Requires Improvement.

### About the Services

- 6.2 The Homes and Adult Social Care directorate consists of Housing and Adult Social Care services.

#### Housing services include:

- Council housing landlord services comprising:
  - Tenancy Services, including the Travellers Service;
  - Housing Repairs & Maintenance;
  - Housing Investment & Asset Management;
  - Increasing the supply of homes in the city
- Regulating the quality of private sector housing.
- Providing temporary and emergency accommodation (homelessness).
- Providing supported accommodation.
- Managing the Housing Register and Allocations Policy.

#### Adult Social Care services include:

- Services for vulnerable adults with Care Act eligible needs including:
  - Assessment and Commissioning Services.
  - Carelink Out of Hours Services.
  - Support for Older people including those with memory or cognition conditions;
  - Support for physical and sensory disabilities;
  - Mental health services in partnership with Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust;
  - Services for adults with learning disability and autism from 25 years;
  - Support for carers and all ancillary activities.
- Note, services for adults with learning disability and autism up to 25 years old continue to be delivered through the Families, Children and Wellbeing Directorate, with delegated powers within that Directorate for budget spend for this cohort. However, the whole budget for all adult social care services, including adults with a learning disability are within scope of this strategy.

### Supporting the Council's Priorities

#### A city to be proud of

- Through the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Adult Learning Disability Strategy, Autism Strategy, and our contribution to the Accessible City Strategy, we are supporting people to have improved lives and access to the city.

- Our commissioning always considers how we can be more sustainable and contribute towards carbon net zero. We also aim to maximise social value through our commissioning.
- Continue to develop strategies and business cases to provide genuinely affordable homes.
- Urgently address building safety and regulatory issues with clear action plans and appropriate resourcing.
- Increase participation in civic and community life through neighbourhood engagement and participatory strategies.

### A fair and inclusive city

- Reducing health inequalities is at the heart of our Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and one of the key priorities of Improving Lives, the Sussex wide Health and Care strategy.
- We are working with the city to develop more age and dementia friendly spaces and developing our combatting drugs strategy with Public Health.
- Through the Safeguarding Adults Board we are looking to continuously improve how we work across multiple agencies in the city to protect those most vulnerable to harm and abuse.
- Improve council housing quality and sustainability through Housing Revenue Account (HRA) investment and make better use of existing housing capacity to meet different housing needs.

### A healthy city that helps people to thrive

- Activities Work and Learning is a priority within the Adult Learning Disability Strategy.
- Improve private rented housing quality and sustainability through closer working and oversight of landlords.
- Reduce homelessness and rough sleeping through our preventative approach and increased housing supply.

### A responsive and learning council with well-run services

- We work with partners across the city to focus on the health and wellbeing of our residents. Through meticulous budget management and good governance, we aim to have resilient, safe, and effective services fit for the future.
- Improve customer contact systems throughout the service and provide more accessible information on key services for residents.
- Ensure equalities data is monitored and informs service improvement.

### Medium Term Budget Strategy

- 6.3 The budget strategy seeks to ensure that we deliver good quality housing, good experiences when seeking housing or advice about housing as well as adult social care services that promote independence, keep people safe, and prevents the need to visit acute health settings. These delivery intentions are supported by investments and proposals of savings and mitigation against the context of increasing demand, increasing complexity, and increasing costs.
- 6.4 The strategy will require collaborative working across the Integrated Care System with NHS Sussex and joint management of provider sufficiency. Effective management of hospital discharge will be key to avoiding increased acuity and need for social care.
- 6.5 Across the Homes division, ensuring effective use of the Homeless Prevention Grant in tandem with the council's objective of significantly increasing housing supply is key to managing and preventing future demand and costs. A wide range of options and

incentives to landlords and tenants are being explored and are covered in the MTFS to use every possible method of meeting demands until supply can be improved.

## **Transforming Services and Managing Demands**

### **Homes:**

- 6.6 The demand for, and cost of, temporary accommodation together with the increasing complexity of need amongst those living in temporary accommodation remains the challenge for the General Fund budget of the directorate. Radical actions have been taken to enable the council to meet the increasing demand in an affordable way whilst ambitious solutions such as increasing housing supply take place. Other saving and mitigation proposals include increasing our housing stock through a new wholly council-owned company as well as continuing the work of the joint venture with Hyde Housing.
- 6.7 The HRA budget aims to balance the priorities of the council and its tenants and leaseholders and reflects a range of council policies and programmes on customer service, repairs and planned maintenance, capital investment in housing and engagement. There are no savings required in the HRA overall, however budget pressures, in particular activities such as building health and safety compliance works, means there will be impacts on other areas of the budget in the medium term.

### **Adult Social Care:**

- 6.8 The demand for services continues to grow and the complexity of need continues to increase due to the continued advances in medicine and people living longer with limiting conditions. These challenges mean that the saving proposals are focused on managing demand by triaging referrals so that those who are not eligible for adult social care services are referred to organisations that can help with their identified needs; ensuring that annual reviews of service users take place so that care packages are appropriately designed to meet the current needs of residents as well as managing the annual price reviews of providers whilst finding ways to support the care workforce.
- 6.9 Over the last two or three decades, the funding of Adult Social Care has attracted a lot of debate. The Care Act had two parts: the first related to national minimum standards of expectations and this has been in force since 2014; the second is related to funding; ten years on and this has not been enacted. Meanwhile, the demand for services and the complexity of need continues to grow. Within the context of increasing demand and acuity of need, the council must deliver services within finite resources and therefore when determining the provision of services to meet need, it must do so in the most cost-effective way possible.
- 6.10 Brighton and Hove has a diverse range of providers – in-house services, not for profit providers and for-profit providers (the latter two types of providers are known as the private and independent sector). In commissioning to meet need and delivering best value, the council will provide services where the private and independent sector cannot deliver or is no more cost effective than the council; where the independent sector can support residents with good quality care at a more cost-effective cost than the council then in order to meet needs within the budget, the council will commission providers in the independent sector. This will see a considerable change in the mix of provision over the medium term.

### **Investment in Services**

- 6.11 Over the 4-years, estimated cost and demand pressures of over £31million are projected across Adult Social Care services. This is in addition to provision for real terms uplifts (inflation provision) of around £16 million. Based on expected increases in Core Spending Power over the medium term, these costs would put the authority into

financial deficit without clear plans to address costs. Adult Social Care will contribute to this effort but will need to ensure statutory duties are met.

- 6.12 Homelessness costs have been increasing significantly since the pandemic with only some of this being matched by Homeless Prevention and Rough Sleeping Grants. There is an £11 million investment in 2026/27 to reflect the increase in the cost of homelessness, but there is also a significant programme of transformation to address the cost of and demand for Temporary & Emergency Accommodation in 2026/27 and future years.

## 7 CITY OPERATIONS

### Supporting a Better Brighton & Hove for All

- 7.1 City Operations' focus is on making the city a vibrant place where people want to live, visit and do business, and where the unique character of Brighton and Hove is celebrated and enhanced. This includes making the city an accessible and sustainable place where people are well-connected and can enjoy an attractive, well-maintained built and natural environment.
- 7.2 The focus during 2026/27 is driving innovation and the sustainable transformation of service delivery, ensuring our services are reliable, well-run and support the continued improvement to the look and feel of the city. We will work in partnership to make progress towards our net zero ambitions, seeking to work with others to bring forward innovative projects such as the development of a solar farm, and seeking to secure a strategic energy partnership. As we work with others, we will collaborate to with our residents and businesses to find improvements to the services we offer, offer new paid for services and finding opportunities to work with the amazing army of volunteers across the city. More widely, we will develop our commercial strategy, bringing forward new ideas that capitalise on the unique assets and heritage of our city, and drive income through our venues and events, whilst protecting our open spaces and aligning our income ambitions with the place we want to become, A Better Brighton and Hove for All. Our focus will also be on working with partners to prepare for the opportunities that a new Sussex & Brighton Combined Mayoral Authority will bring to our place-based ambitions.

### About the Services

#### Place

- 7.3 Place leads on place-making and many of the council's built environment functions. The service shapes development in the city through the statutory plan making process, development management and building control to ensure good urban design and protection of heritage, as well as compliance with building regulations to ensure safety. Driving the city's progress towards net zero, the focus is on delivery of high impact projects to address the effects of climate change and sustainable development.
- 7.4 The Place directorate also shapes the city through its major regeneration programme and investment in major projects, including development of new affordable homes through the Homes for Brighton & Hove joint venture and New Homes for Neighbourhoods Programme. The team includes the council's in-house Architecture and Design service and has a focus on creating better buildings and public spaces which are more climate resilient.

### City Infrastructure - Transport & Regulatory Services

- 7.5 City Infrastructure develops clear plans to address the city's current and future transport needs, working closely with Transport for The South East (TfSE) and other transport partners to deliver major highway infrastructure projects on key travel routes, such as Valley Gardens. A key priority is to maintain and improve the city's transport

network to transform user experience, increase resilience and extend the life of key highway assets, including managing the risks posed by flooding and protecting coastal highway structures. The service also ensures the city keeps moving through regulating road use, managing on-street and off-street parking and ensuring that all works are coordinated on the highway. Influencing people's travel choices to reduce congestion and support improvements in air quality is also an important focus, providing sustainable transport options including enhancements in public transport, walking and cycling schemes, concessionary travel and an electric vehicle charging network.

- 7.6 Regulatory Services provides a broad range of services including Food Safety, Environmental Protection, Health & Safety, Licensing, Trading Standards and Animal Licensing. The budget is linked to statutory functions to provide a wide range of Environmental health and regulatory services which protect public health.

### Environmental Services

- 7.7 Environmental Services delivers recycling, refuse and street cleansing services to improve the cleanliness of the city and meet the council's environmental obligations. This includes traded commercial, bulky and garden waste services to residents and businesses across the city. Through the delivery of major projects, focused on reducing waste, maximising recycling and minimising waste sent to landfill, the service delivers ongoing and significant projects. This focus will continue with ongoing changes to increase the materials that can be recycled, further embed behaviour change linked to the new food waste collection service, and ongoing improvements to the service through digital and cultural transformation.

### Culture & Environment

- 7.8 Culture & Environment manages the city's visitor economy assets including the Brighton Centre, parks and the seafront to ensure the city remains a leading national and international visitor destination. It oversees an annual programme of varied and inclusive major outdoor events and community events to promote the city, and manages major contracts with key culture providers, including the Royal Pavilion Museums Trust and Brighton Dome & Brighton Festival, to ensure they have a diverse reach and contribute to the city's economic ambitions. The service is responsible for managing and conserving every park and green open spaces, ensuring that our spaces are accessible whilst conserving and managing habitats and spaces where plants and animals can thrive, and biodiversity is restored.
- 7.9 The service also leads the delivery of the council's ten-year plan for revitalising sports facilities and manages contracts with the RNLI for the seasonal beach lifeguards service, leisure contract, and investments in key leisure assets.

### Digital Innovation

- 7.10 The IT & Digital (IT&D) service has been an in-house function working in partnership with East Sussex County Council and Surrey County Council. This partnership has delivered significant savings, but as we approach a period of significant transformation, with digital at the heart of the changes in many services, 26/27 will be about embedding a new sovereign service, tailored to the needs of Brighton & Hove. The service has supported digital innovation across the council, supporting the trialling of new technologies that will enable transformation of council services, both in terms of efficiency and in terms of managing demand.

### Supporting the Council's Priorities

- 7.11 Below is a summary of work we have planned over the next four years that supports the priorities set out in the Council Plan.

### A city to be proud of

- Develop Brighton & Hove as a place where people want to live, work, and learn.
- Grow a diverse and sustainable city economy.
- Promote and protect what makes Brighton & Hove unique.
- Keep our city clean and manage waste including introduction of a new food waste collection service.
- Work towards carbon net zero.
- Protect and enhance the city's natural environment.
- Make it easier for people to move around the city through network management, our Bus Partnership and other initiatives such as Park & Ride.

### A fair and inclusive city

- Create safe public spaces that are accessible for all.
- Support Homes for everyone by increasing supply through Homes for Neighbourhoods, Joint Venture programmes and other regeneration programmes.

### A healthy city that helps people to thrive

- Support the provision of high quality and inclusive education from early years through to adult learning.

### A responsive and learning council with well-run services

- Enable the successful delivery of digital improvement projects and programmes through the co-design and co-delivery of underpinning technologies, platforms and services in IT&D to support services in delivering corporate priorities.
- Develop a scalable and resilient IT&D technical architecture which provides a secure, highly available platform for business services.
- Good governance and financial resilience.

### Medium Term Budget Strategy

7.12 City Operations fulfils a specific place making role for Brighton and Hove, leading the city towards achieving net zero carbon, building people's pride in place and supporting the growth of a diverse and resilient economy. Key directorate objectives for 2026/27 include:

- Delivering a programme of digital innovation that will see significant savings over the next 4 years.
- Delivering a new events strategy that will be underpinned by community engagement and priorities, whilst driving increased income in areas such as filming.
- Delivering key improvements to the council's sports facilities in line with the Sports Facilities and Investment Plan, which ensure increases in income and capitalising on new trends on sport and leisure activity.
- Developing a new sustainable local Transport Plan for the city, and ensuring investment in road maintenance provides the greatest value for money and alignment with the cities transport priorities.
- Implementing progressive service changes as part of the Environmental Services improvement programme including a new model of collection, increases in recycling and ongoing improvements in the service.
- Progressing the city's major regeneration and infrastructure projects.
- Working with Homes and Adult Social Care to deliver new council homes and affordable homes through the New Homes for Neighbourhood Programme and Homes for Brighton & Hove joint venture.

- 7.13 To ensure the directorate can achieve its objectives the budget strategy focuses on maximising income and exploring alternative service delivery models, in particular:
- Delivering core services effectively and efficiently, pursuing all opportunities for collaboration, innovation and streamlining through improved use of technology, or bringing together areas of work, skills and expertise.
  - Investing in services to modernise them for the future and ensuring we continue delivering the best for our customers whilst reducing running costs.
  - Adopting a more entrepreneurial approach to secure new sources of partnership funding and maximise existing income streams and drive forward new sources of income and commercialisation.
  - Reviewing standards of service and exploring new partnerships or contractual arrangements to support service delivery, as well as opportunities to have community-led services.
  - Supporting staff and their professional development to ensure the directorate has a diverse, resilient workforce and one with the relevant skills, knowledge and expertise to deliver its core objectives.

### **Investment in Services**

- 7.14 A wide range of capital and revenue investments are planned across City Operations to support the achievement of priorities and help to deliver transformation and savings programmes as follows:
- Long term capital investment to renew and strengthen the infrastructure of the city will continue, to ensure effective management of the highway network and improve air quality, along with the delivery of major regeneration projects to bring about quality new affordable housing and business space whilst generating income from land and property assets and increasing business rate and council tax returns.
  - Working with Homes & Adult Social Care to provide continued investment in the development of new Council housing through the New Homes for Neighbourhood Programme and new living wage rent housing through the Homes for Brighton & Hove joint venture.
  - Delivering major regeneration programmes to generate further revenues each year in new council tax and business rates.
  - Investment in Seafront Infrastructure, including £8m investment in progressing the restoration of Madeira Terraces.
  - Implementation of the new 10-year Sports Facilities Investment Plan, including progressing the delivery of a new Leisure Centre to replace the King Alfred.
  - Implementation of the City Downland Estate Plan with over 60 actions prioritised into a short, medium, and long-term programme of projects, using natural capital and generating income.
  - Continued investment in the city's cultural assets including working with the the creative industries in the city around future workspaces and income generating opportunities.
  - Delivery of the Royal Pavilion Estate Masterplan, to ensure the city's heritage assets life is protected and remains accessible to residents and visitors to the city.
  - Delivery of the Local Transport Plan capital programme to provide integrated transport projects and a maintenance programme of carriage and footway resurfacing works on the transport network.
  - Continued investment in the city's electric vehicle charging network utilising government grant funding.

- Investment of £8m in the Brighton Marina to River Adur coastal protection scheme in partnership with other Authorities and with significant investment from the Environment Agency.
- Investment in the city's playgrounds, parks and open spaces including the Stanmer Park Master Plan restoration project.
- Investment in the Fleet Strategy to ensure services are delivered efficiently through the use of the council's fleet.
- Investment in the city's tree collection to tackle the impacts of elm disease and ash dieback.
- £1m capital investment in the city's public toilets.
- Continued investment in Environmental Services infrastructure and operational sites to improve the working environment and impact on the service's carbon footprint.
- Investment in business systems to improve service performance and customer experience.

## 8 CENTRAL HUB

### Supporting a Better Brighton & Hove for All

- 8.1 The majority of the council's Support Service Functions (except IT&D) are headed up by the three corporate roles of the Director of People & Innovation and two statutory directors, the Director of Governance & Law (and Monitoring Officer) and Director of Property & Finance (and S151 Chief Financial Officer). However, some support services are managed in a partnership with East Sussex and Surrey Council Councils including Internal Audit & Counter Fraud and Procurement. A number of front-line services are also managed within these directorships including Electoral Services, Local Land Charges, Welfare Support, Housing Benefit administration, and local tax collection and administration.
- 8.2 The aim of all support service functions is to provide trusted, efficient and expert support to the council to enable it to be *a responsive and well-run council*. This includes providing good quality customer services both internally and externally, and providing the strategic planning, operational support, and management information and insight to drive innovation and change in support of delivering planned transformation and savings programmes. Another key role is to ensure that the council maintains strong governance and internal controls to manage public resources effectively and to take safe, legally compliant decisions and actions.
- 8.3 Central Hub therefore operate as a 'Strategic Business Partner' to the organisation and its service directorates and support them through complex changes by being involved in the development of options and their evaluation, through to decision-making and supporting implementation.

### About the Services

- 8.4 The primary services provided by Central Hub include:

## Cabinet Office

- Plays a key role in developing, guiding and internally promoting key strategies and acts as a liaison between the Administration and officers to drive policy development and develop strategic partnerships across the city.
- Leading the Council's application for local government reorganisation under the government's devolution priority programme, and liaising with external stakeholders within and outside the public sector.

## Property & Finance (including WRBS, procurement, internal audit & counter fraud)

- Provides strategic planning and management of the council's commercial, agricultural, heritage and operational property portfolio.
- Finance, including the statutory Section 151 Chief Financial Officer role, overseeing the delivery of the council's annual and medium term financial planning processes, ensuring sound financial management across the Council, as well as a wide range of financial advisory and statutory services.
- Internal Audit & Counter Fraud provides wide ranging reviews of services and systems to ensure effective internal controls and governance are in place and that fraud risks are minimised.
- The procurement service supports the development of procurement strategy and policies including sustainability, Environmental, Social & Governance strategy, social value and modern slavery. It also supports procurement of goods and services to the value of approximately £300m per annum and manages and authorises waivers of Contract Standing Orders.
- Welfare, Revenues and Business Support (WRBS) which includes:
  - Provision of strategic support and policy development for responding to welfare reforms, as well as direct delivery of local welfare support, assistance and advice.
  - Collection and recovery of Council Tax (and Council Tax Reduction Scheme), Business Rates, Sundry and Corporate Debts.
  - Processing of Housing Benefit claims and managing the transfer to Universal Credit.
  - Provision of Payroll Services to the council, schools and other contracted organisations and processing of payments to the council's suppliers and providers (Accounts Payable).
  - Provision of banking, purchasing card and urgent payment services.
  - Support for the development and management of major corporate financial, HR and Payroll systems.

## People & Innovation including Communications & Public Relations

- Human Resources sets our workforce policies and strategies, recruitment and employee relations, so we can recruit, retain and support the talent we need to deliver high quality services now and into the future.
- Health, Safety, Wellbeing, Facilities and Building Services provides operational and strategic support to the council under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act, including policy development and monitoring, governance and assurance and complete management of our corporate landlord portfolio of properties including reactive repairs and maintenance so we provide a safe working environment to deliver public services.
- The Strategic Communications and Engagement service provides two-way public and internal communications and engagement that share information about the

council's decisions, policies, priorities and services and ensures residents' voices are heard and reflected in the council's work, alongside managing content on our website, upholding the integrity of our brand, and meeting our statutory warning and informing duties to support community and organisational resilience.

- The Innovation service drives transformation and improvement initiatives across the organisation including enabling delivery of financial strategy. It seamlessly integrates Corporate Programme Management Office, Business Improvement, Corporate Performance and Risk Management, Customer Experience (including complaints handling) and Information Rights functions, ensuring a synergistic approach to driving change, efficiencies and corporate governance oversight.
- Learning, Inclusion and Organisational Development works to operationalise our Learning Framework throughout our organisational culture so we can be a more connected, confident, creative and innovative, diverse and inclusive and healthy and psychologically safe organisation to deliver our best for the city. We support the organisation's development through work on skills and capability, training, leadership and workforce development, apprenticeships and strategic Equality, Diversity and Inclusion programmes.

### Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services

- 8.5 Legal and Democratic Services ensure Members, officers and the public can rely on strong democratic governance and lawful exercise of Council functions. The Teams deliver solution-focused legal advice and support ethical and transparent decision-making, keeping our committee system moving smoothly, supporting effective scrutiny, and providing the foundations for accessible, inclusive civic participation across the city.
- 8.6 Alongside this, the service delivers high-impact operational functions that touch residents at key moments in their lives. Electoral Services run safe, secure and well-organised elections; Registration Services support births, deaths and memorable ceremonies; Local Land Charges enable property transactions with accuracy and pace; and the Coroners and Mortuary teams investigate sudden or unexplained deaths and provide dignified, secure mortuary and post-mortem facilities with professionalism, independence and care.
- 8.7 Together, these teams provide services that are legally robust, customer-focused and essential to the effective delivery of Council functions.
- 8.8 Many of the services above are also involved in providing a wide range of traded or contracted services to schools, South Downs National Park Authority, East Sussex Fire & Rescue, district councils and others which generates incomes.

### Supporting the Council's Priorities

- 8.9 Central Hub play a key role in facilitating other services to deliver against the Council Plan priorities, including the key aim of being a responsive council with well-run services at both a strategic and operational level. Helping the council to develop robust financial strategies, workforce plans, digital customer strategies, conduct effective communication, engagement and partnership working, develop robust and innovative policies, and respond effectively to welfare reforms is critical to maintaining sustainable, financially resilient and accessible council services.
- 8.10 A key determinant of the demands placed on Central Hub is therefore the level of change experienced across the organisation. This has been and remains at very high levels due to the cumulative effect of the growing financial challenges requiring ever greater innovation in everything from digital services to corporate debt management to financing strategies that help resources and services go further. This creates a tension between the need to provide cost effective support functions while ensuring that the

council and its services have the support to make sound business judgements and decisions that minimise legal, financial, employment, equality, health & safety, governance, internal control and other risks.

- 8.11 Central Hub underpin the authority's governance framework, ensuring safe and legally compliant decision-making, as well as maintaining reviewing and improving the council's internal control environment. Advisory and Business Partnering services within Finance, HR, IT&D and Procurement help the organisation to maximise its use of resources, fully evaluate options, avoid costly fines, mistakes or non-compliance occurrences, and thereby deliver cashable and non-cashable savings or cost-avoidance. Similarly, Programme Management and other resources ensure effective oversight and delivery of major improvement and innovation programmes funded by the Transformation Fund or Capital Investment.
- 8.12 These services are integral to front line delivery and work best when operating as a trusted Strategic Business Partner as part of both corporate and directorate leadership teams' roles in developing strategic responses and solutions for delivery. They also ensure collaborative 'one council' working across the council by being able to share or link information to ensure a holistic approach to policy or service development. Over the medium term Central Hub aim to support council priorities through:

#### A city to be proud of

- Supporting the development of underpinning policies, plans and strategies, such as Devolution, Economic Strategy, and Poverty Reduction.
- Providing a key place-shaping role through effective communication campaigns and channels including priority areas such as waste minimisation, promoting sustainability, publicising and consulting on regeneration and major developments, promoting cultural events and city travel.
- Providing support and oversight for the development of capital investment strategies and the use of capital receipt flexibilities to improve council services and invest in core infrastructure for the city.

#### A fair and inclusive city

- Continuing to develop a new approach to community engagement, including our approach to digital engagement and consultation – enabling a more agile approach to listening and responding.
- Reinvigorating collaborative working across the city to support co-operation across city partnerships and drive positive change.
- Supporting the Poverty Reduction Steering Group to develop a more sustainable, preventative, and holistic welfare response.
- Oversight of the council's Fair and Inclusive Action Plan (FIAP) which supports the organisation to become reflective of the community, and to improve the experience and diversity of all staff, including embedding the council's Anti-Racism Strategy and approach in all council policies.
- Embed policies and practice concerning Social Value, Community Wealth Building, Sustainability and Modern Slavery across all contracts.

#### A healthy city that helps people to thrive

- Supporting the development of the Employment and Skills Plan.
- Providing key financial advice and support to enable School Organisation changes including implications for the DSG, General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and/or Capital Resources.
- Ensuring effective legal support and advice to support safeguarding and child protection including through decisions of the court.

- Providing communications plans which are an essential part of promoting health and wellbeing in the city and enabling behavioural change.

### A responsive and learning council with well-run services

- Proactively listening and responding to resident concerns through increased use of digital channels of communication and engagement to ensure the council becomes a learning organisation able to continually improve services.
- Driving improvement and innovation by martialling project and programme management resources to support transformation and savings programmes.
- Enable the successful delivery of digital improvement projects and programmes through the co-design and co-delivery of underpinning technologies, platforms and services with IT&D to support services in delivering corporate priorities.
- Implementing the Corporate Systems Improvement (CSI) programme to modernise corporate HR, Finance, Payroll and Procurement systems to improve the integration of data, increase automation and efficiency including through the use of emerging AI technologies, and improve customer service.
- Developing a people strategy designed to ensure we are a learning organisation that has an engaged and motivated workforce who are able to deliver their best to the city and enable all priorities to be supported.
- Supporting the organisation to ensure it fulfils its legal and moral health & safety responsibilities to provide a safe working environment where staff are supported to be happy and well.
- Through procurement, ensuring that the city council's spending power is used to secure good value for money and, as far as possible with contract regulations and market conditions, to procure local services, and improve sustainability and social value.

### Medium Term Budget Strategy

8.13 The MTFS delivery strategy for the Central Hub will be delivered under the following key heading:

8.14 Strengthened, Commercially Minded Asset Management

- Central Hub will adopt a more commercially minded approach to managing the council's assets.
- Disposal of selected assets will generate essential capital receipts to support the MTFS.
- Operational buildings will be used more efficiently through targeted rationalisation.
- Planned investment will be prioritised to ensure resources deliver maximum value.
- The wider estate will be managed strategically, with a stronger focus on financial performance.

8.15 Transformation of Service Delivery

- All contractual arrangements will undergo systematic review to ensure value for money and alignment with council priorities.
- Improvements to corporate systems will streamline workflows and unlock new income opportunities.
- These changes will enhance responsiveness, efficiency, and financial resilience across services.

8.16 Adoption of New Delivery Models

- Central Hub will maximise the use of existing digital platforms to reduce manual effort and improve productivity.
- Services will expand income and commercial opportunities through new models, partnerships, and innovative approaches.
- Operating models will be refreshed to ensure services remain efficient and fit for purpose.

#### 8.17 Refocus Resources on Core Priorities

- Funding and activity across services will be reassessed to ensure alignment with strategic priorities.
- Resources will be redirected to critical outcomes, with services stepping back from lower priority activities where necessary.
- This reshaping of effort will support long term MTFS sustainability and improve organisational support.

### Investment in Services

Investment in Central Hub will be through a mix of revenue, capital and Innovation Fund resources as follows:

- Investing in additional resources to restructure and build resilience in the Emergency Planning Function;
- Investing in the core finance and payroll systems, including the Corporate Systems Improvement Programme;
- Investment in the Commercial Property Portfolio:
  - Stabilising the income received from commercial properties;
  - Transformation programme investment which will review and dispose of surplus or underperforming assets;
  - Capital investment through the Commercial Asset Investment Fund to ensure retained assets are properly maintained to optimise income;
- There will be Innovation Fund investment in project and programme management support, the Workspace Innovation Programme, and additional HR and Leadership Development and Finance support to drive innovation and change.
- Transformation Programmes managed by the directorate that aim to:
  - Drive organisational change through digital innovation, functional alignment and review of delivery models;
  - Achieve economies through improved procurement and contract management;
  - Reduce Corporate Landlord (estates & facilities) costs over the medium term, and dispose of surplus assets.

## 9 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2026/27 TO 2029/30

### MTFS Financial Planning Principles

- 9.1 Local authorities have operated with single year settlements for a number of years, which has hampered the ability to set Medium Term Financial Strategies with the uncertainty of changes in funding beyond the coming financial year. The 2026/27 budget is being set in the context of a three year settlement, which provides certainty over the level of resources and therefore enables more sound planning over the medium term.

9.2 The council’s Medium Term Financial Strategy will need to recognise that investment in transformation and change will be critical to achieve longer term financial sustainability. The broad principles adopted in development of the MTFS include:

- A focus on ensuring that capital and revenue resources and investment support Council Plan priorities;
- Development of associated Service Strategies to link revenue, capital and transformation plans and programmes across the council;
- Realistic, evidenced-based funding and inflationary assumptions using government OBR forecasts where local evidence is not available;
- A balanced MTFS and balanced annual revenue budgets with only planned drawdowns of reserves and balances;
- A fully funded 5-Year Capital Investment Programme including provision of a corporate Innovation Fund held centrally;
- Regular reviews of reserves and the Working Balance to ensure appropriate coverage for emerging risks and provision of appropriate risk reserves and balances;
- Budget envelopes (‘blocks’) set for each Directorate to ensure delivery of services within available resources;
- An assessment of cost and demand pressures that are identified and agreed as part of the MTFS to ensure scrutiny, ownership and accountability;
- Robust savings, efficiency and mitigation plans which are owned, tracked, and monitored;
- Identification and assessment of budget risks to ensure an effective risk management and mitigation strategy;
- Reviews of fees & charges to ensure all charges consider commercialisation and current rates of inflation.

### MTFS Resource Assumptions

9.3 In the context of the provisional settlement and national economic forecasts, this section sets out the key resource assumptions to be adopted over the 4-year planning period.

#### Council Tax increases and Tax base Changes

9.4 Current Council Tax referendum principles were announced by the government as being maintained over the multi-year settlement period until 2028/29. The MTFS assumes that the referendum principles will continue into 2029/30. This allows for a 2.99% annual increase to Council Tax and a 2.00% Adult Social Care precept.

9.5 Tax base growth estimates are based partly on historic trends and partly on known and expected housing developments over the next few years. Note that no changes to the Working Age Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) are assumed for the period.

Council Tax Assumptions	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Council Tax Increase	2.99%	2.99%	2.99%	2.99%
Adult Social Care Precept	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%
Tax base increase (growth)	1.21%	0.86%	0.86%	0.86%
Council Tax Collection Rate	98.75%	98.75%	98.75%	98.75%

9.6 Potential risks and issues include:

- Changes in Second Homes and increased empty homes premiums;

- Reduction in Council Tax collection rates leading to increased bad debt provisions;
- Delays in developments creating overstatement of Council Tax taxbase;
- Council Tax Reduction caseload numbers (dependent on economic conditions).

### Business Rates Increases and Tax base

9.7 The Business Rates system has been reset for 2026/27 with the accumulation of growth in the system so far redistributed to local authorities based on the Fair Funding Review assessment of need. The 2026/27 budget includes no inflationary increase or growth assumptions due to the reset. The below table details the growth and inflation assumed over the remaining MTFS.

Business Rate Assumptions	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
BRR CPI Increase (OBR)	n/a*	2.29%	2.02%	1.98%
Tax base increase	n/a	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%

\*note: no Inflationary increase included in 2026/27 due to a full business rates reset in the year.

9.8 Potential risks and issues include:

- Growth or inflation assumptions are overestimated, impacting on future income level;
- The risk that appeals provisions could be understated requiring additional one-off resources;
- Collection performance impacted by economic conditions and prosperity.

### Fees and Charges

9.9 Fees and charges budgets are assumed to increase by the standard corporate inflation rate assumed in the MTFS. The MTFS assumption sets a target uplift that includes a combination of economic growth, ongoing commercialisation and generation of new incomes. However, Penalty Charge Notices (parking fines) are excluded from this increase as the levels of fines are set by government and cannot be changed independently. Similarly, Temporary accommodation income is assumed to increase by a lower amount (2.00%) to average out historic changes to Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rates.

Fees & Charges Assumptions	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
General increases	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Parking Penalty Charge Notices	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Temporary Accommodation	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%

### Government grants

#### Revenue Support Grant (RSG)

9.10 As described in the Budget Report, several funding streams have been rolled into RSG within the Fair Funding Review (FFR) from 1 April 2026. In addition, there are four consolidated funding streams (Public Health Grant, The Crisis & Resilience Fund, Homelessness, Rough Sleeping & Domestic Abuse Grant, and the Children, Families & Youth Grant).

9.11 The below table shows the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement (LGFS) allocations over the three year settlement period, and the equivalent total for 2025/26.

9.12 The multi-year settlement to 2028/29 transitions local authorities to their new funding allocations by the end of the three year period through changes in the RSG. The reductions in 2027/28 and 2028/29 reflect the second and third year transition over to the council's new funding allocation.

<b>Government Grants</b>	<b>2025/26 £m</b>	<b>2026/27 £m</b>	<b>2027/28 £m</b>	<b>2028/29 £m</b>	<b>2029/30 £m</b>
RSG (2025/26 adjusted for rolled in grants)	76.774	75.522	66.480	57.591	57.591
The Better Care Fund	11.669	11.669	11.669	11.669	11.669
Public Health Grant	29.375	29.751	30.006	30.288	30.288
Crisis & Resilience Fund	4.503	3.982	3.980	3.841	3.841
Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse Grant	10.726	9.353	8.924	8.068	8.068
Children, Families and Youth Grant	2.687	3.827	3.794	3.364	3.364

The above table includes the following assumptions:

- All grants received in 2029/30 will be the same value as in 2028/29 on the basis that the Council will fully transitioned to its revised FFR allocation;
- The Better Care Fund is presented within RSG in the Governments presentation from 2027/28 onwards temporarily due to upcoming reform. This has been presented as a separate line for the purposes of comparison.

### *Other Grants*

9.13 There are other grants received across a whole range of services such as the Housing Benefit Subsidy, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) grant, PFI Credits, Bus Service Improvement Grant, Asylum grant, and a number of grants to support schools & education such as Dedicated Schools Grant, School Meals and Pupil Premium. These are provided by government outside of the LGFS, and are budgeted for individually depending on the relevant government announcements of those grants.

### *Corporate Inflation Provisions & Assumptions*

#### *Pay*

9.14 The pay award for 2025/26 for all NJC salaries and JNC Chief Officers was 3.2% for all grades. However, the 2025/26 budget included 2.75% and creates a pressure of £0.827m when rolled forward into 2026/27.

9.15 The current pay award assumption for 2026/27 is 2.75% on the basis that inflation has reduced during 2025/26 as predicted by the OBR and is expected to remain lower during 2026/27. Pay has been a significant financial risk over the past 3 years during a period of very high inflation. The pay award assumption is higher than predicted CPI and therefore could mitigate this risk. Each 1% increase equates to approximately £1.650m of additional cost to the General Fund budget. This is also a significant risk area for the separate Schools and Housing Revenue Account budgets.

### *Local Government Pensions*

9.16 The East Sussex Pension Scheme has just undertaken a triennial review covering the period 2026/27 to 2028/29. The East Sussex Pension Fund, in common with many funds across the country, is currently performing well in terms of investment performance, which has resulted in a reduced employer contribution rate of 14.90% (down from 19.80%).

## Prices

- 9.17 The provision for general price inflation ranges between 1.00% and 3.50% as a base position depending on the type of expenditure. The largest type of expenditure is Third Party Payments which covers the majority of non-staffing expenditure within adults and children's social care which has an assumed base position increase of 2.5% across the MTFs. The impact of inflation above these assumed base rates is separately identified as a 'Service Pressure' rather than applying generic increases to all service areas.

Inflation Provision	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Employee costs	2.75%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%
Premises costs	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%
Transport	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%
Supplies and Services	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%
Third Party Payments	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%
Transfer Payments	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%
Waste PFI	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%

## Commitments

- 9.18 Budget Commitments capture unavoidable contractual costs or other known changes in expenditure, resources or income arising from previous decisions made by the council including the capital financing costs arising from previous and proposed Capital Investment Programme approvals. Other commitments can arise from legislative changes, function and funding changes, or changes above the expected or budgeted costs such as national pay awards. Known commitments over the next 4 years are shown below.

Commitments	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Change in capital programme financing costs	0.913	1.618	0.620	(0.172)
Financing costs associated with EFS	0.000	1.250	0.000	0.000
Reversal of one-off New Homes Bonus received in 2025/26	1.014	0.000	0.000	0.000
Reversal of 2025/26 one off risk provision	(1.747)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Reduction in Employer Pension Contributions	(6.832)	0.000	0.000	0.000
One of Risk Provision for 2026/27	1.125	(1.125)	0.000	0.000
Cost of 2025/26 pay award above the budgeted assumption	0.827	0.000	0.000	0.000
Loss of Homelessness Funding	1.373	0.428	0.857	0.000
Impacts of previously approved decisions	(0.137)	0.817	(0.174)	0.298
Reduction in Flexible Use of Capital Receipts	0.000	0.000	1.000	1.000
Reduction in Crisis & Resilience Fund to support General Fund Expenditure	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.300
Change in contributions to/from reserves (total)	(0.608)	0.730	0.000	0.000
<b>Total Commitments</b>	<b>(3.872)</b>	<b>3.718</b>	<b>2.303</b>	<b>1.426</b>

- 9.19 Impacts of previously approved decisions covers a wide range of financial implications including reversals of decisions to use one-off resources to support previous budgets, changes in insurance premia, planned repayments of specific reserves and so on.

## Investment to Support Service Strategies and Council Plan Priorities

- 9.20 Medium term financial planning requires an assessment of the investment requirements to support Council Plan priorities including an assessment of the financial pressures ('Service Pressures') facing priority services in terms of increases in costs and demographic growth in demands. This applies particularly to 'demand-led' statutory services for vulnerable adults, families and children such as adult and children's social care and homelessness support.
- 9.21 Over the last decade or more, there has been significant growth in demand for services with increasing prevalence of mental health issues in children and adults, growing numbers of children with Education Health & Care Plans, a growing demand for homelessness and temporary accommodation services due to housing supply issues and the cost of renting, and increased complexity of care across adult social care as people live longer with complex and limiting health conditions.
- 9.22 When combined with reductions in grant funding by previous governments and previous restrictions on the allowable level of council tax increases, these demand-led cost pressures have been the main driver of the substantial 'budget gaps' that the council has been experiencing for over a decade. Alongside efficiencies and economies, this has required substantial service savings and income generation programmes to achieve balanced budgets. Current estimates are based on recent trends, forecast demographic changes, and projections around market sufficiency and pricing for externally commissioned services and contracts. High level projections over the MTF period are currently as shown below:

<b>Council Plan Priority Investments</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29</b>	<b>2029/30</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>A city to be proud of:</b>				
City Operations Services	2.580	0.351	0.185	0.139
Closure of New England House	1.200			
<b>A healthy city which helps people to thrive:</b>				
Housing - Emergency & Temporary Accommodation	11.106	1.100	1.762	1.650
Loss of Housing Benefit Subsidy	2.400			
Other investments and pressures	0.365			
<b>A fair and inclusive city:</b>				
Adult Social Care Services	1.809	12.644	13.480	14.320
Children's Social Care Services	3.232	1.620	1.771	1.396
Other Children & Family Services	0.068	0.300		
Home to School Transportation	1.285	0.670	0.738	0.809
Educational Services and Support	0.606	0.434	0.126	
Increased SEN investment	0.239	0.050	0.050	
<b>A responsive and learning council with well-run services:</b>				
	3.208	1.456	1.050	1.347
<b>TOTAL COUNCIL PLAN INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>28.098</b>	<b>18.625</b>	<b>19.162</b>	<b>19.661</b>

- 9.23 Together with provision for inflation, including nationally negotiated pay awards, the above investment requirements are not expected to be fully matched by available resources which include:
- Council Tax increases, precepts or taxbase growth
  - Business Rate Retention increases or taxbase growth
  - Increases in Fees & Charges or new income generation
  - Increased Government Grant Funding

This means that there are anticipated to be substantial budget shortfalls in future years, continuing the trend over the last decade or more. This requires identification of savings and transformation programmes that can help the council to provide services more efficiently and at lower cost but may also require some difficult choices regarding the services the council is able to offer in future, particularly where these are not a statutory requirement.

### Projected Budget Shortfalls (Summary MTFs Projections)

- 9.24 Bringing together all of the resource assumptions, inflation assumptions and Council Plan Investments set out in this section enables an overall projection of the council's budget position to be estimated for each of the next 4 years. This includes commitments arising from previous decisions including the financing of approved capital investment programmes.

Summary Projections and Budget Gaps	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Commitments (incl. from previous decisions)	(3.872)	3.718	2.303	1.426
Net Inflation (on Pay, Prices, Income, Pensions)	9.668	9.389	9.817	10.103
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>5.796</b>	<b>13.107</b>	<b>12.120</b>	<b>11.529</b>
Net Investment in Priority Services	28.098	18.625	19.162	19.661
Reversal of Collection Fund net deficit funding	0.000	1.768	0.000	0.000
Projected net resourcing changes	(8.672)	(7.591)	(5.266)	(14.893)
<b>Savings Requirements (Budget Gaps)</b>	<b>25.222</b>	<b>25.909</b>	<b>26.016</b>	<b>16.297</b>
Exceptional Financial Support	(4.473)	4.473	0.000	0.000
<b>Revised Savings Requirements (Budget Gaps)</b>	<b>20.749</b>	<b>30.382</b>	<b>26.016</b>	<b>16.297</b>

- 9.25 The projected budget shortfalls above indicate the savings and efficiencies required over the next 4 years in order to legally balance the budget. The total projected savings requirement over the next 4 years is £93.444m.

### Transformation and Savings Programmes

- 9.26 To address the projected budget savings requirement identified in the MTFs projections above, and to ensure that the reliance on EFS is on a one off basis, the council has identified savings plans across the MTFs from efficiencies and economies, or from reductions in services, or alternative delivery of the services provided. To ensure that statutory duties can be met and to be able to continue to provide local services that residents and visitors rely on, the council will look to challenge all costs, consider potential sources of income, and review the affordability of services and capital investments.
- 9.27 The Council has received feedback from both the external auditors and the Corporate Peer Challenge (LGA Peer Review) highlighting that the MTFs requires a deliverable plan to enable the Council to transition to a financially sustainable position. As a result, a significant amount of work has already taken place during 2025/26 to establish programmes to address the budget shortfalls across the MTFs. A new Savings and Innovation Delivery Board has been established during the year to be a cross-council officer board to work collaboratively to drive through and monitor the programmes and the delivery of savings arising from the programmes.
- 9.28 The transformation and savings programmes currently identified over the next 4-years are summarised below but further business cases for invest-to-save initiatives are being developed and can come forward at any time. The proposals for 2026/27 are provided in more detail in the annual budget report to Cabinet and Budget Council,

specifically within the Detailed Savings appendix (Appendix 2) as these must be specifically approved as part of the annual budget proposals and the setting of the Council Tax. For future years, programmes and estimated savings are likely to change and evolve. However, given that certainty over funding has been provided with the multi-year settlement, it's imperative that the programmes for delivering the savings in future years are planned and executed in a timely way to ensure a medium-term delivery approach is taken.

<b>Transformation &amp; Savings Programmes</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29</b>	<b>2029/30</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>Changing delivery models for services:</b>				
Adult Social Care Service Delivery model	0.700	1.100		
Environmental Services Delivery Model	0.375	0.275		
Grounds maintenance Delivery model			0.100	0.100
Review of Traded services delivery models		0.040	0.068	
<b>Procurement and Commissioning economies:</b>				
<i>Transformation Programme:</i> Procurement, Commissioning & Contract Management		2.000	1.000	1.000
Procurement & contract management efficiencies	0.204	0.317	0.450	0.650
<b>Demand management and Prevention Programmes:</b>				
<i>Transformation Programme:</i> Adult Social Care	9.392	5.650	4.900	1.850
<i>Transformation Programme:</i> Homes & Homelessness	4.843	1.764	2.104	1.576
<i>Transformation Programme:</i> Children's Services	1.021	1.818	1.673	1.226
Strategy to address Housing Benefit Subsidy shortfall		2.000	1.000	
<b>Income &amp; Commercialisation Initiatives:</b>				
<i>Transformation Programme:</i> Income & Commercialisation	1.265	0.990	1.560	1.860
Transport & Parking Initiatives	2.500	1.475	1.350	0.600
Other Income & Commercialisation Initiatives	0.231	0.875	0.225	
<b>Efficiency, Automation &amp; Digital Programmes:</b>				
<i>Transformation Programme:</i> Digital Innovation & Technology*				
Corporate Systems Improvement Programme		0.100	0.100	0.100
Other Digital & Innovation Initiatives	0.030	0.005	0.050	
Efficiencies in delivering services	1.015	0.189	0.018	0.018
Service Redesigns and Functional Alignments	1.137	0.558	0.297	0.144
<b>Cessation or reduction of non-statutory services:</b>				
Reduction or reprovision of non-statutory services	0.796	2.500	2.500	1.000
<b>Alternative Funding of Services:</b>				
Reprioritising Public Health Investment	0.648	0.500		
Flexible Use of Capital Receipts	2.000			
Other new funding sources or repurposing	0.535	1.298	1.171	0.123
<b>Corporate/Cross-Cutting Programmes:</b>				
<i>Transformation Programme:</i> Asset Strategy	0.475	0.288	0.600	0.700
<i>Transformation Programme:</i> Organisational Change*	1.125	5.000	5.000	5.000
Other Asset Management Strategy	0.300			
Corporate Landlord and Net Zero Programme	0.320	0.140	0.100	0.100
Capital Programme Reviews; Future years		1.500	1.500	
Review of Council Tax Base assumptions			0.250	0.250
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>28.912</b>	<b>30.382</b>	<b>26.016</b>	<b>16.297</b>

Less: Proposals that reduce service pressures already accounted for	(8.163)			
<b>Total Transformation and savings plans</b>	<b>20.749</b>	<b>30.382</b>	<b>26.016</b>	<b>16.297</b>

*\*the Transformation Programmes for Digital Innovation and Organisational Change are intrinsically linked; the Digital Innovation a key enabler to effect the organisational change required. Therefore, the expected savings are shown as a single line and described further below.*

## Planned Programmes of Work

9.29 The above table includes high level estimates of savings from future transformation, efficiency or income generation programmes together with planned reductions in non-statutory or discretionary services. Some estimates are based on more detailed business cases, while others require more information but are based on prudential assumptions using best practice case studies and research, industry standard assumptions, or reasonable estimates and projections. A brief commentary regarding each specific Transformation Programme is described below.

## Strategic Transformation Portfolio

9.30 The council has agreed a Strategic Transformation & Innovation portfolio of programmes and projects to support delivery of the Council Plan and drive savings and cost reduction in the MTFs. Through the portfolio, we will reimagine what we do and how we do it – building a Learning Organisation that is agile, inclusive and future-ready. By 2030, we will deliver smarter services, co-create change and embed innovation as a way of working. The portfolio will strength financial resilience through bold savings and strategic investments, achieving our vision of a better Brighton & Hove for all.

9.31 The programmes are categorised to deliver within the following themes:

- **Key Demand Led Pressures** programmes will work to address the most critical pressures in the council, primarily in Homelessness and Temporary Accommodation, Adult Social Care and Children’s Services.
- **Financial Lever** programmes will assist in underpinning the Council’s financial sustainability through commercialisation, asset management and procurement commissioning and contract management activity.
- **Strategic Enablers** will ensure the organisation is geared up to deliver transformation over the medium term.

9.32 The delivery of the programmes will be kept under review by the officer-led Savings & Innovation Delivery Board and CLT to ensure the programmes keep track on delivering the outcomes required.

### Key Demand Led Pressures

#### Adult Social Care Demand

9.33 This strategic programme covers the key areas of improvement in Adult Social Care (ASC) for Brighton & Hove. When compared to statistical neighbours, the council is an outlier in the number of residential placements (particularly for working age), completed annual reviews and reablement offer. The prevention offer at the entry point to ASC services, in line with national best practice, is another area of focus. Key areas

of improvement were also reflected in the recent regulatory outcome by Care Quality Commission (CQC).

The strategic programme comprises the following workstreams:

- Market management: Reducing permanent residential and nursing care admissions and taking a more targeted approach in responding to provider fee uplift requests
- Targeted reviews of the care needs of service users to ensure care needs are met and appropriate;
- Increased Community Reablement to promote independence;
- Improved prevention offer at the ASC front door.

### *Homes and Homelessness*

9.34 The programme will deliver on one of the most challenging areas for Brighton & Hove with deepening homelessness crisis and managing increasing demand for Temporary Accommodation (TA). Brighton & Hove's use of TA is increasing, with increased reliance on spot purchased accommodation. The financial cost is coupled with challenging outcomes for individuals who have much higher needs year on year. The trajectory is unsustainable and the council is now considering bold, strategic action to address the issue.

The strategic programme comprises the following workstreams:

- Increasing the supply of more affordable TA to reduce the use of spot purchased accommodation.
- Reducing the unit cost of existing TA.
- Improving effectiveness in prevention of homelessness.
- Accelerating move on from TA.

### *Children's Services*

9.35 This programme covers the key areas of improvement and transformation in Children's Services for Brighton & Hove. When compared to statistical neighbours, the council has a lower number of children in residential care but also significantly fewer homes in the south compared to north. Children are at risk of residential care due to a combination of complex need and sufficiency issues. The council is keen to bring

down spend on placements at the same time as keeping children local, improving placement quality and keeping children in families.

The strategic programme comprises the following workstreams:

- Development of new accommodation for separated children;
- Reunification of children to their families;
- Expanding the Mockingbird and Fostering Plus Programmes and innovating to enable children with more complex needs to remain local in foster families and increase fostering households within the city;
- Improved prevention offer through investing in Families First transformation;
- Investment in Early Help to reduce the number of children needing social work intervention and entering care;
- Reviewing the Home to School transport model.

## Financial Levers

### *Asset Management Strategy*

- 9.36 The strategic programme aims to have a coherent and data driven Asset Strategy. This will allow the council to maximise capital receipts, reduce liabilities and risk, and retain income generating and strategic property. The focus of the programme is to
- Produce capital receipts of at least £50 million over four years;
  - Identify and produce more capital receipts for subsequent years;
  - Rationalise operational buildings;
  - Increase the number of active transactions in each stage of the pipeline;
  - Generate efficiency gains and enable better strategic decisions through better data management;
  - Reduce the cost of running operational buildings through disposals.

### *Procurement, Commissioning and Contract Management*

- 9.37 The strategic programme will:
- Identify indicative savings and deliver savings strategies.
  - Increase the use of spend analysis to inform strategic decisions and identify savings.
  - Consolidate contracts and reduce duplication.
  - Improve social value and contract outcomes.
  - Create a centralised, comprehensive contract register with reporting solution.
  - Produce training, templates, and guidance with clear, published roles and responsibilities for procurement, commissioning and contract management.
  - Enhance collaboration between Procurement, Legal, Finance and service teams.
- 9.38 A piece of work was commissioned to undertake a short, urgent review of all aspects potentially within the scope of the strategic programme, the outcome of which will be used to define the parameters of the programme, and provide prioritisation of the programme to first target the areas of spend which will deliver the greatest results.

### *Income & Commercialisation*

- 9.39 The strategic programme aims to embed a business mindset and commercial strategy across services, exploiting market opportunities and harnessing the city's unique

identity and environment to deliver new income streams. It will deliver the following outcomes:

- Increased net positive income for the council;
- Sustainable commercial culture and capability;
- Clear governance and risk management for all commercial activities

A phased approach will be taken:

- Phase 1: Focus on quick wins within City Operations and expanding current services within available capacity.
- Phase 2: Incubate and refine commercial models, then scale to other directorates and more complex areas.

Phase 1 is already in progress, with a number of workstreams identified for exploration and implementation within 2026/27.

## Strategic Enablers

### *Organisational Change*

9.40 The strategic programmes aims for the Council to be a more connected, confident, innovative, inclusive, and resilient organisation so we can be a sustainable council, ready for the future. Through this we will:

- Build a learning culture that is connected, confident, innovative and creative, diverse and inclusive, healthy and psychologically safe;
- Deliver financial savings and service improvements;
- Create the workforce required to deliver a better Brighton and Hove for all;

9.41 Delivery will be achieved through:

- Organisational design, seeking efficiencies by exploring functional alignment workstreams (i.e. bringing together similar activities to reduce duplication across the organisation) and using Digital Innovation to enable the exploration of different ways of working;
- Review of Delivery Models across council services to ensure the most efficient and appropriate delivery model is in place for each service;
- Operationalising our Learning Framework and developing our capability as an organisation
- Improvements in staff wellbeing and reducing sickness absence.

## Digital Innovation

9.42 This strategic programme aims to deliver a refreshed digital and technology strategy, focusing on innovation, operational efficiency, and economic engagement.

This programme includes:

- Managing the disaggregation of Orbis IT&D
- Refreshing the IT&D strategy
- Improving technology and processes to increase efficiency and reduce costs
- Turbocharging innovation pilots to identify and realise savings
- Delivering for the local tech economy

## Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation

9.43 The Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) strategic programmes prepare the council and its partners for two connected but distinct areas of reform to local governance.

9.44 The devolution programme focuses on establishing the Sussex and Brighton Combined County Authority and supporting the transfer of strategic powers and funding from central government. This creates an opportunity to strengthen local democracy, unlock investment, improve long term financial resilience, and support economic growth across Sussex

9.45 The LGR programme focuses on the possible restructuring of councils and any related changes to local boundaries. It ensures the council is ready for a safe and lawful transition, protects the city's identity and democratic voice, and supports continuity of services for residents.

9.46 Together, the programmes ensure the council is fully engaged in shaping proposals, coordinating evidence, assessing risks and opportunities, and aligning local activity with the government's priority timelines for delivering both devolution and reorganisation across Sussex.

## Transformation Fund

9.47 The Transformation Fund is a key resource to enable and support transformation across the organisation. The size of the fund was increased in December 2025 to reflect the scale of the transformation required across the organisation in order to balance the authority's budget over the period of the MTFS.

9.48 The Fund will continue to be kept under review as budget plans develop further and spend-to-save opportunities and further investment requirements emerge in more detail over the planning period. At this stage, the indicative requirement for the Transformation Fund for 2026/27 to 2029/30 is shown in the table below. However, this is considered to be a minimum investment level based on the experience of previous 4-year invest-to-save programmes.

4-Year Indicative Transformation Fund (using Capital Receipts Flexibilities)				
Category of Investment	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Transformation & Innovation Strategic Programmes	3.400	1.900	0.600	0.600
Invest-to-Save business cases	0.700	0.100	0.300	0.300
Digital and AI Development Resources	1.550	1.550	1.550	1.550
Managing Staffing Changes (exit packages)	1.250	0.500	0.500	0.500

Enabling Resources (PMO, Workspace, HR, etc)	3.326	3.326	2.326	1.326
<b>Total Transformation Fund</b>	<b>10.226</b>	<b>7.376</b>	<b>5.276</b>	<b>4.276</b>

9.49 The investments are described in summary below:

### Strategic Transformation Programmes

The above section describes in detail the strategic programmes that have been established to address the council's financial challenge over the period of the MTFS. The current estimate of the investment requirement in order to deliver those programmes is a minimum of £6.500m over the MTFS.

### Invest-to-Save Business Cases

The medium-term planning process encourages innovation and invest-to-save business cases aimed at complementing the council's Transformation & Innovation portfolio, supporting the achievement of Council Plan priorities and, importantly, contributing to the future financial sustainability of the council. Business cases will need to demonstrate a return on investment within a reasonable time period (max 5 years) but ideally within the 4-year medium-term financial plan period.

### Digital and AI Development & Skills:

Digital and AI is a specific form of invest-to-save. The council has already invested heavily in staff, systems and technologies to provide improved digital and on-line services. However, this process does not stop and as technologies, including AI and robotics, improve and develop, the council will need to move with the technology and ensure appropriate skills are developed to make the most of any investment. Provision of £1.550 million each year is included but some of this cost could potentially be transferred to revenue in later years if this is affordable within the overall budget envelope.

### Managing Staffing Changes:

Transformation and change inevitably results in significant changes to services which will entail changes to the mix or level of staffing in services. This can lead to potential redundancies which the council attempts to manage through holding vacancies or redeployment as far as possible, but otherwise through voluntary severance where this meets the council's business case criteria. This can involve significant redundancy and/or pension strain costs. At least £2.750 million is expected to be required over the period.

### Transformation Enabling Resources

Ensuring that transformation and change can be delivered requires resources that can be flexibly deployed across different programmes or to ongoing long-term change programmes. As a result of the considerable amount of transformation required, the support has been scaled up compared to previous years.

Innovation Fund provides additional resources of £1.326 million per annum to support a wide variety of transformation and savings programmes and projects alongside £5.000 million across 2026/27 - 2028/29 to fund existing transformation expenditure within services. The additional resources are broadly expected to cover the following:

Transformation Enabling Costs (4-Years)	
Category of Investment	Annual Cost

	£m
Project & Programme Management Resources	0.766
Workspace Innovation Resources (to rationalise operational buildings)	0.180
HR Management of Change and Policy Support	0.128
Contribution to Leadership Development Support	0.052
Finance Support	0.200
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.326</b>

## Reserves & Risk Mitigation Strategy

- 9.50 The council is required to maintain an adequate level of reserves to deal with future forecast or unexpected pressures. Councils are not permitted to allow spend to exceed available resources which would result in an overall deficit and potential Section 114 report to the full Council. Sections 32 and 43 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 require authorities to have regard to the level of reserves to meet estimated future spend when calculating the budget requirement.
- 9.51 Reserves can be held for three main purposes:
- A Working Balance to help cushion the impact of uneven cash flows, unexpected events and avoid unnecessary temporary borrowing;
  - Additional risk provisions to mitigate against specific, identified risks; and
  - A means of building up funds (i.e. earmarked reserves) to meet known or predicted liabilities.
- 9.52 A summary of earmarked reserves and the forecast of reserves and balances can be found in Annex A.
- 9.53 The appropriate level of reserves is a judgement based on a number of factors including the level of risk inherent in the budget planning cycle, the availability of resources and other recourses to support such as the government's offer to local authorities to engage with MHCLG if Emergency Financial Support (EFS) is needed.
- 9.54 An assessment of the risk environment is required in order to determine the suitability of the baseline reserves and balances position. This assessment should include consideration of the robustness of efficiency plans, levels of uncertainty regarding cost estimates (demand / price inflation), consideration of national and local policy changes and wider national economic and political factors.
- 9.55 The MTFs includes the following principles for the management of reserves:
- Reserves should not normally be used as a substitute for permanent efficiencies to meet permanent spending pressures;
  - Reserve levels and contributions should be reviewed at least twice annually at budget and outturn to ensure contributions are equal to planned use over the medium-term;
  - Over the medium-term, the Working Balance should be maintained at the minimum recommended level of £12 - 15 million. Where it falls below this, the MTFs should be updated to show how the Working Balance will be restored;
  - Earmarked Reserves must be approved and should only be held if absolutely necessary and where there is a clear future and/or multi-year commitment or liability;
  - Additional risk provisions should ideally be built up where specific or enhanced risks are identified. This can be provided through either:
    - Setting aside resources from a planned or fortuitous outturn underspend;

- Building in provision for an additional risk provision in the Annual Budget; or
- Building in provision over a longer period through the MTFS.

- 9.56 The authority has a low level of reserves compared to other councils of a similar size. The authority has been forecasting significant overspends since the pandemic, and with the exception of 2022/23 (which saw an overspend of £3.3 million which reduced the Working Balance to around £5.6 million), strong financial management and implementation of mitigations and spending controls has meant that reserves have not reduced further.
- 9.57 The MTFS aims to ensure the Working Balance is restored and that sufficient risk provisions are provided to support the significant savings programmes required to balance the budget and MTFS over the 4-year period.
- 9.58 The council's external auditor has commented on the financial sustainability of the authority and has highlighted this as a significant weakness over the past two years. A strategy to restore the Working Balance and provide sufficient risk provisions will therefore help to address the auditor's improvement recommendations.
- 9.59 It is recommended within the budget report that the working balance is increased to a minimum level of £12 million in the medium term, with the creation of a further General Risk Reserve, which will be undertaken through the setting aside of some of the EFS requested to support the 2026/27 budget.

### One-off Resource Requirements

- 9.60 Additional one-off resources may be needed in 2026/27 or later years for a wide range of reasons which could present additional financial challenges as these would require identification of resources to meet any commitments. One-off resources may need to be identified to cover the following:
- Any Collection Fund deficits (current monitoring indicates a £1.768m net deficit for 2025/26) \*;
  - Any General Fund outturn overspend (i.e. TBM overspend) \*;
  - Any increase to provisions or reserves required to cover increased cost estimates \*;
  - Any unavoidable/unexpected one-off expenditure or commitments;
  - Any one-off allocations for priorities (subject to availability of resources).
- \* *The reverse is also true whereby surpluses or underspends could increase the availability of one-off resources or, at least, reduce the call on one-off resources.*

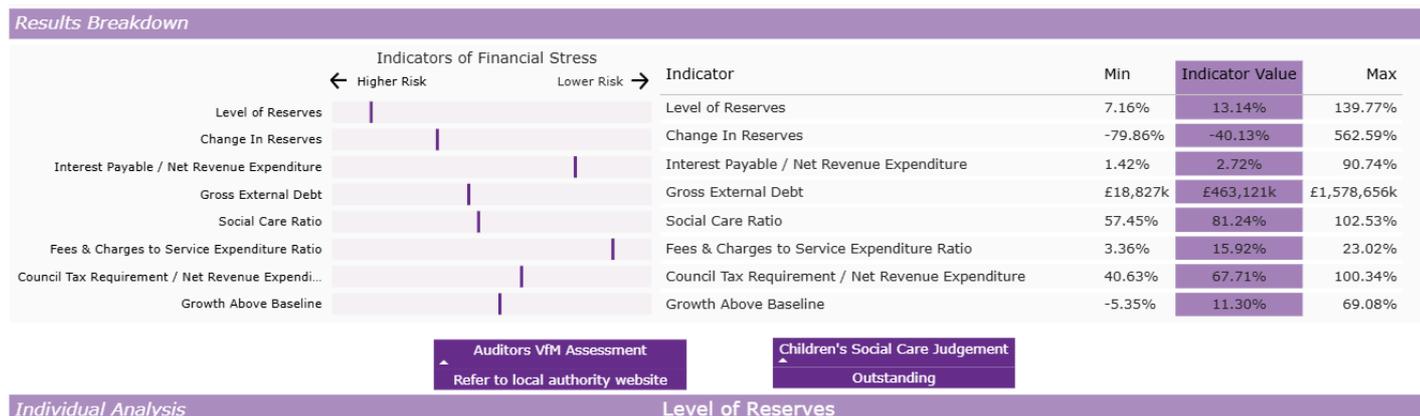
- 9.61 Projected one-off resource requirements for 2026/27 are reported within the main budget report to Cabinet and Budget Council, reflecting latest estimates and projections from in-year TBM budget monitoring and monitoring of Collection Funds together with any additional identified one-off funding requirements or additional available one-off resources.

### CIPFA Resilience Index Update

- 9.62 The CIPFA Resilience Index compares a council's position across a range of measures associated with financial risk, highlighting where additional scrutiny may be required. The data for the latest resilience index is obtained from the Revenue Expenditure and Financing England Outturn Report 2024-25 ('RO Forms') and reflects figures submitted by Local Authorities to MHCLG.
- 9.63 The findings of the Resilience Index 2025 indicate that reserves have fallen nationally and that social care expenditure is still increasing well beyond inflation. This is in line with other evidence from the sector and while it may not be unexpected it is crucial to understand that these two indicators play an important part in the sustainability and

health of the local government sector. A new indicator measuring homelessness spend ratio has been introduced recognising the growing issue of the cost and demand for homelessness in many local authorities.

- 9.64 The snapshot below (please enlarge for improved legibility) compares BHCC with all other unitary authorities for 2024/25. The resilience highlights that the most pressing financial risk for the council is the level of reserves, where the council's position is amongst the lowest of all Unitary Authorities at 13.14% of net revenue budget, as well as the council's change in reserves.
- 9.65 Social care spend as a proportion of the net budget appears to be average while borrowing (Gross External Debt) is also close to the average, recognising that more than 50% of BHCC's debt is related to the HRA (Council Housing Stock).



## 10 CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

10.1 This section provides information on the 5-Year Capital Investment Programme for 2025/26 to 2029/30, however, the detailed governance and approach to capital investment is set out in an annual Capital Strategy, provided with the annual budget report, which is a requirement of CIPFA's Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities and MHCLG's Investment Guidance.

### Capital Strategy

- 10.2 The Capital Strategy must be approved by the full Council and aims to ensure that all members can understand and determine the overall long-term policy objectives for the use and deployment of capital resources including borrowing. The Capital Strategy therefore provides detailed information on capital resource projections, capital financing need, and the approach to non-treasury investments (e.g. commercial property) and the management of risk.
- 10.3 An officer-led, Capital Programme Board (CPB), ensures that the framework for setting the Capital Investment Programme continues to focus on Council Plan priorities, deliverability and affordability, and adheres to the Capital Strategy approved by full Council. The CPB also monitors financial performance and service outcomes.
- 10.4 Officers work closely with Cabinet to shape the development of the Capital Programme on an ongoing basis. Cabinet approve the addition of new schemes through Targeted Budget Management reports or through separate scheme reports, or through the annual budget approval process. Governance structures, processes and procedures of the Capital Programme are continually assessed to strengthen financial management, decision making, and accountability.

- 10.5 The recommended Capital Strategy outlines the process for the prioritisation and evaluation of capital investment projects, as well as the aims that the Capital Strategy sets out to achieve.

### **5-Year Capital Investment Programme**

- 10.6 In summary, the majority of the council's capital investment is within longer-term programmes that support Council Plan priorities. The key programmes and projects, aligned to Council Plan priorities, are as follows:

#### **Homes for Everyone:**

- Housing supply schemes including New Homes for Neighbourhoods and Home Purchase Scheme;
- Investment in new build housing through the Housing Revenue Account and Housing Joint Venture (with Hyde Housing);
- Investment in maintaining and improving the Council Housing Stock and building safety through the Housing Revenue Account;
- The Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) to provide legal and project management resources to support major regeneration programmes that draw in substantial private sector investment.
- Investment in new supply of Temporary Accommodation

#### **A Healthy City where People Thrive:**

- Investment in a new leisure centre at the King Alfred site;
- The Education Capital programme, which provides investment from central government including New Pupil Places, Education Capital Maintenance and Devolved Formula Capital for schools;
- Disabled Facilities Grant funded adaptations to support independence at home.

#### **A City to be Proud of:**

- Renovation and restoration of the Madeira Terraces;
- Valley Gardens Phase III;
- Investment in the Royal Pavilion Estate supported by the Heritage Lottery;
- The Local Transport Plan (LTP) covering a wide range of transport-related schemes;
- Significant investment in coast protection programmes;
- The Carbon Net Zero investment programme.

#### **A Responsive Council with Well-run Services:**

- The Information Technology & Digital Future Fund to maintain and upgrade the council's infrastructure and IT architecture;
- The Asset Management Fund (AMF) to maintain operational buildings, improve sustainability and reduce long term maintenance costs;
- Corporate Planned Maintenance (PMB) to undertake planned building works and upgrades;
- Vehicle and plant annual replacement programmes.

- 10.7 A summary of the 5-Year Capital Investment Programme and the projected capital resources available to fund and finance the programme is set out in Appendix 5.

## Capital Receipts

- 10.8 Capital receipts from the sale of surplus land and buildings are an important capital resource that not only provides funding for the capital investment programme but also supports the Innovation Fund, that fund the council's Strategic Transformation portfolio and Invest-to-save initiatives using the government's capital receipt flexibilities.
- 10.9 Capital receipt projections are regularly reviewed having considered the social value implications of any decision to dispose first.
- 10.10 Capital receipts are becoming an increasingly critical element for balancing the council's budget over the medium term. A major programme of property disposals has been approved by Cabinet and are planned for future years to meet the demand for capital receipts.
- 10.11 Taking into account capital programme approvals already made and projected commitments for funding the above continuing objectives, the current expected requirement for capital receipts (which are periodically updated and reported to Cabinet) over the MTFS period is as shown below.

<b>Capital Receipt Requirements</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29</b>	<b>2029/30</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Capital Programme Commitments</b>					
Capital Programme approvals	(12,129)	(228)	(27,860)	(47)	
<b>Innovation/Transformation Investment</b>					
Managing Staff Changes	(1,250)	(1,250)	(500)	(500)	(500)
Transformation enablers	(1,030)	(3,326)	(3,326)	(2,326)	(1,326)
Digital Resources	(1,948)	(1,550)	(1,550)	(1,550)	(1,550)
Invest to Save/Transformation	(2,200)	(4,100)	(2,000)	(900)	(900)
Investment in Temporary Accommodation		(10,000)			
Modernisation schemes ending	(810)				
<b>Corporate Investment Funds</b>					
IT&D Fund		(380)	(500)	(500)	(500)
Commercial Asset Investment Fund		(500)	(500)	(500)	(500)
Asset Management Fund		(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Strategic Investment Fund (Regeneration)		(250)	(250)	(250)	(250)
<b>Total Commitments</b>	<b>(19,367)</b>	<b>(22,584)</b>	<b>(37,486)</b>	<b>(7,573)</b>	<b>(6,526)</b>

- 10.12 Comparison of existing commitments and projected demands on capital receipts with known or planned disposals has been undertaken as shown in the table below, indicating a significant shortfall of circa £35 million that will require substantial further disposals to be identified.

<b>Capital Receipt Projections</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29</b>	<b>2029/30</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Brought forward balance	189	(7,398)	(18,184)	(23,128)	(28,956)
<b>Expected Net Capital Receipts (approved)</b>	<b>11,780</b>	<b>11,798</b>	<b>32,542</b>	<b>1,745</b>	<b>0</b>
Capital Receipt commitments	(19,367)	(22,584)	(37,486)	(7,573)	(6,526)

Carry forward balance (deficit)	(7,398)	(18,184)	(23,128)	(28,956)	(35,482)
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### Future pipeline of disposals

- 10.13 Cabinet has approved a range of property disposals during 2025/26 that are included in the table above. The next tranche of property disposals are planned to be presented to Cabinet in April 2026 which will reduce the currently projected shortfall of £35 million. Further disposal opportunities will still be required and will be presented to Cabinet in due course.
- 10.14 The key opportunities to generate capital receipts are likely to come from:
- Rationalisation of the operational portfolio of buildings;
  - Lease re-gearing opportunities – but likely to need to compromise housing ambitions;
  - Further Commercial Asset disposals – however, this forgoes revenue income which is highly problematic and adds to future budget gaps. There may also be debt to pay off (capitalise) reducing the available receipt.
  - School sites – this is a major potential area for generating receipts following closure of two school sites owned by the council;
  - Identifying opportunities for capital receipts within the agricultural estate;

## 11 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) BUDGET & CAPITAL PROGRAMME

- 11.1 The MTFs is primarily concerned with the development of the General Fund revenue and capital budget. However, there are links to the Housing Revenue Account (Council Housing) revenue budget and capital programme which follow a separate budget setting process.
- 11.2 The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a ring-fenced account which covers the management and maintenance of council owned housing stock. This must be in balance, meaning that the authority must show in its financial planning that HRA income meets expenditure and that the HRA is consequently viable.
- 11.3 The introduction of self-financing in 2012 provided additional resources from the retention of all rental income and, through greater control locally, enabled longer term planning to improve the management and maintenance of council homes. Since that introduction there have been a number of factors which have compromised the financial stability of the HRA leading to a projected deficit position from 2026/27.
- 11.4 Understanding the demands on resources over the coming years remains key to ensuring the financial viability for the HRA. There are several challenges which are impacting on the financial viability over the medium to long term. This includes the rising cost of services and investment needs arising in relation to compliance with the Building Safety Act, Fire Safety Regulations and Social Housing Regulation Bill as well as the impact of inflation on services.
- 11.5 An emerging issue for the council is investment requirement in 8 Large Panel System (LPS) blocks across the city. Whilst investment was anticipated over a longer period of time for these blocks, there is a need to ensure the blocks remain safe in the short term with measures being introduced which require a significant revenue investment for the HRA over the short term. Longer term plans are being developed for these blocks with required capital investment forming part of future budget papers where reasonable estimates can be made.

- 11.6 The Autumn Statement 2025 announced a 10-year rent settlement allowing landlords to raise rents by CPI plus 1%. This currently extends to April 2036, with a view to be able to increase rents by CPI +1% for the 10 years succeeding 2026/27. This has been factored into the HRA's MTFs. However, whilst this is a welcome boost for the long-term financial forecast, it will not address all of the current financial issues that the HRA is facing. A strategy needs to be developed to be able to manage those issues in the short term.
- 11.7 The capital plan for the HRA is split into two main areas of investment for improving the quality, safety, and energy efficiency of council homes and for the supply of new housing. Investment in existing stock is funded from direct revenue funding from tenants' rents (including associated rent rebates) and HRA borrowing that is supported by tenants' rents over a longer period. Investment in new supply is mainly funded from retained capital receipts (including Right to Buy sales and commuted sums), grant funding and HRA borrowing.
- 11.8 The Programme reflects the delivery of planned maintenance, improvement programmes and major capital projects informed by a recent stock condition survey and ongoing surveys of the council's housing stock. This is alongside the existing and emerging priorities of the HRA Asset Management Strategy. Key considerations include improving the safety and quality of homes and ensuring regulatory compliance is met. This includes working in consultation with external bodies such as the Regulator of Social Housing and East Sussex Fire and Rescue Authority, as well as tenants and leaseholders to inform the planned and major works strategy. Investment also continues in carbon reduction initiatives to support the city's commitment of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.
- 11.9 The HRA continues to look at the range of initiatives it has to deliver additional housing and meet the commitment to deliver new affordable council homes. These initiatives include the New Homes for Neighbourhoods Programme (NHFN), Home Purchase Scheme, Converting Spaces programmes and the Homes for the City of Brighton & Hove Joint Venture.
- 11.10 Work will continue through 2026/27 to deliver housing supply pipeline schemes. The Home Purchase Scheme will continue to explore opportunities to buy back ex-right-to-buy properties, whilst the extended Home Purchase Scheme will look at off the shelf purchase opportunities to increase the supply of affordable housing within the HRA. The NHFN Programme is a longer term approach to the delivery of new homes; work will continue on approved projects and to bring forward new projects for consideration by Cabinet.

## **12 SCHOOLS BUDGETS AND FUNDING**

- 12.1 The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is a ring-fenced grant that provides funding for Schools, Academies, Early Years, Special Educational Needs and a small number of allowable Central items.
- 12.2 Similarly to the HRA, the development and setting of schools' budgets follows a separate process involving statutory consultation and oversight of the Schools Forum. However, there are links with the General Fund budget setting process as General Fund budget proposals and savings can potentially impact schools and vice versa.
- 12.3 The DSG is divided into four blocks – the Schools Block, the High Needs Block (HNB), the Central School Services Block (which allocates funding to local authorities for their ongoing responsibilities towards both maintained schools and academies), and the Early Years Block. Each of the four blocks of the DSG are determined by separate national funding formulae (NFF).

- 12.4 On 17th December 2025, DfE published initial DSG allocations for 2026/27. These are summarised in the table below, together with comparisons to the 2025/26 allocations:

Financial Year	Schools Block £'000	Central School Services Block £'000	High Needs Block £'000	Early Years Block £'000	Total DSG £'000
2025/26	176,362	2,316	41,300	40,809	260,787
2026/27	181,164	2,332	43,409	49,385	276,290
<b>Increase</b>	<b>4,802</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2,109</b>	<b>8,577</b>	<b>15,503</b>

Whilst funding allocations across all blocks have increased in 2026/27 it is difficult to draw direct comparisons with the prior year due to changes in accounting arrangements, particularly within the Schools and High Needs Block. For 2026/27, a number of former specific grants are being rolled into core funding, and the impact of these presentational changes are referred to in the paragraphs below.

### Schools Block – Base 2026/27 Allocations

- 12.5 As set out in the paragraph above there are significant presentational changes to the way mainstream schools are being allocated funding in 2026/27. In 2025/26, mainstream schools received separate funding via national insurance and school budget support grants linked to pay pressures. These have been allocated outside of the main DSG in 2025/26 and equate to approximately £5.1m. For 2026/27, this funding has been rolled into the Schools Block of the DSG and will be allocated as part of core budget funding. This means, on a like-for-like basis, funding in the Schools Block has actually reduced in 2026/27. The overriding reason for this is that Schools Block pupil numbers have decreased from 28,545 in October 2024 to 27,852 in October 2025. This is a reduction of 693 pupils and equates to an overall loss of direct DSG Schools Block pupil funding of c. £3.8m.

### Schools Balances Position

- 12.6 School balances at the end of 2024/25 were a net deficit of £2.623m, a reduction of £2.904m from the £0.281m net surplus balance at the end of 2023/24. Forecasts for the end of the 2025/26 financial year suggest that the school balances position will move to a net deficit of approximately £5m. This is a key indicator of the financial challenges being experienced.

Schools Balances	Nursery £'000	Primary £'000	Secondary £'000	Special £'000	Total £'000
Final 2023/24 balances	24	(1,143)	2,048	(648)	281
Final 2024/25 balances	163	(2,665)	(395)	274	(2,623)
<b>Movement</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>(1,523)</b>	<b>(2,443)</b>	<b>922</b>	<b>(2,904)</b>

### School Budget Plans 2026/27

- 12.7 Schools are required to submit draft budget plans for 2026/27 by the end of February 2026. At that stage there should be a clear indication of the likely budget position of schools for the 2026/27 financial year. However, it is anticipated, there will be further pressure in terms of schools' budgets and license deficit requirements in 2026/27.
- 12.8 Staff within Education and Finance will continue to work with schools to assist them in addressing financial challenges alongside other advisory support such as DfE accredited Schools Resource Management Advisers (SRMA).

## High Needs Block

- 12.9 The headline allocation of High Needs Block (HNB) funding for 2026/27 is shown in paragraph 12.4. The initial settlement results in an increase in allocation to Brighton and Hove of c. £2.1m however this is entirely due to the transfer in of previous grant funding. A key aspect of the December 2025 DSG announcement is that, for 2026/27, DfE are temporarily suspending the high needs national funding formula (NFF), which in previous years has been used to calculate local authorities' high needs allocations. Instead, local authorities' allocations for 2026/27 will be based on their 2025/26 allocations, with some presentational adjustments (transfer in of former grant funding), as described above. This means that the current published high needs block allocation for 2026/27 contains no inflationary uplift from 2025/26 i.e. it is at a cash flat level.
- 12.10 The wider reforms to the SEND system, which the government will set out in early 2026, DfE has advised that they will review the methodology for allocating high needs funding so that it supports the SEND reforms. As part of the local government financial settlement the written statement included the following extracts:

*We recognise that local authorities are continuing to face significant pressure from DSG deficits on their accounts. In June this year, we announced a two-year extension to the DSG Statutory Override to support local authorities to manage these impacts. The government has also confirmed that it will bring forward a full Schools White Paper early in the new year. This will set out substantial plans for reform of special educational needs (SEND) provision to deliver a sustainable system which – first and foremost – supports children and families effectively, and which is also financially sustainable.*

*We recognise that the size of deficits that some councils may accrue while the Statutory Override is in place may not be manageable with local resources alone, and will bring forward arrangements to assist with them as part of broader SEND reform plans. Whilst we do not expect local authorities to plan on the basis of having to meet deficits in full, any future support will not be unlimited. Councils must continue to work to keep deficits as low as possible. We will provide further detail on our plans to support local authorities with historic and accruing deficits and conditions for accessing such support later in the settlement process.*

- 12.11 For Brighton and Hove, the previous HNB forecast for the 2026/27 financial year showed a potential in-year overspend of £3m but this assumed a real terms increase in HNB funding of c. £1.9m. Therefore, as it stands, there is a potential 2026/27 in-year deficit of almost £5m against the HNB, which would increase the estimated cumulative overspend on the central DSG to approximately £7.5m by the end of 2026/27.
- 12.12 The council will need to update its DSG management plan but further information regarding the government's funding plans will be critical to this process.

## Early Years Block

- 12.13 The Early Years Block has seen further increases in terms of funding in 2026/27. This is partly as a result of a full year effect of the new 30-hour entitlement for Under 2s, but, also, after many years of lobbying, DfE has taken the cap off the 3 and 4-year old funding allocation to Brighton and Hove. This will mean a significant increase in the hourly funding rate paid to early years providers in the city.

## 13 BUDGET SENSITIVITIES & MEDIUM-TERM RISK MITIGATION

- 13.1 The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) of a large public sector organisation with many demand-led services and complex and changing funding streams will always contain significant and varying degrees of risk. The cost of living crisis, higher inflation and higher interest rates and the demand for the council's services have significantly impacted the council's expenditure and income in recent years. The most significant emerging challenge is the cost of and demand for Temporary and Emergency Accommodation. In addition, the council has seen higher than anticipated pay awards, higher costs of social care, impacts on fees & charges due to economic conditions, continued high levels of Council Tax Reduction claimants (i.e. taxation losses).
- 13.2 These pressures have resulted in current forecast overspends in-year requiring ongoing recruitment and spending controls to help mitigate the financial position alongside other financial recovery measures. This highlights the need to recognise the financial risks of unexpected events and the impact this has on the resilience of the authority.
- 13.3 The pressures experienced in recent years, including increases in the cost of living, may continue well into the medium term.
- 13.4 The government announced a three-year provisional settlement for 2026/27 to 2028/29 on 17 December 2025, providing certainty for local authorities on funding allocations. However, this Council has seen a reduction in resources under the Fair Funding Review compared to the prevailing assumptions in the MTFS.
- 13.5 In general, other factors that can have a material effect on the medium term financial position of an authority include:
- Changes in function and/or funding – for example the impact of Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution;
  - Changes in the economy including the impact on business rates income and/or Council Tax Reduction claimant numbers or collection rates;
  - Similarly, impacts on the levels of house building which affects Council Tax;
  - The level of future successful appeals against the business rating list;
  - Changes in employer costs e.g. pension or national insurance changes;
  - Achievement of performance targets for performance related grant or partnership funding;
  - Delivery and achievement of savings and transformation programmes;
  - Ability to manage identified demand-led service pressures;
  - Decisions on council tax increases and the council tax reduction scheme;
  - Democratic support for change including partnership working or integration.
- 13.6 Risks to the MTFS arise from both external and internal factors. External risks include, for example, government policy decisions that can have positive or negative impacts on costs or national or local economic conditions that can affect income sources up or down. External risks are generally the most difficult to manage or plan for.
- 13.7 Internal risks can also arise for a number of reasons, such as cost overruns, underachievement of savings plans, changing priorities or ineffective systems of demand management. They may also be influenced by external factors. It is vital to have adequate mechanisms to manage internal risks if financial stability is to be achieved. There are a number of ways in which the effects of risks can be managed and these are set out in the following risk table. Furthermore, the council's MTFS, by taking a longer term planning approach, aims to minimise the impact of some of the major financial risks and the impact on investment in support of the council's priorities.

- 13.8 The forecasts within the MTFS are based on prudential assumptions that reflect the most likely position based on current knowledge and data. There are therefore risks of over or under stating expenditure or income estimates which have been considered.
- 13.9 The identified risks are scored for Likelihood (L) and Impact (I). The scores are multiplied to give a resulting risk score. The key to the scores is given in Annex B together with assessed risk scores for identified risks, including the potential financial sensitivity.

## ANNEX A: RESERVES AND PROVISIONS

### Summary of Key Reserves & Balances

	Estimated Balance as at 01/04/26 £'000	Planned Use 2026/27 £'000	Estimated Balance as at 31/03/27 £'000	Review Arrangements	Conclusion
<b>General Fund Reserves</b>					
General Fund Working Balance/General Reserves	7,840	4,160	12,000	Reviewed against the register of financial risks, taking into account the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003.	A minimum working balance of £12-15m is recommended by the Chief Finance Officer in accordance with the requirements of Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003. The 2026/27 budget is being set with the assumption of EFS being granted from government, which will contribute to the working balance, increasing it to £12.000m.
General Fund Working Balance/General Reserves - held for specific future commitments	175	(175)	0	Following closure of accounts.	Balance will be used to fund ongoing corporate commitments.
General Risk Reserve	0	3,899	3,899	Following outturn position.	A new reserve created to provide a more prudent buffer for risks and unforeseen costs within the revenue budget
Library PFI Reserve	520	(156)	364	Following closure of accounts.	Use for funding the project over the lifetime of the PFI scheme. Expected to be increased contributions from reserves, due to inflationary pressures. Contributions to the reserve may be required in future years.
Waste PFI Project Reserve	6,688	(343)	6,345	Following closure of accounts.	Use for funding the project over the lifetime of the PFI and to bridge the gap for when PFI credits stop. This reserve has been used to fund the Term Time only costs and will be replenished in time to meet existing Waste PFI commitments.
Section 106 Receipts (Revenue)	501	0	501	Reviewed throughout the year to reflect agreed liabilities and	Retain for specified purpose.

	Estimate d Balance as at 01/04/26 £'000	Planned Use 2026/27 £'000	Estimate d Balance as at 31/03/27 £'000	Review Arrangement s	Conclusion
				new agreements.	
Developer Contributions Unapplied (S106 Capital)	747	0	747	Reviewed throughout the year to reflect agreed liabilities and new agreements.	Retain for specified purpose.
ICT Investment Reserve	334	(125)	209	Following closure of accounts.	Held to support planned IT&D expenditure over the next two years.
Local Elections Reserve	0	700	700	Following closure of accounts.	Hold for costs of local elections
Dome Planned Maintenance	103	(53)	50	Following closure of accounts.	Retain - subject to lease agreement with Brighton Dome & Festival Society.
Hove Park 3G Pitch Renewal	0	15	15	Following closure of accounts.	Held to replace pitch at the end of its useful life. Pitch replaced in 2025/26 and was funded by existing reserve. Future contributions will be received to replace the newly replaced pitch at the end of its useful life.
Surface Water Management Reserve	421	39	460	Following closure of accounts.	Retain to support planned SWMP related works, emergency work and to contribute to any carbon neutral opportunities. This reserve is retained to meet our statutory obligations as the Lead Local Flood Authority.
Sports Facilities Reserve	453	0	453	Following closure of accounts.	Retain to support Sports Facilities.
Licensing - other reserve	26	0	26	Following closure of accounts.	Retain for specified purpose - to fund potential future deficits or repayment to licensees. Reserve smooths out fluctuations in volumes of licences issued each year.
Taxi Licensing	82	0	82	Following closure of accounts.	Retain for specified purpose - to fund potential future deficits or repayment to licensees. This smooths out fluctuations in volumes of licences issued each year.

	Estimated Balance as at 01/04/26 £'000	Planned Use 2026/27 £'000	Estimated Balance as at 31/03/27 £'000	Review Arrangements	Conclusion
Overdown Rise Footpath Maintenance	20	0	20	Following closure of accounts.	Commutated sum held for future years maintenance costs of the foot path.
HMO Licensing Fees Reserve	531	41	572	Following closure of accounts.	Retain to support annual inspections of HMO licenses - this is a statutory function (Mandatory HMO Licensing Fees income needs to be used only for the running of the Mandatory HMO Licenses.)
Damage Deposit Guarantee Scheme	94	0	94	Reviewed during the year as part of budget monitoring process	Retained for specific purpose but required level will continue to be reviewed.
RP&M Trust Sinking Fund	50	0	50	Following closure of accounts.	Retain - subject to lease agreement with RPMT
HMO Additional Licensing Fees	833	(192)	641	Following closure of accounts.	Additional HMO Licensing Fees income needs to be used only for the running of the Additional HMO Licenses. Each license is for 5 years. The fee income is therefore used for that 5-year period.
Selective Licensing Fees	1,736	(390)	1,346	Following closure of accounts.	Selective Licensing Fees income needs to be used only for the running of the Selective Licenses. Each license is for 5 years. The fee income is therefore used for that 5-year period.
Travellers Site Capital Reserve	79	0	79	Following closure of accounts.	Held to fund future major works costs of the Travellers site.
Restructure Redundancy Reserve	130	124	254	As part of closure of accounts.	Restructure & Redundancy costs are funded within the capital programme as part of the capitalisation direction.
CIL - Neighbourhood reserve	384	0	384	Following closure of accounts.	Allocations from the Neighbourhood Reserve will be made in accordance with the agreed process which involves ward councillors.
CIL - Strategic reserve	1,217	0	1,217	Following closure of accounts.	Allocations from the Strategic reserve will be made in line with the strategic objectives set out

	Estimated Balance as at 01/04/26 £'000	Planned Use 2026/27 £'000	Estimated Balance as at 31/03/27 £'000	Review Arrangements	Conclusion
					in the initial scheme and will be approved by Cabinet.
<b>Total General Fund Reserves</b>	<b>22,964</b>	<b>7,544</b>	<b>30,508</b>		
<b>Schools / DSG Reserves</b>					
Schools LMS Balances	(5,600)	0	(5,600)	Following closure of accounts.	Balances are held by school governing bodies. Position unclear for future years.
<b>Total Schools / DSG Reserves</b>	<b>(5,600)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(5,600)</b>		
<b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>	<b>17,364</b>	<b>7,544</b>	<b>24,908</b>		
<b>General Fund Provisions</b>					
10 Year lease revenue costs Provision	105	0	105	Review of annual contribution to this provision at closedown.	This is required to pay back the borrowing costs when 10 year leases finish in 2032/33. These are 30 properties leased through Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme partly funded by MHCLG.
Voluntary Severance Provision	1,250	(750)	500	Following closure of accounts.	To fund cost of potential severance agreements from 2026/27 Budget plans.
Insurance Provision	3,940	0	3,940	The Insurance Fund is subject to a bi-annual health check by the actuaries. The last health check was completed in March 2025.	The level of the Insurance Fund will be adjusted in line with the recommendations of the actuary report which enables £81k to be released to support the 2025/26 in year position. The next health check is due in due in March 2027.
<b>Total General Fund Provisions</b>	<b>5,295</b>	<b>(750)</b>	<b>4,545</b>		
<b>TOTAL ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>22,659</b>	<b>6,794</b>	<b>29,453</b>		

## ANNEX B – RISK AND SENSIVITY ANALYSIS

### Risk Scoring Key:

<b>Likelihood (L)</b> (of occurrence):	1 – Almost impossible 2 – Unlikely 3 – Possible 4 – Likely 5 – Almost certain
<b>Impact (I):</b>	1 – Insignificant 2 – Minor 3 – Moderate 4 – Major 5 – Catastrophic or fantastic
<b>Risk Score (L) x (I):</b> (Overall rating)	1 to 3 Low 4 to 7 Moderate 8 to 14 Significant 15 to 25 High

Risk	Likelihood (L)	Impact / Sensitivity (I)	Risk = (L) x (I)	Possible Impact on Financial Strategy	Mitigation / Management
Council Tax base is lower than anticipated e.g. higher caseload for CTRS (Council Tax Reduction Scheme) discounts /lower number of new properties / more student exempt properties / more SMI exemptions / more discounts awarded, resulting in a deficit on the collection fund	3	3 0.1% reduction in council tax base = £0.210m	9	Would require reductions in budgets (increased savings) for the following year	Close monitoring of the collection fund and checking validity of exemptions and discounts particularly new property developments, student numbers, CTRS discounts and empty property discounts.
Collection of council tax, including CTRS claimants, falls due to its impact on household budgets alongside other Welfare Reform impacts, resulting in a deficit on the collection fund	3	3 0.1% reduction in council tax collection = £0.210m	9	Would require reductions in the budget (increased savings) for the following year	Close monitoring of the collection fund, including claimants under CTRS. Appropriate communications, advice (linked to Welfare Reform advice services) and collection strategies have been agreed to minimise impact.
Services fail to operate within set budgets due to increased service	3	4 1% gross expenditure on demand led	12	Excess service pressures would have to be met through	Close monitoring and analysis of demand-led budgets and overall

Risk	Likelihood (L)	Impact / Sensitivity (I)	Risk = (L) x (I)	Possible Impact on Financial Strategy	Mitigation / Management
demands or weak systems of demand management		budgets = £3.4m		additional resources, such as reserves, or through unplanned savings having to be made elsewhere. Possible need for emergency spending and/or recruitment restrictions with potential impacts on service delivery and quality. Reduction in reserves / working balance.	budget through budget monitoring (TBM). Identify action plans to mitigate cost pressures. Strategic MTFS investments provided for Homelessness, ASC, Children's Social Care and demand-led pressure areas.
Services fail to operate within set budgets due to unachievable income or poor collection performance	3	3 1% of fees and charges income = £1.2m	9	Income pressures that can only be met through additional resources, such as using reserves, or savings being made elsewhere in the budget. Possible need for emergency spending and/or recruitment restrictions with potential impacts on service delivery and quality. Reduction in reserves / working balance.	Monitoring of income budgets and collection performance (rates) through TBM reporting. Identify action plans to mitigate unachievable income, price variations and exceptional legal costs. In-year review of charging policy and revised charges approved if absolutely necessary. Internal Audit review of services where appropriate.
Services fail to operate within set budgets due to increased labour or supply chain costs, contract price	4	4 1% gross expenditure = £5.5m	16	Excess costs would have to be met through additional resources, such as reserves, or through	Close monitoring of budgets and overall spend through budget monitoring (TBM). Identify Financial Recovery action

Risk	Likelihood (L)	Impact / Sensitivity (I)	Risk = (L) x (I)	Possible Impact on Financial Strategy	Mitigation / Management
variations or other inflationary impacts				unplanned savings having to be made elsewhere. Possible need for emergency spending and/or recruitment restrictions with potential impacts on service delivery and quality. Reduction in reserves / working balance.	plans to mitigate specific areas experiencing cost pressures. Focus contract management resources to areas of concern. Financial management controls such as vacancy management and additional spending controls.
Services fail to operate within set budgets due to unachievable savings arising from:  - Over-estimate of the savings potential; - Higher than estimated costs to implement the savings opportunity.	3	3 5% of GF savings = £1.0m	9	Overspending that can only be met from additional resources such as reserves or savings being made elsewhere in the budget. Possible need for emergency spending and/or recruitment restrictions with potential impacts on service delivery and quality. Reduction in reserves / working balance.	Monitor savings through TBM and identify action plans and/or alternative measures to mitigate the unachievable savings. Potentially refer back to members for decisions on alternative savings proposals where these are significant or cannot be mitigated elsewhere.
Pay assumptions are lower than finally agreed pay awards and other pay related costs.	3	3 0.5% change in pay award = £0.9m for the General Fund	9	Pay award pressures can only be met through additional resources, such as reserves, or savings being made elsewhere in the budget. Possible need for emergency spending and/or	Monitor progress on pay award negotiations and wider national settlements. Lobby government for more funding if nationally negotiated pay awards are significantly higher than local or national

Risk	Likelihood (L)	Impact / Sensitivity (I)	Risk = (L) x (I)	Possible Impact on Financial Strategy	Mitigation / Management
				recruitment restrictions with potential impacts on service delivery and quality. Reduction in reserves / working balance.	assumptions (e.g. Spending Review assumptions). Excess pay award costs need to be addressed in-year through financial management controls and then built into budget planning (MTFS) for future years.
PFI Waste tonnages higher than projected resulting in additional disposal costs	2	3 1% increase in tonnage per annum = £0.2m p.a. over life of PFI contract	6	Would increase the waste disposal budget and compensating savings would need to be identified elsewhere in the budget.	Provision (contingency) for higher tonnages made in the assessment of the waste PFI reserve for future years. Monitor and identify specific areas of growth and undertake waste minimisation and further recycling measures. Trends are monitored and reflected in the MTFS for future years.
Inflation continues to impact on contracted social care provider costs	4	4 1% increase in contract prices = £2.0m	16	Excess costs would have to be met through additional resources, such as reserves, or through unplanned savings having to be made elsewhere. Possible need for emergency spending and/or recruitment restrictions with potential impacts on service delivery and	Identify Financial Recovery action plans to mitigate specific areas experiencing cost pressures. Focus contract management resources to areas of concern. Consider financial management controls such as vacancy management and additional spending controls.

Risk	Likelihood (L)	Impact / Sensitivity (I)	Risk = (L) x (I)	Possible Impact on Financial Strategy	Mitigation / Management
				quality. Reduction in reserves / working balance.	
The uncertainties within the housing market, changes in housing benefit and welfare reform, or ongoing impacts of the cost of living crisis create spending pressures within the budget e.g. homelessness	4	3 10% increase in net temporary accommodation and rough sleeping budget = £2.0m	12	Would create additional pressures in the Housing Strategy and potentially other related budgets which would need to find compensating savings.	Officer working group is set up specifically monitoring the strategic measures to mitigate the increase in cost and demand of TA. Continue to assess and monitor the potential impact of changes to the welfare benefit system and plan and respond to government consultations accordingly. Lobby Government for additional funding.
Increased property related insurance premiums as a result of national or international storm damage claims over the longer term	3	2 10% further increase = £0.4m	6	Would require compensating savings to be identified in 2026/27 and future years.	Insurance premiums have been retendered and are reviewed annually. Budget has planned increases in 2026/27 as price increases are expected. Continued emphasis on risk management to help prevent future claims.
Major civil incident occurs e.g. storm, flooding, riot	2	3 Estimated "Bellwin" threshold = £0.7m	6	Budget overspend / reduction in reserves / working balance. Pressures on other budgets. The council would have to meet the costs of uninsured risks in addition to the	Ensure adequate levels of useable reserves and working balance to cover threshold expenditure. Ensure appropriate insurance cover is in place and that the Insurance Fund is sufficient to cover uninsured risks.

Risk	Likelihood (L)	Impact / Sensitivity (I)	Risk = (L) x (I)	Possible Impact on Financial Strategy	Mitigation / Management
				"Bellwin" threshold.	
Severe winter weather places additional spending pressures on winter maintenance and other budgets across the council	2	3 Depends on severity of weather event	6	Need to use Working Balance and/or reserves.	Advance planning to minimise possible disruption. A General Risk Reserve has been created in 2026/27. A plan to replenish the Working Balance in future years would be required.
Cost overruns occur on schemes in the agreed capital programme	3	2 1% cost overrun on total 2025/26 programme = £1.4m	6	Reserves or other capital resources redirected to fund overspend. Unable to meet capital investment needs. Increased borrowing requirement.	Effective cost control and expenditure monitoring. In the first instance, use flexibility within or across programmes to re-profile expenditure if necessary. Flexing Capital Financing Strategy or HRA self-financing strategy as appropriate.
Capital receipts lower than anticipated	3	3 10% reduction in planned 2025/26 receipts = £1.2m	9	Fewer resources available for regeneration programmes, Transformation Fund and corporate Capital Funds	Flexible capital programme that allows plans to be reduced, re-profiled or decommitted. Alternative site disposal plans are capable of being accelerated if necessary. Borrowing is an option for invest-to-save schemes.
Income from business rates is lower than expected due to successful rating appeals / higher levels of relief awarded / redevelopment of existing sites gives	3	3 1% of forecast retained business rates income = £0.8m	9	Would require an increased budget gap to be addressed in the following financial year.	Make appropriate provisions in resource forecasts. Detailed monitoring of business rates yield and collection to ensure it reflects the latest known position.

Risk	Likelihood (L)	Impact / Sensitivity (I)	Risk = (L) x (I)	Possible Impact on Financial Strategy	Mitigation / Management
temporary reduction / collection performance declines					<p>Corporate approach to economic development and city regeneration.</p> <p>The council will receive safety net funding if the council's income from business rates falls significantly in 2026/27, but this would be transitional funding available for one year only.</p>

### Capital Strategy 2026/27 to 2030/31

#### 1. Background

- 1.1. CIPFA's Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities and Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Investment Guidance require all local authorities to produce a Capital Strategy. This strategy must demonstrate that the authority:
  - makes capital expenditure and investment decisions that support its service objectives;
  - considers stewardship, value for money, prudence and affordability;
  - sets out the long-term context for capital expenditure and investment planning; and
  - evaluates both risk and reward including how these decisions affect the delivery of priority outcomes.
- 1.2. The Capital Strategy aims to ensure that all Council members understand the long-term policy objectives, capital requirements, governance frameworks and risk appetite, while recognising the complex and challenging financial environment in which the Council operates.
- 1.3. The CIPFA definition of investments within the Treasury Management Code includes “non-treasury” or commercial investments. These are investments held primarily to generate financial returns, such as portfolios of investment properties. This strategy therefore covers all non-treasury investments the organisation currently holds or intends to acquire. Treasury investments and their associated risks are addressed separately in the Council's Annual Investment Strategy, which is included in Appendix 6 of the General Fund budget report.
- 1.4. The Prudential Code and Treasury Management Codes ensure that:
  - Local authorities cannot borrow for the primary purpose of commercial return;
  - Further transparency is required for non-treasury investments, including new indicators that demonstrate proportionality of non-treasury investments to the council's income and reserves.
  - Councils are required to have Investment Management Practices (IMPs), for non-treasury investments (like loans or properties). These outline how investments will be managed, monitored, and governed ensuring decisions are safe, prudent and properly overseen – like Treasury Management Practices (TMPs) used for cash and borrowing.
- 1.5. Under the Prudential Code and the Treasury Management Code, the council must establish parameters governing its borrowing and treasury management activities, including setting an authorised borrowing limit for each financial year that must not be exceeded. These parameters are detailed through the prudential indicators set out in Annex C of the Treasury Management Strategy. The indicators ensure that all borrowing undertaken by the council is prudent, affordable and sustainable.
- 1.6. CIPFA issued a consultation in August 2025 on the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities and Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes, seeking views on areas where the Codes can be strengthened or amended, including around commercial and service investments. The results of the consultation are yet to be published,

and are very unlikely to result in any changes to the 2026/27 reporting requirements.

- 1.7. This Capital Strategy is reported separately from the Treasury Management Strategy Statement which ensures the separation of the core treasury management function, focused on security, liquidity and yield principles, and the policy and commercial investments usually driven by expenditure on assets.
- 1.8. When the council finances capital expenditure through borrowing, it must set aside an annual charge to revenue to repay that debt, known as the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). The approach for calculating the MRP must comply with the guidance issued by MHCLG. The council's MRP policy for 2026/27 aligns with the current guidance and is presented in Appendix 6 of the budget report for approval.
- 1.9. The balanced budget for 2026/27 is dependent the government granting the Council £15 million in Exceptional Financial Support (EFS). This will be met in the form of a capitalisation directive, which will allow certain revenue costs to be treated as capital expenditure for the purpose of financing. Although the underlying pressures are revenue-related, the capitalisation directive enable EFS to be managed through the capital and treasury framework. Accordingly, EFS will be shown within the capital financing assumptions because it contributes to the Council's Capital Financing Requirements (CFR) and prudential indicators and will be monitored and reviewed regularly.

## 2. Governance & Risk Frameworks

- 2.1. The council's Financial Regulations provide the framework for control, responsibility and accountability in the proper administration of the council's financial affairs. In accordance with these regulations, the S151 Chief Financial Officer is responsible for ensuring a capital programme is prepared, considered by Cabinet and approved annually by full Council.
- 2.2. The council's Standard Financial Procedures set out the key controls governing the management of the council's financial affairs, including the capital programme. The principal controls for the capital programme are:
  - Full Council must give specific approval to the programme of capital expenditure, alongside the annual revenue budget process, setting out the phasing of expenditure and the associated sources of funding and financing;
  - For each significant capital project, a scheme and estimate must be prepared, including an options appraisal, project plan, progress milestones, and any related revenue implications.
  - No capital scheme may proceed without necessary approvals being obtained.
  - Proposals for improvements or alterations to buildings must be approved by the relevant Chief Officer in consultation with the Head of Strategic Property.
  - An officer-led Capital Programme Board, established in 2023/24, reviews new schemes, business plans and all variations to the Capital Investment Programme before they are submitted to Cabinet for approval. The Board is chaired by the Chief Finance Officer and attended by Directors and senior officers responsible for departmental capital programmes.
  - Major rolling capital programmes require a detailed report to Cabinet covering all schemes within each programme. This will include, but is not limited to, the

## Appendix 5 – Capital Strategy

Housing stock programme, Education, the Asset Management Fund (AMF), Corporate Planned Maintenance (PMB), Commercial Asset Investment Fund (CAIF), Digital, Data & Technology (DDaT) Strategy, the Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) and the Local Transport Plan (LTP). These may be reported either individually or through a Targeted Budget Management (TBM) report;

- The development and delivery of an Asset Management Plan.
- Clear assignment of an accountable budget holder for each scheme and /or programme component.
- Ongoing monitoring of progress against approved capital budgets with prompt corrective action taken to address any overspends; progress is reported monthly to Chief Officers and at least quarterly to Cabinet.
- Full compliance with the council's Corporate Procurement Strategy and Contract Standing Orders.

### Management of Risk

- 2.3. The council provides several critical services, and its core purpose is to meet its statutory duties for the benefit of the citizens of the city. The council's key priority is to protect the delivery of these services. Therefore, the council needs to take a measured approach to balancing the risks of any capital investment decisions with the resources available for delivering key services against the benefits accruing from the investment.
- 2.4. The council's Risk Management Process is managed by:
- (i) assigning accountability to key officers to enable review, and challenge processes and assurances;
  - (ii) using a "three lines of defence" model to map out how it gains assurance over its activities, processes and risks. This is reported within the Annual Governance Statement. An example is given below on using the three lines of defence to structure and categorise assurances for procurement.

An organisation might identify contract management as a key risk. The assurance map would then set out the sources of assurance that enable senior management and members to satisfy themselves that this risk is being managed. Under the three lines of defence, these assurances are categorised as follows:

**First line:** controls and processes followed by service managers who own and manage risks. In this case, these would be the controls and processes followed by contract managers who are responsible for procuring and managing contracts.

**Second line:** controls and processes operated by managers responsible for overseeing risks. These typically monitor the first line of defence operated by managers and in this case might include risk management and procurement compliance functions.

**Third line:** functions providing independent assurance. This is a key role for Internal Audit and is sometimes considered to include external inspectorates.

- (iii) monitoring and tracking delivery of the assurances throughout the year to help strengthen the risk management and control environment through the Risk Reporting Timetable that sets out the specific review period for risks at Directorate Leadership Teams (DLT) and the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT). Directorate and strategic risks are reviewed by DLTs, with newly identified risks, escalated risks, suggested amendments to strategic risks and the Directorate Risks reported to CLT as part of their risk review. Risks are reported to Cabinet for review at least annually.

The Audit, Standards & General Purposes Committee have oversight of the risk management process and review the Risk Management Framework annually.

2.5. Risks specific to the delivery of the capital programme and Capital Strategy are managed by a range of processes and groups:

- Financial risks (e.g. overspending, slippage and re-profiling) are managed through the council's Targeted Budget Management (TBM) process which is reported at least quarterly to Cabinet.
- The progress of major infrastructure projects is monitored through the officer led Capital Programme Board.
- Any significant changes to the direction, or financial or legal risks of any major scheme, are reported back to CLT and Cabinet.

### 3. Capital Strategy

3.1. Capital resources are available to the council for investment in assets and play a vital role in delivering Council Plan priorities. This section sets out the strategy and plans for capital expenditure. The recommended Capital Strategy outlines the process for prioritising and evaluating capital investment projects. The key priorities are as follows;

- **Protect Core Funding:** Seek to safeguard capital grant funding for education, housing, transport network and public realm investment;
- **Pool Resources:** all remaining non-ring-fenced capital resources and allocate these to priority investment areas;
- **Strategic Investment Fund (SIF)** Allocate £0.250m per annum for 'major projects' that support economic growth through regeneration of key sites, often leveraging housing development;
- **Digital Future Fund:** From 2027/28 onward, allocate £1.000m per annum to the Information Technology & Digital Future Fund to provide continued investment in the Digital Data and Technology Strategy alongside Innovation Fund resources;
- **Digital Transformation:** From 2026/27 create a 4-year fund totalling £5.000m to complement the Digital Future Fund for investment in digital and AI technology for enabling revenue savings and productivity
- **Commercial Assets Investment Fund (CAIF):** Allocate £0.500m per annum to maintain and improve existing commercial and agricultural properties to protect and potentially enhance commercial revenue income.
- **Asst Management Fund (AMF):** Allocate £1.000m per annum for essential property improvements, reduce backlog maintenance, improving sustainability

## Appendix 5 – Capital Strategy

and energy efficiency in buildings where possible, and lowering longer term maintenance costs;

- **Borrowing for Maintenance:** Commit a minimum of £2.000m per annum through borrowing to support planned maintenance in operational and social care buildings;
- **Asset Review and Social Value:** Assess surplus or underperforming assets for social versus disposal value with the aim to maximise social benefits within a across a 4-year asset management plan;
- **Capital Receipts Strategy:** Subject to social value assessment generate capital receipts from the disposal of surplus or under-performing assets and deploy proceeds as follows:
  - Investment in Transformation and change programmes
    - Use government’s ‘capital receipt flexibilities’ to fund appropriate from capital receipts where this delivers efficiencies (savings) and service improvements, or;
    - Reinvest in approved capital investment programme schemes, or;
    - Repay debt or invest to mitigate loss of rental income in the revenue budget;
  - Reinvesting into Housing Supply
    - Use net receipts from ‘Right to Buy’ council housing sales to increase housing supply;
    - Use of capital receipts to invest in council owned Temporary Accommodation;
- **Use of Unsupported Borrowing to:**
  - Fund service improvements supported by approved robust business case demonstrating value for money or return on investment, with financing costs reflected in the revenue budget.
  - Purchase vehicles and plant where an options appraisal confirms borrowing offers best value for money with financing costs included in the revenue budget;
  - Support Council plan priorities, ensuring financial impacts are treated as commitment in future years’ budgets and remain affordable;
  - Restructure funding of the approved capital programme where this improves efficiency in using capital and revenue e-sources;
- Exploring **external funding options** including partnerships and one-off bidding opportunities. For capital through funding streams such as: National Heritage Lottery Fund, Arts Council, Homes England grants or Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF).
- **Leveraging council-owned land or property** to enable private sector or partnership-based investments including brownfield land release schemes;
- Identify and incorporate capital investment opportunities that support the City’s net zero carbon goals into future capita plans.

3.2. The financial resources used to fund the 2026/27 capital expenditure programme of £239.816m are included at Annex A and the full 5-year capital investment programme is included at Annex D.

### ***Housing Revenue Account (HRA)***

- 3.3. The HRA Capital Strategy is designed to support the priorities outlined in the Council Plan 2023-27 and Housing Strategy. The Council Plan's 'Homes for Everyone' outcome aims to: improve housing quality, increase housing supply and improve housing support for residents. To achieve these aims, the Council will:
- Invest in building and fire safety to meet new duties under the Building Safety Act
  - Ensure compliance with anticipated new social housing regulations
  - Improve the energy performance and sustainability of council homes through the capital programme.
  - Increase the number of new affordable homes delivered by the council and other registered providers
  - Buy back council homes previously sold through the right to buy policy.

These priorities inform the Housing Revenue Account Capital Investment Programme for 2026/27. An update Asset Management Strategy is currently being developed and will be considered by Cabinet. For further information, see the HRA Budget and Capital Investment Programme 2026/27 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

- 3.4. The Housing Capital Programme is designed to deliver significant investment in the council's housing stock, enhancing the quality and safety of homes. In response to the legislative and regulatory changes introduced after the Grenfell Tower tragedy, the programme prioritises building, health and fire safety compliance, and prepares for the enhanced oversight of the Regulator of Social Housing through strict adherence to Consumer Standards. The initiative also aims to reduce the carbon footprint of council housing and expand the supply of affordable homes to address the city's housing shortage. Capital investment will focus on:
- Health and safety Improvements
  - Delivery of planned and major works
  - Sustainability & carbon reduction initiatives
  - Development of additional council homes

- 3.5. In October 2018, the Minister for Housing, Communities & Local Government issued the Limits on Indebtedness (Revocation) Determination 2018, which came into effect on 29 October 2018. This measure removed borrowing restrictions for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), allowing greater scope for building or acquiring additional homes and investing in the existing housing stock. Nevertheless, the HRA continues to operate within the Prudential Framework, meaning all new borrowing must be affordable, prudent, and sustainable. As such, every proposal will be subject to rigorous business case analysis and viability assessments.

- 3.6. Since 2012 the HRA has operated under 'self-financing' principles. The capital programme is financed through a combination of HRA sources, including rental income surpluses, borrowing, capital receipts, reserves, and external grants. These funds are ring-fenced for investment in council-owned housing stock. Further detail on the priorities and proposed investments can be found in the 'HRA Budget and Capital Investment Programme 2026/27 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy' report.

### 4. Capital Investment Plans 2026/27 to 2030/31

- 4.1. All capital expenditure plans are approved in line with the Council's Standard Financial Procedures. Full Council signs off the overall capital programme, while Cabinet approves detailed proposals and any amendments either through separate project reports or as part of regular Targeted Budget Management (TBM) reporting process.
- 4.2. Summary tables of showing capital investment plans by directorate for the same period are in Annex D.

### 5. Approach to Non-Treasury Investments

- 5.1. The council's primary non-treasury investments relate to its commercial property portfolio, which is described in more detail in Section 6 of the strategy.
- 5.2. The council uses its property assets - both operational and investment - to facilitate major infrastructure and regeneration projects. These assets help deliver significant facilities to the city, such as the King Alfred Leisure Centre, and support wider regeneration schemes that enable new housing and business development. Such projects, including Moulsecoomb Hub development and the Black Rock site, also contribute to increasing income from council tax and business rates.
- 5.3. The council may also provide third-party loans and financial guarantees to enable external projects that support the four Council Priorities as set out in the Council Plan. Details of the current portfolio of such arrangements, along with the associated risks, are provided in Sections 7 and 8 of this strategy.
- 5.4. While income generation is an essential component of the business case for certain capital investments, the council will not invest in activities where generating yield is the primary purpose. However, the council may invest in existing commercial assets - such as its investment property portfolio - when works are necessary to maintain those assets and protect existing income streams. The Council does this through the CAIF to ensure the retained commercial properties maintain their value and therefore income streams. This approach reflects changes to PWLB lending rules made by HM Treasury and CIPFA's updates to the Prudential and Treasury Management Codes.
- 5.5. All non-treasury investment opportunities undergo a comprehensive checking process. This includes development of a full business case, risk assessment, sensitivity analysis and confirmation of legal compliance, including subsidy control considerations.
- 5.6. All proposals are subject to approval by Cabinet, with the delivery of major schemes monitored and overseen by the officer-led Capital Programme Board.

### 6. Investment Property Portfolio

- 6.1. The council holds a commercial property portfolio valued at £214 million (excluding the proportion of in-house assets partially leased, such as Hove Town Hall and Barts House), generating annual income of £13.400m (including all in-house income). This is based on valuations as of 31 March 2025. This represents a significant and reliable funding source that supports the delivery of council services. The council manages its assets through the Corporates Property Strategy and Asset Management Plan ([Asset Management Plan 2025](#)), which aligns property holdings with corporate priorities and strategic objectives. The key aims outlined in these documents are to:

## Appendix 5 – Capital Strategy

- Identify sites and capital receipts for delivery or purchase of Affordable Housing and Temporary Accommodation.
  - Ensure council operational assets and buildings are safe, well maintained and used effectively and efficiently to meet service need.
  - Deliver environmentally sustainable solutions as part of our property maintenance programme.
  - Provide accommodation to support the city economy and local businesses and city regeneration and preserve the city's culture and heritage.
  - Seek value for money and best use of our assets to achieve income and capital receipts and reduce expenditure to support the MTFS
- 6.2. There are key actions within the Asset Management Plan to rationalise our operational portfolio to reduce operational property costs by 25% by 2030, release urban fringe sites, rationalise our commercial portfolio and achieve net capital receipts of at least £50.000m by 2030 to support the MTFS. The Asset Strategy Programme has been developed to deliver these actions. Several assets from the commercial portfolio have been identified for disposal. This action also reduces risk within the portfolio and mitigates the council's liability.
- 6.3. Post pandemic there remains a high level of voids within the multi-let office properties. The future of these properties will be considered as part of the Asset Strategy
- 6.4. New England House, a central multi-let building accommodating office and light industrial tenants supporting creative and digital sectors of the local economy was closed following the identification of fire risks within the building. The closure of this building represented a significant rent loss to the commercial portfolio.
- 6.5. The table below sets out the current composition of the commercial property portfolio by both asset value and income. It highlights that the contracted property portfolio brings in half the revenue and the seafront bring in 20%. Both are predominantly retail based, showing the importance of the sector. New England House was bringing in nearly 10% of total income, so its closure will have a large impact, which has been recognised in the 2026/27 revenue budget.

## Appendix 5 – Capital Strategy

Portfolio		Income £'000	Income as a % of total income	Property Value £'000	Value as % of total Value	Average Yield of portfolio
Agricultural portfolio managed by Knight Frank	All	919	7.58%	63,820	30.77%	1.44%
Seafront	Commercial Properties	2,552	21.04%	36,743	17.72%	7.70%
	Seasonal & Concessions	155	1.28%			
	Chalets & Beach huts	121	1.00%			
Commercial property managed by Stiles Harold Williams	Contracted Property Portfolio (Predominantly Retail)	6,170	50.88%	85,710	41.33%	7.20%
	New England House*	1,175	9.69%	8,475	4.09%	13.86%
	Hove Technology Centre	111	0.91%	1,780	0.86%	6.22%
	Industrial House	281	2.32%	1,613	0.78%	17.43%
	Phoenix House	317	2.61%	3,854	1.86%	8.21%
	Lydean House	328	2.70%	5,403	2.61%	6.06%
<b>Total</b>		<b>£12,128</b>		<b>£207,399</b>		<b>5.85%</b>

\*New England House closed towards the end of 2025 and now produces no income

Note – the table excludes several sites managed “in-house” such as community centres, car parks and legacy sites owned by the council.

### 7. Loans to External Bodies

7.1. The council can provide capital loans to external bodies and organisations to support activities that align with the Council Plan and /or service objectives. These loans may, for example help fund projects that stimulate economic growth within Brighton & Hove.

#### **Governance**

7.2. Under the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003, any loan provided to an external organisation to fund expenditure that would be considered capital expenditure if it would be treated as capital if incurred directly by the council itself be treated. Consequently, all external loans are subject to the same governance framework that is applicable to the council's capital expenditure as set out in Section 2 of the strategy.

#### **Decision making & procedure**

7.3. Loans to external organisations are therefore considered on a case-by-case basis and are subject to a thorough due diligence process to ensure:

- the business plan receives adequate scrutiny by finance, legal and service officers, including external advisory where necessary, to evaluate the level of risk;
- the loan is compliant with the Subsidy Control regime;
- the recipient of the loan can afford the repayments.

7.4. As all external loans are classed as capital expenditure, Cabinet is ultimately responsible for agreeing the loan as part of the capital programme and will receive a report outlining the relative risks, benefits and financial and legal implications in each instance.

## Appendix 5 – Capital Strategy

- 7.5. The council is required to review all outstanding loans to external organisations. In line with accounting standards, the council must assess the risk of non-repayment and make an impairment provision with the likelihood that part or all the loan may not be recoverable
- 7.6. No overall cap has been set on the total loan value that may be provided to external bodies. Each loan is considered and approved based on its own merits.

### **Current portfolio**

- 7.7. The council has the following loans to external bodies outstanding as of 31 December 2025:

Organisation	Loan Value at 31 Dec 2025 £m	Purpose of loan & link to council priorities / service objectives	Meeting at which loan approved
Wave Community Bank (formerly East Sussex Credit Union)	0.250	To increase the reserves base for the organisation to increase affordable lending to local people and businesses, and to increase the provision of crisis loans to Brighton and Hove residents.	(1) PR&G Committee, 21 January 2016 (2) Extended to March 2036 by Policy & Resources Committee on 16 March 2023 (3) Additional variation in principle of £0.125m proposed in TBM Month 9 report to Cabinet on 12 February 2026. If approved and implemented, the loan will increase to a total value of £0.375m
Housing Joint Venture	0.834	Joint venture partnership with Hyde Housing Association for the delivery of 1,000 affordable homes within the city.	(1) PR&G Committee, 12 October 2017 (2) P&R Committee 21 October 2020 (3) Cabinet 21 June 2024
Royal Pavilion & Museum Trust	3.000	To provide a cash-flow loan facility for the Royal Pavilion and Museum Trust.	Cabinet, 21 June 2024 Cabinet, 11 December 2025
Brighton Dome & Brighton Festival Ltd	2.704	To support the capital redevelopment works to the Corn Exchange and Studio Theatre.	P&R Committee 13 October 2016

- 7.8. The council has provided £3.000m through a cash flow loan facility to the Royal Pavilion & Museums Trust (RPMT) to be repaid over a maximum period of 10 years. This was agreed at the Special P&R Committee of 30 July 2020 in response to the potential cash flow impacts of the pandemic. The December 2025 Cabinet report

approved deferral of loan repayments until 2031 but at the same time agreed a flat annual fee which reduced the pressure on the council's revenue budget.

- 7.9. The council has provided a loan of £2.704m to Brighton Dome & Brighton Festival Ltd toward capital works for the redevelopment of the Corn Exchange and Studio Theatre. The loan supported match funding toward a successful National Heritage Lottery and Arts Council grant for the project.

### **8. Financial and other Guarantees**

- 8.1. The council has provided guarantees relating to the performance of the following arrangements:

#### ***Brighton & Hove Seaside Community Homes (BHSCCH)***

The council has provided a rent guarantee to underwrite the rental income where Local Housing Allowance rates do not keep pace with inflation. The amount outstanding as of the 31 March 2025 under this rent guarantee was £0.849m. The contract stipulates that the rent guarantee will be returned to the council when BHSCCH achieves a level of surpluses as defined by the contract and business plan.

#### **Other schemes**

The primary purpose of the following schemes is not financial return, but rather to support the council's strategic priorities for the city. However, each project is expected to generate net revenue income for the council and is therefore included here for completeness.

#### ***Housing Joint Venture***

- 8.2. The council entered a joint venture with Hyde Housing Association to deliver 1,000 affordable homes across the city. The business plan and legal framework for Homes for Brighton & Hove LLP was updated to reflect the adoption of a new development company model. Under this model, HBH develops the homes and sells them to Council and Hyde.
- 8.3. The funding structure for these developments continues to require the council to provide loan equity to the LLP in accordance with existing loan facility agreements. These loans are issued to the LLP based on cashflow requirements and are repaid in full once the developments reach a more mature stage. The primary funding source for the council is the HRA which enters into purchase agreements when the LLP disposes of the homes. Development profits are then distributed between the council and Hyde.
- 8.4. HRA investment is included within the capital programme and is funded through HRA borrowing and where applicable external grant funding.
- 8.5. The first two development sites - Coldean Lane and Portslade – are now complete, delivering a total of 346 homes. The approval given was for 50% of the homes to be purchased by the HRA for an investment of up to £41.0m, including fees, and utilising Homes England Grant funding.
- 8.6. The next phase of developments continues to be worked on, with a further 306 homes being developed on the Sackville Trading Estate site and where the council will be purchasing 183 (60%) homes via the HRA which was approved at the June 2024 Cabinet meeting. This site is utilising Homes England Funding and will deliver homes at social rents. Further developments will continue to come forward which will require individual sign-off before progressing to the development stage.

**9. Proportionality & Summary of Risk Exposure**

- 9.1. The Capital Strategy provides single, comprehensive view of the council’s non-treasury investments, enabling transparent assessment of their overall scale, proportionality, and contribution to the council’s objectives.
- 9.2. The revised Prudential Code requires local authorities to report a new indicator comparing income from non-treasury investments with the council’s net revenue budget. This indicator is presented in the table below. compared to the net budget. This is shown in the table below.

<b>Net income from Non-Treasury Investments to Net Revenue Stream</b>	<b>2026/27 Estimate £m</b>	<b>2027/28 Estimate £m</b>	<b>2028/29 Estimate £m</b>
Income from commercial properties	12.691	12.917	13.150
<i>Net revenue budget</i>	<b>341.426</b>	<b>349.068</b>	<b>354.335</b>
<b><i>Ratio of net income from non-treasury investments to net revenue budget</i></b>	<b>3.72%</b>	<b>3.70%</b>	<b>3.71%</b>

- 9.3. The council’s underlying need to borrow is portrayed by its Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). The CFR increases where capital expenditure is financed through borrowing and reduces overtime through the application of the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), which is set aside to repay borrowing, as described in paragraph 1.8.
- 9.4. Any non-treasury investments funded through borrowing will therefore increase the council’s CFR. The table below shows the proportion of the General Fund CFR (excluding PFI liabilities and Rights of Use Assets) outstanding on 31 March 2025 and forecast to remain outstanding at 31 March 2026. This includes borrowing relating to the Council’s commercial investments where MRP has not yet been applied.

	<b>As at 31/03/25</b>	<b>Forecast to 31/03/26</b>
General Assets CFR	96%	97%
Phoenix House	2%	1%
Lyndean House	2%	2%
<b>Total General Fund CFR</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**10. Knowledge & Skills**

- 10.1. The council’s Section 151 Officer holds delegated responsibility for treasury and capital activities. This requires the post-holder to be a qualified accountant. The Section 151 Officer is a CIPFA-qualified, appointed by full Council, and maintains professional competence through ongoing Continuous Professional Development (CPD).
- 10.2. Treasury and capital strategies are prepared by a team of professional qualified accountants with extensive local authority experience. The council also engages MUFG (previously Link Asset Services) for specialist treasury and technical advice.

## Appendix 5 – Capital Strategy

Officers involved in treasury management maintain up-to-date knowledge through CPD.

- 10.3. All commercial projects are supported by multidisciplinary project teams drawn from relevant service areas. External specialist advice regarding commercial projects is commissioned when required.
- 10.4. The council's investment property portfolios are managed by Knight Frank (agricultural) and Stiles Harold Williams (SHW) (commercial), Both portfolios transferred to the new managing agents from July 2025. They are both leading property companies and provide dedicated teams of chartered surveyors supported by in-house specialist, ensuring that the council's Estates Management Team has access to comprehensive property expertise and services.
- 10.5. Training is provided to Members involved in decision-making and scrutiny of treasury matters to ensure their skills and knowledge remain current. The most recent took place on 19 January 2024, with an online version available on the Members' learning platform. Further training will be arranged as needed.

### **11. S151 Chief Financial Officer Assurance Statement**

- 11.1. This Capital Strategy has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the 2021 CIPFA Prudential Code and the 2021 Treasury Management Code.
- 11.2. The Section 151 Chief Financial Officer has reviewed the Strategy with reference to CIPFA best practice and specialist external advice. The Officer is satisfied that the Strategy is prudent, sustainable and affordable within the Council's established risk framework and confirms that it is fully aligned with the of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and Treasury Management Strategy Statement.

#### **List of Annexes:**

Annex A – Capital Resources 2026/27

Annex B - List of current non-treasury investments

Annex C - List of planned non-treasury investments

Annex D – Summary tables of Capital Investment Plans for 2026/27 to 2030/31

### Capital Resources 2026/27

A fully funded Capital Investment Programme is proposed for 2026/27 based on current approved project budgets and anticipating net usable capital receipts £31.521m. Table 1 sets out the proposed financing for 2026/27.

The outlook for 2027/28 and future years will be clearer after confirmation of government grant allocations. Government support continues to be provided through capital grants, most of which are un-ringfenced, except for the Devolved Schools Capital Grant, which must be allocated to schools.

TABLE 1: Capital Resources	2026/27
	£ million
Capital Grants:	
- Capital grant announcements in previous years and profiled for spend in 2026/27	22.393
- New capital grants	37.716
<b>Total Government Support</b>	<b>60.109</b>
Capital Receipts Reserve	31.521
Capital Reserves	0.184
Specific Reserves	1.000
External Contributions	3.564
Direct Revenue Funding – Housing Revenue Account	16.777
Direct Revenue Funding – Service Departments	0.500
Council Borrowing	126.161
<b>Total Capital Resources</b>	<b>239.816</b>

### Capital Grants

The Government provides capital grants to support specific areas of capital expenditure. In 2026/27, the council expects to receive £37.716m in new capital grants, as set out in Table 2, along with £22.393m from previously announced grants now reprofiled for use in 2026/27.

Additional grants may be announced during the year; these will be reported to Cabinet through TBM budget monitoring.

The new capital grants are in three main areas:

- **Education** - £4.543m (estimated, pending announcement) to support the maintenance of school buildings and Children’s Centres.
- **Transport** - £5.300m (estimated, pending announcement) for transport schemes and highways maintenance, including the Highways Maintenance and Integrated Transport block grants, assumed allocations for pothole repairs, the Highways Maintenance Incentive fund, and Local Transport Plan funding.

## Appendix 5 – Capital Strategy

- **Better Care Fund** – allocation to support the Disabled Facilities Grant programme and Adult Social Care investment to be confirmed.

<b>TABLE 2: New Grants announced for 2026/27</b>	<b>£ million</b>
Education Capital Maintenance *	3.650
Schools Devolved Capital *	0.500
Basic Need Capital Grant	0.393
Disabled Facilities Grant & Better Care *	1.500
Highways Maintenance Block Allocation (LTP) *	1.974
Integrated Transport Block Allocation (LTP) *	3.326
Homes England Grant HRA	18.545
Brownfield Infrastructure Levy (HRA)	4.173
Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) Grant (HRA)	1.964
Brownfield Land Release Grant (HRA)	1.511
Energy Grants (HRA)	0.180
<b>Total</b>	<b>37.716</b>

\* Funding to be confirmed by government

### Capital Receipts

The funding of the capital investment programme assumes estimated net capital receipts of £31.521m in 2026/27. This includes larger receipts from the disposal of Bartholomew House, a property in Meeting house Lane and the Connaught Road Annex, amongst a range of other property disposals as reported within the Residential Property Strategy report and Commercial Investment Property Strategy report to committee in December 2023, the disposals approved by Cabinet on 27 June 2024, 24 April 2025 and 16 October 2025. These receipts are planned for investment in 2026/27 and future years' capital programmes. Progress will be closely monitored throughout the year for all receipts and reported through the regular TBM budget monitoring reports. Failure to achieve some of these receipts will require the capital allocations for future years to be reviewed.

The net receipts from 'right to buy' sales are reinvested directly in delivering additional housing. A sum of £8.895m is included for the application of receipts from right to buy sales within the 2026/27 capital programme, included in the £31.521m above.

### Capital Reserves

Capital reserves comprise of unspent resources carried forward from previous years that are already earmarked for specific schemes. These balances are monitored on a rolling basis by updating projections and comparing them with commitments in the approved Capital Investment Programme.

### Specific Reserves

Specific reserves will continue to support schemes aligned with their defined purposes or wider corporate priorities. These include:

## Appendix 5 – Capital Strategy

- **Brighton and Hove Seaside Community Homes** - funding refurbishment and maintenance in line with housing agreement.
- **Property Service Charge Reserve** - supporting investment at Phoenix House
- **Madeira Terrace Crowdfunding Reserve** - contributing to the Madeira Terraces redevelopment.
- **Sports Facilities Reserve** – funding maintenance works at Prince Regent.
- **Income Leaseholder and Earmarked Rent Reserves** - supporting delivery of the HRA Capital Investment programme.

### External Contributions

The council will utilise £3.564m of external contributions in 2026/27, comprising donations, partner and private contributions, and S106 funding. This includes £2.614m from Adur and Worthing to work in partnership to deliver The Brighton Marina to River Adur coastal protection works. Private donations will support the Royal Pavilion Estate Phase 2 development, and contributions from FMG Foundation will fund The Level – Velo Café Building.

### Direct Revenue Funding

The General Fund and Housing Revenue Account budget proposals include £17.277m of direct revenue funding. A summary of allocations is shown in the table below.

<b>TABLE 3: Direct Revenue Funding 2026/27</b>	<b>£ million</b>
Schools Services – Structural maintenance for schools	0.500
<b>Total General Fund Services</b>	<b>0.500</b>
Housing Revenue Account	16.777
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>17.277</b>

### Council Borrowing under the Prudential Code

Council borrowing under the Prudential Code is permitted only where it can be demonstrated to be affordable - for example, when investment future service efficiencies, revenue savings or reduced budget costs. For 2026/27 it is proposed that the council undertakes borrowing of £126.161m to finance capital expenditure plans set out in Table 4.

<b>TABLE 4: Council Borrowing in 2026/27</b>	<b>£ million</b>
<b><i>Homes &amp; Adult Social Care</i></b>	
Knoll House Building Works	0.850
New Steine Mews – Health and Safety Works	0.100
Housing Needs IT System	0.073
HRA Capital Investment Programme 2026-27	73.794
<b><i>City Operations</i></b>	
<b><i>Environmental Services</i></b>	
Public Conveniences	0.555

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On-Street and Communal Bin Infrastructure	0.563
CNF - Improving the Communal Bin System	0.710
Procurement of Vehicles	2.500
<u>Place</u>	
Madeira Terraces Regeneration - Project Support	7.905
King Alfred Leisure Centre Regeneration Project	20.000
King Alfred Leisure Centre Regeneration project	3.483
<u>Culture &amp; Environment</u>	
Royal Pavilion Estate (Phase 1)	0.398
Royal Pavilion Estate Development (Phase 2 Gardens)	0.100
Brighton Centre Essential Maintenance	0.200
Parks and Open Spaces Investment	0.129
Seafront Railings Upgrade	0.280
Prince Regent Capital Works	0.378
The Level - Velo Cafe Building	0.080
Braypool Pavilion	0.075
Waterhall Sports Ground Pavilion	0.025
Happy Valley Pavilion	0.015
Victoria Rec Pavilion	0.100
Greenleas Pavilion	0.345
Stanmer Park - security	0.080
<u>City Infrastructure</u>	
Brighton Marina to River Adur Works	3.511
Valley Gardens Phase 3 (LTP)	2.557
Seafront Heritage Lighting Renewal Programme	0.800
CNF - Determining Emission Category Citywide Vehicle Fleet	0.030
Zebra 2 - Zero Emissions Buses	0.425
CCTV Expansion & Upgrade	0.150
<u>Digital Innovation</u>	
IT&D FIT Programme	0.240
IT Equipment for Members	0.040
IT&D Data Program	0.260
Local Area Network Hardware Refresh	0.380
New Digital Transformation Programme	1.250
<b>Central Hub</b>	

## Appendix 5 – Capital Strategy

<u>Property &amp; Finance</u>	
Madeira Terrace Structural Repairs	0.080
CNF - Carbon Reduction Measures to Operational Buildings	0.500
Planned Maintenance of operational buildings	1.500
Planned Maintenance - Social Services Buildings	0.500
<u>Welfare Revs and Business Support</u>	
Corporate Systems Improvement	1.200
<b>Total for Capital Programme</b>	<b>126.161</b>

## ANNEX B

**List of current non-treasury Investments**

Finance officers review these investments on an ongoing basis to monitor risks and escalate updates through the Capital Programme Board and Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) as required. The below table shows the Value as at 31 March 2025.

<b>Investment Type</b>	<b>Scheme Name</b>	<b>Value</b>
Investment Property Portfolio	Urban & Agriculture Property Portfolios	£214.000m
Loan to external body	The Wave Community Bank (formerly ESCU)	£0.250m
Loan to external body	Royal Pavilion and Museums Trust	£3.000m
Loan to external body	Corn Exchange & Studio Theatre	£2.704m
Financial Guarantee	Brighton & Hove Seaside Community Homes	£0.849m
Housing Property Joint Venture	Housing Joint Venture	£0.834m

**List of planned non-treasury Investments**

Finance officers review this list on an ongoing basis to monitor risks and escalate updates through the Capital Programme Board.

The TBM Month 9 Report 2025/26 (on this agenda) proposes an increase to the third-party loan to Wave Community Bank of £0.125m, which, if approved, would bring the loan to the total value of £0.375m. This loan variation would be approved in principle, as a variation will be subject to a Subsidy Control assessment.

*There are no other planned non-treasury investments.*

## Summary Tables for Capital Investment Programme 2026/27 to 2030/31

Families, Children & Wellbeing	Year 1 Budget	Year 2 Budget	Year 3 Budget	Year 4 Budget	Year 5 Budget
	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000	2029/30 £000	2030/31 £000
<b>Approved Schemes</b>					
Universal Free School Meals	182	-	-	-	-
High Needs Provision Capital	1,419	-	-	-	-
<b>Identified Schemes Not Yet approved</b>					
Education Capital Maintenance Grant	3,650	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600
Schools Devolved Formula Capital Grant	500	500	500	500	500
Structural Maintenance Contribution	500	500	500	500	500
Basic Need Capital Grant (26-27 onwards)	393	249	-	-	-
<b>Total Families, Children &amp; Wellbeing</b>	<b>6,644</b>	<b>4,849</b>	<b>4,600</b>	<b>4,600</b>	<b>4,600</b>

City Operations	Year 1 Budget	Year 2 Budget	Year 3 Budget	Year 4 Budget	Year 5 Budget
	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000	2029/30 £000	2030/31 £000
<b>Approved Schemes</b>					
Madeira Terraces Regeneration - Project Support	7,905	300	-	-	-
Madeira Terraces Bequest Funding	30	-	-	-	-
Public Conveniences	555	640	-	-	-
On-Street and Communal Bin Infrastructure	563	563	-	-	-
CNF - Improving the Communal Bin System	710	-	-	-	-
Procurement of Vehicles	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500

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Brighton Marina to River Adur Works	8,000	-	-	-	-
Valley Gardens Phase 3 (LTP)	2,557	-	-	-	-
Seafront Heritage Lighting Renewal Programme	800	653	-	-	-
CNF - Determining Emission Category Citywide Vehicle Fleet	30	-	-	-	-
National Highways A27 Diversion Improvement	-	(93)	-	-	-
Zebra 2 - Zero Emissions Buses	2,092	-	-	-	-
CCTV Expansion & Upgrade	150	150	-	-	-
Active Travel A259	5,000	-	-	-	-
Stanmer Pond Restoration & Access Improvement	76	-	-	-	-
Parks and Open Spaces Investment	129	254	276	-	-
Royal Pavilion Estate (Phase 1)	398	-	-	-	-
Royal Pavilion Estate Development (Phase 2 Gardens)	2,800	2,650	98	-	-
Seafront Railings Upgrade	280	-	-	-	-
Prince Regent Capital Works	500	-	-	-	-
Seafront Facilities Improvements	63	-	-	-	-
The Level - Velo Cafe Building	557	-	-	-	-
Braypool Pavilion	75	125	900	-	-
Waterhall Sports Ground Pavilion	25	75	100	1,400	-
Happy Valley Pavilion	15	25	220	-	-
Victoria Rec Pavilion	100	-	-	-	-
Greenleas Pavilion	345	-	-	-	-
Patcham Place Pavilion	-	30	180	-	-
Preston Park Pavilion	-	40	360	-	-
East Brighton Park Pavilion	-	40	360	-	-
Heath Hill Pavilion	-	200	-	-	-
Brighton Centre Essential Maintenance	200	-	-	-	-
IT&D FIT Programme	240	-	-	-	-
IT Equipment for Members	40	40	40	40	-
Laptop Refresh 2023-25	28	-	-	-	-

**Appendix 5 – Capital Strategy**

IT&D Data Program	260	-	-	-	-
IT&D Projects	380	-	-	-	-
Customer Digital	1,570	1,550	1,550	1,550	-
Customer Digital Programme - Comms website	402	-	-	-	-
<b><u>Identified Schemes Not Yet approved</u></b>					
New England House - City Deal	3,483	-	-	-	-
Strategic Investment Fund	250	250	250	250	250
King Alfred Leisure Centre Regeneration Project	30,000	30,000	-	-	-
Local Transport Plan - Capital Grant	3,326	3,390	3,698	5,206	5,300
Pothole Action Fund - Capital Grant	1,974	1,910	1,602	94	-
A27 Junction Improvements	-	3,515	2,800	9,311	-
Royal Pavilion Estate Development (Phase 3 Museum)	-	4,000	-	-	-
Stanmer Park - security	80	-	-	-	-
IT&D Fund	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
New Digital Transformation Programme	1,250	1,250	1,250	1,250	-
<b>Total City Operations</b>	<b>79,738</b>	<b>55,057</b>	<b>17,184</b>	<b>22,601</b>	<b>9,050</b>

	Year 1 Budget	Year 2 Budget	Year 3 Budget	Year 4 Budget	Year 5 Budget
<b>Homes &amp; Adult Social Care - HRA</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29</b>	<b>2029/30</b>	<b>2030/31</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
<b><u>Approved Schemes</u></b>					
Disrepair Capital Works	300	200	100	100	-
Windlesham Close	1,055	-	-	-	-
Fire Safety	(4,800)	-	-	-	-
New Build Refurbishment (Converting Spaces in Existing Buildings)	3,000	-	-	-	-
Structural Repairs	15,719	-	-	-	-
Moulsecoomb Hub - Housing	10,388	-	-	-	-
Rotherfield Crescent	1,000	-	-	-	-
Eastergate Road	6,594	-	-	-	-
EICR Compliance Programme	(3,000)	-	-	-	-
Large Panel Systems	5,133	-	-	-	-
Hollingbury Library	(35)	-	-	-	-
Portslade Village Centre	239	-	-	-	-
<b><u>Identified Schemes Not Yet approved</u></b>					
HRA Capital Investment Programme 2026-27	90,746	-	-	-	-
HRA Capital Investment Programme 2027-28	-	136,586	-	-	-
HRA Capital Investment Programme 2028-29	-	-	100,239	-	-
HRA Capital Investment Programme 2029-30	-	-	-	45,348	-
HRA Capital Investment Programme 2030-31	-	-	-	-	43,505
<b>Total Homes &amp; Adult Social Care - HRA</b>	<b>126,339</b>	<b>136,786</b>	<b>100,339</b>	<b>45,448</b>	<b>43,505</b>

	Year 1 Budget	Year 2 Budget	Year 3 Budget	Year 4 Budget	Year 5 Budget
Homes & Adult Social Care	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000	2029/30 £000	2030/31 £000
<b><u>Approved Schemes</u></b>					
Knoll House Building Works	850	-	-	-	-
New Steine Mews – Health and Safety Works	100	-	-	-	-
LDV On-Going Costs - Community Homes (B&HSCH)	500	500	500	500	500
Housing Needs System	73	-	-	-	-
<b><u>Identified Schemes Not Yet approved</u></b>					
Better Care Funding - Capital Grant	500	500	500	500	500
Disabled Facilities Grant (Better Care Funding) - Capital Grant	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Temporary Accommodation	10,000	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Homes &amp; Adult Social Care - GF</b>	<b>13,023</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>

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	Year 1 Budget	Year 2 Budget	Year 3 Budget	Year 4 Budget	Year 5 Budget
<b>Central Hub</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29</b>	<b>2029/30</b>	<b>2030/31</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
<b><u>Approved Schemes</u></b>					
Madeira Terrace Structural Repairs	80	40	35	-	-
CNF - Carbon Reduction Measures to Operational Buildings	500	500	500	500	-
Imperial Arcade/Arcade Buildings	116	-	-	-	-
Corporate Systems Improvement	1,200	205	-	-	-
<b><u>Identified Schemes Not Yet approved</u></b>					
Managing Staff Changes (Restructure / Redundancy)	1,250	500	500	500	-
Modernisation Enablers	3,326	3,326	2,326	1,326	-
Invest to Save (4-year plans)	4,100	2,000	900	900	-
Modernisation Legacy Projects (Pre 1/4/25)	-	-	-	-	-
Asset Management Fund	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Planned Maintenance of operational buildings	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Planned Maintenance - Social Services Buildings	500	500	500	500	500
Commercial Asset Investment Fund (CAIF)	500	500	500	500	500
<b>Total Central Hub</b>	<b>14,072</b>	<b>10,071</b>	<b>7,761</b>	<b>6,726</b>	<b>3,500</b>

## TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT (TMSS) 2026/27

### Including Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 **Background**

The council is required to set a balanced budget, which broadly means that cash raised and received during the year will meet cash expenditure. Part of the treasury management operation is to ensure that this cash flow is adequately planned, with cash being available when it is needed. Cash can often be set aside (e.g. reserves) or received ahead of when it is required, for example, government capital grant funding, and therefore cash balances are invested in counterparties or instruments commensurate with the council's risk appetite and always prioritising adequate liquidity before considering investment return.

The second main function of the treasury management service is the funding of the council's capital plans. These capital plans provide a guide to the borrowing need of the council, essentially the longer-term cash flow planning, to ensure that the council can meet its capital spending obligations. This management of longer-term cash may involve arranging long or short-term loans or using longer-term cash flow surpluses. On occasion, when it is prudent and economic, any debt previously drawn down may be restructured to meet council risk or cost objectives.

The contribution that the treasury management function makes to the authority is critical, as the balance of debt and investment operations ensure liquidity and the ability to meet spending commitments as they fall due, either on day-to-day revenue spending or for larger capital projects. The treasury operations will see a balance of the interest costs of debt and the investment income arising from cash deposits affecting the available budget. Since cash balances generally result from holding reserves and balances, it is paramount to ensure adequate security of the sums invested, as a loss of principal will in effect result in a direct loss to the General Fund.

CIPFA defines treasury management as:

*“The management of the local authority’s borrowing, investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.”*

Due to the council's overall challenging financial position, the Council has applied to Government for Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) in 2026/27 in the form of a capitalisation direction. If approved, this would allow the council to treat certain types of revenue expenditure as capital that can be funded by borrowing or capital receipts as opposed to from the revenue budget. The impact of this on the council's borrowing strategy and treasury management activity have been reflected in this TMSS, with specific implications separately reported where possible to explicitly demonstrate the financial implications.

Whilst any commercial initiatives or loans to third parties will impact on the treasury function, these activities are generally classed as non-treasury activities (arising usually from capital expenditure) and are separate from the day-to-day treasury management activities.

### 1.2 **Reporting Requirements**

#### 1.2.1 **Capital Strategy**

The CIPFA 2021 Prudential and Treasury Management Codes require all local authorities to prepare a capital strategy report, to provide the following:

- a high-level long-term overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of services;
- an overview of how the associated risks are managed;
- the implications for future financial sustainability.

The aim of the strategy is to ensure that all the Authority's elected members fully understand the overall long-term policy objectives and resulting Capital Strategy requirements, governance procedures and risk appetite.

This Capital Strategy is reported separately from the Treasury Management Strategy Statement with non-treasury investments being reported through the former. This ensures the separation of the core treasury function under security, liquidity and yield principles, and the policy-driven and commercial investments usually driven by expenditure on an asset.

### 1.2.2 Treasury Management reporting

The Council is currently required to receive and approve, as a minimum, three main treasury reports each year, which incorporate a variety of policies, estimates and actuals.

- a. **Prudential and treasury indicators, and treasury strategy** (this report) - The first, and most important report, is forward looking and covers:
  - the capital investment plans, (including prudential indicators);
  - a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy, (how residual capital expenditure is charged to revenue over time);
  - the Treasury Management Strategy, (how the investments and borrowings are to be organised), including treasury indicators; and
  - an Annual Investment Strategy, (the parameters on how investments are to be managed).
- b. **A mid-year treasury management report** – This is primarily a progress report and will update members on the capital position, amending prudential indicators as necessary, and whether any policies require revision. This will be presented as an appendix to the TBM Month 7 Report to Cabinet in December
- c. **An annual treasury management report** – This is a backward looking review document and provides details of a selection of actual prudential and treasury indicators and actual treasury operations compared to the estimates within the strategy. This will be presented as an appendix to the TBM Outturn Report to Cabinet, typically in June or July.

*This Council delegates responsibility for implementation and monitoring of treasury management to the Cabinet and responsibility for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions to the Section 151 Officer.*

The above reports are required to be adequately scrutinised before being recommended to the Council. This role is undertaken by the Cabinet.

In addition to the three major reports detailed above, interim monitoring reporting is also required. However, these additional reports do not have to be reported to Full Council but do require to be adequately scrutinised. This role is undertaken by the Cabinet and will be incorporated into TBM5 and TBM9 monitoring reports presented

in October and February of each year, with the other quarters being fulfilled by the mid-year and annual end of year reports.

### **1.3 Treasury Management Strategy for 2026/27**

The strategy for 2026/27 covers two main areas:

#### **1.3.1 Capital issues:**

- the capital expenditure plans (section 2), including expenditure allowable under capitalisation direction, and the associated prudential indicators (Annex C);
- the minimum revenue provision (MRP) policy (Section 3).

#### **1.3.2 Treasury management issues:**

- the current treasury position (section 1.5);
- the borrowing strategy (section 2);
- policy on borrowing in advance of need (section 2.5);
- debt rescheduling (section 2.6);
- the investment strategy (section 4);
- creditworthiness policy (section 4.4);
- the policy on the use of external service providers (section 5.3).
- prospects for interest rates (Annex B); and
- treasury indicators which limit the treasury risk and activities of the council (Annex C);

These elements cover the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003, the CIPFA Prudential Code, MHCLG (previously DHLUC) MRP Guidance, the CIPFA Treasury Management Code and MHCLG Investment Guidance.

### **1.4 Treasury Management Policy Statement**

The policies and objectives of the council's treasury management activities are as follows:

- i) This council defines its treasury management activities as:
 

*'The management of the authority's investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks'.*
- ii) This council regards the successful identification, monitoring and control of risk to be the prime criteria by which the effectiveness of its treasury management activities will be measured. Accordingly, the analysis and reporting of treasury management activities will focus on their risk implications for the council, and any financial instruments entered into to manage these risks.
- iii) This council acknowledges that effective treasury management will provide support towards the achievement of its business and service objectives. It is therefore committed to the principles of achieving value for money in treasury management, and to employing suitable comprehensive performance management techniques, within the context of effective risk management.

## 1.5 Current Treasury Portfolio Position

A summary of the council's borrowing & investment portfolios as at 31 December 2025 and forecast at the end of the financial year is shown in **Table 1** below:

Table 1	Actual at 31 December 2025			Forecast to 31 March 2026		
	£'000	% of portfolio	Average Rate*	£'000	% of portfolio	Average Rate
<b>Treasury Investments</b>						
UK Banks	5,720	16.9%	4.39%	5,720	18.6%	4.64%
Non-UK Banks	5,000	14.8%	4.62%	5,000	16.3%	4.62%
Building Societies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Local Authorities	-	-	-	-	-	-
Money Market Funds (Including VNAV)	13,069	38.7%	3.96%	10,000	32.6%	3.75%
Royal London Funds**	10,000	29.6%	6.75%	10,000	32.6%	6.75%
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>33,789</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>4.96%</b>	<b>30,720</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>4.87%</b>
<b>Borrowing</b>						
PWLB loans	425,296	89.8%	2.95%	485,296	93.1%	3.00%
Market loans	35,000	7.4%	4.31%	35,000	6.7%	4.31%
Local Authorities	13,280	2.8%	4.15%	1,000	0.2%	4.15%
<b>Total external Borrowing</b>	<b>473,576</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>3.08%</b>	<b>521,296</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>3.09%</b>

\*average rate is taken as a snapshot as at 31 December 2025

\*\*The Royal London Funds combined valuation remains below the initial £10.000m investment because fixed income funds such as these reduce in value in a rising interest rate market. The council is still receiving an appropriate level of revenue income from these funds, and the decline in capital value is expected to be short term and therefore not expected to result in an actual capital loss.

## 2 BORROWING STRATEGY

The capital expenditure plans set out in the Capital Strategy provide details of the service activity of the Authority. The treasury management function ensures that the Authority's cash is organised in accordance with the relevant professional codes, so that sufficient cash is available to meet this service activity and the Authority's Capital Strategy. This will involve both the organisation of the cash flow and, where capital plans require, the organisation of appropriate borrowing facilities. The strategy covers the relevant treasury / prudential indicators, the current and projected debt positions, and the Annual Investment Strategy.

Any capital investment, or expenditure allowable under capitalisation direction, that is not funded from new and/or existing resources (e.g. capital grants, receipts from asset sales, revenue contributions or earmarked reserves) increases the council's need to borrow, represented by the council's Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). However, external borrowing does not have to take place immediately to finance its related capital expenditure: the council can utilise cash being held for other purposes (such as earmarked reserves and working capital balances) to temporarily defer the need for external borrowing. This is known as 'internal borrowing' or 'under-borrowing'.

The council's primary objective is to strike an appropriate balance between securing cost certainty and securing low interest rates.

The council operates a two-pool approach for borrowing following the HRA Self Financing regime introduced in March 2012.

## 2.1 *Capital Prudential Indicators*

The Authority's capital expenditure plans, including expenditure allowable under capitalisation direction, are a key driver for Treasury Management activity. The output of the capital expenditure and capitalisation direction is reflected in the prudential indicators, which are designed to assist members' overview and confirm capital expenditure plans.

Tables 2, 3 and 4 show the capital expenditure plans of the Authority, and the implications of these on the Capital Financing Requirement over the 3-year period to 2028/29. These indicators have been included in the Treasury Management Strategy for a number of years to demonstrate the affordability and sustainability of the Authority's capital activity.

A further prudential indicator now required is the Liability Benchmark. This benchmark measures the Authority's external debt levels net of the external investments, with the inclusion of a liquidity buffer against the Authority's CFR projection. This measure assumes that the authority will internally borrow almost all its available cash held in reserves and balances, with an allowance ensure it is able to meet its cash obligations.

There are four components to the Liability Benchmark: -

1. **Existing loan debt outstanding:** the Authority's existing loans that are still outstanding in future years.
2. **Loans CFR:** this is calculated in accordance with the loans CFR definition in the Prudential Code and projected into the future based on approved prudential borrowing and planned MRP.
3. **Net loans requirement:** this will show the Authority's gross loan debt less treasury management investments at the last financial year-end, projected into the future and based on its approved prudential borrowing, planned MRP and any other major cash flows forecast.
4. **Liability benchmark (or gross loans requirement):** this equals net loans requirement plus short-term liquidity allowance.

The Liability Benchmark has been produced for the General Fund and HRA separately, and are shown below in sections 2.2.2 & 2.3.2 with notes to explain each element and the Authority's assumption and forward view.

## 2.2 *General Fund Borrowing Position and Strategy*

The General Fund has been carrying an internal borrowing position (i.e. where the General Fund borrows cash from its own reserves) for a number of years. The General Fund last entered into planned borrowing from the PWLB to reduce the internal borrowing position during 2022/23 in preparation for it increasing again during the current period of high interest rates, to reduce the need to enter into borrowing at those higher rates.

Table 2 below demonstrates that the General Fund has a borrowing need of £53m to support the 2025/26 capital programme. No new long-term external borrowing has been undertaken for the General Fund during the year to date.

Based on latest capital programme projections, it is anticipated that new general fund borrowing of up to £49m (see Table 5) will be required during the remainder of

2025/26 to ensure that the internal borrowing position remains at an appropriate level. Any decision on undertaking new borrowing will be taken in the context of the Council's overall treasury management position, with regards to limits, indicators, economic environment and available balances, particularly during an environment where interest rates are expected to fall. Given the expected interest rate forecasts over the next 12 months it may be beneficial for the council to take short term borrowing and refinance when rates are expected to fall.

### 2.2.1 General Fund Borrowing Strategy for 2026/27

The General Fund (GF) capital programme 2026/27 to 2028/29 forecasts a total of £217m capital investment, £143m of which will be met from existing or new resources. The GF borrowing need over this period is therefore £74m as shown in **Table 2** below. The capital programme position reflects latest forecasts and the outcome of a wider review by the officer led Capital Programme Board to present a more realistic profile and to reduce the borrowing need as much as possible.

Table 2 also presents the additional borrowing requirement as part of the application for Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) in the form of a capitalisation direction. The council intends to treat up to £15m of revenue spend as additional capital expenditure in 2026/27 as part of the capitalisation direction, resulting in an additional borrowing need.

2025/26 Projected £m	Table 2 – General Fund Borrowing Requirement	2026/27 Estimate £m	2027/28 Estimate £m	2028/29 Estimate £m	Total £m
145	GF Capital Expenditure	113	72	32	217
(92)	Funded by Existing Resources	(61)	(59)	(23)	(143)
<b>53</b>	<b>Capital Programme Borrowing</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>74</b>
-	EFS Capitalisation Direction	15	-	-	15
-	Funded by Existing Resources	-	-	-	-
-	<b>EFS Capitalisation Borrowing</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>53</b>	<b>Total Borrowing Requirement</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>89</b>

Of the £74m borrowing need shown for capital projects from 2026/27 to 2028/29, £37m is for projects that are awaiting approval or detailed analysis. Therefore, the timing of borrowing is uncertain, and borrowing decisions for these projects will form part of the viability and due diligence process.

Modelling of the movement of reserves and the Council's capital expenditure plans previously demonstrated that the Council's long-term reserves could support a level of at least £75m of internal borrowing, mitigating the need to undertake new external borrowing. The borrowing strategy for 2026/27 will initially focus on meeting this borrowing need from internal borrowing; i.e. avoiding external borrowing by utilising the council's own surplus cash flows, or by short-term borrowing where required. However, due to an increasing borrowing requirement, reducing reserves, and the revenue budget inclusion of Exceptional Financial Support in the form of capitalisation direction, it is likely that the council will need to enter into new General Fund borrowing at some point during 2026/27.

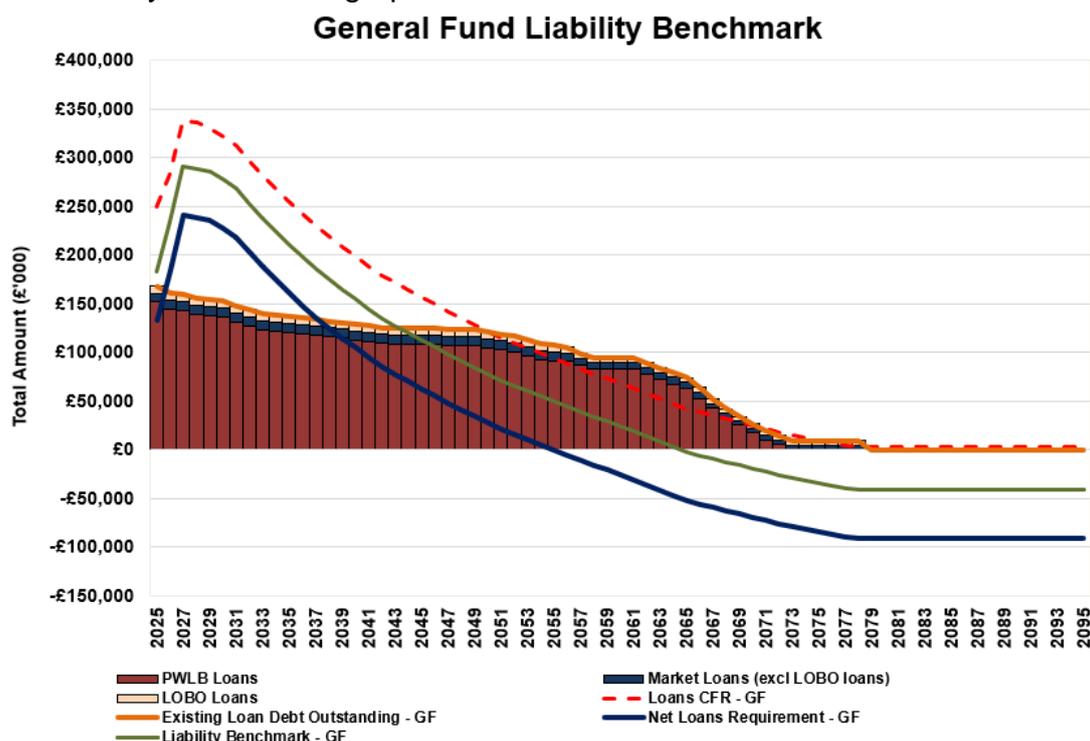
Officers continually review the level of internal borrowing that the General Fund is able to support in the context of prevailing and forecast interest rates, economic outlook and the expected movement in reserves. Modelling of the movement of reserves and the council's capital expenditure plans demonstrates that the General Fund's long-term reserves and balances can support a level of approximately £75m of internal borrowing in the medium term. This will mitigate the increase in the cost

of borrowing and reduce counterparty risk within the council's investment portfolio by reducing the portfolio size.

The internal borrowing position needs to be carefully and continually reviewed to avoid incurring higher borrowing costs in the future at a time when the authority may not be able to avoid new borrowing to finance capital expenditure or refinance maturing debt.

## 2.2.2 General Fund Liability benchmark

The Liability Benchmark graph for the General Fund is shown below:



- 1) **External Debt** – The maturity profile of the current portfolio of general fund external debt is shown by the bars. The debt has a fairly gradual maturity profile which means that there are no requirements to pay back large amounts of debt in any one year.
- 2) **Loans CFR** – This is the projections of the general fund's underlying borrowing requirement (or CFR) based on the current capital plans and capitalisation direction, and is shown by the top, red line. The 2025/26 opening Loans CFR was £242m, and it is expected to peak at £338m in 2026/27. This only shows the Loans CFR projection based on the current 5-year capital programme of the council, therefore if ongoing borrowing is required beyond 2030/31 then the CFR would rise further and for longer.
- 3) **Net Loans Requirement** – The expected net treasury position is shown by the bottom blue line. This shows a projection of the loans requirements measured by opening external debt for 2025/26 (£161m) less the opening external investments for 2025/26 (£20m). The projections are then based on the expected borrowing within the capital programme and the expected movement in reserves and balances, and shows the borrowing requirement if the Council were to utilise all of its reserves and balances for internal borrowing. This shows that the general fund had more external debt than external investments as at 31 March 2025. Based on the current forecast, the net loans requirement peaks at £241m in 2026/27.

- 4) **Liability Benchmark** – The liability benchmark shows the Net Loan Requirement, but with a buffer of £50m incorporated to ensure the General Fund has sufficient cash to meet its cash obligations. This measure shows the level to which the council can internally borrow based on the projection of the capital programme, movement of reserves and allowing for a liquidity buffer. Where the liability benchmark rises above the current debt portfolio, this shows a need for external borrowing, and where the benchmark reduces back below the current portfolio, it shows that the council will be over-borrowed based on current plans.

This graph demonstrates that the General Fund will need to externally borrow during 2026/27, and that the external borrowing requirement will peak at £291m in 2026/27, before falling. The graph also shows that based on current plans, new borrowing will be required until 2038/39, so a shorter period than the Council historically borrows over.

Whilst the Liability Benchmark is a good indicator of the General Fund's direction of travel in terms of borrowing need, it assumes that capital borrowing stops after the current capital planning period and ignores future borrowing beyond the planning period. Therefore, it should not be used in isolation when making long term decisions, but as part of a range of factors.

### 2.3 **Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Borrowing Position and Strategy**

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) carries a fully funded borrowing position (i.e. the HRA does not borrow from its own reserves, but instead undertakes borrowing for its entire borrowing requirement). At the end of 2024/25, the HRA was temporarily under-borrowed from the General Fund by £46m in order to mitigate against undertaking external borrowing during a period of high interest rates. Table 5 demonstrates that the HRA has a new borrowing need of £136m to support the capital programme in 2025/26. External borrowing of £75m has been undertaken for the HRA during the year, therefore, up to £61m of new borrowing is expected to be required for the remainder of 2025/26, either borrowed externally, or temporarily from the General Fund.

#### 2.3.1 **HRA Borrowing Strategy for 2026/27**

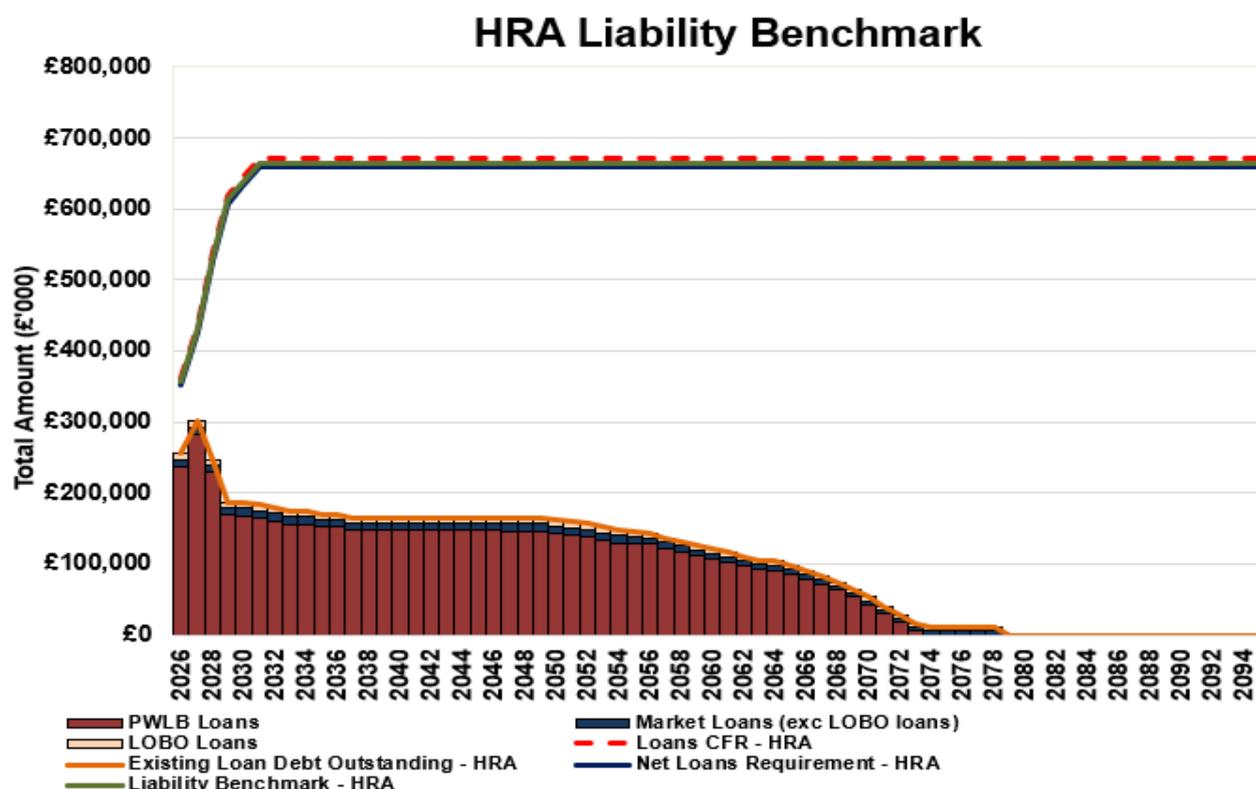
The HRA Capital Programme 2026/27 to 2028/29 forecasts a total £363m of capital investment over the next three years with £107m met from existing or new resources. The increase in the HRA's borrowing need over this period is therefore £256m as shown in **Table 3** below. It is expected that this borrowing need will be met from a combination of borrowing externally and from the General Fund. The extent to which the HRA can borrow from the General Fund is dependent on the level of liquid resources the General Fund has available to lend to the HRA and additionally will depend on the view of interest rate prospects:

- If it is considered that there is a significant likelihood of reducing long term interest rates, long term borrowing should be postponed;
- If it is considered that there is a significant risk of sharply increasing long term interest rates, long term borrowing should be considered.

2025/26 Projected £m	Table 3 – HRA Borrowing Requirement	2026/27 Estimate £m	2027/28 Estimate £m	2028/29 Estimate £m	Total £m
104	HRA Capital Expenditure	126	137	100	363
(43)	Funded by Existing Resources	(52)	(34)	(21)	(107)
61	<b>HRA Borrowing Need</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>256</b>

### 2.3.2 HRA Liability Benchmark

The Liability Benchmark graph for the HRA is shown below:



- 5) **External Debt** – The maturity profile of the current portfolio of HRA external debt is shown by the bars. The debt has a fairly gradual maturity profile which means that there are no requirements to pay back large amounts of debt in any one year. The more pronounced profile in the early years reflects shorter term borrowing undertaken when interest rates are high.
- 6) **Loans CFR** – This is the projections of the HRA's underlying borrowing requirement (or CFR) based on the current capital plans, and is shown by the top, red line. The 2025/26 opening Loans CFR was £301m, and it is expected to peak at £670m in 2030/31. This only shows the Loans CFR projection based on the current capital programme of the council, therefore if ongoing borrowing is required beyond 2030/31 then the CFR would rise further. The CFR is maintained at £670m as the HRA is not required to set aside MRP, and the current assumption is that the HRA will re-finance maturing debt. This strategy is subject to review, depending on the expectation of the long-term borrowing need in the HRA capital programme.
- 7) **Net Loans Requirement** – The expected net treasury position is shown by the bottom blue line. This shows a projection of the loans requirements measured by opening external debt for 2025/26 (£255m) less the opening HRA reserves for

2025/26 (£13m). The projections are then based on the expected borrowing within the capital programme and the expected movement in reserves and balances, and shows the borrowing requirement if the HRA were to utilise all of its reserves for internal borrowing. This line tracks very closely to the Loans CFR due to the borrowing requirement being proportionality high compared to the HRA reserves.

- 8) Liability Benchmark** – The liability benchmark shows the Net Loan Requirement, but with a buffer of £5m incorporated to ensure the HRA has sufficient cash to meet its cash obligations. This measure shows the level to which the HRA can internally borrow based on the projection of the capital programme, movement of reserves and allowing for a liquidity buffer. The HRA liability benchmark demonstrates that the HRA needs to externally borrow for nearly all of its borrowing requirement, which is the current strategy.

The graph demonstrates that the HRA has an ongoing external borrowing requirement to the extent of its CFR.

## 2.4 Capital Financing Requirement

**Table 4** below shows the impacts of the borrowing requirement against the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). The CFR represents the total historic outstanding capital expenditure which has not yet been paid for from either revenue or capital resources. Any capital expenditure which has not immediately been paid for through identified funding will increase the CFR. The CFR is reduced over time in the form of a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) charge, being a statutory annual revenue charge which broadly reduces the indebtedness in line with each asset's life.

The table below also includes the impact of the additional borrowing requirement in the form of a capitalisation direction. Where revenue costs may be treated as capital expenditure by virtue of a capitalisation direction and the costs are financed by debt (borrowing), this will increase the council's CFR and MRP will be due. MRP guidance recommends that MRP in cases of capitalisation direction should be charged over a maximum of 20 years.

2025/26 Estimate	Table 4 – Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)	2026/27 Estimate	2027/28 Estimate	2028/29 Estimate
£m		£m	£m	£m
<b>General Fund</b>				
242	Opening Capital Programme CFR	284	323	322
53	Borrowing Need (table 2)	52	13	9
(11)	Minimum Revenue Provision	(13)	(14)	(15)
<b>284</b>	<b>Closing GF Capital Programme CFR</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>316</b>
-	Opening Capitalisation Direction CFR	-	15	14
-	Borrowing Need (table 2)	15	-	-
-	Minimum Revenue Provision	-	(1)	(1)
-	<b>Closing Capitalisation Direction CFR</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>284</b>	<b>Total Closing General Fund CFR</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>329</b>
<b>Housing Revenue Account</b>				
301	Opening Capital Programme CFR	362	436	539
61	Borrowing Need (table 3)	74	103	79
0	Minimum Revenue Provision	0	0	0
<b>362</b>	<b>Closing HRA Capital Programme CFR</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>618</b>

- \* GF CFR in Table 4 is the underlying need to borrow and excludes PFI and lease arrangements, which are included in the CFR figures in the Prudential Indicators (Annex C).
- \*\* Includes both external debt and sums borrowed temporarily from the General Fund .

**Table 5** below shows the actual expected external debt compared to the capital financing requirement over the next 3 years for both the General Fund and the HRA. This demonstrates that the HRA CFR is expected to be fully funded to 2028/29, and the General Fund is expected to maintain an under-borrowed position.

2025/26 Estimate	Table 5 – Level of Borrowing	2026/27 Estimate	2027/28 Estimate	2028/29 Estimate
£m		£m	£m	£m
<b>General Fund</b>				
161	Capital Programme Opening External Debt	209	248	247
(1)	Expected Debt Maturity	(4)	(1)	(2)
49	Expected New Borrowing	43	-	-
<b>209</b>	<b>Capital Programme Closing External Debt</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>245</b>
<b>284</b>	<b>Capital Financing Requirement (table 4)</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>316</b>
<b>75</b>	<b>Capital Programme Under Borrowing</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>71</b>
-	Capitalisation Direction Opening External Debt	-	15	14
-	Expected Debt Maturity	-	(1)	(1)
-	Expected New Borrowing	15	-	-
-	<b>Capitalisation Direction Closing External Debt</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>
-	<b>Capital Financing Requirement (table 4)</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>
-	<b>Capitalisation Direction Under Borrowing</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Housing Revenue Account</b>				
255	HRA Capital Programme Opening External Debt	362	436	539
(29)	Expected Debt Maturity	(53)	(60)	-
136	Expected New Borrowing	127	163	79
<b>362</b>	<b>HRA Capital Closing External Debt</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>618</b>
<b>362</b>	<b>Capital Financing Requirement (table 4)</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>618</b>
-	<b>HRA Capital Programme Under Borrowing</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

The council's priority is to strike a balance between cost and certainty, and therefore the internal borrowing position will be carefully monitored to avoid incurring higher borrowing costs in the future at a time when the authority may not be able to avoid new borrowing to finance capital expenditure or refinance maturing debt.

## 2.5 Policy on Borrowing in Advance of Need

The council will not borrow purely in order to profit from investment of sums borrowed in advance of need. Any decision to borrow in advance will be within approved Capital Financing Requirement estimates and will be considered carefully to ensure that value for money can be demonstrated and that the council can ensure the security of such funds. Risks associated with any borrowing in advance activity will be subject to prior appraisal and subsequent reporting.

## 2.6 Debt Rescheduling

Officers continue to regularly review opportunities for debt rescheduling but there has been a considerable widening of the difference between new borrowing and

repayment rates, which has resulted in far fewer opportunities to realise any savings or benefits from rescheduling PWLB debt.

The reasons for any rescheduling to take place will include:

- the generation of cash savings and / or discounted cash flow savings;
- helping to fulfil long term treasury strategy aims;
- enhancing the balance of the portfolio (amending the maturity profile and/or the balance of volatility).

The strategy is to continue to seek opportunity to reduce the overall level of the council's debt where prudent to do so, thus providing in future years cost reduction in terms of lower debt repayment costs, and potential for making savings by running down investment balances to repay debt prematurely as short term rates on investments are likely to be lower than rates paid on current debt. All rescheduling will be agreed by the S151 Officer.

## 2.7 Interest Rate Risk & Continual Review

The council's total borrowing need of between 2026/27 and 2028/29 of £345m is identified in **Tables 2 & 3**. This borrowing need, together with the debt at risk of maturity shown in **Table 6**, is the extent to which the council is subject to interest rate risk over the next three years.

Table 6 – Debt Maturity	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
	£m	£m	£m
Maturing Debt	57	61	2
Debt Subject to early repayments options	10	10	5
<b>Total debt at risk of maturity</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>7</b>

Officers continue to review the need to borrow taking into consideration the potential increases in borrowing costs, the need to finance new capital expenditure, the need to refinance maturing debt, and the cost of carry that might incur a revenue loss between borrowing costs and investment returns.

Against this background and the risks within the economic forecast, caution needs to be exercised. The S151 Chief Finance Officer will therefore continue to monitor interest rates in financial markets and adopt a proactive approach to changing circumstances as follows:

- if it was considered that there was a significant risk of a forthcoming sharp fall in long- and short-term rates (e.g. due to a marked increase in the risk of relapse into recession or increasing risk of deflation), then long term borrowings will be postponed and potential rescheduling from fixed rate funding into short term borrowing will be considered;
- if it was considered that there was a significant risk of a much sharper rise in long and short term rates than that currently forecast, then the portfolio position will be re-appraised with the likely action that borrowing would be undertaken and fixed rate funding drawn on whilst interest rates are still lower than they are expected to be in the next few years.

### 3 MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY STATEMENT

Under Regulation 27 of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) regulation 2023, where the council has financed capital expenditure by borrowing, it is required to pay off an element of the accumulated General Fund capital spend each year (the Capital Financing Requirement - CFR) through a revenue charge (the Minimum Revenue Provision - MRP). The 2003 Regulations have been further amended with full effect from April 2025 to expressly provide that in determining a prudent provision local authorities cannot exclude any amount of CFR from its calculation, unless by an exception set out in statute.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) regulations require the full Council to approve an MRP Statement in advance of each year. A variety of options are available to councils, so long as the principle of any option selected ensures a prudent provision to redeem its debt liability over a period which is commensurate with the period over which capital assets are estimated to provide benefits (i.e. the estimated useful life of the asset being financed).

The Council is recommended to approve the following MRP Statement for 2026/27.

**For all debt where the government has provided revenue support (supported capital expenditure), the MRP policy will be:**

- Provision on a straight-line basis over 50 years.

**For all debt where the government does not provide revenue support:**

- Where the debt relates to an asset, the council will set aside a sum equivalent to repaying the debt over the life of the asset either in equal instalments or on an annuity basis over a maximum life of 50 years. The method to be adopted will be determined according to which is the most appropriate over the life of the asset.
- Where the debt relates to expenditure which is subject to a capitalisation direction issued by the government, the council will set aside a sum equivalent to repaying the debt over a period consistent with the nature of the expenditure on an annuity basis for a maximum of period of 20 years in accordance with the Statutory Guidance.
- Capital expenditure financed by borrowing will not be subject to an MRP charge until the financial year after the expenditure has been incurred, or in the case of assets under construction, MRP will be delayed until the relevant asset becomes operational.

**Where the debt relates to capital loans to a third party:**

- Where capital loans are provided to a 3rd party incorporating an annual repayment structure such as annuity or equal instalments of principal, the principal repayments will be set aside annually as capital receipts to finance the initial capital advance in lieu of making MRP over the loan term.
- Where capital loans are provided on a maturity basis, then the following approach will apply in accordance with the revised MHCLG MRP Guidance:
  - Commercial Loans – MRP provided over the associated asset life of the underlying assets acquired by the 3rd party
  - Service Loans – the authority will either:

- apply a statutory exemption in making MRP, recognising any future Expected Credit Loss in accordance with proper accounting practices, or
- provide MRP using the same methodology as for commercial loans
- Where the debt relates to the i360 Limited, the council will set aside MRP on an annuity basis for a period equal to the original loan period

#### **Where the debt relates to the Living Wage Joint Venture:**

- For loans to the Living Wage Joint Venture to develop housing and subsequently dispose of these assets on completion, the council will set aside the capital receipt at the point of transfer in lieu of making an MRP payment. Loans to the Living Wage Joint Venture are considered to be service related and as such the council can apply a statutory exemption for setting aside MRP

#### **For on-balance sheet PFI schemes and leases, the MRP policy will be:**

- MRP will be measured as being equal to the element of the principal repayment that goes to write down the equivalent balance sheet liability.

There is the option to charge more than the prudential provision of MRP each year through a Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP). The cumulative amount of any future VRP will be included in the MRP Policy Statement to enable the Authority to 'offset' this against future MRP charges. As at 31 March 2025 no VRP has been made by the Authority.

## **4 ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

The MHCLG and CIPFA have extended the meaning of 'investments' to include both financial and non-financial investments. This report deals with financial investments. Non-financial investments are covered in the Capital Strategy (Appendix 2 of the budget report).

The council's investment policy has regard to the following:

- MHCLG's Guidance on Local Government Investments (the "Guidance");
- CIPFA Treasury Management in Public Services Code of Practice and Cross Sectoral Guidance Notes 2021 (the "Code");
- CIPFA Treasury Management Guidance Notes 2021.

***The council's investment priorities will be the security of capital first, portfolio liquidity second and then yield (return). The Authority will aim to achieve the optimum return (yield) on its investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity and with regard to the Authority's risk appetite.***

### **4.1 Annual Investment Strategy for 2026/27**

Investments will be made with reference to the core balance and cash flow requirements and the outlook for short-term interest rates (i.e. rates for investments up to 12 months).

Greater returns are usually obtainable by investing for longer periods. However, based on the forecast of Bank Rate below, and the Councils' ongoing challenging financial position, it is considered appropriate to maintain a large degree of liquidity to cover cash flow needs, but to also consider "laddering" investments for

periods up to 12 months with high credit rated financial institutions if cash balance allows.

While most cash balances are required in order to manage the ups and downs of cash flow, where cash sums can be identified that could be invested for longer periods, the value to be obtained from longer term investments will be carefully assessed.

- If it is predicted that Bank Rate is likely to rise significantly within the time horizon being considered, then consideration will be given to keeping most investments on short term or variable terms.
- Conversely, if it is predicted that Bank Rate is likely to fall within that time period, consideration will be given to locking in the higher rates currently obtainable, for longer periods.

It is widely believed that the Bank Rate has peaked, with the expectation of continuing gradual interest rate reductions. There have already been a number of rates cuts during 2025/26, with the prospect of further rate cuts into 2026/27 and beyond. Bank Rate forecasts for financial year ends (March), as per the council's treasury management advisors (MUFG) are:

Year	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
Bank Rate	3.75%	3.25%	3.25%	3.25%

The MUFG view on the prospect for interest rates, including their forecast for short term investment rates is appended at Annex B.

The primary principle governing the council's investment criteria is the security of its investments but return on investment is also important. After this main principle, the council will ensure that:

- It maintains a policy covering both the categories of investment types it will invest in and the criteria for choosing investment counterparties with adequate security, and monitoring their security;
- It has sufficient liquidity in its investments.

#### **4.1.1 Approach for 2026/27**

The council's investment balances have been in steady decline since 2022/23 as result of a number of factors, such as repayment of temporary central government support received during the Covid-19 pandemic, planned use of reserves, debt maturities and the Council's ongoing Targeted Budget Monitoring position. Treasury management activity during 2025/26 has focused on keeping cash liquid as opposed to reinvesting maturing investment into longer term, higher yielding deals, to ensure cash is available when required and avoid the need for long term borrowing in a falling interest rate environment.

Investment returns are expected to reduce further in 2026/27 due to a combination of reducing interest rates and reducing reserve balances. Work is therefore being undertaken to try and maximise cash to ensure investment income is protected as far as possible. This work includes measures to improve the working capital (that is, the timing differences between the council paying its suppliers and receiving money from its customers), and a review of the timing of capital projects undertaken by the officer led Capital Programme Board. The Financing Costs budget for the medium term has been prepared to include these measures.

The environment for borrowing has not been attractive during 2025/26 due to long term interest rates remaining elevated. The council has therefore continued with a policy of avoiding long-term borrowing in a falling interest environment, maximising internal borrowing as much as possible. An exception has been the entering into four tranches of PWLB totalling £75m to support the HRA borrowing position, on terms of up to 2 years, when it is expected to be refinanced at a lower interest rates. Further borrowing will be required in the final quarter of 2025/26 and into 2026/27 to replace internal and maturing borrowing, although this will only be done based on an assessment of cash flow requirements and the interest rate outlook.

In February 2021, £10.0m was invested across two short term bond funds managed by Royal London Asset Management. There has been a fall in the capital value as a result to the increase in interest rates. There is no impact on the council's income from these funds, and a current statutory override means that there is no impact on the council's budget as a result of this change in value. The MHCLG has extended the IFRS 9 statutory override to apply to existing local authority investments in pooled investment funds until 1st April 2029, to provide local authorities with additional time to manage their investment strategies. The council is still receiving an appropriate level of revenue income from these funds.

#### **4.1.2 Changes from 2025/26 Strategy**

There are no changes proposed to the 2026/27 Annual Investment Strategy.

#### **4.2 Investment Policy – Management of risk**

The guidance from MHCLG and CIPFA outlined in 4 places a high priority on the management of risk. The Council has a prudent approach to managing risk and defines it's risk appetite by the following means:

- i) Minimum acceptable credit criteria are applied in order to generate a list of high creditworthy counterparties. This also enables diversification and thus avoids a concentration of risk. The key ratings used to monitor counterparties are the short term and long-term ratings.
- ii) Other information: ratings will not be the sole determinant of the quality of an institution; it is important to continually assess and monitor the financial sector on both a micro and macro basis and in relation to the economic and political environments in which institutions operate. The assessment will also take account of information that reflects the opinion of the markets. To achieve this consideration the council will engage with its advisors to monitor market pricing such as "credit default swaps" (CDS) and overlay that information on credit ratings.
- iii) Other information sources used will include the financial press, share prices and other such information pertaining to the banking sector in order to establish the most robust scrutiny process on the suitability of potential investment counterparties.
- iv) Where there is a significant or sudden deterioration in one or more indicators (such as CDS prices), officers will undertake a review and, where necessary take action. This action may take the form of temporary suspension of a counterparty from the council's approved lending list, or a restriction of the maximum period and investment limits.
- v) This authority has defined the list of types of investment instruments that the treasury management team are authorised to use.

- a. **Specified investments** are those with a high level of credit quality and subject to a maturity limit of one year. The limits and permitted instruments for specified investments are listed within Table 7.
  - b. **Non-specified investments** are those with less high credit quality, may be for periods in excess of one year, and/or are more complex instruments which require greater consideration by members and officers before being authorised for use. The limits and permitted instruments for non-specified investments are listed within Table 8.
- vi) Lending limits (amounts and maturity) for each counterparty will be set through applying the credit criteria matrix (within Table 8).
  - vii) This authority will set limits for the amount of its investments:
    - a. which are invested for longer than 365 days, detailed in the Treasury Indicators in Annex C;
    - b. which are invested in any one sector (paragraph 4.5);
    - c. which are invested in any one counterparty within its relevant sector (paragraph 4.5).
  - viii) Investments in Non-UK Banks will only be placed with counterparties from countries with a specified minimum sovereign rating of AA (paragraph 4.3).
  - ix) Investments in UK banks will only be placed with counterparties with a minimum credit rating of BBB.
  - x) This authority has engaged external consultants, (see paragraph 5.3), to provide expert advice on how to optimise an appropriate balance of security, liquidity and yield, given the risk appetite of this authority in the context of the expected level of cash balances and need for liquidity throughout the year.
  - xi) All investments will be denominated in sterling.
  - xii) As a result of the change in accounting standards under IFRS 9, this Authority will consider the implications of investment instruments which could result in an adverse movement in the value of the amount invested and resultant charges at the end of the year to the General Fund (see section 5.6).
  - xiii) The application of a risk benchmark (paragraph 4.7) to monitor the expected potential loss within the investment portfolio on an ongoing basis.

However, this authority will also pursue value for money in treasury management and will monitor the yield from investment income against appropriate benchmarks for investment performance (see paragraph 4.78). Regular monitoring of investment performance will be carried out during the year.

### 4.3 **Sovereign Credit Ratings**

For 2026/27 it is recommended to maintain the policy of lending to sovereign nations and their banks which hold at least an AA- credit rating. The list of countries that qualify using this credit criteria (as at the date of this report) are shown below:

**AAA** Australia, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland  
**AA+** Canada, USA  
**AA** Abu Dhabi (UAE), Finland,  
**AA-** **United Kingdom**

#### 4.4 Creditworthiness Policy

Each counterparty included on the council's approved lending list must meet the criteria set out below. Without the prior approval of the Council, no investment will be made in an instrument that falls outside the list below.

**Table 7** below summarises the types of specified investment counterparties available to the council, and the maximum amount and maturity periods placed on each of these. A full list of the council's counterparties and the current limits for 2026/27 are appended at Annex A.

When assessing credit ratings to ascertain limits for each counterparty, the lowest short- and long-term ratings from each of the three ratings agencies is applied. For simplicity, the ratings for Standard & Poor's are used in the tables below.

##### 4.4.1 Criteria for Specified Investments

All specified investments will be sterling denominated, with maturities up to a maximum of 1 year, meeting the minimum 'high' rating criteria where applicable:

Table 7	Country/ Domicile	Minimum Capital Require- ments	Min. Credit Criteria (L/term / S/term)	Max Amount	Max. maturity period
Debt Management and Deposit Facilities (DMADF)	UK	N/A	N/A	unlimited	6 months
UK Local Authorities	UK	N/A	UK Sovereign Rating	£20m per LA	12 months
UK Banks – part nationalised*	UK	UK government must own majority shareholding	N/A	£30m	12 months
UK Banks & credit rated Building Societies	UK	Must meet minimum credit criteria	AA- / A-1+	£30m	12 months
			A / A-1	£20m	12 months
			BBB / A-2	£15m	6 months
Banks – Non-UK	Those with sovereign rating of at least AA*	Must meet minimum credit criteria	AA- / A-1+	£30m	12 months
Non-rated Building Societies	UK	Must have an asset base of at least £5bn at the time of investment	N/A	£5m	6 months

Table 7	Country/ Domicile	Minimum Capital Require- ments	Min. Credit Criteria (L/term / S/term)	Max Amount	Max. maturity period
Money Market Funds (CNAV and LVNAV)	UK / Ireland / EU domiciled	Must meet minimum credit criteria	AAA	£20m per fund	Liquid
Ultra Short Dated Bond Funds	UK / Ireland / EU domiciled	Must meet minimum credit criteria	AA	£20m per fund	Liquid

\*See Paragraph 4.3 for full list of countries that meet these criteria

#### 4.4.2 Lending to the council's operational banking service provider

An additional operating limit of £2m and an additional investment limit of £5m will be provided for the council's provider of transactional banking services (currently Lloyds Bank plc). It is unavoidable that the £2m operational limit will be breached from time to time however, officers will endeavour to keep this to an absolute minimum.

#### 4.4.3 Part-Nationalised Banks

The council can lend up to £30m for up to 12 months to any bank in which the UK Government holds a majority shareholding regardless of the credit rating due to the implied government support of those entities.

#### 4.4.4 Non-Specified investments

These are any other types of investment that are not defined as specified.

Table 8	Instrument Type	Minimum credit criteria (L/term / S/term)	Max. Amount 2025/26	Period (Years)
UK Local Authorities	N/A	N/A	£20m per LA	5
UK Banks & Non UK Banks	Fixed Deposits	AA+ / A-1+	£30m	3
		AA- / A-1+	£30m	2
	Negotiable Instruments	AA- / A-1+	£30m	5
Short Dated Bond Funds	UK/Ireland/EU domiciled	Short Dated bond funds are not rated. A selection process will evaluate relative risks & returns. Security of the council's money and fund volatility will be key measures of suitability	£15m per fund	Liquid

A full list of counterparties that meet the council's criteria for both specified and non-specified investments are listed in Annex A.

#### 4.5 Other Limits

In order to mitigate concentration risk, there are a number of other limits imposed within the investment strategy. **Table 9** sets out the maximum permitted investment for each sector at the time of investment:

<b>Table 9 – Other Limits</b>	
<b>Sector</b>	<b>Max total of portfolio</b>
Banking sector	100%
Building Society Sector	75%
Local Authority Sector	100%
Money Market Funds (MMF)	100%
Short Dated & Ultra Short Dated Bond Funds	50%
Debt Management Account Deposit Facility (DMADF)	100%

In addition to these limits:

- no more than 25% of the portfolio can be invested for more than 1 year; and
- with the exception of MMF & the DMADF, no one counterparty may have more than 25% of the relevant sector maximum at the time the investment is made.

#### 4.6 Approved Methodology for adding and removing counterparties

A counterparty shall be removed from the council's list where a change in their credit rating results in a failure to meet the criteria set out above.

A new counterparty may only be added to the list with the written prior approval of the Chief Finance Officer and only where the counterparty meets the minimum criteria set out above.

A counterparty's exposure limit will be reviewed (and changed where necessary) following notification of a change in that counterparty's credit rating or a view expressed by the credit rating agency warrants a change.

A counterparty's exposure limit will also be reviewed where information contained in the financial press or other similar publications indicates a possible worsening in credit worth of a counterparty. The review may lead to the suspension of any counterparty where it is considered appropriate to do so by the Chief Finance Officer.

#### 4.7 Investment Risk Benchmarking

The weighted average benchmark risk factor for 2026/27 is recommended to be 0.05%. This is unchanged from 2025/26. This is a measure of the percentage of the portfolio deemed to be at risk of loss by reference to the maturity date, value of investment, and credit rating of the individual investments within the portfolio compared to the historic default data for those credit ratings.

This benchmark is a simple target (not limit) to measure investment risk and so may be breached from time to time, depending on movements in interest rates and counterparty criteria. The purpose of the benchmark is that the in-house treasury team can monitor the current and trend position and amend the operational strategy

depending on any changes. Any breach of the benchmarks will be reported with supporting reasons in the mid-year or end of year reviews.

This matrix will only cover internally managed investments, excluding externally managed cash that has been subject to an individual selection process. It also excludes funds lent to other Local Authorities, consistent with the CIPFA Accounting Code.

For any investment where there is a direct and legal offset against an existing financial liability, the investment will be assumed to have a benchmark risk of 0.00%.

#### **4.8 *Investment Performance Benchmarking***

The performance of the Council's investment portfolio will be measured against the overnight SONIA Rate.

### **5 OTHER TREASURY MATTERS**

#### **5.1 *Banking Services***

Lloyds Bank plc currently provides banking services for the council.

#### **5.2 *Training***

The CIPFA Treasury Management Code requires the responsible officer to ensure that members with responsibility for treasury management receive adequate training in treasury management. This especially applies to members responsible for scrutiny.

The scale and nature of this will depend on the size and complexity of the organisation's treasury management needs. Organisations should consider how to assess whether treasury management staff and board/ council members have the required knowledge and skills to undertake their roles and whether they have been able to maintain those skills and keep them up to date.

As a minimum, authorities should carry out the following to monitor and review knowledge and skills:

- Record attendance at training and ensure action is taken where poor attendance is identified.
- Prepare tailored learning plans for treasury management officers and board/council members.
- Require treasury management officers and board/council members to undertake self-assessment against the required competencies.
- Have regular communication with officers and board/council members, encouraging them to highlight training needs on an ongoing basis."

In further support of the revised training requirements, CIPFA's Better Governance Forum and Treasury Management Network have produced a 'self-assessment by members responsible for the scrutiny of treasury management', which is available from the CIPFA website to download.

Training was last provided and offered to all members on 19 January 2024. A virtual recording of this training session is available on the Members section of the council's learning platform. Further training sessions will be arranged as required.

The training needs of treasury management officers are periodically reviewed.

A formal record of the training received by officers central to the Treasury function and members who are responsible for decision making and scrutiny of the Treasury function is maintained by the Principal Accountant -Treasury.

A monthly Treasury Management Bulletin is provided to lead Finance members of the main political groups.

### **5.3 Policy on the use of External Service Providers**

The council uses MUFG as its external treasury management advisors.

The council recognises that responsibility for treasury management decisions remains with the council at all times and will ensure that undue reliance is not placed upon our external service providers. It also recognises that there is value in employing external providers of treasury management services in order to acquire access to specialist skills and resources. The council will ensure that the terms of their appointment and the methods by which their value will be assessed are properly agreed and documented, and subject to regular review.

### **5.4 Lending to Third Parties**

The council has the power to lend monies to third parties subject to a number of criteria. These are not treasury type investments, rather they are policy investments. Any activity will only take place after relevant due diligence has been undertaken, as described in the Capital Strategy (Appendix 5 to the budget report).

### **5.5 Updates to the Codes of Practice 2021**

CIPFA published the revised Treasury and Prudential codes in 2021. Full adoption of the new Codes was fully incorporated within the strategy for 2023/24.

### **5.6 Updates to Accounting Requirements**

#### ***IFRS 9 – local authority override – English local authorities***

The MHCLG has extended the IFRS 9 statutory override to apply to existing local authority investments in pooled investment funds that were made before 1st April 2024. The government has extended this specific override for these existing investments until 1st April 2029, to provide local authorities with additional time to manage their investment strategies.

However, any new investments in pooled investment funds made on or after 1st April 2024 are subject to the standard IFRS 9 accounting requirements, meaning fair value movements must be recognised directly in the general fund. The override prevents these "paper" fluctuations from immediately impacting the authority's revenue accounts and annual balanced budget requirement.

Additionally, IFRS9 impacts the write-down in the valuation of impaired loans.

## ANNEX A - Approved List of Counterparties 2026/27

Counterparty	Specified /Non-specified	Short-term			Long-term			Lending Limit	Fixed deposit duration limit (months)
		F=Fitch M=Moody's SP=Standard & Poor's							
		F	M	SP	F	M	SP		
<b>(1) UK Banks</b>									
Lloyds Banking Group:									
Bank of Scotland PLC (RFB)	Specified	F1+	P-1	A-1	AA-	A1	A+	£20m	12
Lloyds Bank PLC (RFB)	Specified	F1+	P-1	A-1	AA-	A1	A+	£20m	12
Lloyds Bank Corporate Markets PLC (NRFB)	Specified	F1+	P-1	A-1	AA-	A1	A	£20m	12
Total Max. exposure to Lloyds Banking Group								£20m	12
Barclays Banking Group:									
Barclays Bank PLC (NRFB)	Specified	F1	P-1	A-1	A+	A1	A+	£20m	12
Barclays Bank UK PLC (RFB)	Specified	F1	P-1	A-1	A+	A1	A+	£20m	12
Total Max. exposure to Barclays Banking Group**								£20m	6
HSBC Group:									
HSBC Bank PLC (NRFB)	Specified	F1+	P-1	A-1	AA-	A1	A+	£20m	12
HSBC UK Bank PLC (RFB)	Specified	F1+	P-1	A-1	AA-	Aa3	A+	£20m	12
Total Max. exposure to HSBC Group**								£20m	12
RBS/Natwest Group:									
Natwest Markets PLC (NRFB)	Specified	F1+	P-1	A-1	AA-	A1	A	£20m	12
National Westminster Bank PLC (RFB)	Specified	F1+	P-1	A-1	AA-	A1	A+	£20m	12
The Royal Bank of Scotland PLC (RFB)	Specified	F1+	P-1	A-1	AA-	A1	A+	£20m	12
Total Max. exposure to RBS/Natwest Group**								£20m	12
Clydesdale Bank PLC	Specified	F1	P-1	A-1	A	A1	A+	£20m	12
Goldman Sachs International Bank	Specified	F1	P-1	A-1	A+	A1	A+	£20m	12
Handelsbanken PLC	Both	F1+		A-1+	AA		AA-	£20m	12
Santander UK PLC	Specified	F1	P-1	A-1	A+	A1	A	£20m	12
Standard Chartered Bank	Specified	F1	P-1	A-1	A+	A1	A+	£20m	12
SMBC Bank International Plc	Specified	F1	P-1	A-1	A-	A1	A	£15m	6
<b>(2) Building Societies<sup>+</sup></b>									
Coventry (2)	Specified	F1	P-2		A-	A3		£15m	6
Leeds (5)	Specified	F1	P-2		A-	A3		£15m	6
Nationwide (1)	Specified	F1	P-1	A-1	A	A1	A+	£20m	12
Yorkshire (3)	Specified	F1	P-1		A-	A2		£15m	6
Skipton (4)	Specified	F1	P-1		A-	A2		£15m	6
<b>(3) Non-UK Banks</b>									
Toronto Dominion (Canada)	Both	F1+	P-1	A-1	AA-	Aa1	A+	£30m	24

## Appendix 6

Counterparty	Specified /Non-specified	Short-term			Long-term			Lending Limit	Fixed deposit duration limit (months)
		<i>F=Fitch M=Moody's SP=Standard &amp; Poor's</i>							
		F	M	SP	F	M	SP		
Nordea Bank Abp (Finland)	Both	F1+	P-1	A-1+	AA-	Aa2	AA-	£30m	24
Landwirtschaftliche Renenbank (Germany)	Both	F1+	P-1	A-1+	AAA	Aaa	AAA	£30m	36
NRW.BANK (Germany)	Both	F1+	P-1	A-1+	AAA	Aa1	AA	£30m	24
Nederlandse Waterschapsbank N. V. (The Netherlands)	Both		P-1	A-1+		Aaa	AAA	£30m	36
DBS Bank Ltd (Singapore)	Both	F1+	P-1	A-1+	AA-	Aa1	AA-	£30m	24
Overseas Chinese Banking Corporation Limits (Singapore)	Both	F1+	P-1	A-1+	AA-	Aa1	AA-	£30m	24
United Overseas Bank Limited (Singapore)	Both	F1+	P-1	A-1+	AA-	Aa1	AA-	£30m	24
Svenska HandelsBanken AB (Sweden)	Both	F1+	P-1	A-1+	AA	Aa2	AA-	£30m	24
First Abu Dhabi Bank PJSC	Both	F1+	P-1	A-1+	AA-	Aa3	AA-	£30m	24
Bank of New York Mellon (USA)	Both	F1+	P-1	A-1+	AA	Aa1	AA-	£30m	24

Ratings as advised by Link Asset Services January 2026

+ UK Building Societies ranking based on Total Asset size – Source: Building Societies Association Jan 2026

\*\* Where there are multiple counterparties within a banking group, exposure to the overall group will be the largest limit, but exposure to individual counterparties within the group will be based on the individual counterparty limit.

## ANNEX B - ECONOMIC OVERVIEW & INTEREST RATE VIEW

### Provided by MUFG, December 2025

- The first half of 2025/26 saw:
  - A 0.3% pick up in GDP for the period April to June 2025. More recently, the economy flatlined in July, with higher taxes for businesses restraining growth, but picked up to 0.1% m/m in August before falling back by 0.1% m/m in September.
  - The 3m/yy rate of average earnings growth excluding bonuses has fallen from 5.5% to 4.6% in September.
  - CPI inflation has ebbed and flowed but finished September at 3.8%, whilst core inflation eased to 3.5%.
  - The Bank of England cut interest rates from 4.50% to 4.25% in May, and then to 4% in August (and subsequently to 3.75% in December).
  - The 10-year gilt yield fluctuated between 4.4% and 4.8%, ending the half year at 4.70% (before falling back to 4.43% in early November).
- From a GDP perspective, the financial year got off to a bumpy start with the 0.3% m/m fall in real GDP in April as front-running of US tariffs in Q1 (when GDP grew 0.7% on the quarter) weighed on activity. Despite the underlying reasons for the drop, it was still the first fall since October 2024 and the largest fall since October 2023. However, the economy surprised to the upside in May and June so that quarterly growth ended up 0.3% q/q (subsequently revised down to 0.2% q/q). Nonetheless, the 0.0% m/m change in real GDP in July, followed by a 0.1% m/m increase in August and a 0.1% decrease in September will have caused some concern. GDP growth for 2025 - 2028 is currently forecast by the Office for Budget Responsibility to be in the region of 1.5%.
- Sticking with future economic sentiment, the composite Purchasing Manager Index (PMI) for the UK increased to 52.2 in October. The manufacturing PMI output balance improved to just below 50 but it is the services sector (52.2) that continues to drive the economy forward. Nonetheless, the PMIs suggest tepid growth is the best that can be expected in the second half of 2025 and the start of 2026. Indeed, on 13 November we heard that GDP for July to September was only 0.1% q/q.
- Turning to retail sales volumes, and the 1.5% year-on-year rise in September, accelerating from a 0.7% increase in August, marked the highest gain since April. On a monthly basis, retail sales volumes rose 0.5%, defying forecasts of a 0.2% fall, following an upwardly revised 0.6% gain in August. Household spending remains surprisingly resilient, but headwinds are gathering.
- Prior to the November Budget, the public finances position looked weak. The £20.2 billion borrowed in September was slightly above the £20.1 billion forecast by the OBR. For the year to date, the £99.8 billion borrowed is the second highest for the April to September period since records began in 1993, surpassed only by borrowing during the COVID-19 pandemic. The main drivers of the increased borrowing were higher debt interest costs, rising government running costs, and increased inflation-linked benefit payments, which outweighed the rise in tax and National Insurance contributions.
- Following the 26 November Budget, the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) calculated the net tightening in fiscal policy as £11.7bn (0.3% of GDP) in 2029/30, smaller than the consensus forecast of £25bn. It did downgrade productivity growth by 0.3%, from 1.3% to 1.0%, but a lot of that influence was offset by upgrades to its near-term wage and inflation forecasts. Accordingly, the OBR judged the Chancellor was

going to achieve her objectives with £4.2bn to spare. The Chancellor then chose to expand that headroom to £21.7bn, up from £9.9bn previously.

- Moreover, the Chancellor also chose to raise spending by a net £11.3bn in 2029/30. To pay for that and the increase in her headroom, she raised taxes by £26.1bn in 2029/30. The biggest revenue-raisers were the freeze in income tax thresholds from 2028/29 (+£7.8bn) and the rise in NICs on salary-sacrifice pension contributions (+£4.8bn). The increase in council tax for properties worth more than £2.0m will generate £0.4bn.
- The weakening in the jobs market looked clear in the spring. May's 109,000 m/m fall in the PAYE measure of employment was the largest decline (barring the pandemic) since the data began and the seventh in as many months. The monthly change was revised lower in five of the previous seven months too, with April's 33,000 fall revised down to a 55,000 drop. More recently, however, the monthly change was revised higher in seven of the previous nine months by a total of 22,000. So instead of falling by 165,000 in total since October, payroll employment is now thought to have declined by a smaller 153,000. Even so, payroll employment has still fallen in nearly all the months since the Chancellor announced the rises in National Insurance Contributions (NICs) for employers and the minimum wage in the October 2024 Budget. The number of job vacancies in the three months to November 2025 stood at 729,000 (the peak was 1.3 million in spring 2022). All this suggests the labour market continues to loosen, albeit at a slow pace.
- A looser labour market is driving softer wage pressures. The 3m/yy rate of average earnings growth excluding bonuses has fallen from 5.5% in April to 4.6% in September (still at that level in November). The rate for the private sector has slipped just below 4% as the year end approaches.
- CPI inflation remained at 3.8% in September but dropped to 3.2% by November. Core inflation also fell to 3.2% by November while services inflation fell to 4.4%. Nonetheless, a further loosening in the labour market and weaker wage growth may be a requisite to UK inflation coming in below 2.0% by 2027.
- An ever-present issue throughout recent months has been the pressure being exerted on medium and longer dated gilt yields. The yield on the 10-year gilt moved sideways in the second quarter of 2025, rising from 4.4% in early April to 4.8% in mid-April following wider global bond market volatility stemming from the "Liberation Day" tariff announcement, and then easing back as trade tensions began to de-escalate. By the end of April, the 10-year gilt yield had returned to 4.4%. In May, concerns about stickier inflation and shifting expectations about the path for interest rates led to another rise, with the 10-year gilt yield fluctuating between 4.6% and 4.75% for most of May. Thereafter, as trade tensions continued to ease and markets increasingly began to price in looser monetary policy, the 10-year yield edged lower, and ended June at 4.50%.
- More recently, the yield on the 10-year gilt rose from 4.46% to 4.60% in early July as rolled-back spending cuts and uncertainty over Chancellor Reeves' future raised fiscal concerns. Although the spike proved short lived, it highlighted the UK's fragile fiscal position. In an era of high debt, high interest rates and low GDP growth, the markets are now more sensitive to fiscal risks than before the pandemic. During August, long-dated gilts underwent a particularly pronounced sell-off, climbing 22 basis points and reaching a 27-year high of 5.6% by the end of the month. While yields have since eased back, the market sell-off was driven by investor concerns over growing supply-demand imbalances, stemming from unease over the lack of fiscal consolidation and reduced

demand from traditional long-dated bond purchasers like pension funds. For 10-year gilts, by late September, sticky inflation, resilient activity data and a hawkish Bank of England kept yields elevated over 4.70% although by late December had fallen back again to a little over 4.50%.

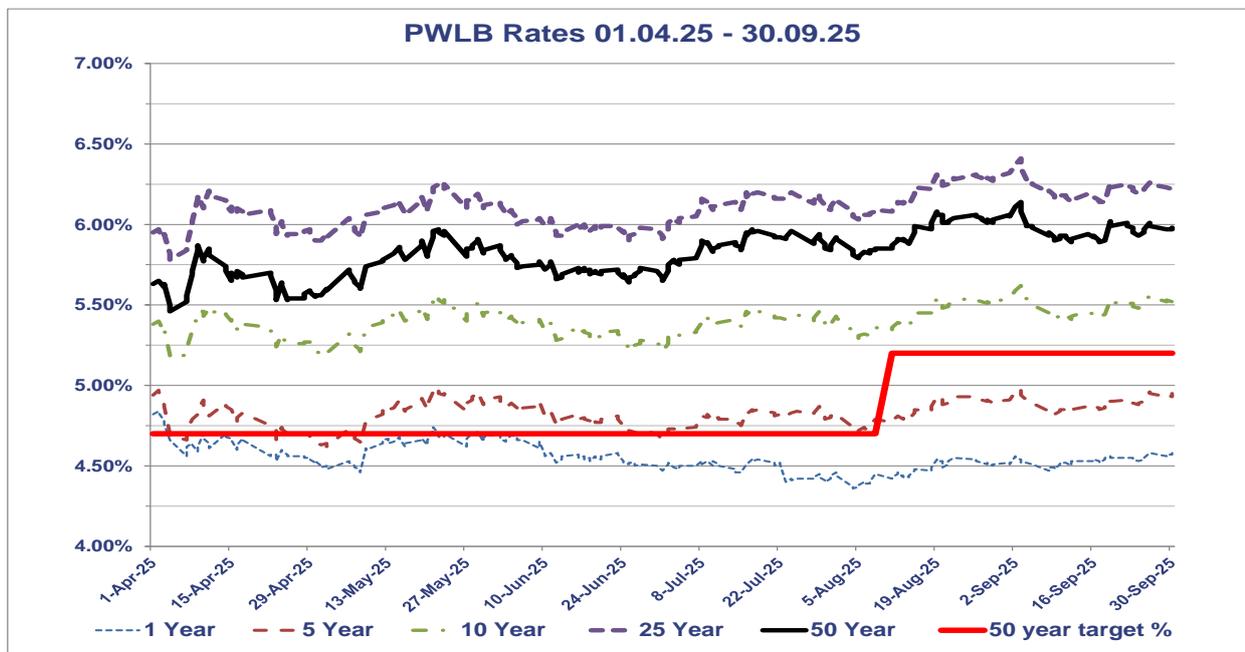
- The FTSE 100 fell sharply following the “Liberation Day” tariff announcement, dropping by more than 10% in the first week of April - from 8,634 on 1 April to 7,702 on 7 April. However, the de-escalation of the trade war coupled with strong corporate earnings led to a rapid rebound starting in late April. As a result, the FTSE 100 ended June at 8,761, around 2% higher than its value at the end of March and more than 7% above its level at the start of 2025. Since then, the FTSE 100 has enjoyed a further 4% rise in July, its strongest monthly gain since January and outperforming the S&P 500. Strong corporate earnings and progress in trade talks (US-EU, UK-India) lifted share prices and the index hit a record 9,321 in mid-August, driven by hopes of peace in Ukraine and dovish signals from Fed Chair Powell. September proved more volatile and the FTSE 100 closed September at 9,350, 7% higher than at the end of Q1 and 14% higher since the start of 2025. Future performance will likely be impacted by the extent to which investors’ global risk appetite remains intact, Fed rate cuts, resilience in the US economy, and AI optimism. A weaker pound will also boost the index as it inflates overseas earnings. In early November, the FTSE100 climbed to a record high just above 9,900. By late December, the index had clung on to most of those gains standing at 9,870 on 23 December.

#### **MPC meetings: 8 May, 19 June, 7 August, 18 September, 6 November, 18 December 2025**

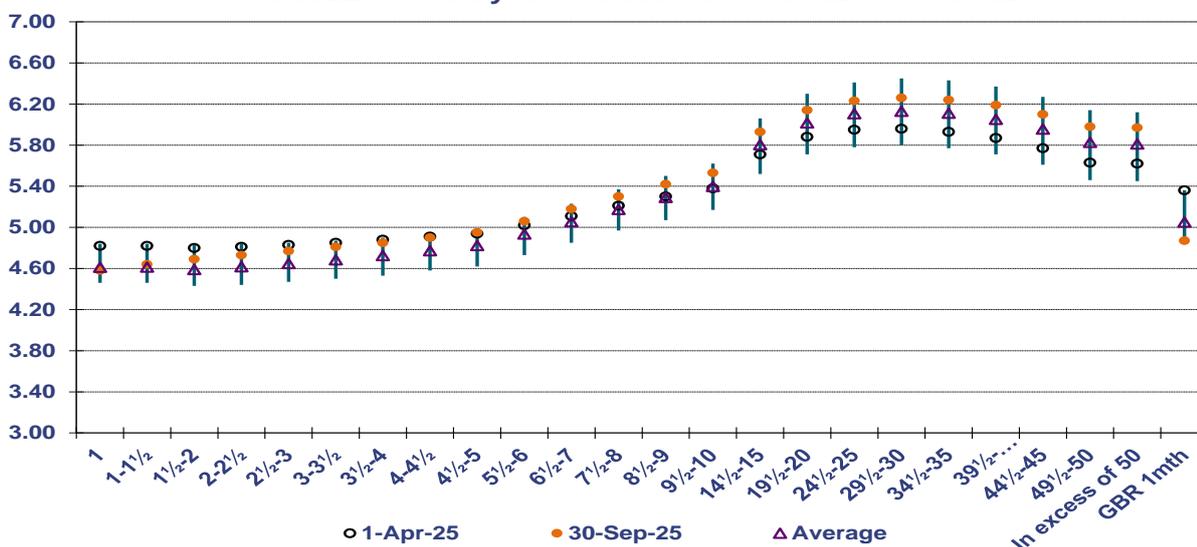
- There were six Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meetings held between April and December. In May, the Committee cut Bank Rate from 4.50% to 4.25%, while in June policy was left unchanged. In June’s vote, three MPC members (Dhingra, Ramsden and Taylor) voted for an immediate cut to 4.00%, citing loosening labour market conditions. The other six members were more cautious, as they highlighted the need to monitor for “signs of weak demand”, “supply-side constraints” and higher “inflation expectations”, mainly from rising food prices. By repeating the well-used phrase “gradual and careful”, the MPC continued to suggest that rates would be reduced further.
- In August, a further rate cut was implemented. However, a 5-4 split vote for a rate cut to 4% laid bare the different views within the Monetary Policy Committee, with the accompanying commentary noting the decision was “finely balanced” and reiterating that future rate cuts would be undertaken “gradually and carefully”. Ultimately, Governor Bailey was the casting vote for a rate cut but with the CPI measure of inflation expected to reach at least 4% later this year, the MPC was wary of making any further rate cuts until inflation begins its slow downwards trajectory back towards 2%.
- With wages still rising by just below 5%, it was no surprise that the September meeting saw the MPC vote 7-2 for keeping rates at 4% (Dhingra and Taylor voted for a further 25bps reduction). Moreover, the Bank also took the opportunity to announce that they would only shrink its balance sheet by £70bn over the next 12 months, rather than £100bn. The repetition of the phrase that “a gradual and careful” approach to rate cuts is appropriate suggested the Bank still thought interest rates will fall further.
- At the 6 November meeting, Governor Bailey was once again the deciding vote, keeping Bank Rate at 4% but hinting strongly that a further rate cut was imminent if data supported such a move. By 18 December, with November CPI inflation having fallen to

3.2%, and with Q2 GDP revised down from 0.3% q/q to only 0.2% q/q, and Q3 GDP stalling at 0.1%, the MPC voted by 5-4 to cut rates further to 3.75%. However, Governor Bailey made it clear that any further reductions would require strong supporting data, and the pace of any further decreases would be slow compared to recent months. The markets expect Bank Rate to next be cut in April.

• **PWLB RATES 01.04.25 - 30.09.25**



**PWLB Certainty Rate Variations 01.04.25 to 30.09.25**



**HIGH/LOW/AVERAGE PWLB RATES FOR 01.04.25 – 30.09.25**

	1 Year	5 Year	10 Year	25 Year	50 Year
<b>01/04/2025</b>	4.82%	4.94%	5.38%	5.95%	5.63%
<b>30/09/2025</b>	4.58%	4.95%	5.53%	6.23%	5.98%

<b>Low</b>	4.36%	4.62%	5.17%	5.78%	5.46%
<b>Low Date</b>	04/08/2025	02/05/2025	02/05/2025	04/04/2025	04/04/2025
<b>High</b>	4.84%	4.99%	5.62%	6.41%	6.14%
<b>High Date</b>	02/04/2025	21/05/2025	03/09/2025	03/09/2025	03/09/2025
<b>Average</b>	4.55%	4.82%	5.40%	6.11%	5.83%
<b>Spread</b>	0.48%	0.37%	0.45%	0.63%	0.68%

### Prospects for Interest Rates

The Authority has appointed MUFG Corporate Markets as its treasury advisor and part of their service is to assist the Authority to formulate a view on interest rates. MUFG Corporate Markets provided the following forecasts on 22 December 2025. These are forecasts for Bank Rate, average earnings and PWLB certainty rates, gilt yields plus 80 bps.

MUFG Interest Rate View 22.12.25													
	Mar-26	Jun-26	Sep-26	Dec-26	Mar-27	Jun-27	Sep-27	Dec-27	Mar-28	Jun-28	Sep-28	Dec-28	Mar-29
<b>BANK RATE</b>	3.75	3.50	3.50	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25
<b>3 month ave earnings</b>	3.80	3.50	3.50	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30
<b>6 month ave earnings</b>	3.80	3.50	3.50	3.40	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40	3.40
<b>12 month ave earnings</b>	3.90	3.60	3.60	3.50	3.40	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.60	3.60	3.60
<b>5 yr PWLB</b>	4.60	4.50	4.30	4.20	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10
<b>10 yr PWLB</b>	5.20	5.00	4.90	4.80	4.80	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.60	4.60	4.60	4.70
<b>25 yr PWLB</b>	5.80	5.70	5.60	5.50	5.50	5.40	5.30	5.30	5.30	5.20	5.20	5.20	5.20
<b>50 yr PWLB</b>	5.60	5.50	5.40	5.30	5.30	5.20	5.10	5.10	5.10	5.00	5.10	5.00	5.00

- Our last interest rate forecast update was undertaken on 11 August. Since then, a combination of tepid growth (0.2% q/q GDP for Q2 and 0.1% q/q GDP for Q3), falling inflation (currently CPI is 3.2%), and a November Budget that will place more pressure on the majority of households' income, has provided an opportunity for the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee to further reduce Bank Rate from 4% to 3.75% on 18 December.
- Surprisingly, to most market commentators, the recent steep fall in CPI inflation in one month from 3.6% to 3.2% did not persuade most "dissenters" from the November vote (Lombardelli, Greene, Mann and Pill) to switch to the rate-cutting side of the Committee. Instead, it was left to Bank Governor, Andrew Bailey, to use his deciding vote to force a rate cut through by the slimmest of margins, 5-4.
- Given the wafer-thin majority for a rate cut it was not unexpected to hear that although rates would continue on a "gradual downward path", suggesting a further rate cut or cuts in the offing, MPC members want to assess incoming evidence on labour market activity and wage growth. Indeed, with annual wage growth still over 4.5%, the MPC reiterated that the case for further rate cuts would be "a closer call", and Governor Bailey observed there is "limited space as Bank Rate approaches a neutral level".
- Accordingly, the MUFG Corporate Markets forecast has been revised to price in a rate cut in Q2 2026 to 3.5%, likely to take place in the wake of a significant fall in the CPI inflation reading from 3% in March to 2% in April (as forecast by Capital Economics), followed by a short lull through the summer whilst more data is garnered, and then a further rate cut to 3.25% in Q4.
- As in August, nonetheless, threats to that central scenario abound. What if wage increases remain stubbornly high? There are, after all, several sectors of the domestic

economy, including social care provision and the building/construction industries, where staff shortages remain severe. Moreover, by May 2026, following the local elections, we will have a better handle on whether or not the Starmer/Reeves team is going to see out the current Parliament or whether they face a Leadership challenge from within their own party. If so, how will gilt markets react to these variables...and will there be additional geo-political factors to also bake in, particularly the Fed's monetary policy decisions in 2026 and the ongoing battle to lower rates whilst inflation remains close to 3%.

- Accordingly, our updated central forecast is made with several hefty caveats. We are confident, as we have been for some time, that our forecast for Bank Rate and the 5-year PWLB Certainty Rate is robust, and we have marginally brought forward the timing of the next rate cut(s). But for the 10-, 25- and 50-years part of the curve, the level of gilt issuance, and the timing of its placement, will be integral to achieving a benign trading environment. That is not a “given”, and additionally, the inflation outlook and political factors domestically and, crucially, in the US, are also likely to hold sway. Matters should be clearer by June in the UK, but the US mid-term elections are scheduled for November.
- Our revised PWLB rate forecasts are based on the Certainty Rate (the standard rate minus 20 bps) which has been accessible to most authorities since 1 November 2012. Please note, the lower Housing Revenue Account (HRA) PWLB rate started on 15 June 2023 for those authorities with an HRA (standard rate minus 60 bps) and is set to prevail until at least the end of March 2026. Hopefully, there will be a further extension to this discounted rate announced in January.
- Money market yield forecasts are based on expected average earnings by local authorities for 3 to 12 months.

### Gilt yields and PWLB rates

The overall longer-run trend is for gilt yields and PWLB rates to fall back over the timeline of our forecasts, but the risks to our forecasts are generally to the upsides. Our target borrowing rates are set two years forward (as we expect rates to fall back) and the current PWLB (certainty) borrowing rates are set out below: -

PWLB debt	Current borrowing rate as at 22.12.25 p.m.	Target borrowing rate now (end of Q4 2027)	Target borrowing rate previous (end of Q4 2027)
5 years	4.81%	4.10%	4.20%
10 years	5.39%	4.70%	4.70%
25 years	6.01%	5.30%	5.30%
50 years	5.78%	5.10%	5.10%

**Borrowing advice:** Our long-term (beyond 10 years) forecast for the neutral level of Bank Rate remains at 3.5%. As all PWLB certainty rates are still above this level, borrowing strategies will need to be reviewed in that context. Overall, better value can be obtained at the shorter end of the curve (<5 years PWLB maturity/<10 years PWLB EIP) and short-dated fixed LA to LA monies should also be considered. Temporary borrowing rates will, generally, fall in line with Bank Rate cuts.

Our suggested budgeted earnings rates for investments up to about three months' duration in each financial year are set out below.

Average earnings in each year	Now	Previously
2025/26 (residual)	3.80%	3.90%
2026/27	3.40%	3.60%
2027/28	3.30%	3.30%
2028/29	3.30%	3.50%
2029/30	3.50%	3.50%
Years 6 to 10	3.50%	3.50%
Years 10+	3.50%	3.50%

We will continue to monitor economic and market developments as they unfold. Typically, we formally review our forecasts following the quarterly release of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Report but will consider our position on an ad hoc basis as required.

Our interest rate forecast for Bank Rate is in steps of 25 bps, whereas PWLB forecasts have been rounded to the nearest 10 bps and are central forecasts within bands of + / - 25 bps. Naturally, we continue to monitor events and will update our forecasts as and when appropriate.

**ANNEX C - PRUDENTIAL AND TREASURY INDICATORS 2026/27 to 2028/29**

The council's capital expenditure plans are a key driver of treasury management activities. The output of the capital expenditure plans are reflected in prudential indicators. Local authorities are required to 'have regard to' the Prudential Code and to set Prudential Indicators for the next three years to ensure that the council's capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable. The Code sets out the indicators that must be used but does not suggest limits or ratios as these are for the authority to set itself.

The Prudential Indicators for 2026/27 to 2028/29 are set out in **Table A** below:

<b>Table A</b>	<b>2026/27 Estimate</b>	<b>2027/28 Estimate</b>	<b>2028/29 Estimate</b>
<b>General Fund (GF) Prudential Indicators</b>			
<b>GF Capital Expenditure £m (gross)</b> General Fund capital expenditure plans	£113m	£72m	£32m
<b>GF Capital Financing Requirement £m</b> Measures the underlying need to borrow for capital purposes (including PFI & Leases)	£380m	£375m	£366m
<b>Capitalisation Direction £m (gross)</b> Council's application to borrowing for capitalisation direction	£15m	-	-
<b>Capital Financing Requirement for Capitalisation Direction £m</b> Measures the underlying need to borrow for capitalisation direction	£15m	£14m	£13m
<b>GF Ratio of capital programme financing costs to net revenue stream**</b> Identifies the trend in the cost of capital programme (borrowing and other long term obligation costs net of investment income) against net revenue stream	6.25%	6.76%	6.89%
<b>GF Ratio of capitalisation direction financing costs to net revenue stream*</b> Identifies the trend in the cost of EFS capitalisation direction borrowing against net revenue stream	0.24%	0.36%	0.36%
<b>GF Ratio of total financing costs to net revenue stream**</b> Identifies the trend in the cost of capital programme and capitalisation direction (borrowing and other long term obligation costs net of investment income) against net revenue stream	6.49%	7.12%	7.25%
<b>Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Prudential Indicators</b>			
<b>HRA Capital Expenditure £m (gross)</b> HRA capital expenditure plans	£126m	£137m	£100m
<b>HRA Capital Financing Requirement £m</b> Measures the underlying need to borrow for capital purposes	£436m	£539m	£618m
<b>HRA Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream*</b> Identifies the trend in the cost of capital (borrowing and other long term obligation costs net of investment income) against net revenue stream	13.71%	17.70%	21.97%

\* the ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream illustrates the percentage of the Council's net revenue budget being used to finance the council's borrowing. This includes interest costs relating to the council's borrowing portfolio and MRP. Previously this was shown net of the investment income from the council's investment portfolio, but this has been removed following changes to the Treasury Management Code.

The Treasury Management Code requires that Local Authorities set a number of indicators for treasury performance in addition to the Prudential Indicators which fall under the Prudential Code. The Treasury Indicators for 2025/26 to 2027/28 are set out in **Tables B & C** below. These have been calculated and determined by Officers in compliance with the Treasury Management Code of Practice:

<b>Table B</b>	<b>2026/27 Estimate</b>	<b>2027/28 Estimate</b>	<b>2028/29 Estimate</b>
<b>Authorised Limit for External Debt £m</b> The council is expected to set a maximum authorised limit for external debt. This represents a limit beyond which external debt is prohibited, and this limit needs to be set or revised by Full Council.	£896m	£955m	£1,025m
<b>Operational boundary for external debt £m</b> The council is required to set an operational boundary for external debt. This is the limit which external debt is not normally expected to exceed. This indicator may be breached temporarily for operational reasons.	£866m	£925m	£995m
<b>Principal Sums invested for longer than 365 days</b>	£40m	£40m	£40m

<b>Table C</b>		
<b>Maturity Structure of fixed interest rate borrowing*</b>		
The council needs to set upper and lower limits with respect to the maturity structure of its borrowing.		
	Lower	Upper
Under 12 months	0%	40%
12 months to 2 years	0%	40%
2 years to 5 years	0%	50%
5 years to 10 years	0%	75%
Over 10 years	40%	100%

## ANNEX D - SCHEME OF DELEGATION

### 1. Full Council

- Approval of Annual Investment Strategy, Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Capital Strategy, Treasury Management Policy Statement;
- Approval of the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy;
- Approval of the Prudential and Treasury indicators, including the Affordable borrowing limits;
- Approval of the annual revenue budget for financing costs.

The requirements are all contained within this appendix (TMSS incorporating the AIS) and Appendix 5 (Capital Strategy) of the budget report.

- Any changes to the Annual Investment Strategy during the year require approval by full Council.
- Full Council are able to delegate the implementation and monitoring of the treasury management function. This function is delegated to the Cabinet.

### 2. Cabinet

- Approval of/amendments to the organisation's adopted clauses, treasury management policy statement and treasury management practices;
- Budget development, consideration and approval;
- Approval of the division of responsibilities;
- Receiving and reviewing regular monitoring reports and acting on recommendations.

Cabinet receives the following reports in order to fulfil these requirements:

- A **Mid-Year Review Report** – an update on progress of the treasury and investment strategy against budget and the treasury & prudential indicators for the first six months of the year. Any amendments to the indicators or investment strategy require Cabinet to recommend that full Council approve the changes. This report is now embedded as part of the TBM7 Budget Monitoring report.
- **End of Year Review report** – an update regarding the actual outturn of the treasury position provides details of a selection of actual prudential and treasury indicators and actual treasury operations compared to the estimates within the strategy. This report is now embedded as part of the Outturn Budget Monitoring report.
- **Regular TBM reports** - includes the revenue impact of the financing cost budget.

Cabinet is the body held responsible for the scrutiny of the actual performance of the treasury activities against the strategy.

### 3. Role of the Section 151 Officer

The council's appointed Section 151 Chief Financial Officer is responsible for:

- recommending clauses, treasury management policy/practices for approval, reviewing the same regularly, and monitoring compliance;
- submitting regular treasury management policy reports;
- submitting budgets and budget variations;
- receiving and reviewing management information reports;
- reviewing the performance of the treasury management function;

- ensuring the adequacy of treasury management resources and skills, and the effective division of responsibilities within the treasury management function;
- ensuring the adequacy of internal audit, and liaising with external audit;
- recommending the appointment of external service providers.

There are further responsibilities for the S151 Officer identified within the 2021 Code in respect of non-financial investments. They are identified and listed in the Capital Strategy where relevant.

### Budget Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) 2026/27 – Service Users

The Budget EIA process is a legal duty supporting good financial decision-making. It assesses how proposals may impact on specific groups differently (and whether/how negative impacts can be reduced or avoided) so that these consequences are explicitly considered. Decisions must be informed by accurate, well-informed assessment of likely impacts so that they are fair, transparent, and accountable. Budget EIAs provide a record of this assessment and consideration. Members are referred to the full text of s149 of the Equality Act 2010 – included at the end of this document – which must be considered when making decisions on budget proposals.

<b>Equality impact assessments describing impacts on service-users</b>		
<b>Directorates</b>	<b>Services</b>	<b>EIA No.</b>
Families, Children and Wellbeing	Acorn, Cherry Tree and Jump Start Nurseries	1
	Roundabout Nursery	2
	Front Door for Families	3
	Extended Adolescence	4
	Partners in Change Hub	5
	Youth Arts	6
	Violence against Women and Girls	7
	Libraries	8
Homes & Adult Social Care	Community Care	9
	Learning Disability Services	10
	Housing demand management	11
City Operations	Child Pedestrian Training	12
	Digitalisation of parking permits	13
	Parking fees and charges	14
	Parking Light Touch schemes	15
	City Parks parking charges	16
	Trade and garden waste	17
	Waste services charges	18
	Public toilets charges	19
Waste collection model	20	

## Budget Proposal: EIA 1

Title of budget saving being assessed:	Budget savings for Acorn, Cherry Tree and Jump Start nurseries
Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:	Vicky Jenkins Childcare Strategy Manager
Directorate and Service Name:	Families, Children and Wellbeing

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal: (use the wording in the budget spreadsheet and more detail if needed)

The proposal is to make a saving across Acorn, Cherry Tree and Jump Start nurseries through increases in nursery income via the DSG and anticipated increase in child numbers with the extension of early years entitlements to younger children.

Proposed savings for 2026/27  
 Acorn £90,000  
 Cherry Tree £60,000  
 Jump Start £10,000

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

Acorn is a 60-place nursery based on the same campus as North Portslade family hub offering free early learning (the early years free entitlement, EYFE) and paid-for nursery provision to children aged 0 to 4.

Cherry Tree is a 50-place nursery based in Hollingdean Family hub offering EYFE and paid for provision to children aged 0 to 4

Jump Start is a 34-place nursery based in Moulsecoomb Family hub offering EYFE and paid for nursery provision to children aged 2 to 4

There is a far greater proportion of disadvantaged children attending all three nurseries compared with other nurseries in the city.

Savings will be made through increased dedicated schools' grant early years block income and an increase in child numbers. There will be no impact on the offer for children

## Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will be done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

None - there is no change to nursery provision

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

There are proposed changes to Roundabout nursery but the potential impacts are not the same

## Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	Yes
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	Yes
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	Yes
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	Not applicable
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	Yes
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Not applicable
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Not applicable
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	No
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	Not applicable
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	No
<b>Carers</b>	No
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	Yes
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	No
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	Yes
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	No
<b>Human Rights</b>	Not applicable
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	Not applicable

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- People being housebound due to disabilities or disabling circumstances
- Environmental barriers or mobility barriers impacting those with sight loss, D/deafness, sensory requirements, neurodivergence, various complex disabilities
- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

Data not available

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

The impact of the proposal will be collected in termly early years census data. It will also be monitored through the annual audit of the nursery’s EYFE offer and in the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment.

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Population and population groups](#)
    - [Census 2021 population groups Infogram: Brighton & Hove by Brighton and Hove City Council](#)
  - [Census and local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)
  - Good practice research
  - National data and reports relevant to the service
  - Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
  - Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.

- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

<b>Assess impact for different population groups</b>	<b>Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?</b>  <b>State Yes or No</b>	<b>Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups</b> <b>For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith</b>  <b>OR</b> <b>If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<b>Age</b> including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	No	
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	No	
<b>Ethnicity, ‘Race’,</b> ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers	No	
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	No	
<b>Gender and Sex</b> including non-binary and intersex people	No	
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	No	
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for	No	

age, language, and various intersections		
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	No	
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/ blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	No	
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Human Rights</b>	No	
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No	

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

## Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

There are proposed changes to Roundabout nursery but this will not impact changes to the nurseries covered in this EIA
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## Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

## Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	1 = No current impact upon staffing or delivery the saving is going to be achieved through additional income and an increase in child numbers.
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## Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

## Directorate and Service Approval

Signatory:	Name and Job Title:	Date: DD-MMM-YY
Responsible Lead Officer:	Vicky Jenkins Childcare Strategy Manager	12 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Accountable Manager:	Georgina Clarke-Green	12 <sup>th</sup> January 2026

## Budget Proposal: EIA 2

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Transfer of Roundabout nursery to an alternative early years provider
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Vicky Jenkins Childcare Strategy Manager
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	Families, Children and Wellbeing

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal: (use the wording in the budget spreadsheet and more detail if needed)

The proposal is to transfer Roundabout nursery to an alternative provider

Proposed saving

£50,000 2026/27, £215,170 2027/28, £100,000 2028/29

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

Roundabout is an 86-place nursery based on the same campus as Whitehawk Family Hub offering free early learning (the early years free entitlement, EYFE) and paid-for nursery provision to children aged 0 to 4.

There is a far greater proportion of disadvantaged children attending Roundabout nursery compared with other nurseries in the city.

In order to limit negative impacts for nursery users the proposal is to transfer to an alternative provider under a service specification to offer the same provision in terms of age range of children and hours and weeks of operation as Roundabout and with same EYFE offer so that parents can continue to access nursery provision without additional charges.

## Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

None – at present the proposal is confidential

However, should an alternative provider be identified there will be full consultation with staff and parents

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

There is a budget EIA for Acorn, Cherry Tree and Jump Start nurseries but there are no identified impacts in this

## Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	Yes
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	Yes
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	Yes
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	Not applicable
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	Yes
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Not applicable
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Not applicable
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	No
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	Not applicable
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	No
<b>Carers</b>	Not applicable
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	Yes
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	No

<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	Yes
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	No
<b>Human Rights</b>	Not applicable
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	Not applicable

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- People being housebound due to disabilities or disabling circumstances
- Environmental barriers or mobility barriers impacting those with sight loss, D/deafness, sensory requirements, neurodivergence, various complex disabilities
- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

Data not available

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

The impact of the proposal will be collected in termly early years census data. It will also be monitored through the annual audit of the nursery’s EYFE offer and in the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment.

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Population and population groups](#)
  - [Census 2021 population groups Infogram: Brighton & Hove by Brighton and Hove City Council](#)
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)
  - Good practice research
  - National data and reports relevant to the service
  - Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
  - Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

<b>Assess impact for different population groups</b>	<b>Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?</b>  <b>State Yes or No</b>	<b>Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith</b>  <b>OR</b> <b>If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<b>Age</b>  including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	Yes	Roundabout nursery is for children aged 0 to 4. In autumn 2025 there were 91 children on roll and 84.6% of children at Roundabout came from the local area (BN2 5 postcodes).  Ongoing provision in Whitehawk & Marina will be retained in the proposal

		which is important because there is less childcare provision in the ward compared with other areas of the city (7.2 children per early years place in Whitehawk & Marina, compared with two children per early years place city-wide). See Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2025
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	Yes	12.1% of children at Roundabout had SEND compared with 1.5% of children at private, voluntary and independent (PVI) provision (autumn 2025).  Parents of children with SEND have more difficulty finding childcare than those without SEND and are less satisfied with childcare provision see Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2025.  The proposal retains childcare provision on the same basis to reduce negative impacts
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race',</b> ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers	Yes	38.3% of three- and four-year-old children at Roundabout were BME, compared with 23.7% of children at PVI provision (summer 2025)  The proposal retains childcare provision on the same basis in order to reduce negative impacts
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	No	
<b>Gender and Sex</b> including non-binary and intersex people	Yes	Impact on both male and female parents  and carers who use nurseries so that they can work. Women are significantly more impacted to changes in early years provision than men because they usually arrange early years care for their children, and the cost of nursery frequently comes from the

		<p>woman's salary in a two-parent heterosexual household</p> <p>97% of permanent employees at Roundabout nursery are female.</p> <p>Staff transferring to a new provider would have rights under TUPE</p>
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	Yes	<p>Childcare availability is of greater importance to pregnant women, those on maternity and adoption leave than the general population, particularly now that EYFE is available to the children of working parents from the age of nine months</p> <p>The proposal retains childcare provision on the same basis in order to reduce negative impacts</p>
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	Yes	<p>Children from these groups may find it harder to access childcare because they are less likely to be able to travel to alternative provision away from their community; they are also less likely to be eligible for EYFE from the age of nine months and therefore may face greater challenges finding suitable provision</p> <p>The proposal retains childcare provision on the same basis to reduce negative impacts</p>
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	Yes	<p>Non-parents and guardians may assume responsibility for younger children and so there is reliance on these in the wider family/support network</p>

		The proposal retains childcare provision on the same basis to reduce negative impacts
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	No	
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	Yes	Children attending Roundabout nursery are significantly more disadvantaged than children attending PVI nurseries in the city. 42.9% of children at Roundabout received Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP), compared with 10% of children in PVI provision (autumn 2025).  The proposal retains childcare provision on the same basis to reduce negative impacts
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Human Rights</b>	No	
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No	

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents

- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

## Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

There is a budget EIA for Acorn, Cherry Tree and Jump Start nurseries but there are no identified impacts in this

## Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

1. SMART action 1: Ensure that service specifications for alternative providers taking over Roundabout require the current offer of provision to remain in place so that EYFE continues to be available to local parents and children on the same basis as at present
2. SMART action 2: Ensure that service specifications for alternative providers taking over Roundabout requires provision which meets the needs of disadvantaged communities and those with protected characteristics as they are met at present.
3. SMART action 3: The same terms and conditions for staff will remain in place through TUPE.
4. SMART action 4: All families to be supported by Family Hubs to access places in other nurseries should they so wish.

## Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	3
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## Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

## Directorate and Service Approval

<b>Signatory:</b>	<b>Name and Job Title:</b>	<b>Date: DD-MMM-YY</b>
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Vicky Jenkins Childcare Strategy Manager	12 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Georgina Clarke-Green	12 <sup>th</sup> January 2026

## Budget Proposal: EIA 3

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	<b>Front Door for Families reduction</b>
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Kirsty Hanna, Director, Family Help and Protection
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	Families, Children & Wellbeing, Safeguarding and Care

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal:

A reduction in the staffing establishment of 1.0 FTE – currently vacant - in the Front Door for Families. Contacts have reduced by 13%, therefore this reduction can be managed without significantly impacting service performance in providing children safeguarding services to the city in a timely way.

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

This reduction in budget may impact on the response to referrals to the Front Door for Families regarding Children’s Social Care. Black and Global majority children, including separated children arriving in the UK, are over-represented in this cohort and so, if there was an impact, they would be disproportionately affected. A significant number of the children referred to the service are also disabled, neurodivergent and/or experiencing mental health issues so they would also be disproportionately impacted.

### Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

No consultation planned as no significant impact identified.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

Extended Adolescent Service.

### Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	YES
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	YES

<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	YES
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	YES
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	YES
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Not applicable
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Not applicable
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	Not applicable
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	Yes
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	Not applicable
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	Yes
<b>Carers</b>	Yes
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	Yes
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	YES
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	YES
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	YES
<b>Human Rights</b>	Not applicable
<b>Another relevant group: Those experiencing substance misuse</b>	YES

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery

- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

Not applicable

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

This will be monitored through the Senior Leadership Team performance meeting as well as the Front Door for Families Management meeting

### Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)
  - Good practice research
  - National data and reports relevant to the service
  - Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
  - Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

Assess impact for different population groups	Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?	Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith  OR

	<b>State Yes or No</b>	<b>If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<b>Age</b> including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	yes	All the young people this will impact will be under 18 and will be among the most vulnerable children in society, experiencing trauma and vulnerability
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	yes	Many of the young people requiring support will be disabled, neurodivergent and / or experiencing mental health issues.
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage</b> including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers	yes	Black and Global Majority Children are over-represented in our services and this is especially the case for children of mixed heritage or from Gypsy, Roma, Traveller backgrounds.
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	no	
<b>Gender and Sex</b> including non-binary and intersex people	Yes	A number of children in our services identify as non-binary or trans. These young people will often also have additional complex needs and vulnerability and may require support from social care.
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	N/a	N/a
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	N/a	N/a
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	N/a	N/a
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	yes	Social care services support families during pregnancy and early infancy
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	N/a	N/a
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	yes	Social care services support separated children arriving in the UK and so reduction in these services may have a disproportionate impact for these children

<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	yes	Young people accessing social care are more likely to be young carers and so reduction in these services may have a disproportionate impact for these children
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	yes	Social care services support children in care and care leavers and so reduction in these services may have a disproportionate impact for these children
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	yes	Young people in social care services are more likely to have come from families that have experienced domestic violence and are more likely to experience this in their own relationships
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/ blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	yes	Young people accessing social care services are more likely to have come from families in poverty, therefore any cuts in adolescent services will impact on those children affected by childhood poverty
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	yes	Young people accessing the social care services are often at risk of homelessness and so reduction in these services may have a disproportionate impact for these children
<b>Human Rights</b>	n/a	n/a
<b>Another relevant group: Substance misuse</b>	Yes	Young people accessing social care services are more likely to have come from families who have experienced substance misuse and are more likely to have experienced these issues themselves

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)

- Sex workers

## Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

Savings against the Front Door for Families will impact on the service's ability to deal with referrals for families at risk. This may be worsened by other proposed reductions in the Family Help and Protection establishment, leading to the risk of an increase in the number of young people experiencing significant harm and escalating through the service, worsening the impact of these budget proposals. The specific proposals raised in this EIA will be mitigated by the fall in contacts to the Front Door for Families recently – a 13.5% in the year up to the end of September 2025.

## Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

1. SMART action 1: We are a demand led service and are therefore not able to reduce the demand as such. While we do everything possible to prevent children requiring our support, at times children will need to be safeguarded. By July 2026, we will implement the Families Transformation. Families First is a national programme led by the Department for Education (DfE). The overall aims of Families First are to refocus the children's social care system on prevention and to ensure that there is a robust multi-agency child protection system in place. As part of Families First we will create Family Help pods that focus on targeted early help and social work support, as well as creating a Multi-Agency Child Protection Team, which will have oversight of child protection decisions. One of the expected outcomes of Families First is that it will lead to a reduction in demand for high level services and this would include a reduction in referrals, and especially re-referrals, to our services in the longer term.
2. SMART action 2: By July 2026, as part of Families First Transformation we will create roles focused on prevention that support families to create sustainable change and reduce the number of re-referrals to the Front Door for Families.

## Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	4
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## Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

### Directorate and Service Approval

<b>Signatory:</b>	<b>Name and Job Title:</b>	<b>Date: DD-MMM-YY</b>
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Kirsty Hanna	24.10.25
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Kirsty Hanna	24.10.25

## Budget Proposal: EIA 4

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Extended Adolescent Service reduction
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Kirsty Hanna, Director, Family Help and Protection
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	Families, Children & Wellbeing, Safeguarding and Care

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal:

A £50,000 saving on the Extended Adolescent Service, through reduction of a 1.0fte post currently vacant. This savings proposal could lead to less direct support to vulnerable teenagers. The service aims to keep children out of care; therefore, the risk is that more children enter care if this service is depleted. This will be older children as the Extended Adolescent Service works with 11+, these placements tend to be more expensive and far more likely to be high cost residential.

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

This reduction in budget will impact on young people who are supported by the specialist adolescent service. This service supports the young people who are in care or who are at risk of significant harm. This includes young people at risk of criminal exploitation. Black and Global majority young people are over-represented in this cohort and so will be disproportionately affected. A significant number of the young people in the service are also disabled, neurodivergent and / or experiencing mental health issues so will also be disproportionately impacted. Young people open to the service are impacted by complex problems and trauma, including substance misuse.

### Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

No consultation is planned, however work has been undertaken and continues with social work teams and managers to look at how we reduce the number of children and young people needing support from the Extended Adolescent Service, as well as work with external partners including Health to reduce the demands

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

None

### Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	YES
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	YES
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	YES
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	YES
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	YES
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	YES
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Not applicable
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	Not applicable
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	Not applicable
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	Not applicable
<b>Carers</b>	Yes
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	Not applicable
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	YES
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	YES
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	YES
<b>Human Rights</b>	Not applicable
<b>Another relevant group: Those experiencing substance misuse</b>	YES

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas

- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

Not applicable

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

This will be monitored through the Senior Leadership Team performance meeting as well as the Adolescent Violence and Risk Management meeting

### Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)
  - Good practice research
  - National data and reports relevant to the service
  - Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
  - Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

Assess impact for different population groups	Is there a possible disproportionate	Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples

	<b>negative impact?</b>	<b>intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith</b>  <b>OR</b> <b>State Yes or No</b> <b>If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<b>Age</b> including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	yes	All the people this will impact will be under 18 and will be among the most vulnerable children in society, experiencing trauma and vulnerability
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	yes	Many of the young people supported by the service are also disabled, neurodivergent and / or experiencing mental health issues
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race',</b> ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers	yes	Black and Global Majority Children are over-represented in our services and this is especially the case for children of mixed heritage or from Gypsy, Roma, Traveller backgrounds.
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	no	no disproportionate impact for this group
<b>Gender and Sex</b> including non-binary and intersex people	Yes	A number of children in our services identify as non-binary or trans. These young people will often also have additional complex needs and vulnerability and may require support from the adolescent service.
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	N/a	N/a
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Yes	LGBTQ+ young people will often also have additional needs and vulnerability
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	N/a	N/a
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	N/a	N/a
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	N/a	N/a
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age,	yes	n/a

language, and various intersections		
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	n/a	Young people accessing the adolescent service are more likely to be young carers
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	yes	n/a
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	yes	Young people in the adolescent service are more likely to have come from families that have experienced domestic violence and are more likely to experience this in their own relationships
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/ blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	yes	Young people accessing the adolescent service are more likely to have come from families in poverty, therefore any cuts in adolescent services will impact on those children affected by childhood poverty
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	n/a	Young people accessing the adolescent service are often at risk of homelessness
<b>Human Rights</b>	n/a	n/a
<b>Another relevant group: Substance misuse</b>	Yes	Young people accessing the extended adolescent service are more likely to have come from families who have experienced substance misuse and are more likely to have experienced these issues themselves

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery

- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

### Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

Savings against the Family Help and Protection establishment may impact on the support for children and families and lead to an increase in the number of young people accessing the adolescent service and worsening the impact of these budget proposals.

### Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

SMART action 1: We are a demand led service and are therefore not able to reduce the demand as such. While we do everything possible to prevent children requiring our support, at times children will need to be safeguarded. By July 2026, we will implement the Families Transformation. Families First is a national programme led by the Department for Education (DfE). The overall aims of Families First are to refocus the children’s social care system on prevention and to ensure that there is a robust multi-agency child protection system in place. As part of Families First we will create Family Help pods that focus on targeted early help and social work support, as well as creating a Multi-Agency Child Protection Team, which will have oversight of child protection decisions. One of the expected outcomes of Families First is that it will lead to a reduction in demand for high level services and this would include a reduction in high level need in the adolescent service.

SMART action 2: As part of Families First, by July 2026, we will create Youth Keyworker roles in the Adolescent Service to reduce demand on the Extended Adolescent Service.

### Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal’s impact score:	4
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### Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

## Directorate and Service Approval

<b>Signatory:</b>	<b>Name and Job Title:</b>	<b>Date: DD-MMM-YY</b>
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Kirsty Hanna	24.10.25
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Kirsty Hanna	24.10.25

## Budget Proposal: EIA 5

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	<b>Partners in Change Hub</b>
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Kirsty Hanna, Director, Family Help and Protection
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	Families, Children & Wellbeing, Safeguarding and Care

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal:

A 0.8 FTE reduction in the Partners in Change Hub staffing establishment. The Partners in Change Hub supports social work practice providing direct interventions to families and supporting Social Work Students and newly qualified social workers. The number of newly qualified social workers employed has decreased over the last 2 years.

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

This reduction in budget will impact on the support to social workers and keyworkers who are providing support to families from a targeted early help stage, through child in need work, child protection plans and children in care. Tasks will need to be re-distributed within the Partners in Change Hub and this will impact on their workload. Black and Global majority children, including unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, are over-represented in this cohort and so will be disproportionately affected. A significant number of the children in the service are also disabled, neurodivergent and / or experiencing mental health issues so will also be disproportionately impacted.

### Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

No consultation is planned.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

Extended Adolescent Service.

### Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	YES
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<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	YES
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	YES
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	YES
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	YES
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Not applicable
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Not applicable
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	Not applicable
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	Yes
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	Not applicable
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	Yes
<b>Carers</b>	Yes
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	Yes
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	YES
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	YES
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	YES
<b>Human Rights</b>	Not applicable
<b>Another relevant group: Those experiencing substance misuse</b>	YES

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery

- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

Not applicable

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

This will be monitored through the Senior Leadership Team performance meeting as well as the Partners in Change Management meeting

### Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)
  - Good practice research
  - National data and reports relevant to the service
  - Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
  - Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

Assess impact for different population groups	Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?	Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith
		OR

	State Yes or No	If no impact is identified, briefly state why.
<b>Age</b> including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	yes	All the people this will impact will be under 18 and will be among the most vulnerable children in society, experiencing trauma and vulnerability
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	yes	Many children and young people in our services are disabled, neurodivergent and / or experiencing mental health issues.
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage</b> including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers	yes	Black and Global Majority Children are over-represented in our services and this is especially the case for children of mixed heritage or from Gypsy, Roma, Traveller backgrounds.
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	no	
<b>Gender and Sex</b> including non-binary and intersex people	Yes	A number of children in our services identify as non-binary or trans. These young people will often also have additional complex needs and vulnerability
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	N/a	N/a
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	N/a	N/a
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	N/a	N/a
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	yes	Social care services support families during pregnancy and early infancy
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	N/a	N/a
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	yes	Social care services support separated children arriving in the UK and so reduction in these services may have a disproportionate impact for these children
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	yes	Young people accessing social care are more likely to be young carers and so reduction in

		these services may have a disproportionate impact for these children
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	yes	Social care services support children in care and care leavers and so reduction in these services may have a disproportionate impact for these children
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	yes	Young people in social care services are more likely to have come from families that have experienced domestic violence and are more likely to experience this in their own relationships
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/ blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	yes	Young people accessing social care services are more likely to have come from families in poverty, therefore any cuts in adolescent services will impact on those children affected by childhood poverty
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	yes	Young people accessing the social care services are often at risk of homelessness and so reduction in these services may have a disproportionate impact for these children
<b>Human Rights</b>	n/a	n/a
<b>Another relevant group: Substance misuse</b>	Yes	Young people accessing social care services are more likely to have come from families who have experienced substance misuse and are more likely to have experienced these issues themselves

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

## Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

Savings against the Partners in Change Hub and Professional Education Consultants will impact on the support for social workers to make a difference for families and this will be worsened by other proposed reductions in the Family Help and Protection establishment, such as loss of a post in the Extended Adolescent Service, leading to the risk of an increase in the number of young people experiencing significant harm and escalating through the service, worsening the impact of these budget proposals.

## Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

SMART action 1: We are a demand led service and are therefore not able to reduce the demand as such. While we do everything possible to prevent children requiring our support, at times children will need to be safeguarded. By July 2026, we will implement the Families Transformation. Families First is a national programme led by the Department for Education (DfE). The overall aims of Families First are to refocus the children's social care system on prevention and to ensure that there is a robust multi-agency child protection system in place. As part of Families First we will create Family Help pods that focus on targeted early help and social work support, as well as creating a Multi-Agency Child Protection Team, which will have oversight of child protection decisions. One of the expected outcomes of Families First is that it will lead to a reduction in demand for high level services and this would include a reduction in need from the Partners in Change Hub and recruitment of newly qualified social workers.

SMART action 2: By July 2026, we will create Change Practitioner roles in the Partners in Change Hub to help reduce demand on children's social care.

## Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	4
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## Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

## Directorate and Service Approval

<b>Signatory:</b>	<b>Name and Job Title:</b>	<b>Date: DD-MMM-YY</b>
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Kirsty Hanna	24.10.25
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Kirsty Hanna	24.10.25

## Budget Proposal: EIA 6

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	<b>Reduction of Youth Arts programme</b>
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Kirsty Hanna
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	Families, Children and Wellbeing

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal:

The proposal is to reduce the Youth Arts Programme through change to staffing establishment: removal of 0.8 FTE, currently vacant. The Youth Participation Team provide a range of services for children and young people who are/have been in care or receiving social work support; this includes youth advocacy, Children in Care Council, Independent Visitor Programme. The service also provides an accredited Youth Arts Programme and wider participation activities, e.g. Youth Council, Youth Wise.

The Youth Arts Award Programme targets young people aged 11 to 19 years (SEND up to 25 years) particularly Children in Care (CiC), Care leavers (with SEND) or young people who are emotionally distressed and are disengaged from education, training or employment. The staff (1.21fte) deliver and accredit the bronze, silver & Gold awards and their aim is to improve mental health and to re-engage the young people into education, training and increase employment opportunities

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

This would result in a loss of opportunity for the most vulnerable children living in the city, including CiC, who are disengaged from education, to achieve a nationally accredited award and reintegrate them back into education, training or employment.

15 young people have been supported since April 2025.

In addition to CiC, the information provided highlights that young people aged 11 to 19 years (SEND up to 25 years), particularly LGBTQ+ young people, those living in poverty, young people with poor mental health, young women and young people with SEND will be disproportionately impacted.

## Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

There has been no consultation but there is an ongoing youth review taking place between September and December 2025

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

N/A

### Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	Yes
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	Yes
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	No
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	No
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	Yes
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Yes
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Yes
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	No
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	No
<b>Carers</b>	No
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	Yes
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	No
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	Yes
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	No
<b>Human Rights</b>	No

<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	Yes  Children not engaged with education
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**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- People being housebound due to disabilities or disabling circumstances
- Environmental barriers or mobility barriers impacting those with sight loss, D/deafness, sensory requirements, neurodivergence, various complex disabilities
- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

Data for children in care and children open to Family Help will be considered at performance boards

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

Via monitoring if the virtual school team are reaching this targeted group and if they are able to offer alternative programmes, numbers, demographics and accreditations gained will be evaluated within this service.

Through the SEND and Alternative Provision change programme.

The Youth Participation team will monitor requests/referrals for support within the groups of young people adversely affected, the numbers of request that can be referred on to other services and report any gaps in support for those young people.

Possible increase in complaints if the service is no longer available/ further limiting options for those very vulnerable groups of young people, as listed previously.

### Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Population and population groups](#)
  - [Census 2021 population groups Infogram: Brighton & Hove by Brighton and Hove City Council](#)
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)
  - Good practice research
  - National data and reports relevant to the service
  - Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
  - Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

<b>Assess impact for different population groups</b>	<b>Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?  State Yes or No</b>	<b>Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith  OR  If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<b>Age</b> including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	Yes	This project targets young people aged 11 to 19 years (SEND up to 25 years). There would be reduction in the number of young people being supported to achieve a nationally accredited award and reintegrate them back into education, training or employment
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind,	Yes	The award is carefully tailored and delivered to meet each individual young person’s needs, resulting in a high level of success in engaging

neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.		and sustaining participation from disabled young people and particularly autistic young people.
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers</b>	Yes	Black and Global Majority Children are over-represented in our services and this is especially the case for children of mixed heritage or from Gypsy, Roma, Traveller backgrounds.
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	No	
<b>Sex</b>	Yes	The Arts Award predominantly supports young women who could be disproportionately impacted with the reduction
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Yes	A number of trans and non-binary young people use the service
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Yes	A number of children in care identify as LGBTQ and these young people will often also have additional needs and vulnerability
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	No	
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	Yes	Young people accessing social care are more likely to be young carers
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age,	Yes	The programme supports young people from these groups who could be impacted by the reduction

language, and various intersections		
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	Yes	Young people in social care services are more likely to have come from families that have experienced domestic violence
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	Yes	Young people accessing social care services are more likely to have come from families in poverty
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Human Rights</b>	No	
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	Yes	<p>This programme targets young people presenting with emotional distress (poor mental health), CiC, Care Leavers (with SEND) and other vulnerable young people that are disengaged from education, training or employment. This would reduce the number being supported to achieve a nationally accredited award and reintegrate them back into education, training or employment</p> <p>The award is carefully tailored and delivered to meet each individual young person's needs, resulting in a high level of success in engaging and sustaining participation from young people with severe mental health issues including young people who find engaging with other services difficult.</p>

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)

- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

### Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

Yes, youth participation reduction of 0.5 FTE

### Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

2. SMART action 1: Consider the use of SEND and AP programme to deliver service for children not engaged in education
3. SMART action 2: Implementation of new young futures hubs to meet the needs of the young people. The programme will provide a one stop shop for support services with a focus on young people’s health and wellbeing, those at risk of crime and education and employment from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 and complement the reduced offer.

### Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal’s impact score:	1
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### Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

### Directorate and Service Approval

Signatory:	Name and Job Title:	Date: DD-MMM-YY
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Joanne Templeman	18 November 2025
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Kirsty Hanna	18 November 2025

Budget Proposal: EIA 7	
<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Violence Against Women and Girls Budget
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Anne Clark, Strategic Lead Commissioner VAWG
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	Families, Children & Wellbeing

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal:

£75,000 saving by reducing funding for Pan Sussex posts associated with the Pan Sussex Domestic Abuse Board and funding the Transformation Manager post at Stonewater Refuge. The project work of this post has now reached completion.

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

This reduction in budget will impact on the partnership contributions to the Board and may mean that East and West Sussex County Councils will have to increase their contributions. The Council has been contributing to the Pan Sussex Domestic Abuse Board Manager and Community Engagement Officer role. Both roles are line managed via West Sussex Council and focus primarily on East and West Sussex engagement. Officers from Brighton and Hove will continue to be a member of the Board. There is no significant impact on the wider groups in the community. The work of the Transformation Manager has completed so there is no impact from this saving.

### Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

No consultation is planned, however, we will consult with Pan Sussex Partners to advise of this development.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

None

### Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	No
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<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	No
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	No
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	No
<b>Sex</b>	Yes, all postholders are females who are affected
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	No
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	Not applicable
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	No
<b>Carers</b>	No
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	No
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	YES
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	No
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	No
<b>Human Rights</b>	Not applicable
<b>Another relevant group: Those experiencing substance misuse</b>	No

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery

- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

There is not a process that will capture data on how a decision not to fund these posts will impact those with protected characteristics.

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

This will be monitored through ongoing partnership engagement with the Pan Sussex Board.

### Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
- [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
- Service specific data
- Community consultations
- Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
- Lived experiences and qualitative data
- [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
- [Health Inequalities data](#)
- Good practice research
- National data and reports relevant to the service
- Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
- Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

<b>Assess impact for different population groups</b>	<b>Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?</b>  <b>State Yes or No</b>	<b>Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith</b>  <b>OR</b> <b>If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
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<b>Age</b> including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	No	These roles do not provide support to those affected by VAWG
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	No	These roles do not provide support to those affected by disability
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage</b> including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers	No	These roles do not provide support to people
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	no	As above
<b>Gender and Sex</b> including non-binary and intersex people	Yes	Although the majority of people affected by VAWG are female, these posts do not work directly with those affected by VAWG to provide support.
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	These roles do not provide support to people
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	These roles do not provide support to people
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	These roles do not provide support to people
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	No	These roles do not provide support to people
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	These roles do not provide support to people
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	These roles do not provide support to people

<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	These roles do not provide support to people
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	These roles do not provide support to people
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	yes	These roles work to support the implementation of the Pan Sussex Domestic Abuse Strategy and administrate the Pan Sussex Domestic Abuse Board. There is minimal interface with those affected currently by Domestic Abuse. However, withdrawing financial support for these functions may mean that there is a minimal impact on those affected by DA in the City.
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	No	These roles do not provide support to people
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	No	These roles do not provide support to people
<b>Human Rights</b>	n/a	n/a
<b>Another relevant group: Substance misuse</b>	No	These roles do not provide support to people

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)

- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

### Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

No
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### Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

- |  |
|--|
| 1. SMART action 1: Brighton and Hove City Council's VAWG Unit will continue to support the Pan Sussex Board and attend its meetings and subgroups.   |
| 2. SMART ACTION 2: The workload of VAWG Unit staff will continue to be monitored and we will continue to work to ensure those affected by Domestic and sexual violence are not disadvantaged by these budget saving proposals. |

### Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	1
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### Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

### Directorate and Service Approval

Signatory:	Name and Job Title:	Date: DD-MMM-YY
Responsible Lead Officer:	Anne Clark	30.10. 2025
Accountable Manager:	Anne Clark	30.10. 2025

## Budget Proposal: EIA 8

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Reduction in public library services including opening hours at Jubilee and Hove Libraries and closure of some community libraries.
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Ceris Howard Head of Library and Customer Service
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	Families, Children and Wellbeing, Libraries

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal: (use the wording in the budget spreadsheet and more detail if needed)

£100k saving from reduction in staffed hours at Jubilee and Hove libraries and closure of Hollingbury and Westdene community libraries. Reduction in opening hours to remove one evening and Sunday afternoon hours at Jubilee and one evening and Saturday afternoon hours at Hove, total 10 hours/week.

These times have been identified as the quietest times of the week in those libraries, therefore having the least impact on customer use.

An analysis has been conducted and a public consultation completed, reviewing the use of each library and the needs of the local residents to identify those libraries whose closure would have least impact on customers.

Within the Medium-Term Financial Strategy further savings of £0.140m were identified for 2026/27 to be met through reductions in library services and staff hours.

The full savings of £140k were expected to be achieved from April 2026. However, adjustments to the recommendations include retaining Rottingdean Library, originally proposed for closure. This reduces the savings achievable by £40k to £100k from April 2026. Alternative savings will need to be identified elsewhere in the council's revenue budget to offset this £40k.

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

The proposed libraries affected are part of the council's statutory library provision.

In reducing opening hours at the city's two principal libraries and closing two community libraries, the council must be satisfied that it continues to meet its statutory duty to provide a comprehensive and efficient service to the city.

This can be achieved through completion of a needs and use assessment, local consultation, an Equalities Impact Assessment, and a series of mitigations to ensure that local people have access to the statutory library services in the city.

Those in employment with traditional working hour (9-5) or people with caring responsibilities could be negatively impacted, due to the reduction in access at the weekend and evenings. This is mitigated by retaining two late openings in the week and retaining full day Saturday and half day Sunday opening at Jubilee.

University and college students make up a high proportion of visitors to Jubilee, particularly in exam periods; this change could impact their use of the study spaces.

Those less able to travel could be disproportionately impacted by the closures, as they may need to travel further to access library services. Those with disabilities, caring responsibilities, older people and families with young children could be negatively impacted.

This is mitigated by retaining 11 libraries across the city, maintaining a geographic spread. Jubilee Library will maintain services 7 days/week, including two late openings/week. Libraries Extra enables customers to access libraries when they are unstaffed which contributes to the accessibility of services in the city.

Unaccompanied children (under 16 years old) cannot use Libraries Extra, so this would not mitigate the changes for this group. Disabled customers could also find Libraries Extra more challenging to access than staffed libraries. Alternative mitigations could be put in place, such as community book collections and activities and options for community-led provision are being explored. A full range of online services, with free access to e-books and e-audio, are available 24/7.

The Home Delivery Service delivers library resources direct to the homes of those who cannot come to a library due to disability or caring responsibilities.

## Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

In line with the government Department for Culture, Media and Sport expectations, a 12 week public consultation has been completed. The public consultation and needs and use analyses have been completed and analysed to understand the potential impact of the changes for residents. This includes analysis of travel impact, areas of deprivation, demographic data etc.

Library staff at several levels will be affected by the proposals and a consultation with over 60 colleagues is required, to be completed January–March, with changes implemented by April 2026.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

Closure of Mile Oak Library in 2023. 2025-26 Budget EIA. EIA for public consultation July 2025 and December 2025 Cabinet Papers.

## Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	Yes
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	Yes
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	Yes
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	Yes
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	Yes
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Yes
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Yes
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	Yes
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	Yes
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	Yes
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	Yes
<b>Carers</b>	Yes
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	Yes
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	No
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	Yes
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	Yes
<b>Human Rights</b>	No
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	Not applicable

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents

- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

Data is gathered by Library Management System when customers join the library. Not all points above have all been covered for the full period of time the service has been collecting data.  
Staff data is managed through BHCC HR systems.

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

Numbers of visitors and items loaned at libraries affected.  
Feedback via comments and complaints.  
Informal engagement with partners and stakeholders.  
Public consultation ran for 12 weeks July – October 2025  
Formal consultation with staff, 1:1s, team meetings.  
Data and feedback will be monitored by the Libraries Senior Management Team and reported to the Communities and Commissioning Director and Senior Leadership Team.

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data

- [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
- [Health Inequalities data](#)
- Good practice research
- National data and reports relevant to the service
- Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
- Feedback from internal 'staff as residents' consultations
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on 'who' the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

Assess impact for different population groups	Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?  State Yes or No	Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith  OR  If no impact is identified, briefly state why.
<b>Age</b> including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	Yes	<p>Unaccompanied children (under 16 year old) cannot use Libraries Extra, so this being available in community libraries will not mitigate loss of opening hours in Jubilee and Hove libraries and would have limited impact in areas where their library has closed.</p> <p>A high number of customers are students or older people; the changes are likely to impact them disproportionately. Older customers regularly use libraries as a safe, warm space, particularly in winter. Any reduction in opening hours could disproportionately affect this group.</p> <p>Younger children and young people may not be able to travel independently to access a library further from their home. Families may find it more difficult to visit libraries further from their home or school.</p>
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of	Yes	Brighton & Hove has an aging population and a significant proportion of residents with long-term health conditions, mental health issues, or disabilities.

<p>hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.</p>		<p>Disabled customers may not be able to travel independently to access a library further from their home. They may also face additional costs through the increased travel especially people who need to use a private vehicle for travel. Disabled households are already more likely to be under greater financial strain due lower income and greater household costs.</p> <p>They could find Libraries Extra more challenging to use than staffed library services, so this being available in community libraries will have limited impact in areas where their library has closed and will not mitigate loss of opening hours in Jubilee and Hove libraries.</p>
<p><b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Certain Black and racially minoritised communities may be disproportionately affected, dependent on the demographic of the areas affected by library closures.</p> <p>Changes at Hove and Jubilee Libraries could disproportionately affect Black and racially minoritised communities.</p> <p>Brunswick &amp; Adelaide, Central Hove and Goldsmid wards have higher levels of school pupils from Black and racially minoritised backgrounds, as well as a higher percentage of pupils for whom English is an additional language (EAL).</p> <p>Jubilee Library serves residents of its immediate central wards, as well as those from further afield travelling in and out of the city centre for work, play and study. These central wards are home to a higher percentage of the city's Black and racially minoritised residents.</p>
<p><b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b></p>	<p>Possible</p>	<p>Considering for the intersection of faith and ethnicity some faith communities may be disproportionately affected dependent on the demographic of the areas affected by library closures.</p>

		Potential for additional impact on women as predominantly primary child carers, especially for young children. Lack of a local library facility could disproportionately impact on women. Community libraries provide a neutral safe social space for women with young children
<b>Gender and Sex</b> including non-binary and intersex people	Yes	Potential for additional impact on women as predominantly primary child carers, especially for young children. Lack of a local library facility could disproportionately impact on women. Community libraries provide a neutral safe social space for women with young children
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	No	
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	Yes	Carers may have restrictions in the times and days they can access services, therefore a reduction in access hours could disproportionately affect their use of services.
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	

<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	Yes	Lack of a local library facility could disproportionately impact on women. Community libraries provide a neutral safe social space for those who have or are experiencing domestic abuse.
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/ blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	Yes	Customers at a socio-economic disadvantage may be less able to pay for travel to alternative provision.  Customers regularly use libraries as a safe, warm space, particularly in winter. Any reduction in opening hours could disproportionately affect this group.
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	Yes	There are a number of vulnerably or un-housed customers who regularly use Jubilee Library as a safe, warm space, particularly in winter. Any reduction in opening hours could disproportionately affect this group.
<b>Human Rights</b>	No	
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	N/A	

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

**Cumulative impacts**

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

The proposed closure of community libraries could worsen the impacts of this proposal. It may also compound other service proposals from across the council that impact on older people, disabled people and people from socio-economic disadvantage.

### Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

1. SMART action 1: The Home Delivery Service could mitigate reduced access by delivering library resources direct to customers' homes, for disabled customers and customers with caring responsibilities.
2. SMART action 2: Monitoring the impact through data collection enables the service to focus remaining resources in areas of need. For example, if the number of families using the service were to drop, staff could prioritise working with schools and clubs in community library areas, to encourage sign up to Libraries Extra for families.
3. SMART action 3: Libraries Extra enables BHCC libraries to offer services in customer's communities and provides a far higher number of accessible hours than most other library services. Libraries Extra services could be promoted across the city to increase use.
4. SMART action 4: clear and timely communications with customers and non-users in advance of the changes will enable customers to engage with the service early and identify alternative options before the change happens, e.g. signing customers up to Libraries Extra.
5. SMART action 5: explore the feasibility of creating a programme of stakeholder engagement activities to inform the Libraries Services Management team over the coming years on changes to libraries services to ensure meet statutory duty, remain inclusive and accessible with resource pressures.
6. SMART action 6: Revisit how we communicate/advertise Libraries Extra and the Home Delivery Service considering for proactively communication to affected communities about how to sign up and use these services.
7. SMART action 7: Use the information gathered through the public consultation and needs and use analyses and EIAs to inform the development of the new Library Service Strategy 2026-31, to focus resources on meeting the needs of residents.

### Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	3
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## Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

## Directorate and Service Approval

<b>Signatory:</b>	<b>Name and Job Title:</b>	<b>Date: DD-MMM-YY</b>
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Ceris Howard	19/01/25
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Anna Gianfrancesco	17/11/25

## Budget Proposal: EIA 9

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Community Care Budget
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Steve Hook, Director of Adult Social Care
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	Health and Adult Social Care, Operations

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal:

The overall net budget for this service area is £77.2m and the proposed saving for 2026/27 is **£2.296m**.

This is proposed to be done by continuing with the agreed direction of travel for Adult Social Care focusing upon reducing demand through several approaches:

- reduction of long-term care placements in nursing and residential care, particular focus on working age service users
- ensure reviews demonstrate support services are adequate to meet needs and represent efficiency and value for money
- increase the reablement offer to those who require it
- managing provider fee uplifts considering the current market fee position
- focus on preventative interventions and promoting independence in line with the target operating model, including advice, and signposting and increasing the use of technology enabled care

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

Older people, disabled people and carers are groups who are affected when changes are made in Adult Social Care, considering intersectional impacts. However, due to the nature of these changes being focused on prevention of admission into long term residential and nursing care, promoting independence in the community and ensuring value for money, there are no identified negative disproportionate impacts for these groups.

### Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

Continued engagement with partners, people with learning disabilities and their families through the Learning Disability Partnership Board.

We regularly engage with care and support providers and will continue our ongoing engagement. We will continue to negotiate with providers throughout the year on fee uplift requests so that services can continue to meet the care and support needs of the individuals within their care.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

None

### Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	YES
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	YES
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	YES
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	YES
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	YES
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	NO
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	YES
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	NO
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	NO
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	NO
<b>Carers</b>	YES
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	Not applicable
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	NO
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	NO
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	YES
<b>Human Rights</b>	NO

Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)	NO
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**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

Equalities data is gathered in line with statutory guidelines as indicated by DHSC and NHSE. Assessments and reviews of individuals gather further information to fully understand the strengths and needs of each person requiring care and support. Although this is not monitored currently for trends and analysis, each individual’s needs are considered throughout their care and support planning. Where we do not have data available, we will seek to improve this and continue to engage with people in the community to understand the impacts further.

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

The Director for Adult Social Care (DASS) retains the responsibility for professional leadership and operational delivery for meeting statutory need and will ensure governance arrangements support social work professional practice to ensure that statutory duties and responsibilities are appropriately met and best practice is followed.

Delivery of these savings will be monitored corporately by savings delivery board, alongside other strategic programmes

We will continue to review the impacts of this proposal through annual service user surveys and bi-annual carer surveys, as well as monitoring compliments and complaints. We will also gather stakeholder feedback through existing partnership boards and forums. Any impacts to individuals are assessed through reviews and care and support planning.

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**

- [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
- Service specific data
- Community consultations
- Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
- Lived experiences and qualitative data
- [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
- [Health Inequalities data](#)
- Good practice research
- National data and reports relevant to the service
- Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
- Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

<b>Assess impact for different population groups</b>	<b>Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?</b>  <b>State Yes or No</b>	<b>Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith</b>  <b>OR</b> <b>If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<b>Age</b> including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	No	Focus on prevention of admission into long term residential and nursing care and promoting independence in the community.
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	No	Focus on prevention of admission into long term residential and nursing care and promoting independence in the community.
<b>Ethnicity, ‘Race’,</b> ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers	No	

<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	No	
<b>Gender and Sex</b> including non-binary and intersex people	No	
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	No	
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	No	
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate	No	

background, and various intersections		
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Human Rights</b>	No	
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No	

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

### Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

There is a significant reorganisation of Integrated Care Boards as part of a national programme. Locally that will involve Sussex ICB merging with Surrey Heartlands ICB. This will be closely monitored through Integrated Health Governance in partnership with Brighton & Hove City Council.

### Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

1. No mitigation actions are available due to: no disproportionate impacts identified

### Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	1
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### Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

### Directorate and Service Approval

<b>Signatory:</b>	<b>Name and Job Title:</b>	<b>Date: DD-MMM-YY</b>
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Steve Hook, Director Adult Social Care	06-11-2025
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Genette Laws, Corporate Director Homes & Adult Social Care	06-11-2025

## Budget Proposal: EIA 10

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Learning Disability, Provider Services
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Steve Hook, Director Adult Social Care
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	Homes & Adult Social Care – Adult Social Care Operations

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal: (use the wording in the budget spreadsheet and more detail if needed)

A proposal is being put to Budget Committee on the 26th February 2026 recommending the closure and reprovision of Wellington House Day Options.

The individuals currently using these services will all receive a statutory review of their individual needs under the Care Act 2014, and alternative services to meet those needs will be commissioned through the independent sector market.

- To reduce the number of directly provided in house adult learning disability services through a closure process and spot purchase suitably qualified and experienced providers.
- Deliver savings of £0.4 million for financial year 2026/27. These savings will not impact on the quality of the alternative provision that will be commissioned to meet the assessed needs of the people currently using these services.

The rationale for the reprovision is:

*As a local authority our overall costs are higher compared to areas that rely more on external providers. and this has an impact on the overall cost of our Learning Disability provision in the city.*

*We know this is a challenge shared by other local authorities across the country, and we are committed to managing it responsibly. That's why we regularly review our in-house services to make sure they align with our strategic priorities and deliver support in the most cost-effective way.*

*These reviews help us plan for the future, so we can continue supporting a growing number of people with learning disabilities who need care in our city.*

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

The individuals supported are adults with learning disabilities, some of whom are also autistic.

Staff and family will also be affected by the proposal, this EIA however is predominantly addressing the impact on the people using these services and their family carers.

There is a separate EIA looking at the impact for staff.

The number of individuals affected at Wellington House Day options is 24

## Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will be done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

The proposal to recommission this service will be included within the draft Council Budget proposals for the financial year 2026/27. Following the release of the draft budget proposals engagement will include;

- A face to face consultation meeting with affected staff. Union representatives will be invited alongside HR, Commissioning and In House senior managers
- A face to face consultation meeting with families with Commissioners and Operational Managers is planned and affected families will also be written to explaining the proposal.

Both of these meetings will outline the proposal included in the Council budget papers being decided upon at full budget Council on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026 with an opportunity to ask questions and put across points of view.

Whilst the needs of the individuals attending this service varies, a significant number of individuals as a result of the level of their learning disability would find it difficult to understand the proposal and its current abstract nature. The decision was made not to consult with them at this time on the draft proposal.

Where it is deemed that individuals do have capacity to understand the proposal, and where it is felt that talking with them about this will not adversely affect their wellbeing, engagement will take place. This will be tailored to meet individuals' needs to ensure it is accessible and meets their preferred communication methods. Where possible we will seek to undertake this engagement with an independent advocacy service provider in the city.

The proposal to close and reprovide this service in the independent sector will be decided at Budget Council on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

Future consultations with families, staff and individuals being supported will continue once the decision to close and reprovide has been made. All of these consultations will be led by the In-House Learning Disability Service.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

None

## Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	Yes
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<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	Yes
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	Yes
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	No
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	Yes
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	No
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	No
<b>Carers</b>	Yes
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	Not applicable
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	Yes
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	Not applicable
<b>Human Rights</b>	Yes
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- People being housebound due to disabilities or disabling circumstances
- Environmental barriers or mobility barriers impacting those with sight loss, D/deafness, sensory requirements, neurodivergence, various complex disabilities
- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

The internal Council social care case management recording system “Eclipse” includes areas to add information on pronouns, sexual orientation, religion, gender, sex at birth but this is not recorded for the individuals living in these services.

Discussion to be had with assessment colleagues who will be undertaking these reviews as part of the process for recommissioning to consider how, if any of this information where appropriate can be gathered.

Discussion to be had with the in-house operations managers around areas for improved data collection.

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

Outcomes of reviews and information from staff meetings and service user meetings will support the monitoring of the impact for individuals. Mental capacity assessments and best interest decisions will be in place where people may not have the capacity to understand the process.

We are communicating with families and carers to ensure that the impact on individuals is discussed, and best interest decisions are made ‘where required’ about how and when to inform people of different stages of the process.

We are making contact with advocacy services to ensure that, where people have an understanding of parts of the process, they are supported to have a voice about the impact of the activity. As the activity progresses operational managers will be setting up additional regular

meetings with managers and staff teams to ensure clear communication. This will also support monitoring of the impact of the activity on staff and service users.

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Population and population groups](#)
  - [Census 2021 population groups Infogram: Brighton & Hove by Brighton and Hove City Council](#)
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)
  - Good practice research
  - National data and reports relevant to the service
  - Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
  - Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

Assess impact for different population groups	Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?  State Yes or No	Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith  OR

		<b>If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<p><b>Age</b> including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.</p>	Yes	<p>The majority of individuals attending Wellington House day options are aged in their 40's, 50's and 60's.</p> <p>From the above data, the largest proportion of those affected at the Day Centre are in their 40's and 50's.</p> <p>Given the small number of people this assessment applies to, it was considered that any more detailed data could make some of the individuals identifiable.</p> <p>Some conclusions as to why this is at Day Options can be drawn in terms of the in-house provision having been in existence for a long time. This means there will be fewer young people in the services as voids are not frequent. The lower numbers of individuals at the higher age could be attributed to the higher mortality rate for adults with learning disabilities across the general population* and/or increasing health and mobility needs of individuals results in them having to move to a more specialist service.</p> <p>Whilst this shows a disproportionate impact on this age bracket, the outsourcing proposal for Day Activities seeks to ensure as little change for individuals as possible. Any new provider must however have the skills and abilities to understand the needs of adults with learning disabilities who are getting older.</p>
<p><b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.</p>	Yes	<p>This service is managed under the inhouse learning disability services which provides services for adults with learning disabilities, some of whom may also be autistic. Some of these individuals will have high care and support needs that require specialist support.</p>

		<p>All individuals have a diagnosed Learning Disability with eligible needs under the Care Act.</p> <p>Through the nature of the services being for this group of individuals there is a disproportionate impact on adults with learning disabilities, those that are also autistic, with individuals with additional conditions and needs including health, communication and behavioural needs.</p>
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers</b>	Yes	<p>The majority of individuals affected are White British, some staff are from BME backgrounds.</p> <p>This indicates a disproportionate impact upon those who are White British. This data is not broken down as the number of individuals involved is so small this could render them identifiable.</p>
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	No	
<b>Gender and Sex including non-binary and intersex people</b>	Yes	<p>The proportion of those whose sex at birth is male and those whose sex at birth is female is broadly similar and so both are affected equally across both services.</p> <p>This risk is mitigated by the Provider having to ensure they provide support that meets the needs of both male and female individuals.</p> <p>Gender Identity is not recorded on Eclipse, or by Provider services themselves. There is no information from the current services to indicate this is an area that will affect the individuals supported.</p> <p>Whilst this is not recorded, it is not anticipated that the proposed change will have an impact either positive, negative or disproportionately.</p> <p>It is recognised that some of the individuals using these services may</p>

		have developed important relationships with peers, and this will be included in the Care Act reviews to ensure proper consideration is made as to how these relationships can be sustained if future contact is affected by these changes.
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	Yes	<p>No data is recorded on maternity, paternity, adoption, infertility on the case management system or by the services themselves. There is no information from the current services to indicate these areas affect the individuals supported and as such would not have an impact either positive, negative or disproportionately.</p> <p>The data shows that there is a similar proportion of women to men, with a number of women of peri-menopause or menopause age range who may therefore be disproportionality impacted. There is also a correlation between autism and premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD).</p> <p>For staff they will be supported in line with Corporate Policy.</p>
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	Yes	Wellington House Day Options provides activities for the individual with learning disabilities, and also very valuable respite for family carers. There are a small, but significant number of family carers who could be impacted by

		<p>this change. It is important that these caring arrangements are not destabilised by this change.</p> <p>As part of the Care Act review of the individual's needs, family carers will be offered a Carers Assessment to ensure that carers will be appropriately supported.</p> <p>A positive impact of this change is that alternative day activity provision may be closer to the family home and thereby reduce travel time for the individual.</p>
<p><b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections</p>	No	
<p><b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b></p>	No	
<p><b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections</p>	Yes	<p>All of the individuals attending this service by nature of the level of their learning disability are in receipt of disability benefits.</p> <p>The individuals care and support needs are assessed in full, and where we have a statutory duty those needs will be met through their care package.</p>
<p><b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections</p>	No	
<p><b>Human Rights</b></p>	Yes	<p>As the proposal is aiming to achieve a seamless transition to a new provider with minimal impact to the individuals supported it is not anticipated that the proposed change will have an impact either positive, negative or disproportionately in this area.</p> <p>Throughout this process we will ensure that all individuals will be supported to</p>

		express their views, with their individual needs considered.
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No	

The following mitigations have been identified for the protected characteristics;

<p>Age</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new provider will need to demonstrate their ability to meet the needs of adults with learning disabilities who are also ageing and health conditions that may be related to this</li> </ul> <p>Disability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must have the required skills and experience to support adults with learning disabilities</li> <li>The skills and abilities to meet the needs of autistic adults and complex needs</li> <li>Has the required skills and experience to support people's health needs</li> <li>Have the required skills and experience to meet people's needs around their communication needs</li> <li>Have the required skills and experience to meet people's behavioural needs</li> <li>Ensure they can meet the specific needs of any individual not covered above as outlined in their care and support plan</li> <li>Each individual will receive a review of their needs under the Care Act 2014</li> </ul> <p>Ethnicity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whilst the majority of individuals are white British, the successful provider will need to evidence how they also support people from different ethnic backgrounds including those from a BME background to ensure their needs are not overlooked</li> <li>Requirements around this will be included in the process of recommissioning for alternative services</li> <li>Completion of key performance indicators and equalities monitoring data will be a requirement of the contract to be completed by the successful provider.</li> <li>All individuals will have a Care Act review carried out by the Specialist Community Disability Service to ensure their care and support needs are up to date.</li> </ul> <p>Pregnancy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new provider will need to demonstrate how they meet the needs of those either in perimenopause or menopause, and those needs specific to autistic adults.</li> <li>This will be outlined in the care and support plans</li> </ul>
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## Socio-economic disadvantage

- For those in registered care this relates to the support costs, for the supported living service this also includes their housing related costs.

## Human Rights

- Alternative provision will be procured through the Councils framework of approved providers to ensure that any new provision complies with the Councils quality framework.
- All individuals have a service care and support plan that outlines data in this area relating to individuals needs
- All individuals will have a Care Act review carried out by the Specialist Community Disability Service to ensure their care and support needs are up to date.

## **Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

## Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

There are additional savings in Adult Social Care Community Care budget for 2026/27 – Targeted Reviews and Reablement. The individuals and families in scope for those savings proposals is a different cohort from reprovision of LD Services.

As part of the savings proposal for Wellington House, all individuals will be reviewed and we will ensure that all of their care and support needs are considered including any potential cumulative impact from other saving proposals

## Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

**SMART ACTION 1** - Improved data collection

**Activity** – Feedback to the In house services management regarding equalities data collection going forward

**SMART ACTION 2** – Providers ability to meet needs relating to Age

**Activity** – A new provider will need to demonstrate their ability to meet the needs of adults and young people with learning disabilities who are also ageing and health conditions that may be related to this. This will be outlined in the individuals care and support plan.

**SMART ACTION 3** - Providers ability to meet needs relating to Disability

**Activity** – The new provider will need to demonstrate they have below which will be outlined in the care and support plan.

- The required skills and experience to support adults with learning disabilities
- The skills and abilities to meet the needs of autistic adults
- Has the required skills and experience to support people's health needs
- Have the required skills and experience to meet people’s needs around their communication needs
- Have the required skills and experience to meet people’s behavioural needs
- Ensure they can meet the specific needs of any individual not covered above as outlined in their care and support plan

**SMART ACTION 4** - Providers ability to meet needs relating to Ethnicity

**Activity** - The new provider will need to evidence how they also support people from different ethnic backgrounds including those from a black ethnic background to ensure their needs are not overlooked. Requirements around this will be included in the care plan, service specification and KPI's and equalities monitoring data.

**SMART ACTION 5** - Providers ability to meet needs relating to Religion

**Activity** - The new provider will need to demonstrate how they meet needs of individuals relating to religion, beliefs, spirituality, faith or atheism as appropriate This will include making sure information and advice is provided in an accessible way that meet the requirements of the Accessible Information Standards. This will be outlined in the service specification.

**SMART ACTION 6** - Providers ability to meet needs relating to Gender

**Activity** - The new provider will need to ensure they provide support that meets the needs of both male and female individuals often with complex additional needs. This will be outlined in the service specification

**SMART ACTION 7** - Providers ability to meet needs relating to Gender identity/re-assignment

<p><b>Activity</b> - The new provider will need to consider the correlation between autistic adults identifying as trans or non-binary and ensure provision meets needs.</p>
<p><b>SMART ACTION 8</b> - Providers ability to meet needs relating to Sexual Orientation</p> <p><b>Activity</b> - The new provider will need to be able to meet the needs of individuals relating to their sexual orientation and be aware of/sensitive to any specific needs of autistic adults. This will be outlined in the service specification.</p>
<p><b>SMART ACTION 9</b> - Providers ability to meet needs relating to Menopause</p> <p><b>Activity</b> - The new provider will need to demonstrate how they meet the needs of those either in perimenopause or menopause and any correlations such as autistic adults and premenstrual dysphoric disorder. This will be outlined in the service specification.</p>
<p><b>SMART ACTION 10</b> – Carers needs</p> <p><b>Activity</b> – As part of the Care Act review, all family/informal carers will be offered a Carers Assessment to ensure that their needs are being considered in any change including any equality needs.</p>
<p><b>SMART ACTION 11</b> - Providers ability to meet needs relating to Human Rights</p> <p><b>Activity</b> – The use of the Councils Approved Provider framework will ensure the successful provider has the required skills and experiences to deliver an affective service that meets the needs of individuals supported and their human rights.</p>

### Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	3
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### Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

### Directorate and Service Approval

Signatory:	Name and Job Title:	Date: DD-MMM-YY
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Cameron Brown, Head of Service Learning Disability Services	20-01-2026
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Steve Hook, Director Adult Social Services	20-01-2026

## Budget Proposal: EIA 11

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Housing demand management
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Harry Williams, Director of Housing People Services
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	Homes & Adult Social Care – Housing People Services

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal:

4 key workstreams which will deliver savings in Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Temporary Accommodation and the proposed saving totals £5.143m:

- Increasing supply: of more affordable Temporary Accommodation (delivery of the Dynamic Purchasing System, exempt accommodation, EPC Grant Scheme & Council owned TA
- Reducing unit cost: of existing Temporary Accommodation: delivery of Greenwich Model & TA Charging Policy
- Improving effectiveness in prevention homelessness: Reduce households placed in Temporary Accommodation with new Housing Advice Team
- Accelerating move on from Temporary Accommodation: direct offers of social housing to households in Interim Accommodation

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

All households accessing help with housing and homelessness from the council could access and therefore be impacted by this policy. However, the data shows that there are a number of groups most likely to experience homelessness and would more likely take up this offer and be impacted by the policy. These groups are:

- People aged between 25 and 44
- Disabled people
- Single parent households
- Black, Caribbean, African residents and residents of 'other ethnic groups'
- Women
- Other groups including survivors of Domestic Violence and Abuse; care leavers and people with substance misuse issues.

The initiative works on a consent basis and households have the choice to refuse or not proceed the offer.

## Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

Consultation has been completed recently on Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

None

## Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	Yes
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	Yes
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	Yes
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	Yes
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	Yes
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Yes
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Yes
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	Yes
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	Yes
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	Yes
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	Yes
<b>Carers</b>	Yes
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	Yes
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	Yes
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	Yes
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	Yes

<b>Human Rights</b>	Not applicable
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	Yes

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- People being housebound due to disabilities or disabling circumstances
- Environmental barriers or mobility barriers impacting those with sight loss, D/deafness, sensory requirements, neurodivergence, various complex disabilities
- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

Not applicable

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

Director for Housing People services will have responsibility for delivery of this programme and will monitor progress through Housing People Services Performance Management Framework (currently in development) and Service Plans. We will continue to monitor customer contact including complaints and Councillor Enquiries.

Delivery of these savings will be monitored corporately by savings delivery board, alongside other strategic programmes

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Population and population groups](#)

- [Census 2021 population groups Infogram: Brighton & Hove by Brighton and Hove City Council](#)
- [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
- Service specific data
- Community consultations
- Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
- Lived experiences and qualitative data
- [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
- [Health Inequalities data](#)
- Good practice research
- National data and reports relevant to the service
- Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
- Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

<b>Assess impact for different population groups</b>	<b>Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?</b>  <b>State Yes or No</b>	<b>Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith</b>  <b>OR</b> <b>If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<b>Age</b> including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	No	
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	Yes	In Brighton & Hove, disabled people disproportionately experience homelessness and are therefore more likely to be impacted by this programme.

<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers</b>	Yes	In Brighton & Hove, Black, Caribbean, African residents and residents of 'Other ethnic group' disproportionately experience homelessness and are therefore more likely to be impacted by this programme.
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	No	
<b>Gender and Sex including non-binary and intersex people</b>	Yes	Women are disproportionately represented among lead homeless applicants and are therefore more likely to be impacted by this programme.
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Yes	The number of people indicating that their gender identity is different from their sex registered at birth in Brighton & Hove is more than three times greater than the average across of England.  Brighton & Hove is home to health services, charities and peer support services for LGBTQ+ residents.
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Yes	Brighton & Hove is home to health services, charities and peer support services for LGBTQ+ residents.
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)</b>	Yes	In Brighton & Hove, single parent households disproportionately experience homelessness and are therefore more likely to be impacted by this policy.
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees considering for age, language, and various intersections</b>	No	
<b>Carers considering for age, language, and various intersections</b>	No	
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and</b>	No	

<b>fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections		
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	Yes	9% of applicants to Brighton & Hove City Council between April and December 2024 –were found to have a priority need for accommodation as a result of being homeless due to that person being a victim of domestic abuse.
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	No	
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	Yes	Implications outlined above.
<b>Human Rights</b>	No	
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No	

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

## Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

To be reviewed once all savings proposals are drafted

## Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

No mitigation actions are available due to no disproportionate impacts identified beyond what we are already experiencing within services

## Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score: 2

## Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

## Directorate and Service Approval

<b>Signatory:</b>	<b>Name and Job Title:</b>	<b>Date: DD-MMM-YY</b>
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Harry Williams, Director of Housing People Services – Homelessness & Housing Options	06-11-2025
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Genette Laws – Corporate Director Homes & Adult Social Care	06-11-2025

## Budget Proposal: EIA 12

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Withdraw the Child Pedestrian training service
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Matthew Thompson, Senior Project Manager, Transport Projects & Engineering
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	City Operations, City Infrastructure

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal: (use the wording in the budget spreadsheet and more detail if needed)

The proposal is to withdraw Child Pedestrian training and refocus the team to prioritise Bikeability and school crossing patrols delivery. Many schools have been included in the School Streets initiative and each site will be reviewed to look into alternatives. The service receives grant income for Bikeability delivery and with additional support could run without general fund resources becoming cost neutral as a result.

There are 100 schools of all types across the city, and 37 of these have Year 3 cohorts eligible for Child Pedestrian training.

Any school in the vicinity of sites included in the site works delivered by the Safer Better Streets Programme will benefit from the projects delivered annually by that programme. See the [Safer, better streets programme for 2025/26](#) for selection criteria.

The 14 schools in the School Streets Programme require ongoing engagement with officers. See the [School Streets](#) web page for selection criteria. Many school sites are not suitable for this scheme because of the type of road network surrounding them.

Support for School travel planning is provided via an annual 'Modeshift' Online School Travel Plan Portal subscription funded by Consolidated Active Travel Fund (CATF) grant funding, and a part of a School Travel Advisor (STA) post which is also focused on School Streets schools.

The STA currently supplies leaflets and 'no parking' A-boards to help site staff and teachers deter parking on school zigzags at drop off and pick up times and may attend playground events and assemblies from time to time when invited. Parking attendants on a rota system will try to visit every school site once a term during drop off times (in the mornings) to enforce some types of parking regulations.

The Road Safety Campaigns officer sends annual emails signposting online resources available to support PSHE lessons and supports STA led events in Primary schools.

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

Child pedestrian training is delivered to Junior, Primary, SEN and Independent Prep schools (Year 3/ 7&8-year-olds) and their families.

Total number of pupils trained in the last three academic years:

24-25 – 1,390; 23-24 – 1,609; 22-23 – 1,458.

School Travel surveys suggest up to 90% of children are accompanied to school by a parent or carer until the end of year 6. By year 3 children can visually judge distance and speed more accurately but are still receptive to this sort of teaching. The training lays a foundation of good pedestrian habits that then become second nature in later years when they are more likely to travel independently to school.

The potential impact of withdrawing the service is at least half a city-wide year group cohort of children every year, who are less aware of ways to keep themselves and others safe when crossing the roads, will not receive this targeted intervention. This knowledge is shared within most families so not all will be significantly impacted. It is also something that may be covered in PSHE at some schools, either at a high level or in similar detail without the practical element of the training.

In a small number of cases, a lack of grounding in crossing skills in subsequent years may contribute to a road traffic casualty event, but the impact will be difficult to quantify and may not be identified as contributory factor in any investigation.

## Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will be done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

Consultation took place with schools in Spring 2024:

### **Spring 2024 Survey Results - Child Pedestrian training – relevant to responding Junior, Primary, SEN and Independent Prep schools only (37 schools).**

- a. 19 schools (54% of respondents) confirmed receiving the training at their schools in the last two academic years.
- b. 17 Schools (46%) said it was moderately or highly valued. Just one respondent said it was of low value but 19 schools (51%) either did not answer the question or were not sure.
- c. 6 schools (17%) believe more pupils walk to school after completing the training. 4 schools (12%) disagree, and 27 schools (70%) answered do not know or did not answer.
- d. 21 schools (58%) say it is unlikely or very unlikely they would continue to book training if charges were applied. Only six schools (17%) said it was likely or very likely they would. The remaining 10 schools (27%) were unsure.

When asked for the reasons for their answer to the question “How likely is it that your school would continue to offer Child Pedestrian training with these charges applied”, the top 6 reasons given were:

### Unwilling or unable to accept charges

- Budget constraints – 6 schools
- Parents are not able/ willing to pay – 6 schools
- Sports premium has other cost pressures – 3 schools.
- Unfair to charge minority who do not qualify for pupil premium – 2 schools

### Supportive of Charges

- Parents see the value and are willing to pay – 2 schools
- Budget next year can cover it/ Sports premium can cover it – 2 schools.

No further consultation is planned.

Engagement has taken place with the Education and Skills team about the impacts of the proposal, and the team will support initial contact with school leaders. Consideration will be given to revising school travel plans, bolstering PSHE programmes, and alternative resources that can be offered to schools on the topic of crossing the road, e.g. an assembly presentation.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

Bikeability service EIA

### Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	Year 3 (7 & 8-year-olds).
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	Yes
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	Yes
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	No
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Not applicable
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Not applicable

<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	Not applicable
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	Not applicable
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	No
<b>Carers</b>	No
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	No
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	No
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	Not applicable
<b>Human Rights</b>	No
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- People being housebound due to disabilities or disabling circumstances
- Environmental barriers or mobility barriers impacting those with sight loss, D/deafness, sensory requirements, neurodivergence, various complex disabilities
- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

The service impacts on Year 3 children at school and their families (including younger and older siblings), and the training aims to establish good crossing habits so these persist at later ages. For this reason, pedestrian casualty collected by the Police using the Stats19 reporting system covering the ages 4-19 is considered.

It's important to note that the city's slight and serious casualty figures per 100,000 population have always been higher than East or West Sussex, reflecting population density and traffic conditions, and the number of children able to access their schools on foot. There have been no child pedestrian fatalities in the city either side of the pandemic years, though the serious casualty rate has increased.

There are many potential factors impacting these outcomes, including the success of engineering schemes and 20mph limits as well as education, training, national and local awareness campaigns in the city. These factors will continue to influence the figures in three years' time as the current year 3 cohort progress through the education system.

A key outcome year will be the point where the 2026-27 Year 3 cohort (none of whom will receive the training) reach year 7 in 2030-31, the first year where more pupils are likely to walk to school unaccompanied by a parent or guardian.

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

Brighton & Hove will no longer be a member of Sussex Safer Roads Partnership by April 2026. Whilst access to raw Stats19 data will be retained, resource to analyse the data is not yet identified.

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Population and population groups](#)
  - [Census 2021 population groups Infogram: Brighton & Hove by Brighton and Hove City Council](#)
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)
  - Good practice research

- National data and reports relevant to the service
- Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
- Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

<b>Assess impact for different population groups</b>	<b>Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?</b>  <b>State Yes or No</b>	<b>Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith</b>  <b>OR</b> <b>If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<b>Age</b> including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	Yes	Training prepares children and their families to move about the city safely and establishes good habits for application in future years.
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	Yes	Some academic research on casualty data suggests children with these sorts of disabilities may be more at risk as road casualties.  <a href="#">Inequalities in self-report road injury risk in Britain: A new analysis of National Travel Survey data, focusing on pedestrian injuries - ScienceDirect</a>
<b>Ethnicity, ‘Race’, ethnic heritage</b> including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers	No	
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	No	
<b>Gender and Sex</b> including non-binary and intersex people	No	
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	

<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	No	
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	Yes	Unfamiliarity with custom and practice around British road use and signage, and language barriers for those whose first language isn't English might make it more difficult to navigate journeys to school for families of young children. Possible disproportionate increase in road traffic incidents and casualties amongst BME and non-British families and children. Language barriers in understanding written resources or classroom teaching may impact disproportionately on those for whom English is not their first language. Young children in some families may be relied upon for communicating their learning to parents/carers resulting in additional burden for these children.
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	Yes	Potential impact to all carers because of the need to accompany other children to school until they are older than at present. There could be impacts on those with physical and learning disabilities, including visual and hearing disabilities, disabilities that impact mobility who might be disproportionately impacted. May disproportionately impact on working parents/carers, their working patterns and commitments with possible additional impact for lone parents and low income families. Young carers might also be disproportionately impacted as they are

		more likely to have to make their way to school unaccompanied.
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	Yes	Looked after children are more likely to be impacted as they are more likely to walk to school unaccompanied.  See also – socio-economic disadvantage section below.
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	No	
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	Yes	Some academic research on casualty data suggests children from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds may be more at risk as road casualties.  These changes may result in parents/carers taking children to school by car until children are older to ensure safety. This could potentially increase congestion and associated risks of conflict with other road users such as pedestrians and cyclists. It may also reduce air quality at the school gate. This would disproportionately impact those families on lower incomes who choose to walk for economic reasons. This may also disproportionately impact disabled parents/carers, and foster carers of looked after children who may feel more compelled to drive looked after children to school to ensure safety. Looked after children, including those with disability, may be impacted as they are more likely to travel to school unaccompanied. They may be disproportionately at risk of injury due to road traffic incidents.  See: <a href="#">Deprivation and road traffic injury comparisons for 4–10 and 11–15 year-olds - ScienceDirect</a>
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity,	No	

language, and various intersections		
<b>Human Rights</b>	No	
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No	

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

**Cumulative impacts**

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

The removal of the management element in Child Pedestrian training will allow for more time to focus on grant funding linked Bikeability courses and other non-grant funding linked courses such as Scooter training, 'Balance', 'Learn to ride', 'Level One' (off road riding skills) and 'Fix' (maintenance basics for children)

**Action planning**

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

1. SMART action 1: Monitor 4-19 road traffic casualty data including the 26-27 Year 3 cohort over the next 5 years as they transition to secondary school.
2. SMART action 2: Ensure PSHE resources and interventions are available e.g. Infants & Primary teaching resources for PSHE; Year 6 Transition year Safety events; Year 7 Theatre in Education Pedestrian safety shows. These should consider potential language issues.

Prioritise resources where limited in areas of deprivation; high SEND numbers; SEND educational settings; Pupil referral units. Identify any existing THINK! (DfT road safety campaigns) or other relevant resources for parents used by other authorities using existing Road Safety GB contacts

3. SMART action 3: Consider further PSHE resources targeted at Young Carers and Children in care.

4. SMART action 4: Recruit enough staff in the Bikeability service to resume Scooter training and increase availability of Balance, Learn to Ride and Level 1 to all schools.

## Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	3
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## Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

None.
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## Directorate and Service Approval

Signatory:	Name and Job Title:	Date: DD-MMM-YY
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Matthew Thompson, Senior Project Manager	21-Jan-2026
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Charles Field, Director City Infrastructure	27 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2026

## Budget Proposal: EIA 13

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Digitalisation of all parking permits
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Merran Wrigley, Head of Parking
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	City Operations, City Infrastructure

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal: (use the wording in the budget spreadsheet and more detail if needed)

Digitalisation of all permits over a 2 year period (residents, visitors, traders etc.) saving on printing, postage and administration costs. This will also reduce fraud and permit misuse.

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

We do not foresee any group being negatively affected as we will still offer a paper-based application process for the digitally excluded (although the permit will be digital like car tax) and have worked closely with the libraries to ensure a help desk service is available. The digitally excluded is calculated to be approx. 5% of residents based on MyAccount data.

### Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

No consultation is planned but we have worked closely with libraries and run a full public communications campaign to inform residents. This is a rolling change, and residents will be informed by letter 6 weeks before their current parking permit expires.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

N/A

### Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	Yes
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<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	Yes
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	No
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	No
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	No
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	No
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	No
<b>Carers</b>	Yes
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	No
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	No
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	Not applicable
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	Not applicable
<b>Human Rights</b>	Not applicable
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	Not applicable

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- People being housebound due to disabilities or disabling circumstances
- Environmental barriers or mobility barriers impacting those with sight loss, D/deafness, sensory requirements, neurodivergence, various complex disabilities
- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers

- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

Digital resident permits will be administered via Mendix and tied to a resident address in the city, the data collected via the application process will enable us to gather data and enable us to monitor the impact of the proposal. Helpdesk interactions in the libraries and calls to the Parking Service phone helpdesk will also enable us to collect data and monitor the impact. For the first time we will be able to collect data around digitally excluded residents and use this data to improve our services to meet their needs.

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

Mendix, library helpdesks, phone helplines, customer complaints and CCM/emails. All data will be collected and regularly reviewed to monitor the impact of the proposal

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Population and population groups](#)
  - [Census 2021 population groups Infogram: Brighton & Hove by Brighton and Hove City Council](#)
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)
  - Good practice research
  - National data and reports relevant to the service

- Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
- Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

<b>Assess impact for different population groups</b>	<b>Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?  State Yes or No</b>	<b>Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith  OR If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<b>Age</b> including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	Yes	Older residents may be more likely to be digital excluded, but we have retained a paper-based application route for those residents that don't have a MyAccount. Older residents can apply via a paper application, over the telephone or in person in the libraries.
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	Yes	No changes to the blue badge resident permit application process (i.e. somebody with a BB can apply for a resident parking permit at a reduced cost in line with statutory requirements). Any resident that struggles with making a digital application for a permit will be able to do this via a paper application, over the telephone or in person in the libraries.
<b>Ethnicity, ‘Race’,</b> ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers	No	No impact – see above
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	No	No impact – see above
<b>Gender and Sex</b> including non-binary and intersex people	No	No impact – see above
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	No impact – see above
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	No impact – see above

<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	No impact – see above
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	No	No impact – see above
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	No impact – see above
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	No impact – see above
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	Yes	There will be changes to carers and professional carers permits within the next 2 years, but no digital solution has been identified for this yet. When we are evaluating possible platforms, we will ensure that we can accommodate those that are digitally excluded.
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	No impact
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	No	No impact
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	N/A	Not applicable
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity,	N/A	Not applicable

language, and various intersections		
<b>Human Rights</b>	N/A	Not applicable
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	N/A	Not applicable

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

**Cumulative impacts**

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

N/A

**Action planning**

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

1. SMART action 1: We will retain a paper-based application process for residents who are digitally excluded and don't have a MyAccount. This is approximately 5% of the city residents. The interaction with these residents will help us create a clearer picture of who they are and how we can develop services to meet their needs in the future
2. SMART action 2: All residents will receive a letter notifying them of the transition to digital permits 6 weeks before their current permit expires giving them the option to renew their permit via their MyAccount or, if they don't have a MyAccount, to phone our helpdesk or visit the library to make an application. After this first interaction, future requests to renew

permits for those without a MyAccount will be done by letter with the paper application form enclosed.

3. SMART action 3: Digitally excluded residents will receive a letter confirming their permit is now digital when the process is complete which will give them peace of mind that their vehicle is covered by a digital permit (Residents with a MyAccount will be able to see this via their online account)

## Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	1
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## Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

## Directorate and Service Approval

<b>Signatory:</b>	<b>Name and Job Title:</b>	<b>Date: DD-MMM-YY</b>
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Merran Wrigley Head of Parking Services	29-Oct-2025
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Merran Wrigley Head of Parking Services	29-Oct-2025

## Budget Proposal: EIA 14

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	<b>Parking fees and charges</b>
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Merran Wrigley Head of Parking Services
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	City Operations, City Infrastructure

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal: (use the wording in the budget spreadsheet and more detail if needed)

Parking service fees and charges proposals consisting of:

- a. Introduce charging at locations where free parking bays are in place.
- b. Introduce a new parking permit zones in line with the Parking Scheme Priority timetable.
- c. Extending parking hours in Central area (from 8pm to midnight).
- d. Introduce a new £40 penalty charge for when a parking bay is not suspended in advance.
- e. Introduction of new red routes.
- f. Increases in income from parking permits.
- g. Barrier and surface car park income increases.
- h. On-street parking income increases
- i. The increases are to meet inflationary requirements of 3.5% considering demand loss, and to contribute towards savings plus a forecast new budgetary pressure in 2026/7 related to concessionary fares (approx. £2 million increase). They will further meet traffic management objectives including improving air quality, reducing demand and congestion, as well as achieving a higher turnover of spaces and supporting economic growth in the city.

Fee increases are targeted at areas where parking is at or over capacity to help provide drivers with better parking options and choice as well as to reduce congestion in central areas of the city. There is excellent coverage of the city centre/seafront by our public transport network, so there are alternatives for people wanting to access these areas where car park charges are increasing. No changes are being made to blue badge parking availability and professional carer and non-professional carer permit charges have not been increased in price.

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

These proposals are in line with the council's transport objectives of supporting sustainable transport options and reducing vehicle use in the city. Any increase in parking fees and charges is balanced against a decrease in demand from users. Members of the public may choose not to, or not be able to afford to, pay to park on or off-street due to price increases. This may disproportionately impact residents on lower incomes and cause an inclusion

issue and could create additional barriers and disadvantage for some older people who rely on private vehicles / visitors to access facilities and services.

Residents of retirement age and above are eligible for a concessionary bus pass and disabled people who meet the eligibility criteria can obtain a blue badge which they or a family member/friend or carer can use to park for free across the city and they also qualify for a concessionary bus pass or taxi vouchers.

It may also mean carers have to pay more if they live in a different parking zone to the person they visit although there are carers' permits or visitor permits available.

## Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will be done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

Some of the proposed changes will require public consultation via Your Voice (i.e. item a, b, and e. above) and/or via a Traffic Regulation Order/Experimental Traffic Regulation Order to implement (i.e. item a.b.c. and e above). Traffic Regulation Orders are published and enable residents to comment. Individual and collective resident concerns can be raised via the Parking Services customer services phone line and email inbox, plus via ward councillors and resident meetings which we are happy to attend.

Inflationary increases and annual changes to fees & charges for permits, carparks and on street parking (i.e. items d, f, g, h, and i above) also require a change to the Traffic Regulation Order relating to fees and charges.

The service receives valuable feedback and intelligence about the experience of disabled car users and their carers via the Disabled Car Users Group, which is informing Parking proposals.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

N/A

## Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	YES
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	YES
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	NO

<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	NO
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	NO
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	NO
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	NO
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	NO
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	NO
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	NO
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	NO
<b>Carers</b>	YES
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	NO
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	NO
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	NO
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	NO
<b>Human Rights</b>	NO
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	NO

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

No equality data for parking users is collected at the point of use, however equality data for parking permit holders and consultations on the introduction of parking schemes, etc. will be collected and used to inform the service’s understanding of the impact of price increases. This will inform future reviews of parking policy.

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

Regular internal review meetings are held within Parking Services to analyse on-street and off-street parking usage using data collected via the various software systems used within the service (Mendix, PaybyPhone, Orbility, Flowbird, phone helpdesk, CCM and email inboxes, complaints, etc.) and there are also regular meeting with the Disabled Car User group to get direct feedback on the experience of disabled car users and their carers.

Monitoring of public calls to the Parking customer service helpdesk and learning from customer complaints and feedback will also be used to monitor and review the impact of the changes. Individual and collective resident concerns are regularly raised via ward councillors. LATs and resident meetings which officers attend.

Parking Services applied for and was awarded People’s Parking accreditation in October 2023 but this organisation has now ceased operation. This scheme was set up to provide independent feedback about the facilities and public car park experience from a disabled user perspective, with regular monitoring and reviews.

Parking Services have also received Park Mark accreditation in October 2023 from the police for our off-street car parks as safe car parks to use. It is nationally recognised, and we receive significant feedback that we were chosen via the Park Mark website.

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)
  - Good practice research

- National data and reports relevant to the service
- Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
- Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

<b>Assess impact for different population groups</b>	<b>Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?</b>  <b>State Yes or No</b>	<b>Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith</b>  <b>OR</b> <b>If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<b>Age</b>  including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	Yes	Age UK tell us that many older people face a difficult existence in retirement because of having a limited income combined with the extra costs of ageing. Increases in parking charges add to financial pressures. Link to research <a href="https://www.ageuk.org.uk/research/ir-6064-age-uk-financial-hardship-final_v1.pdf">ir-6064-age-uk-financial-hardship-final_v1.pdf (ageuk.org.uk)</a>
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	Yes	Research carried out by Scope found that the cost of living with a disability or families with disabled children is significantly higher than households with no disabled people. Transport was identified as one of the main drivers for this increase in costs. Increasing parking fees will add to financial pressures on these families. Link to research. <a href="#">Disability Price Tag   Disability charity Scope UK</a>  The intersection of disability and faith is also a consideration for disabled people requiring the use of a vehicle to attend their place of worship. There

		<p>are few non-Christian religious buildings in the city, meaning that disabled members of certain faith communities who need the use of their car are likely to have to travel across the city to worship.</p> <p>All disabled residents are eligible for a blue badge permit that they or a friend/relative or carer can use plus a concessionary bus pass.</p>
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers</b>	No	
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	Yes	See text above under
<b>Sex</b>	Yes	<p>The intersection of sex and disability and caring is a consideration. 90% of lone parent households with dependents in the city are headed up by women. The percentage of women providing unpaid care is 58% in comparison to men (42%).</p> <p>Using a vehicle is important for them and those they care for to carry out daily living activities, from shopping to doctor's appointments to leisure activities. Increasing fees may reduce their choice and access as well as increase financial pressures especially for families on low and fixed incomes.</p>
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)</b>	Yes	<p>Pregnant people often have distinct mobility, health, and safety needs. Increases in the cost of parking may have a disproportionate effect on people who need to access essential services but cannot afford, or</p>

		refuse to pay, the increased cost to park nearby.
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	Yes	Research carried out by Carers UK found that many unpaid carers experience financial hardship because of their caring role. There are no increases proposed for professional or non-professional carer permits. Link to research <a href="#">Research: Financial pressure of caring unpaid for a loved one intensifies over time - Carers UK</a>
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	No	
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	Yes	Households on low fixed incomes may experience increased financial pressures with increased parking fees.  Disabled people and those with longer-term health conditions are more likely to be out of work and on lower incomes. Older people may also be living on lower incomes – one in five people over the age of 60 in the city are living in income deprivation (source: 2021 Census)

<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Human Rights</b>	No	
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No	

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

### Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

In 22/23 we expanded Concessionary travel scheme for disabled passes for 24-hour use which will mitigate some of the impacts from increases to fees & charges by encouraging / improving access to public transport use.

Disabled residents or their carer is entitled to apply for a Blue Badge which enables them to park for free for a designated period (depending on location) in designated disabled bays, shared bays and double yellow lines across the city. Apart for an administration fee of £10 (set at national level) there is no charge for a blue badge.

There may be other budget saving proposals across the council that impact on disabled people that may worsen the impact of this budget proposal.

### Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

<p>1. Blue badges are issued to disabled people who are drivers or non-drivers allowing free parking for an unlimited amount of time in pay and display bays and parking in disabled bays. Use of the blue badge includes all permit bays in light touch schemes which cover a significant area of the controlled parking zones in Brighton &amp; Hove.</p> <p>Generally, people seem aware of the scheme or get advice from other support services such as Citizens Advice Bureau or the Disabled Car users Group/ Possability People or Social services/ health support. Information about blue badge is on the BHCC website which has the option of translating the page into several different languages. All paper application forms have the council accessibility information included which includes requesting the application form in a different language. If an applicant asks for translation services, we can arrange this through Sussex Interpreting Services. If we ask someone to come in for a mobility assessment (if we are unsure of their eligibility for a Blue Badge or bus pass) we offer to have a translator present for the appointment.</p>
<p>2. Ongoing work to identify Blue Badge fraud will free up parking spaces for eligible blue badge holders and we will continue with Blue Badge fraud investigation work to protect disabled bays from misuse.</p>
<p>3. Surplus parking income is mainly spent on providing free concessionary bus passes for elderly and disabled people to encourage alternative sustainable transport choices.</p>
<p>4. The hours residents of Brighton and Hove can use an older person's concessionary travel pass have been extended to between 9.30am – 4.30am on weekdays and 24hrs a day on weekends. Those unable to use the concessionary travel pass can swap the pass for an annual allocation of £70 worth of Taxi Vouchers.</p>

## Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	2
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## Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

## Directorate and Service Approval

<b>Signatory:</b>	<b>Name and Job Title:</b>	<b>Date: DD-MMM-YY</b>
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Merran Wrigley Head of Parking Services	29-Oct-2025
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Merran Wrigley Head of Parking Services	29-Oct-2025

## Budget Proposal: EIA 15

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Increase income from introducing paid parking into light touch parking schemes across the city.
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Merran Wrigley, Head of Parking
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	City Operations, City Infrastructure

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal: (use the wording in the budget spreadsheet and more detail if needed)

Increase income from introducing paid parking into light touch parking schemes (light touch parking schemes consist of permit only parking that is enforced for 2 hours a day eg 10-11am and 6-7pm) in the outer areas of the city where many residents have driveways. This is focused on underutilised areas where there are no waiting lists for resident permits and there is capacity to allow more opportunities for visitors to park. The areas are currently underutilised, where uptake of resident parking permits is as low as 30%, with many parking bays remaining free from use all day. Paid parking only will replace permit holder parking (it can't be shared as the permit restriction is one hour in the morning and one hour in the evening). As demand is lower than supply residents should still have adequate parking.

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

The introduction of paid parking will be prioritised in parking zones where demand is lower than high demand central areas. This will be an inclusive change as more people will be able to park in areas that are restricted to permit holders, also making it easier for traders, carers and providers of support services to residents, to access parking closer those they are working for/supporting. The light touch parking zones that may change are predominantly in/spread throughout the city (outside the central business zones) and initially include areas such as Hove Park and Westbourne. There will be no proposed time changes to permit bays. Meaning those who currently park for free during unrestricted hours will be able to continue to do so.

## Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

The Traffic Regulation Order has been advertised, and the comments analysed by officers and will form part of the appendix to the report which has yet to be approved. The service receives valuable feedback and intelligence about the experience of disabled car users and their carers via the Disabled Car Users Group, which is informing Parking proposals.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

N/A

### Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	No
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	Yes, but for the purpose of issuing blue badges.
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	No
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Not applicable
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Not applicable
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	Not applicable
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	No
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	Not applicable
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	Not applicable
<b>Carers</b>	Yes, through carers and professional carers parking permit issuance.
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	Not applicable
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	Not applicable
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	Not applicable
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Human Rights</b>	No
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	Not applicable

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- People being housebound due to disabilities or disabling circumstances
- Environmental barriers or mobility barriers impacting those with sight loss, D/deafness, sensory requirements, neurodivergence, various complex disabilities
- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

All residents are invited to give feedback to the proposal via the TRO process. All objections are evaluated and taken into consideration before any changes will be implemented, including due consideration of any equality impacts raised.

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

Regular review meetings are held to review on-street and off-street parking usage and there are also regular meetings with the Disabled Car Users group to identify issues and areas of concern. We will also review the waiting list of resident permits and analyse blue badge and concessionary travel pass demand to monitor whether there is a disproportionate impact on any one group of residents.

Individual and collective resident concerns can be raised via Parking Services customer services phone line and email inbox, plus via ward councillors and resident meetings which we are happy to attend.

Parking Services produce a Parking Annual Report providing transparency and meaningful insight into the overall service including how and where funding is raised and distributed.

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Population and population groups](#)

- [Census 2021 population groups Infogram: Brighton & Hove by Brighton and Hove City Council](#)
- [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
- Service specific data
- Community consultations
- Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
- Lived experiences and qualitative data
- [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
- [Health Inequalities data](#)
- Good practice research
- National data and reports relevant to the service
- Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
- Feedback from internal 'staff as residents' consultations
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on 'who' the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

Assess impact for different population groups	Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?  State Yes or No	Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith  OR  If no impact is identified, briefly state why.
Age including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	Yes	Age UK tell us that many older people face a difficult existence in retirement because of having a limited income combined with the extra costs of ageing. Introducing more paid parking in the city may add to older people's financial pressures. Paid parking will allow visitors to purchase 1hr parking as a cheaper alternative to using a residents visitor parking permit.

		<p>The introduction of paid parking in light touch spaces will increase accessibility for older people who may not qualify for a blue badge but find public transport challenging and travelling by car increases access to goods and services. It increases parking options for those wanting to visit older people reducing risk of social isolation.</p> <p>Age UK tell us that older people find it difficult to travel to hospital and other appointments.</p> <p>Inability to park may lead to older people relying on more expensive alternatives such as taxi's which will impact their limited income. This could mean they choose to not make the journey leading to isolation and poor access to services and goods.</p>
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	Yes	<p>The introduction of paid parking in light touch zones will increase accessibility for people who may not qualify for a blue badge but find public transport challenging and travelling by car increases their ability to access goods and services whilst supporting independence. It increases parking options for those wanting to visit disabled people, such as carers, traders or family and friends, reducing risk of social isolation and having a positive impact on health and wellbeing.</p>
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race',</b> ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers	No	
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	Yes	<p>Increasing parking options in areas of the city and opportunities for increased community engagement and access to goods and services including access to places of worship or social gatherings.</p>
<b>Gender and Sex</b> including non-binary and intersex people	No	

<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	Yes	The introduction of paid parking in light touch zones will increase accessibility for people who may not qualify for a blue badge but find public transport challenging and travelling by car increases their ability to access goods and services. It increases parking options for those wanting to visit the residents, reducing risk of social isolation
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	Yes	<p>Research carried out by Carers UK found that many unpaid carers experience financial hardship because of their caring role. Increases in parking charges will add to the financial pressures.</p> <p>Unpaid carers are entitled to apply for an annual parking permit of £11.60. This proposal does not impact these permits or reduce permit bays in the areas affected. The introduction of paid parking will allow for those standing in for carers on an ad-hoc basis to be able to use paid parking. This option is not currently available. There will still be free parking available in permit bays outside the enforceable 2 hours.</p>
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age,	No	

language, and various intersections		
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	No	
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	No	
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Human Rights</b>	Yes	Increasing availability of parking options in areas of the city supports independence and accessibility to goods and services, such as the ability to access public spaces more easily.
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No	

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

## Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

No impact due to these areas being underutilised for parking and the proposal enabling more people to park and access services

## Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

No mitigation actions are available as the proposal should have positive impact for some groups and no negative impact for others. However, these impacts will continue to be monitored through the data already collected via parking design and implementation processes.

## Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	1
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## Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

## Directorate and Service Approval

<b>Signatory:</b>	<b>Name and Job Title:</b>	<b>Date: DD-MMM-YY</b>
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Merran Wrigley – Head of Parking Services	29-Oct-2025
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Merran Wrigley – Head of Parking Services	29-Oct-2025

## Budget Proposal: EIA 16

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Introduce/review car parking charges at Victoria Park and other City Parks sites
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Mike Harris, Head of Parks and Leisure
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	City Operations, Parks & Leisure

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal:

Introduce/review car parking charges at City Parks sites, examples of parks where there are currently no charges, and further consideration and a business case will be produced are Victoria Park, Lower and Upper Waterhall, Wild Park, Saunders Park, Rottingdean Recreation Ground, Easthill Park, Sheepcote Valley car park and view point, Devils Dyke x 2 parking areas, Castle Hill car park.

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

Where parking is a problem, access for park users can be impacted by blocking dropped kerbs and pedestrian walk ways. The enforcement of marked parking bays and double yellow lines ensures that parking is limited to spaces which enable better access for all and provision of disabled bays or wider access bays in suitable locations for park users.

At Victoria Recreation Ground the Victoria Road site is managed by One Parking Solutions (OPS), the site has restrictive parking hours (2 hours max stay) and these are reputedly limiting the use of the playground and bowling ground. The Bowls Pavillion has been allowed 8 permits for parking to be included in their lease but have failed to sign the lease in 2 years, which means we have received no income or benefit for this unusual concession.

Displacement effects may negatively affect residential areas in Portslade, Rottingdean and Woodingdean which are not already in a parking management zone, and this will be carefully considered before any decision to proceed in this location.

Lack of access to smartphones can limit access due to reliance on paybyphone in paid parking in our public parks.

Low income /living in a deprived area having limited access to high quality natural environment and not being able to afford paid parking is a cumulative impact of cost of living increases.

## Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

Early engagement with disability and access forums and the Community Engagement Team to identify best community forums to speak to will help to inform the draft parking design. To make a new Traffic Regulation Order we advertise proposals for new restrictions in a public notice. You can [comment on the proposals](#) during a 21 day period. The comments are considered by the Project Team. If there are 6 or more objections which cannot be answered by response and further explanation and withdrawn the design may be altered to mitigate and approval sought from senior officers/ members or withdrawn. If the proposals are approved, we seal the traffic regulation order and make the necessary changes with line marking and signage in the city.

The consultation is written in Plain English and notices with details to respond are advertised on location and in the newspaper.

Previously, the sustainable travel plan for Stanmer Park as a destination park worked with Brighton & Hove buses to provide subsidised bus routes to ensure access to the countryside, a premier heritage destinations and the engagement activities provided there.

Community Engagement survey data (e.g. Wild East) show which greenspaces people travel to and where from in the city.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

City Infrastructure/Parking Services

### Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	NO
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	NO
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	NO
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	NO
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	NO
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	NO
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	NO
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	NO
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	NO
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	NO
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	NO

<b>Carers</b>	NO
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	No
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	NO
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	NO
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	NO
<b>Human Rights</b>	NO
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	NO

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- People being housebound due to disabilities or disabling circumstances
- Environmental barriers or mobility barriers impacting those with sight loss, D/deafness, sensory requirements, neurodivergence, various complex disabilities
- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

The data may be gathered by Parking Services who receive the TRO comment or objections but is not passed on to Cityparks. Parking design and implementation, signage, lining and provision of bays are dictated by highways regulations which are national standards.

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

Parking Services do their own assessment of objections and complaints to the service. For example in Stanmer Park, the reintroduction of paid parking machines in 2 locations to respond to complaints about age biased digital access.

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Population and population groups](#)
  - [Census 2021 population groups Infogram: Brighton & Hove by Brighton and Hove City Council](#)
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)
  - Good practice research
  - National data and reports relevant to the service
  - Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
  - Feedback from internal 'staff as residents' consultations
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
  - Insights, gaps, and data analyses on 'who' the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

Assess impact for different population groups	Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?  State Yes or No	Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith  OR  If no impact is identified, briefly state why.
Age  including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	Yes	Young people and older people are more likely to be on low incomes and therefore more likely to be adversely impacted by any parking charges. Age UK tell us that many older people face a difficult existence in retirement as a result of having a limited income combined with the extra costs of ageing. Introducing paid parking at city park

		locations may add to older people's financial pressures and limit / deter them from visiting. Older residents may be more likely to be digital excluded - Parking Services have plans to address this in some locations.
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	Yes	<p>Research carried out by Scope found that the cost of living with a disability or families with disabled children is significantly higher than households with no disabled people. Transport was identified as one of the main factors for this increase in costs. Introducing parking fees may add to financial pressures on these families and limit / deter them from visiting. Link to research. <a href="#">Disability Price Tag   Disability charity Scope UK</a></p> <p>Blue badges are issued to disabled people who are drivers or non-drivers allowing free parking for an unlimited amount of time in pay and display bays and parking in disabled bays.</p>
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage</b> including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers	No	
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	No	
<b>Sex</b>	No	<p>The intersection of sex and disability and caring is a consideration. 90% of lone parent households with dependents in the city are headed up by women. The percentage of women providing unpaid care is 58% in comparison to men (42%).</p> <p>Introducing parking fees may add to financial pressures and limit / deter them from visiting.</p>
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	No	

<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	Yes	Research carried out by Carers UK found that many unpaid carers experience financial hardship because of their caring role. Introduction of parking charges at city park locations may limit / deter them from visiting.
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	No	
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	No	
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Human Rights</b>	No	
<b>Another relevant group</b> (People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas)		

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions

- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

### Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

Any other proposals related to introduction or increase of parking charges may worsen the impacts of this proposal.

### Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

SMART action 1: Engagement with park user group and community forums prior to TRO advertisement.
SMART action 2: Early engagement with identified relevant groups prior to TRO advertisement.
SMART action 3: A sustainable travel plan ensuring needs of relevant groups are addressed.

### Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	1
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### Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

N/A

## Directorate and Service Approval

Signatory:	Name and Job Title:	Date: DD-MMM-YY
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Mike Harris, Head of Parks and Leisure	20 November 2025
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Mike Harris, Head of Parks and Leisure	20 November 2025

Budget Proposal: EIA 17	
<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Income from trade and garden waste
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Louise Lawrence, Head of Strategy & Service Improvement
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	City Operations, Environmental Services

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal:

The council currently provides a chargeable fortnightly garden waste collection to residents who sign up to the service, and a chargeable waste collection service to businesses across the city with a trade waste agreement. The proposal is to increase the cost and market both services more widely to generate a surplus to reinvest in services.

There is also a proposal to introduce a fee for collection of waste from third sector organisations.

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

It is difficult to determine the level of impact as the service is demand led, and customer equality data is not collected. There are other companies that provide garden and trade waste collections in the city. Residents can also dispose of their garden waste for free at one of the Household Waste & Recycling Sites (HWRS).

Current policy in place provides free waste collection from third sector organisations. Introduction of a fee for this service may significantly impact organisations that don't generate profit, compared with sites that are hired out for commercial activity and organisations with single outlets compared with multiple outlets.

## Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

Consultation will be undertaken through the Council's budget setting consultation process which sets out the proposed savings and revenue raising choices that the council will need to make in order to set a balanced budget for 2026/27.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

None

### Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	No
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	No
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	No
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	No
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	No
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	No
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	No
<b>Carers</b>	No
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	No
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	No
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	No
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	No
<b>Human Rights</b>	No
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- People being housebound due to disabilities or disabling circumstances

- Environmental barriers or mobility barriers impacting those with sight loss, D/deafness, sensory requirements, neurodivergence, various complex disabilities
- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

Through the digital improvements being made to the garden waste service, opportunities for collecting this data can be explored.

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

Budgets will be monitored.

Equality data will be collected through customer feedback / Stage 1 complaints.

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Population and population groups](#)
  - [Census 2021 population groups Infogram: Brighton & Hove by Brighton and Hove City Council](#)
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)

- Good practice research
- National data and reports relevant to the service
- Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
- Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

<b>Assess impact for different population groups</b>	<b>Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?  State Yes or No</b>	<b>Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith  OR  If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<b>Age</b> including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	No	Younger and older people may have limited income and so be disadvantaged in terms of the charges for waste.
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	Yes	Disabled people may have lower incomes than other working age adults and so be disadvantaged in terms of the charges for waste. Disabled people are more likely to be unemployed or in low-waged work than non-disabled people.
<b>Ethnicity, ‘Race’,</b> ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers	No	
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	No	
<b>Gender and Sex</b> including non-binary and intersex people	No	
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	

<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	No	
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	No	
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	Yes	<p>People on low incomes may be disproportionately impacted by the proposals. They may not be able to afford to pay for the service.</p> <p>People without access to a car may be disproportionately impacted by the proposals. They may not be able to access the HWRS to dispose of the items for free.</p>
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Human Rights</b>	No	

<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No	
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**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

### Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

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### Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

1. SMART action 1: Continue to promote other means of disposing of garden waste, such as taking to the HWRS, home composting or using another service.
2. SMART action 2: Analyse Stage 1 complaints and feedback to identify trends related to accessibility or affordability.
3. SMART action 3: Review existing approach for waste collection from third sector organisations and ensure any fees introduced are applied fairly

### Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	3
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### Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

### Directorate and Service Approval

<b>Signatory:</b>	<b>Name and Job Title:</b>	<b>Date: DD-MMM-YY</b>
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Louise Lawrence, Head of Strategy and Service Improvement	24/11/25
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Rachael Joy, Director of Environmental Services	24/11/25

## Budget Proposal: EIA 18

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Introduce new charged-for services including bin replacements, wheelie bin cleaning service and Christmas tree collection.
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Louise Lawrence, Head of Strategy and Service Improvement
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	City Operations, Environmental Services

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal:

- Introduce a fee for customers requesting bin replacements, for which the council currently does not currently charge.
- Introduce a new bin cleaning service available to both residents and businesses throughout the city.
- Introduce a new charged for Christmas tree collection service for residents.

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

Low-income households may be disproportionately negatively impacted by bin replacement charges.

It is difficult to determine the level of impact for bin cleaning and Christmas tree collection as these services will be demand led. There are other companies providing bin cleaning and Christmas tree collections in the city. Residents can also dispose of their Christmas trees for free at one of the Christmas tree recycling points in the city.

### Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

Consultation will be undertaken through the Council's budget setting consultation process which sets out the proposed savings and revenue raising choices that the council will need to make in order to set a balanced budget for 2026/27.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

Income from trade waste and garden waste

## Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	No
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	No
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	No
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	No
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	No
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	No
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	No
<b>Carers</b>	No
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	No
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	No
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	No
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	No
<b>Human Rights</b>	No
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- People being housebound due to disabilities or disabling circumstances

- Environmental barriers or mobility barriers impacting those with sight loss, D/deafness, sensory requirements, neurodivergence, various complex disabilities
- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

Through the digital improvements being made to existing charged for services, such as garden waste, opportunities for collecting this data can be explored.

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

Budgets will be monitored for uptake of the services.

Equality data will be collected through customer feedback / Stage 1 complaints.

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Population and population groups](#)
  - [Census 2021 population groups Infogram: Brighton & Hove by Brighton and Hove City Council](#)
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)

- Good practice research
- National data and reports relevant to the service
- Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
- Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

<b>Assess impact for different population groups</b>	<b>Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?</b>  <b>State Yes or No</b>	<b>Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith</b>  <b>OR</b> <b>If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<b>Age</b> including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	Yes	Older people on fixed incomes may find new charges for bin replacement financially challenging; some may struggle with online payment.  Students/young adults in HMOs and private rentals may experience more frequent bin churn (lost/contaminated bins), amplifying exposure to charges.
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	Yes	Disabled people are more likely to be unemployed or in low-waged work than non-disabled people, therefore may be disadvantaged by introduction of bin replacement charges. Disabled people may experience accessibility barriers in requesting/replacing containers.
<b>Ethnicity, ‘Race’,</b> ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers	No	
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	No	
<b>Gender and Sex</b> including non-binary and intersex people	No	

<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	No	Households with primary carers (disproportionately women) could experience additional burden organising replacements and payments.
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	No	
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	Yes	People on low incomes may be disproportionately impacted by the proposals. They may not be able to afford to pay for the services.
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	No	

<b>Human Rights</b>	No	
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No	

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

### Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

Existing charges for garden and trade waste services.

### Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

SMART action 1: Undertake a full Equalities Impact Assessment as part of drafting new policy on bin replacement charges considering accessibility needs and possible exemption criteria.
SMART action 2: Continue to promote other means of disposing of Christmas trees, such as taking to a recycling point in the city.
SMART action 3: Analyse Stage 1 complaints and feedback to identify trends related to accessibility or affordability.

### Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score: 1
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### Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

### Directorate and Service Approval

<b>Signatory:</b>	<b>Name and Job Title:</b>	<b>Date: DD-MMM-YY</b>
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Louise Lawrence, Head of Strategy and Service Improvement	21/11/25
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Rachael Joy, Director of Environmental Services	24/11/25

## Budget Proposal: EIA 19

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Introduction of charging for high footfall public toilets
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Louise Lawrence Head of Strategy and Service Improvement
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	City Operations, Environmental Services

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal:

Introduce a charge at public toilets with high footfall.

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

The proposal will affect the community as a whole, as well as visitors to Brighton and Hove (all potential public toilet users). It may have a disproportionate impact on disabled people, children, older people, homeless people and general accessibility.

### Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will be done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

Consultation will be undertaken through the Council's budget setting consultation process which sets out the proposed savings and revenue raising choices that the council will need to make in order to set a balanced budget for 2026/27.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

Public toilets refurbishment programme

### Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	No
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<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	No
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	No
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	No
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	No
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	No
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	No
<b>Carers</b>	No
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	No
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	No
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	No
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	No
<b>Human Rights</b>	No
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No

**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- People being housebound due to disabilities or disabling circumstances
- Environmental barriers or mobility barriers impacting those with sight loss, D/deafness, sensory requirements, neurodivergence, various complex disabilities
- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers

- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

Public toilets are available to all residents and visitors to the city. It is not possible to monitor the characteristics of people using the sites, however installation of paddle gates will enable footfall numbers to be monitored accurately.

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

Customer complaints will continue to be monitored and reviewed.

Feedback from organisations advocating or supporting people with protected characteristics will be reviewed to ensure any disproportionate impacts of charging are identified.

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- **Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):**
  - [Population and population groups](#)
  - [Census 2021 population groups Infogram: Brighton & Hove by Brighton and Hove City Council](#)
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)
  - Good practice research
  - National data and reports relevant to the service
  - Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
  - Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations

- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

<b>Assess impact for different population groups</b>	<b>Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?</b>  <b>State Yes or No</b>	<b>Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith</b>  <b>OR</b> <b>If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<b>Age</b>  including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.	Yes	Children, young families and older people are more likely to need to use the toilet more frequently and this will have a disproportionate financial impact on them. They may be less likely to find alternative suitable facilities nearby.  Controlling access to the toilets physically may impact disproportionately on parents/carers with buggies trying to access the facilities.
<b>Disability</b> includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.	Yes	Disabled people with limited mobility will potentially be unable to access other toilets further away. They may need to use the toilet more often and this will have a disproportionate financial impact on them. They may be less likely to find alternative accessible facilities nearby.
<b>Ethnicity, ‘Race’,</b> ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers	No	
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	No	
<b>Gender and Sex</b> including non-binary and intersex people	Yes	Women and girls may need toilets more often due to menstruation or menopause. Charging could exacerbate gender-based inequalities in access.
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	

<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility</b> (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)	Yes	Pregnant people are more likely need to use the toilet more often and this will have a disproportionate financial impact on them.  Menopausal people may need access to toilet facilities more frequently that other members of the public due to common perimenopausal symptoms such as irregular periods, recurrent UTIs, hot flushes.
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Carers</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b> considering for age, language, and various intersections	No	Lone parents and people caring for individuals with health conditions requiring frequent toilet use, may be disproportionately affected.
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	No	
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage</b> considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections	Yes	Charging at public toilets sites will have a disproportionate impact on people who have lower incomes.
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers</b> considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections	Yes	Homeless people and rough sleepers are less likely to have access to a consistent source of income, thereby unable to pay for access to public toilets.  They may feel a greater stigma when using other facilities and may not feel welcome.
<b>Human Rights</b>	No	

<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	Yes	Lone parents, carers, and individuals with health conditions requiring frequent toilet use may be disproportionately affected.  Intersectional impacts are also noted for people with substance use disorders, survivors of abuse, and sex workers.
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**Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:**

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

### Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

Potentially other budget proposals that affect disabled people, older people, people with childcare responsibilities, people on low incomes.

### Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

SMART action 1: Continue to monitor complaints to see if people with protected characteristics are disproportionately affected by the changes
SMART action 2: Ensure communications about the charges at public toilet sites are inclusive
SMART action 3: Publicise other toilets available, such as libraries, museums, shopping centres etc. Encourage businesses to sign up to a Community Toilet Scheme / Use Our Loo Scheme, to allow the public to use their toilets
SMART action 4: Ensure paddle gates installed do not limit how accessible the public toilets are.
SMART action 5: Ensure paddle gates' specification allows for parents/carers with buggies to access the toilets.

## Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	4
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## Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

n/a
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## Directorate and Service Approval

<b>Signatory:</b>	<b>Name and Job Title:</b>	<b>Date: DD-MMM-YY</b>
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Louise Lawrence, Head of Strategy and Service Improvement	21/11/25
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Rachael Joy, Director of Environmental Services	24/11/25

## Budget Proposal: EIA 20

<b>Title of budget saving being assessed:</b>	Implement service efficiencies and improve productivity through a review of the waste collection model and design of collection rounds
<b>Name and title of officer responsible for this EIA:</b>	Satti Sidhu, Acting Head of Strategy and Service Improvement
<b>Directorate and Service Name:</b>	City Operations, Environmental Services

Briefly describe the budget saving proposal: (use the wording in the budget spreadsheet and more detail if needed)

Implement service efficiencies and improve productivity through a review of the waste collection model and design of collection rounds. Implementation proposals will be subject to a more detailed EIA when Cabinet considers decision reports in spring/summer 2026.

Summarise the most significant impacts identified by this assessment including which groups will be disproportionately negatively affected drawing out intersectional impacts as applicable:

Changes to the waste collection model could impact on disabled people, elderly people, and larger families who are more likely to produce higher volumes of waste because of potential health-related materials, or the number of people living in one household.

### Consultation, engagement and supporting EIAs

What consultations or engagement activities are being used to inform this assessment?

If consultation is planned or in process – state this and state when it will be done/completed even if indicative. If no consultation completed or planned, state this, giving an explanation.

Public consultation planned as part of implementing the proposal. This will be undertaken in an inclusive and accessible way.

What other budget or service EIAs can assist/have been used to inform this assessment?

None

### Current data and impact monitoring

Do you currently collect and analyse the following data to enable monitoring of the impact of this proposal?

Consider all possible intersections (Delete and State Yes, No, Not Applicable)

<b>Age</b>	No
<b>Disability and inclusive adjustments, coverage under equality act and not</b>	No
<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage (including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers)</b>	No
<b>Religion, Belief, Spirituality, Faith, or Atheism</b>	No
<b>Gender Identity and Sex (including non-binary and Intersex people)</b>	No
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No
<b>Pregnant people, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across the gender spectrum)</b>	No
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees</b>	No
<b>Carers</b>	No
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people</b>	No
<b>Domestic and/or Sexual Abuse and Violence Survivors, and people in vulnerable situations (All aspects and intersections)</b>	No
<b>Socio-economic Disadvantage</b>	No
<b>Homelessness and associated risk and vulnerability</b>	No
<b>Human Rights</b>	No
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No

Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:

- People being housebound due to disabilities or disabling circumstances
- Environmental barriers or mobility barriers impacting those with sight loss, D/deafness, sensory requirements, neurodivergence, various complex disabilities

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)
- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

If you answered “NO” to any of the above, how will you gather this data to enable improved monitoring of impact for this proposal?

Assisted collection data is reviewed and the introduction of in cab technology will assist in improved data capture for monitoring.

What are the arrangements for monitoring, and reviewing the impact of this proposal?

Customer contacts and complaints will continue to be monitored.

## Impacts

Briefly state source of data or data analysis being used to describe the disproportionate negative impacts. Preferably provide link to data/ analysis if open data source.

Data and analysis sources may include (not an exhaustive list):

- Consider a wide range (including but not limited to):
  - [Population and population groups](#)
  - [Census 2021 population groups Infogram: Brighton & Hove by Brighton and Hove City Council](#)
  - [Census](#) and [local intelligence data](#)
  - Service specific data
  - Community consultations
  - Insights from customer feedback including complaints and survey results
  - Lived experiences and qualitative data
  - [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\) data](#)
  - [Health Inequalities data](#)
  - Good practice research
  - National data and reports relevant to the service

- Workforce, leaver, and recruitment data, surveys, insights
- Feedback from internal ‘staff as residents’ consultations
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on intersectionality, accessibility, sustainability requirements, and impacts.
- Insights, gaps, and data analyses on ‘who’ the most intersectionally marginalised and excluded under-represented people and communities are in the context of this EIA.

<b>Assess impact for different population groups</b>	<b>Is there a possible disproportionate negative impact?</b>  <b>State Yes or No</b>	<b>Describe the potential negative impact, considering for differences within groups For example, different ethnic groups, and peoples intersecting identities e.g. disabled women of faith</b>  <b>OR</b> <b>If no impact is identified, briefly state why.</b>
<b>Age including those under 16, young adults, multiple ethnicities, those with various intersections.</b>	Yes	The change will apply to all households.  The city has an ageing population; older people may require assistance with their collection, and this is already available on request, either by calling or applying online.
<b>Disability includes physical and sensory disabled, D/deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, blind, neurodiverse people, people with non-visible disabilities.</b>	Yes	The change will apply to all households.  Disabled people may require assistance with their collection, and this is already available on request.  A communications plan will be developed to cover any significant changes in the service delivery model. This will include consideration of accessible communications, to ensure key messages are widely understood.

<b>Ethnicity, 'Race', ethnic heritage including Gypsy, Roma, Travellers</b>	Yes	<p>The changes will apply to all households, but people whose first language is not English may find it more challenging to understand the potential implications for their household.</p> <p>A communications plan will be developed to cover any significant changes in the service delivery model. This will include mechanisms for communicating changes to people whose first language is not English.</p>
<b>Religion, Spirituality, Faith, Atheism, and philosophical belief</b>	Unknown	
<b>Gender and Sex including non-binary and intersex people</b>	No	
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No	
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No	
<b>Pregnancy, Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, Menopause, (In)fertility (across intersections and non-binary gender spectrum)</b>	Yes	<p>Households with young families and higher waste levels due to infants in nappies or post-natal health issues may temporarily produce higher levels of waste.</p> <p>Households can already apply for larger waste bins on the grounds of a medical condition or larger family.</p>
<b>Armed Forces Personnel, their families, and Veterans</b>	No	
<b>Expatriates, Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees considering for age, language, and various intersections</b>	Yes	<p>The changes will apply to all households, but people whose first language is not English may find it more challenging to understand the potential implications for their household.</p> <p>A communications plan will be developed to cover any significant changes in the service delivery model. This will include mechanisms for</p>

		communicating changes to people whose first language is not English.
<b>Carers considering for age, language, and various intersections</b>	No	
<b>Looked after children, Care Leavers, Care and fostering experienced people considering for age, language, and various intersections</b>	No	
<b>Domestic and/or sexual abuse and violence survivors</b>	No	
<b>Socio-economic disadvantage considering for age, disability, D/deaf/blind, ethnicity, expatriate background, and various intersections</b>	No	Any potential disproportionate impacts on households in socially or economically disadvantaged areas of the city will be assessed as part of a full-service EIA when specific proposals to the waste collection delivery model are considered.
<b>Homeless and rough sleepers considering for age, veteran, ethnicity, language, and various intersections</b>	No	
<b>Human Rights</b>	No	
<b>Another relevant group (please specify here and add additional rows as needed)</b>	No	

Additional relevant groups that may be widely disadvantaged and have intersecting experiences that create exclusion and systemic barriers may include:

- Ex-offenders and people with unrelated convictions
- Lone parents
- People experiencing homelessness
- People facing literacy and numeracy barriers
- People on a low income and people living in the most deprived areas
- People who have experienced female genital mutilation (FGM)

- People who have experienced human trafficking or modern slavery
- People with experience of or living with addiction and/ or a substance use disorder (SUD)
- Sex workers

### Cumulative impacts

Are there other budget proposals from other service areas that might worsen or mitigate the impacts from your proposal? Please give a brief description including name of other service(s).

None

### Action planning

What SMART actions will be taken to mitigate the disproportionate impacts identified in section 3? If no mitigating action is possible, please state and explain why. Add additional rows as required.

1. SMART action 1: Undertake a review of household waste generated, following the introduction of food waste collections and wider recycling, to understand the impact on the current waste collection model and residents in the city.
2. SMART action 2: Develop an exceptions scheme to enable households who need a larger waste bin to apply for one.
3. SMART action 3: Continue to promote and deliver an inclusive assisted collection service and ensure service is ready for a potential increase in demand.
4. SMART action 4: Run further recycling and waste reduction campaigns to support households to reduce the amount of waste they produce, ensuring the campaigns are accessible and inclusive of the diverse communities of the city.

### Outcome of your assessment

Based on the information above give the proposal an impact score between 1 – 5.

1= proposal has minimal impact and/or mitigating actions will significantly minimise the impact

3= proposal will have a significant negative impact; however, mitigation actions will reduce the impact considerably.

5= proposal has significant impact and mitigating actions will have limited effect on reducing impact.

Proposal's impact score:	2
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### Publication

All Equality Impact Assessments will be published. If you are recommending, and choosing not to publish your EIA, please provide a reason:

### Directorate and Service Approval

<b>Signatory:</b>	<b>Name and Job Title:</b>	<b>Date: DD-MM-YY</b>
<b>Responsible Lead Officer:</b>	Satti Sidhu, Acting Head of Strategy and Service Improvement	20-Jan-2026
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Ali McManamon, Corporate Director City Operations	27-Jan-2026

## **Equality Act 2010: section 149 Public Sector Equality Duty**

- (1) A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to —
- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
  - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
  - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- (2) A person who is not a public authority but who exercises public functions must, in the exercise of those functions, have due regard to the matters mentioned in subsection (1).
- (3) Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to —
- (a) remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
  - (b) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
  - (c) encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
- (4) The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.
- (5) Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to—
- (a) tackle prejudice, and
  - (b) promote understanding.
- (6) Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others; but that is not to be taken as permitting conduct that would otherwise be prohibited by or under this Act.
- (7) The relevant protected characteristics are—
- age;
  - disability;
  - gender reassignment;
  - pregnancy and maternity;

- race;
- religion or belief;
- sex;
- sexual orientation.

(8) A reference to conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act includes a reference to—

(a) a breach of an equality clause or rule;

(b) a breach of a non-discrimination rule.

(9) Schedule 18 (exceptions) has effect.

### Council Tax Premiums: Serviced Accommodation

#### 1. Background and policy context

- 1.1 The Levelling-up & Regeneration Bill achieved Royal assent on 26 October 2023.
- 1.2 The Levelling-up & Regeneration Act ('the Act') allows councils to: i) Levy a Council Tax premium on second homes of up to 100% subject to formal full Council approval one year in advance of introducing the levy, and; ii) Levy a Council Tax premium on empty properties at an earlier point (reducing from two years to one year) from 1 April 2024.
- 1.3 Approval was obtained at Strategy, Finance & City Regeneration Committee on 25 January 2024 to apply the current 100% premium applicable to long-term empty and unfurnished properties after one year instead of two years from 1 April 2024 as permitted by the Levelling Up & Regeneration Act 2023.
- 1.4 Approval was obtained by Full Council on 1 February 2024 for a new 100% Council Tax premium to be applied to empty furnished properties (second homes) from 1 April 2025.
- 1.5 Following these approvals, a clarification to the premium determination is required in relation to serviced accommodation.

#### 2. Serviced accommodation

- 2.1 Serviced accommodation generally offers fully furnished homes (apartments, houses) for short to medium stays, blending the comfort of a home with hotel-like services, including kitchens, WiFi, cleaning, and utilities. This makes them popular for business travellers, relocations, or tourists seeking more space, privacy, and flexibility than a traditional hotel, with rates often dropping for longer bookings.
- 2.2 Serviced accommodation is not specifically covered by the Act. They are not one's main home and so the premium for empty furnished properties does not apply.
- 2.3 There may be instances where serviced accommodation is liable for business rates. This is determined by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA), not the local authority, and based on certain criteria. To be rated for business rates, a short-term let in England must meet all the following conditions as of 1 April 2023:
  - It must have been available for commercial letting for short periods for at least 140 nights in the previous 12 months.

- It must have been actually let commercially for at least 70 nights in the previous 12 months.
  - It must be the owner's intention to make it available for commercial letting for at least 140 nights in the upcoming 12 months.
- 2.1 Properties that do not meet these criteria are liable for council tax. However, because serviced accommodation does not meet the criteria of an empty furnished property the 100% Council Tax premium cannot be applied.
  - 2.2 To ensure transparency and clarity of Brighton & Hove's premium determination, approval is sought for serviced accommodation to be an exemption.
  - 2.3 If approved, this will come into effect from 1 April 2026.
- 3. Supporting Documentation**
- 3.1 [Council Tax premiums on second homes](#) presented to Strategy, Finance & City Regeneration Committee on Thursday 25 January 2024 (item 92)
  - 3.2 [Council Tax premiums on second homes](#) presented to Full Council on Thursday 1 February 2024 (item 85)

# Brighton & Hove City Council

## Cabinet

## Agenda Item 126

**Subject:** Housing Revenue Account Budget & Capital Investment Programme 2026-27 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy

**Date of meeting:** Thursday, 12 February 2026

**Report of:** Cabinet Member for Housing

**Contact Officers:** John Hooton Interim Director, Finance & Property  
Genette Laws - Corporate Director for Homes & Adult Social Care

**Ward(s) affected:** (All Wards);

**Key Decision:** Yes

**Reason(s) Key:** Expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the expenditure of the City Council's budget, namely above £1,000,000 and is significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral divisions (wards).

### For general release

#### 1. Purpose of the report and policy context

- 1.1 This report outlines the proposed Housing Revenue Account (HRA) revenue and capital budgets for 2026/27, as mandated by the Local Government & Housing Act 1989. Cabinet is required to review the revenue budget proposals, including provisions for service pressures, changes to rents, fees and charges, as well as the HRA capital investment programme. These investments support the council's objectives of creating a 'Fair and Inclusive City' as well as a 'Homes for Everyone.' The report also includes a forecast for the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and provides a 30-year financial projection.
- 1.2 The HRA revenue and capital budget priorities align to The Brighton & Hove Housing Strategy (2024-29) which sets out the vision on how best to deliver the city's housing objectives based around the following five priorities: Improve housing quality, safety, and sustainability; Deliver the homes our city needs; Prevent homelessness and meet housing need; Promote improved health and wellbeing for all; and Provide resident focused housing services.
- 1.3 Our approach to service delivery and investment continues to be shaped by feedback from residents and staff gathered through the Creating Great Homes Together consultation, regulatory consumer standards, and our vision for being a Great Landlord. This includes this year investment in recruiting a Neighbourhood Officer team, a team dedicated to tackling damp and mould, recruiting 19 apprentices in the trades of electrics, carpentry, and plumbing, as well as remedial works related to fire safety, water safety and repairs. The council has been granted funding for fire safety

as well as continuing to invest in Net Zero initiatives such a EPC upgrades to C rating.

- 1.4 The HRA contains the income and expenditure relating to the council's social landlord duties covering 12,320 rented homes, 2,716 leasehold homes and 3,000 car park units as of December 2025. The number of council homes continues to increase with our focus on increasing housing supply, 12,145 council rented properties were reported in the February 2025 budget papers. The HRA is a ring-fenced account within the General Fund that covers the management and maintenance of council-owned housing stock. This must be in balance, meaning that the authority must show in its financial planning that HRA income meets expenditure and that the HRA is consequently viable.
- 1.5 Although the HRA is not subject to the same funding constraints as the General Fund, it is a ring-fenced account within the General Fund and still follows the principles of value for money and equally seeks to improve efficiency and achieve cost economies wherever possible. Benchmarking of both service quality and costs with comparator organisations is used to identify opportunities for better economy, efficiency, and service delivery.

## **2. Recommendations**

### **That Cabinet:**

- 2.1 Approves a rent increase of 4.8% in line with government legislation as detailed in paragraph 3.12 of the report.
- 2.2 Approves a 5% rent increase for all new and re-let tenants, in accordance with the rent flexibility policy as set out at paragraph 3.10 of the report.
- 2.3 Approves the service charges and fees as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.
- 2.4 Notes the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and 30-year financial projections shown in Appendix 4 to the report.
- 2.5 Notes and recommends to Full Council for approval the HRA Revenue Budget for 2025/26 as outlined in table 1 of the main report and Appendix 1.
- 2.6 Notes and recommends to Full Council for approval the new Capital Programme Budget of £79.640m for 2026/27 be agreed as part of the revised capital budget of £126.339m (which includes reprofiles of £46.699m from 2025/26).
- 2.7 Notes and recommends to Full Council approval of the earmarking of £1m reserves against disrepair claims for 2026/27.
- 2.8 Notes and recommends to Full Council for approval the 5-year capital programme as set out in Appendix 3 to the report.

### **That Full Council:**

- 2.1 Approves the HRA Revenue Budget for 2026/27 as outlined in table 1 of the main report and Appendix 1.

- 2.2 Approves the new Capital Programme Budget of £79.640m for 2026/27 be agreed as part of the revised capital budget of £126.339m (which includes reprofiles of £46.699m from 2025/26).
- 2.3 Approves the earmarking of £1m reserves against disrepair claims for 2026/27.
- 2.4 Approves the 5-year capital programme as set out in Appendix 3 to the report.

### 3. Context and background information

#### Council Plan 2023 to 2027

3.1 The Council Plan 2023 to 2027 sets the vision and priorities for Brighton & Hove to be a city to be proud of, a healthy fair and inclusive city where everyone thrives. To deliver the vision focus will be given to four outcomes that are supported by a range of commitments and actions. Full details are in the published plan and the four outcomes supported are.

- Outcome 1 - A city to be proud of
- Outcome 2 - A fair and inclusive city
- Outcome 3 - A healthy city where people thrive
- Outcome 4 - A responsive council with well-run services

3.2 Whilst the HRA budget proposals will address all four of the Council Plan (CP) outcomes, the main focus will be on delivering against the fair and inclusive city, goal of Homes for Everyone, and the objectives of our Brighton & Hove Housing Strategy (HS) 2024-2029, with investment supporting the following priorities:

Improve housing quality (CP): Improve housing quality, safety, and sustainability & Support improved health and wellbeing for all (HS)

- Invest in building and fire safety to meet new duties under the Building Safety Act.
- Ensure the council complies with new social housing regulations.
- Complete post pandemic recovery including reducing backlog of housing repairs.
- Improve the energy performance of council homes through our capital works programme.
- Improve the sustainability of our housing stock.

Increase housing supply (CP): Deliver the homes the city needs & Prevent homelessness and meet housing need (HS)

- Increase the number of new affordable homes delivered by the council.
- Buy back council homes lost through the right to buy.

Improve housing support for residents:(CP): Provide resident focused housing services HS

- Optimise the local benefits and social value of our in-house repairs and maintenance service.

## HRA Revenue Budget Proposals 2026/27

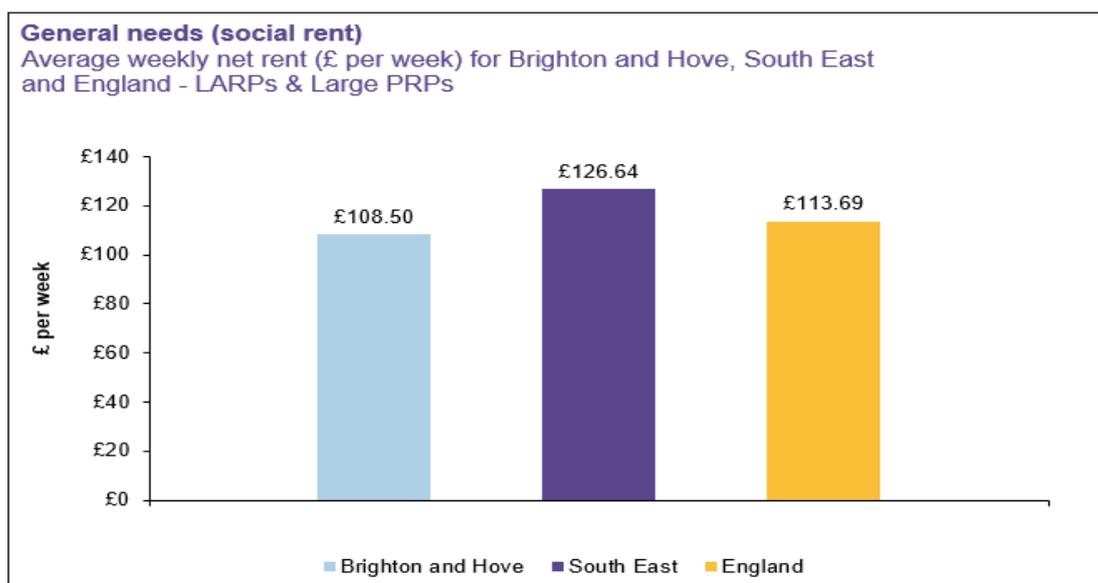
- 3.3 When setting the revenue budgets for 2026/27, consideration of all known and quantifiable changes have been made. In some instances, this has been managed by reallocating resources to reflect the changes in service need and demand.
- 3.4 Table 1 below sets out the movement from the adjusted 2025/26 budget to the proposed 2026/27 budget by service area. This takes into consideration the impact of inflationary uplifts across all areas of the budget as well as the identified service pressures and efficiencies that were put forward as part of the review undertaken during 2025, which included addressing ongoing pressures from 2025/26.
- 3.5 The forecast outturn for 2025/26 is breakeven. This position includes an overspend of £0.846m across service areas related to factors including costs of disrepair claims and Waking Watch provision, offset by a proposed contribution from general reserves in year. The detailed forecast includes continued pressures arising from the disrepair claims and Waking Watch, albeit mitigation measures are also set out, as well as variances within specific services. As outlined reserves are required to bring the HRA into balance for 2025/26. Full details of the current financial outturn can be found in the TBM 9 report to Cabinet, which is part of the same meeting agenda.
- 3.6 The 2026/27 total revenue expenditure budget, including capital financing costs to be approved, is £86.694m, whilst revenue income is £86.694m providing a break-even position.
- 3.7 The impact of the fall in inflation is having a positive impact on the HRA compared to assumptions made in the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) in 2025/26 however other service pressures have arisen which have offset this. Total expenditure inflation is £1.347m, offset by the increased income inflation against income of £3.634m. This demonstrates that the proposed uplift in rents at 4.8% covers the cost of inflation in addition to supporting in part additional investment that is required to be made through service pressures.
- 3.8 In addition to inflation there is a need for additional recurrent investment relating to meeting our Corporate Plan and Housing Strategy objectives, including to become a Great Landlord. Also, in reflection of an increase in service demand, cost of continuing our positive progress on compliance and increased financing costs, referred to as service investments. Total service investments for 2026/27 are £6.098m. These have been driven in part by the pressures being felt during 2025/26 which have been reviewed for reasonableness. Service pressures are in part funded by the increased income as outlined in 3.7, efficiencies proposed against existing budgets, increased income from new supply developed during 2026/27. A table listing the service investments and other changes is outlined in Appendix 1 to the report.
- 3.9 Table 1 below includes the high-level summary of recurrent cost assumptions offset by the increase in income predominantly from rental income for dwellings. For the 2026/27 budget proposals a budget provision for the estimated cost of depreciation is included; this figure is based upon the current charge uplifted by 2% and adjusted for the impact of the 8 Large Panel System buildings being valued as zero on the council's balance sheet. Under the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 the

depreciation charge is required to be set aside in a Major Repairs Reserve to fund the HRA capital programme.

Table 1 - Revenue Budget	2025/26 Adjusted budget	Movement Between Financial Years			2026/27 Original Budget
		Inflation	Service Investment	Other Changes	
<b>Service Expenditure</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Housing Investment & Asset Management	6,547	159	1,455	(113)	8,048
Housing Management & Support	7,737	156	848	(131)	8,610
Housing Strategy & Supply	2,124	54	160	(204)	2,134
Repairs & Maintenance	20,111	580	681	(1,074)	20,298
Tenancy Services	16,406	399	205	(563)	16,447
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>52,926</b>	<b>1,347</b>	<b>3,349</b>	<b>(2,085)</b>	<b>55,537</b>
<b>Capital Financing</b>					
Major Repairs Reserve	16,684	0	329	0	17,013
Capital Financing Costs	11,707	0	2,420	16	14,144
<b>Total Capital Financing Costs</b>	<b>28,391</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,749</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>31,157</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>81,317</b>	<b>1,348</b>	<b>6,098</b>	<b>(2,069)</b>	<b>86,694</b>
<b>Income</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Rents Dwellings	(70,386)	(3,312)	0	(1,332)	(75,029)
Rents Car Parking / Garages	(1,301)	(62)	0	0	(1,363)
Commercial Rents	(640)	0	0	0	(640)
Service Charges	(7,538)	(232)	0	(364)	(8,135)
Other Income	(1,453)	(29)	0	(47)	(1,528)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>(81,317)</b>	<b>(3,634)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,743)</b>	<b>(86,694)</b>
<b>DEFICIT / (SURPLUS)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2,287)</b>	<b>6,098</b>	<b>(3,812)</b>	<b>0</b>

## Rents and Service Charges

- 3.10 Social rents for council homes are set in accordance with government requirements. Rent restructuring rules continue to apply, with target rents calculated using relative property values, bedroom size and local earnings. The graphs below illustrate the average weekly net rent in Brighton & Hove compared to the Southeast and England. Rents in Brighton & Hove are significantly lower; therefore, it is proposed to apply a rent flexibility level of 5% to target rents for all new and re-let tenants. This adjustment is intended to ensure that rents more accurately reflect average market levels and to reduce the disparity between target rents and rent caps. This increase will not be applied to secure tenants renting from the LPS blocks into alternative council secure tenancies.



- 3.11 Affordable rents, which include the council’s Living Wage rents, Local Housing Allowance (LHA) Temporary Accommodation (TA) rents and full LHA rents, are calculated differently to social rents. For Living Wage rents this means that for any new tenancies and re-lets, rents are set using the new National Living Wage hourly rate due to be introduced from 1st April 2026. LHA rents are, however, capped at the lower of the LHA rate or 80% of the market value. For new tenancies and re-lets an assessment of the market value is undertaken at the time of letting to ensure the overall charge including service charges does not exceed those limits. There has been no indication that the LHA rates will increase in April 2026 and so the current assumption is that they remain frozen. LHA rates typically fall well below 80% of market rents. Therefore, increasing LHA would be a benefit for the HRA in cases where homes are let at LHA levels, although such instances are currently limited. Further information on these rates can be found on the council’s website. LHA (TA) rates are applied to temporary accommodation tenancies; rents are capped at 90% of the 2011 LHA rates.
- 3.12 Social rents for council homes are calculated in accordance with government requirements. The proposed uplift is 4.8%, comprising the September CPI rate of 3.8% plus 1%. These proposed changes are consistent with national rent-setting policy. Any reduction to the proposed uplift would have an adverse impact on the 2026/27 budget proposals and the Medium-Term Financial Strategy, as the resulting loss of income to the HRA would be permanent. This would reduce the resources available for investment in tenants’ homes and place further pressure on the HRA’s ability to achieve a balanced financial position.
- 3.13 Table 2 below sets out the Average weekly rent increases across the different rent types based on the proposed 4.8% uplift.

Table 2 – Rent Type	No. of tenancies	% of Stock	25/26 Average Rent £	26/27 Average Rent £	Average Weekly uplift £
Social	11,378	93%	107.01	112.16	5.15

27.5% Living Wage	77	1%	163.03	170.77	7.74
37.5% Living Wage	295	2%	222.88	233.63	10.75
LHA	252	2%	226.43	236.00	9.57
LHA TA	216	2%	154.02	154.94	0.92

3.14 It is important that when comparing the average rent levels above consideration is given to the mix of units within the specific rent categories. Table 3 below provides a summary of the mix of units and the breakdown of weekly rent against each category.

<b>Table 3 - Average rent and ratio of the number of bedrooms per rent type</b>						
<b>Rent Type</b>	<b>Studio</b>	<b>1 Bed</b>	<b>2 bed</b>	<b>3 Bed</b>	<b>4 Bed</b>	<b>5 bed+</b>
Social	86.58	99.32	112.87	130.95	140.58	180.06
	5%	32%	38%	23%	2%	0%
Affordable at 27.5% Living Wage	129.72	144.85	168.31	192.91		
	1%	8%	72%	19%		
Affordable at 37.5% Living Wage		194.53	229.03	275.78	280.28	299.58
		19%	58%	20%	3%	0%
Affordable at LHA		181.17	252.03	299.94	392.95	426.61
		41%	38%	18%	2%	1%
Affordable at LHA Temporary Accommodation	135.00	135.00	176.54	228.47	299.98	
	6%	63%	19%	11%	1%	

- 3.15 When setting the Affordable rents and Living Wage rents for current tenancies, consideration is given to the prevailing rates for Local Housing Allowance (LHA) - both TA and full rates - and the national living wage for the new financial year. This is compared against the 4.8% increase to ensure they do not exceed the permitted uplift.
- 3.16 Rents are not calculated to include any service charges and only include charges associated with the occupation of a dwelling, such as maintenance of the building and general housing management services. Service charges are therefore calculated to reflect additional services which may not be provided to every tenant, or which may relate to communal facilities rather than to a specific occupation of a house or flat. Different tenants may receive different types of services reflecting their housing circumstances. All current service charges are reviewed annually to identify any service efficiencies which can be offset against inflationary increases to keep increases to a minimum, the maximum that will be charged is a full cost recovery, however there are some which are currently not fully recovering the costs. A full review of the costs being incurred and how they are charged will be undertaken to ensure the HRA recovers costs as far as is reasonable. It will not be financially sustainable for this position of under-recovery to continue over the longer term.
- 3.17 The proposed fees and service charges for 2026/27 are set out in Appendix 2.

### **HRA Reserves**

- 3.18 The projected level of HRA reserves as of 1st April 2026 and 31 March 2027 are shown in Appendix 1. Total reserves as of March 2026 are estimated to be £9.893m, with £0.082m earmarked for use against specific projects. This leaves £9.811m as general reserves not earmarked although a minimum reserve of £3m is recommended to meet general legal and financial risks including higher than expected inflationary pressures, cost overruns, potential legal challenges or claims, and other contingencies.
- 3.19 Excluding the minimum working balance there is £6.811m of general reserves that the HRA can call upon to support financial pressures. Cabinet is being asked to earmark £1m of the existing reserves specifically for disrepair legal claims, this has

been reflected in the table in Appendix 1. Any additional spending on disrepair above £1m will need to be met by efficiency within the service.

- 3.20 In common with other social housing providers, the issue of formal Disrepair Claims being raised by tenants via solicitors, often working on a 'no win no fee' basis, is a growing financial pressure on the service. Over the last two years there has been a significant increase in the number of disrepair claims being made, currently the number of claims being handled is c.300. This is creating a burden on the HRA budget which is difficult to quantify due to the uncertainty and timing of potential claims. The core 2026/27 budget includes an increase in Legal Services' resources to deal with these with the aim of reducing the overall cost burden in addition to a service pressure in recognition of the increased settlement costs. However, it is not considered financially sound to budget for the legal claims as they do not form part of the day-to-day running of the service. In the absence of being able to reliably estimate a value, setting aside £1m of the existing reserve to manage this risk is considered prudent at this time. A review will be undertaken on an annual basis as to whether this reserve needs to be called up or increased. Housing, Finance and Legal Services continue to work on a Disrepair Improvement Plan.
- 3.21 The remaining £6.811m is available for use to help manage the HRA finances as last resort, the first consideration should be to manage within the agreed budget. Should any of the reserves be required Cabinet approval will be required and can be managed through the council's financial management procedure, referred to as TBM.
- 3.22 The council's Section 151 Chief Finance Officer has reviewed the level of reserves and provisions in accordance with the requirements of Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 and considers them to be adequate and reasonable for their purpose in the context of the HRA's overall financial position.

### **HRA Capital Programme 2026/27**

- 3.23 Delivering new affordable housing remains a key investment priority for the council and is supported in the HRA capital programme during 2026/27 and beyond. Dedicated staffing resources to continue to deliver on this priority are included in the revenue budget. The council takes a blended approach to delivery ensuring that new supply is provided through new build, acquisitions, including through our successful Home Purchase Policy, and through our Hidden Homes and small sites programmes.
- 3.24 The forecast includes a further 496 homes over the five-year period in total, this is in addition to the 933 homes that have been delivered since 2019 up to March 2026. The council anticipates above target delivery of 140 additional council homes in 2025/26.
- 3.25 The Housing Capital Programme seeks to provide substantial investment in the council's housing stock and improve the quality of homes for 2026/27 for which the total budget to be approved is £126.339m; the total Programme is estimated to be £79.640m, the remainder is £46.699m budget reprofiled from 2025/26 due to timing delays. The implementation of the proposed programme will take account of all relevant best practice guidelines.
- 3.26 The Programme reflects the delivery of planned maintenance, improvement programmes and major capital projects to council housing informed by stock condition survey information and ongoing surveys of the council's housing stock. An

updated Housing Asset Management Strategy is currently being developed for consultation and Cabinet's consideration and approval.

- 3.27 The December 2025 Cabinet approval to award a two-year Stock Condition Survey Contract will enable full survey coverage of all council homes, leading to an improved understanding of the condition of the council's housing stock, and provide the robust evidence base required for long-term investment planning and regulatory assurance. This decision was a direct response to the council's Root Cause Analysis arising from the Regulator of Social Housing regulatory judgement which identified Data Quality & Use, and Prioritisation & Focus as core drivers of improvement.
- 3.28 The level of funding required for the HRA capital programme exceeds the Major Repairs Reserve contribution as can be seen in table 4. Therefore, borrowing will be required to meet this level of investment. The resources available to fund the capital programme will be kept under review during the financial year and any borrowing decision will be made in line with treasury management advice and within approved prudential limits. A review of the HRA's reserves and borrowing position will be carried out on a regular basis and reported in accordance with the council's financial regulations and procedures.
- 3.29 The impact of having to borrow against existing stock for the HRA is that it increases the burden on the core revenue budget to fund the financing costs. The MTFS sets out the increased level of financing costs because of the Major Repairs Reserve (MRR) not being sufficient to meet the investment required.
- 3.30 Appendix 3 to the report sets out the five-year capital programme with full strategy and detail for each programme provided.

<b>Table 4 - 2026/27 Capital Programme</b>	<b>Proposed Budget for approval</b>	<b>Profiled Budget</b>	<b>Total Budget 2026/27</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
New Supply	33,276	38,780	72,056
Health & Safety	25,531	- 7,800	17,731
Major Works	750	15,719	16,469
Planned Works	9,468		9,468
Sustainability	5,365		5,365
Other	5,250		5,250
<b>Total Capital Investment</b>	<b>79,640</b>	<b>46,699</b>	<b>126,339</b>
<b>Funding</b>			<b>£'000</b>
Direct Revenue Funding			16,777
General Capital Receipts			-
RTB Receipts			8,895
Energy Grants/FITs			180
Homes England Grant / LAHF			26,193
Leaseholder Income			500
New Supply Borrowing			30,855
Existing Stock Borrowing			42,939
<b>Total Funding</b>			<b>126,339</b>

## HRA Medium Term Financial Strategy & 30 Year Financial Forecasts

3.31 The introduction of self-financing in 2012 provided additional resources from the retention of all rental income and, through greater control locally, enabled longer term planning to improve the management and maintenance of council homes. Since that introduction there have been a number of national Government rent policy factors which have compromised the financial stability of the HRA leading to a projected deficit position from 2026/27. This is an increasingly common picture with other Local Authorities HRA's.

3.32 The factors referred to are:

- A 1% rent reduction from 2016/17 to 2019/20 removing an estimated £9.3m from the revenue budget.
- A cap on rent increases in 2023/24 removing a further £2.6m from the budget in today's terms.

3.33 Understanding the demands on resources over the coming years remains key to ensuring the financial viability for the HRA. Close monitoring of the in-year financial position will ensure early identification of any emerging financial pressures, allowing for mitigation strategies to be implemented. The HRA is facing several challenges which are impacting on the financial viability over the medium to long term. Many of these have been included in the 2026/27 service investments and are detailed in Appendix 1 to this report. They are outlined below; however, this is not an exhaustive list and subject to change.

**i. Building Safety and Fire Safety Regulations:**

Resident safety and the safety of those who visit and work on our council homes is our key priority. Our budget proposals include continued significant investment to keep our residents safe in their homes. The investment required is a result of the implementation of the Building Safety Act and Fire Safety (England) Regulations. This includes works required to ensure compliance across the council's stock and will impact on both revenue and capital budgets over the medium term and reflects our additional fire safety survey work on compartmentation, fire doors and external wall insulation. Provision has been allowed for in the budget proposals and this will be kept under review during the year. Where possible we are applying for Government and Homes England funding to mitigate the costs of works, including from the Waking Watch Replacement Fund and Cladding Safety Scheme. This includes investment in fire alarm / detection systems in some of our high-rise blocks to offset the costs of Waking Watches where these have been required. Waking Watch Replacement Fund funding of £548,000 has been secured from Government to support the installation of fire alarm systems in 8 high rise blocks

In addition, in line with our commitment to transparency the proposed budget includes identification of an additional resource to progress and enable the publication of our 639 Fire Risk Assessments in a form that is accessible to residents, including meaningful commentary to provide a guide to the contents. This is so that all FRAs are placed in the public domain in a managed way. This additional resource will ensure FRA publication doesn't impact on the

capacity of the existing team and their focus on ensuring our residents are safe and we are compliant with legislative and regulatory requirements, including ensuring effective management of FRAs and timely delivery of remediation actions.

Provisional budget allocations for HRA investment required arising from ongoing testing and works costs resulting from the need to replace rising and lateral electrical mains installations in council homes are in the process of being reviewed and updated in support of these HRA Budget papers for Cabinet in February 2026. These will need to include a reasonable assessment for a programme of upgrade works, based on prioritisation and consideration of council responsibility for works.

**ii. Social Housing (Regulation) Act 2023 and Health and Safety:**

Cabinet on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2025 considered a report on 'Regulator of Social Housing - response to Regulatory Judgement including Procurement of Stock Conditions Contractor' and noted positive progress made in improving compliance with the Regulator of Social Housing, Safety & Quality Consumer Standard. This follows the Regulator of Social Housing's (RSH) judgement on 9 August 2024 highlighted failings in safety and quality compliance and routine repairs backlog. It reflects the enhanced consumer regulation processes introduced in April 2024 as part of post-Grenfell reforms.

Over the past year the council has moved from recovery to consolidation and improvement, achieving substantial progress against all compliance areas while remaining realistic about what further work is required. The service is focused on closing the most critical safety actions, strengthening leadership and governance, improving data reliability and rebuilding confidence in the quality and safety of council homes. These changes are being embedded into business as usual systems to ensure they are sustained and auditable. Residents are now experiencing clearer communication, faster responses to safety issues and more visible safety works in their homes and blocks.

The budget proposals for 2026/27 look to continue to address the implications of the RSH judgement, however, there remains uncertainty about what level of resource will be required. Any future cost implications will be reviewed with the first mitigation being to utilise resources already approved and report this through the council's financial management process.

**iii. Large Panel System buildings:**

In line with Building Safety Act compliance requirements, structural investigation surveys were completed on the following 8 LPS blocks in the HRA: St James House; Nettleton Court; Dudeney Lodge; Swallow Court; Kestrel Court; Kingfisher Court; Heron Court; and Falcon Court. These led to options appraisals being carried out across the 8 blocks, subsequently resulting in the in-principle decision at July 2025 Cabinet, that the long term preferred option for the buildings is demolition and replacement with housing in keeping with the needs of the city. The 2025/26 budget forecast includes pressures arising from the Large Panel Systems (LPS) emergency response. Some initial development work, resident support, future rehousing programme and leaseholder buyback costs are included in the 2026/27 capital programme.

**iv. Sustainability Investment:**

It is recognised that Housing can play a significant part in reducing the City's carbon footprint and therefore contribute to carbon net zero. Improved energy performance of homes is addressed through investment in planned and major works programmes, including improvements to roofing, windows, doors, external works, heating systems as well as installation of solar PV's. The total proposed investment programme over 5 years including all the areas for investment listed is estimated to be £29.150m with the 2026/27 Programme being £5.365m. Investment will also be informed by the data provided by the enhanced resources focused on completion of stock condition surveys and planning toward meeting Energy Performance Certificate C compliance requirements for social housing by 2030. In addition, HRA reserves could assist with requests for match funding for carbon neutral investment.

**v. Disrepair Claims:**

The council has made significant progress in reducing our backlog of overdue routine repairs. In June 2024, the total number of open repairs over 28 days stood at 9,653, reflecting historic backlogs that built up during and after the pandemic. As reported to Cabinet in December 2025, by October 2025, this had reduced to 2,479, representing a reduction of almost three-quarters. The majority of remaining jobs are now within standard business-as-usual levels, although some older and more complex cases continue to be tracked through the backlog recovery plan. September 2025 recorded the highest inflow of new repairs since Council records began, driven by proactive damp-and-mould outreach undertaken by the Housing service ahead of the implementation of Awaab's Law. Overall, more orders continue to be completed than the number of repairs raised each month, and workflows have been redesigned to align with statutory timescales. The service continues to monitor completion rates and resident satisfaction to ensure sustained improvement.

The level of disrepair claims continues to be a concern for the HRA, these have grown in number over the last few years, increasingly due to the approach being taken by 'no win, no fee' lawyers. It is anticipated that this will be a risk going forward. To try and manage the situation the 2026/27 budget includes an increase in Legal Services' resources to deal with these with the aim of reducing the overall cost burden. However, this remains an estimate and will be closely monitored to ensure costs are managed as far as possible. The decision has been taken not to include core budget for the actual cost of claims. The agreed approach is set out in paragraph 3.20.

Work continues a Disrepair Improvement Plan working across Housing, Finance & Legal services to review our approach to Disrepair claims, to include:

- Greater analysis of Housing disrepair cases, for example the nature and types of disrepair.
- understanding where claims arise from and how this may interrelate with the current backlog in routine repairs.
- how we can become more proactive in our understanding and management of claims.

- identifying positive action that has the potential to head off claims when we know there are issues that may give rise to tenants approaching lawyers about disrepair, and.
- peer review of best practice in other local authorities.

**vi. Rent setting policy:**

The 2025 Autumn Statement announced that the rent settlement allows landlords to raise rents by CPI plus 1%. This currently extends to April 2036, with a view to be able to increase rents by CPI +1% for the 9 years after 2026/27. This has been factored into the MTFs. Whilst this is a welcome boost for the long-term financial forecast it does not address the short term financial issues that the HRA is facing. A strategy needs to be developed to be able to manage those issues in the short term.

**vii. Rent Arrears:**

Rent collection continues to be affected by the combined impact of Universal Credit (UC) migration, cost-of-living pressures, and longer-term post-pandemic effects. While the collection rate was 96.8% in 2019/20, current forecasts suggest it will be at 92.04% by March 2026, reflecting the shift to UC's arrears-based payment system and the accelerated pace of migration during 2025/26.

Despite these pressures, the service is proactively adapting and strengthening its approach. The forecast bad debt provision of £2.907m by March 2026, around a third of the expected arrears balance, is being closely monitored, with targeted intervention work underway to reduce risk to the HRA.

The Housing Income Management Team has put in place a recovery plan that builds resilience and supports tenants to sustain their homes. Key improvements already implemented include:

- expanding Alternative Payment Arrangements to safeguard tenancies and secure more direct payments;
- introducing automation to free up officer capacity for meaningful contact with tenants;
- enhancing early intervention, ensuring tenants moving to UC receive timely guidance and support;
- strengthening links with specialist money and debt advice services; and
- upskilling staff to confidently support residents navigating UC and financial pressures.

These actions position the service to improve rent collection over the medium term, while ensuring residents receive the support they need to sustain their tenancies.

3.34 The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) has, where feasible, supported investment in priority areas without detracting from essential commitments required over the next twelve months. Nonetheless, budgetary constraints continue to intensify, rendering medium-term financial planning increasingly complex. The medium term and 30-year financial forecasts are provided in Appendix 4, along with the assumptions and risks identified for income and expenditure.

#### **4. Analysis and consideration of alternative options**

- 4.1 The budget process allows all interested parties to engage in the scrutiny of budget proposals and put forward viable alternative budget proposals to Full Council on 26 February 2026. Full Council can debate both the proposals recommended by Cabinet at the same time as any viable alternative proposals.

#### **5. Community engagement and consultation**

- 5.1 The Council is committed to ensuring tenants and leaseholders are engaged in the HRA budget setting process ahead of Council decision making on the budget. In particular, that changes in financial strategy and decisions on priority capital and revenue (service investment) are communicated and understood alongside the rationale for rent and service charge uplifts.
- 5.2 Tenants have actively participated in the budget-setting process by attending a Tenant budget workshop in December 2025, which included a dedicated budget presentation and discussion. This session provided tenants with the opportunity to review and consider key issues relevant to the budget.
- 5.3 There will be at least quarterly sessions about the HRA budget in addition to the Area Panel updates and continued engagement on significant budget matters throughout the year ensuring tenants' views are considered.

#### **6. Financial implications**

- 6.1 The financial implications are contained within the main body of the report.

Name of finance officer consulted: Ferrise Hall      Date consulted: 16/01/2026

#### **7. Legal implications**

- 7.1 Under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the council is required to maintain a separate HRA and must prevent a debit balance on that account. Rents and other charges should be set to avoid such a debit. The Housing Act 1985 provides that a local authority may make reasonable charges for the tenancy or occupation of their houses. The council's standard secure tenancy agreement provides for tenants to be given "at least four weeks" notice in writing of any increase in rents and other charges before any increases are implemented. Approval of the increase in rents of 4.8% at the 12 February Cabinet meeting will allow adequate time for the proper notice to be given. The proposed increase of 4.8% is in accordance with the Direction on the Rent Standard 2026 (of up to CPI plus 1%) issued by the MHCLG on 20 January 2026. The Direction also includes a maximum weekly rent for a new tenant of formula rent plus up to 5%.
- 7.2 In its landlord role, the council has contractual and statutory obligations to maintain its housing stock. The revenue and capital proposals in the report will assist in discharging those obligations.
- 7.3 Legal Services will continue to provide advice as required to assist in dealing with disrepair claims, as set out in the report.

7.4 When considering the recommendations in this report Cabinet must give due regard to the council's equalities duties set out in the Equalities Act 2010; specifically, the need to: Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation or other prohibited conduct; advance quality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not; and foster good relationships between those who share relevant 15 characteristics and those who do not. The relevant protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. Reference to the equalities implications is given below including the development of equality impact assessments.

Lawyer consulted: Allan Wells

Date consulted 03/02/2026

## **8. Equalities implications**

8.1 The HRA budget funds services for people with a range of needs including those related to age, vulnerability or health. All capital programme projects undertaken include full consideration of various equality issues and specifically the implications of the Equality Act. To ensure that the equality impact of budget proposals is fully considered as part of the decision-making process, equality impact assessments have been developed on specific areas where required.

## **9. Sustainability implications**

9.1 The sustainability implications are contained within the main body of the report.

## **10. Health and Wellbeing Implications:**

10.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising directly from this report.

## **Other Implications**

### **11. Procurement implications**

11.1 There are no procurement implications arising directly from this report.

### **12. Crime & disorder implications:**

12.1 There are no crime & disorder implications arising directly from this report.

### **13. Conclusion**

13.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires each local authority to formulate proposals relating to income from rent and charges, expenditure on repairs, maintenance, supervision and management, capital expenditure and any other prescribed matters in respect of the HRA. In formulating these proposals using best estimates and assumptions, the Authority must set a balanced account. This budget report provides a capital programme and break-even revenue budget and recommends rent proposals in line with current government guidance.

13.2 This report also provides the latest medium and long-term forecasts for the HRA. However, there are several uncertainties due to recent government legislation, which means that the current forecasts should be treated with caution.

## **Supporting Documentation**

### **i. Appendices**

1. HRA Revenue Budget 2026/27
2. HRA Service Charges 2026/27
3. HRA Capital Programme 2026/27 – 2030/31
4. HRA Medium Term Financial Strategy & 30 Year Financial Plan



## Appendix 1 – HRA Revenue 2026/27

The table below provides details of the budget changes between the 2025/26 adjusted budget and the proposed 2026/27 budget.

<b>Budget Reconciliation</b>		
<b>Inflation</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Inflation related to Staffing costs	733	
Inflation related to the cost of Repairs & Maintenance for works and materials	248	
Inflation related to the cost of Housing Investment for works and materials	78	
Corporate inflation rates applied to other expenditure (including SSC's)	288	
<b>Total Expenditure Inflation</b>		<b>1,347</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Rent Inflation	(3,312)	
Service Charge inflation as per appendix 3	(164)	
Leaseholder and other income	(158)	
<b>Total Income Inflation</b>		<b>(3,634)</b>
<b>Total Inflation</b>		<b>(2,287)</b>
<b>Service Investment</b>		
<b>Expenditure</b>		
<b>Repairs &amp; Maintenance</b> – increase in staffing resources for condensation and damp (Awaab's Law), empty homes work and increase in legal resources for managing volume of disrepair claims.	681	
<b>Housing Management &amp; Support</b> – increased cost of insurance premiums in respect of LPS blocks (excess layer insurance) and increased lease costs in relation to the Housing Centre.	248	
<b>Housing Investment &amp; Asset Management</b> – external stock condition survey investment and additional funding required in respect of Building Safety.	1,205	
<b>Council-owned Temporary Accommodation</b> – increased costs reflecting the nature/scale of works required on these properties.	200	
<b>Tenancy Services</b> – introduction of a Home Ownership Pact to operate on a pilot basis for tenants of LPS blocks and increased fire safety resources.	605	
<b>Capital Financing</b> – increase in borrowing costs and depreciation charge	2,749	
<b>LPS</b> – increase in budget requirements for ongoing security costs and waste clearance.	250	
<b>Housing Strategy &amp; Supply</b> – increased staffing resources for project management and IT to support regulatory compliance and quality assurance.	160	
<b>Total Service Investment</b>		<b>6,098</b>
<b>Other Changes</b>		
<b>Expenditure</b>		
<b>Repairs &amp; Maintenance</b> – Increase in capitalisation of responsive repair and empty homes works costs as a result of the nature of works undertaken.	(1,275)	
<b>Other Changes</b> – Net reduction primarily in staffing budgets as a result of the decreased employer pension contribution rate (14.9%, compared to previous 19.8%).	(793)	
		<b>(2,068)</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Increase in rental income from new supply delivered in 2025/26 and the part year impact of homes delivered in 2026/27.	(1,354)	
Latest costs associated with leaseholder works is higher than budgeted for resulting in an increased income budget for 2026/27, this includes general increased costs of delivering repairs and maintenance.	(389)	
		<b>(1,743)</b>
<b>Total Other Changes</b>		<b>(3,811)</b>
<b>Deficit / (Surplus)</b>		<b>0</b>

## Appendix 1 – HRA Revenue 2026/27

A second table is also supplied which outlines the inflation rate assumptions providing further context to the budget proposals.

2026/27 Inflation Assumptions	
Rent	4.80%
Salary	2.75%
Premises Repairs	4.00%
Other income	3.00%
Other expenditure	1.00%

### Support Service Charges & other recharges

The table below provides a breakdown of the support service charges and other charges for 2026/27 and compares this to 2025/26. These are subject to change following a review and finalisation of charges as part of the General Fund Budget proposals. Any change will impact the bottom line revenue surplus and will impact the contribution to reserves, a reduction in revenue surplus will increase the borrowing requirement for 2026/27.

Charging Service	Adjusted Budget 2025/26 £'000	Budget 2026/27 £'000
<b>Support Functions:</b>		
Insurance Costs	1,713	1,705
ICT	1,073	1,259
Finance	416	341
Legal & Democratic	1,039	1,284
Human Resources	435	479
Property	218	192
Procurement	412	321
Business Operations	101	174
<b>Support Service Functions Total</b>	<b>5,407</b>	<b>5,754</b>
<b>Other charges:</b>		
Director	283	283
Tenancy Fraud	137	141
Youth Service	255	255
Discretionary Community Grants	145	145
Disabled Adaptations	126	130
Resident Involvement	294	404
Welfare Support	82	85
CCTV at LPS blocks	294	294
Housing Allocations	399	489
Apprenticeship Levy	32	32
Homing in and Area Panels	31	31
<b>Other Charges Total</b>	<b>2,078</b>	<b>2,288</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,485</b>	<b>8,042</b>

Appendix 1 – HRA Revenue 2026/27

Item	Estimated Balance as at 01/04/2025 £'000	Use during 2025/26	Estimated Balance as at 31/03/2026 £'000	Contribution (to) / from Reserves £'000	Forecast use during 2026/27 £'000	Estimated Balance as at 31/03/2027 £'000	Conclusion
<b>HRA Reserves</b>							
HRA Working Balance	(3,000)		(3,000)			(3,000)	A minimum working balance of £3m is recommended by the Chief Finance Officer in accordance with the requirements of Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003.
HRA General Reserves	(7,657)	846	(6,811)	1,000		(5,863)	General reserves balance set aside to deal with any unexpected costs in year.
Repairs & Maintenance	(1,005)	1,005					Earmarked to clear the backlog of responsive repairs and voids works.
EDB Reserves	(182)	100	(82)			(82)	Earmarked to support the EDB revenue budget of £0.184m.
Disrepair Claim reserve	(1,000)	1,000	0	(1,000)	1,000		Reserve earmarked to fund Disrepair Claims during 2026/27. Core budget removed with reserves requirement being reviewed annually.
	<b>(12,844)</b>	<b>2,951</b>	<b>(9,893)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>(8,945)</b>	



## Appendix 2 – HRA Service Charges 2026/27

All fees and service charges are reviewed annually to ensure full cost recovery (where appropriate) and also to identify any service efficiencies that can be offset against inflationary increases to keep increases to a minimum. Proposed fees and service charges for 2026/27 are detailed below. Please note that for the comparable 2025/26 figures, the average weekly charge may differ from the previous year's budget report as a result of stock changes (*for example new builds, home purchases and Right to Buy Sales*).

	Tenants Charged (No.)	Approx. not eligible for Housing Benefit (No.)	2025/26 Average Weekly Charge £	2026/27 Average Weekly Charge £	Average Increase/Decrease £	Average Increase/Decrease %	Comments
<b>Service Charges Eligible for Housing Benefit</b>							
Seniors Housing - Common Ways	895	251	£12.65	£14.04	£1.39	11%	Increase reflects pay and price inflation.
Communal Cleaning	5,702	3,783	£4.26	£4.90	£0.64	15%	Increase reflects pay and price inflation.
Seniors Housing - Laundry	869	243	£4.15	£4.17	£0.02	0%	Minor increase applied this year based on the assessment of budgeted costs in year against the income received.
Seniors Housing - Intensive Management	882	248	£27.17	£29.00	£1.83	7%	Increase reflects the net cost incurred in providing the Intensive Management service.
Grounds Maintenance	5,969	3,633	£1.01	£1.06	£0.05	5%	Increase reflects pay and price inflation.
TV Aerials	6,097	3,764	£0.43	£0.14	-£0.29	-67%	Reduced to reflect estimated repair costs only, as installation/upgrade costs have been fully recovered.
Door Entry Servicing and Maintenance	4,806	3,147	£0.67	£0.70	£0.03	4%	Increase reflects pay and price inflation.
Electricity - Communal Ways	5,728	3,807	£1.31	£1.38	£0.07	5%	Minor increase applied this year based on the assessment of budgeted costs in year against the income received.
Lift Servicing and Maintenance	2,867	1,567	£1.36	£1.43	£0.07	5%	Increase reflects pay and price inflation.

## Appendix 2 – HRA Service Charges 2026/27

	Tenants Charged (No.)	Approx. not eligible for Housing Benefit (No.)	2025/26 Average Weekly Charge £	2026/27 Average Weekly Charge £	Average Increase/Decrease £	Average Increase/Decrease %	Comments
<b>Service Charges NOT Eligible for Housing Benefit</b>							
Water Charges	242	N/A	£7.27	£7.31	£0.04	1%	Minor increase applied this year based on the assessment of budgeted costs in year against the income received.
Communal Heating – Electricity	45	N/A	£15.54	£16.29	£0.75	5%	Minor increase applied this year based on the assessment of budgeted costs in year against the income received.
Communal Heating – Gas	1,325	N/A	£10.83	£10.83	£0.00	0%	No increase applied this year based on the assessment of budgeted costs in year against the income received.
Garages and Car Parking	2,066	N/A	£11.86	£12.43	£0.57	5%	Charges increased in line with rents (Sept CPI + 1%)
Mobility Scooter and Cycle Storage	31	N/A	£3.16	£3.31	£0.15	5%	Charges increased in line with rents (Sept CPI + 1%)

## Appendix 3 – HRA Capital Investment Programme 2026/27 – 2030/31

### Introduction

To supplement the main report this appendix provides the detailed breakdown of the capital programme for 2026/27 and the following four financial years. **Only the proposed 2026/27 budget requires approval.** A high level summary is provided by programme with a strategy statement and detailed table for each programme provided.

### High Level Capital Budget Proposals

	Proposed 2026/27 budget for approval £'000	Profiled budget 2026/27 £'000	Total Budget 2026/27 £'000	Provisional Budget 2027/28 £'000	Provisional Budget 2028/29 £'000	Provisional Budget 2029/30 £'000	Provisional Budget 2030/31 £'000
<b>Expenditure</b>							
New Supply	33,276	38,780	72,056	77,569	51,803	2,796	0*
Health & Safety	25,531	(7,800)	17,731	11,644	10,117	9,862	10,059
Major Works	750	15,719	16,469	27,450	18,150	12,250	12,495
Planned Works	9,468	-	9,468	9,522	9,478	9,655	9,848
Sustainability	5,365	-	5,365	5,652	5,942	6,035	6,156
Other	5,250	-	5,250	4,950	4,850	4,850	4,947
<b>Total Capital Investment</b>	<b>79,640</b>	<b>46,699</b>	<b>126,339</b>	<b>136,786</b>	<b>100,339</b>	<b>45,448</b>	<b>43,505</b>
<b>Funding</b>							
Direct Revenue Funding			16,778	17,114	17,456	17,805	18,161
General Capital Receipts			-	-	-	-	-
RTB Receipts			8,895	4,195	835	-	-
Energy Grants/FITs			180	180	180	180	180
Homes England Grant / LAHF			15,118	8,564	1,588	794	-
Leaseholder Income			500	500	500	500	500
New Supply Borrowing			41,930	60,772	45,307	894	-
Existing Stock Borrowing			42,939	45,502	34,474	25,275	24,664
<b>Total Funding</b>			<b>126,339</b>	<b>136,826</b>	<b>100,339</b>	<b>45,448</b>	<b>43,505</b>

\* subject to approval of new projects

## Appendix 3 – HRA Capital Investment Programme 2026/27 – 2030/31

### Detailed Capital Budgets breakdown

#### **New Supply**

Delivering additional council homes remains a key Council Plan and Housing Strategy priority and is supported in the HRA capital programme during 2026/27 and beyond. Dedicated staffing resources to continue to deliver on this priority are included in the revenue budget. The council takes a blended approach to delivery ensuring that new supply is provided through new build, acquisitions, including through our successful Home Purchase Policy, refurbishment and small sites programmes.

Construction costs are estimated at an early design stage for new build projects (based on benchmark data and other tender returns) and then updated as the projects progress. New Build projects face significant challenges such as rising construction costs, delivering low rent homes and they will need to achieve key milestones e.g. achieving planning permission, breakeven viability to progress to the anticipated programme.

The forecast includes the council's commitment to a further 496 homes over the 5-year period in total; this is in addition to the 933 homes that have been delivered since 2019 up to March 2026. The policies and budgets for the projects listed below have received formal cabinet and previously committee approval. New projects are subject to an individual business case being approved, where possible the current strategy is for the new schemes to break even, they will be presented to cabinet separately and included in future budget reports where applicable.

<b>New Supply</b>	<b>Total Budget 2026/27 £'000</b>	<b>Provisional Budget 2027/28 £'000</b>	<b>Provisional Budget 2028/29 £'000</b>	<b>Provisional Budget 2029/30 £'000</b>	<b>Provisional Budget 2030/31 £'000</b>
<b>Acquisitions</b>					
Home Purchase Policy	18,000	6,667	2,783	-	-
Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) Programme	3,927	1,588	3,175	1,588	-
Large Panel Systems (LPS) Buy-backs	3,000	3,000	3,000	-	-
Joint Venture Purchases	-	12,126	20,120	-	-
<b>Housing Led</b>					
Small Sites Delivery	9,399	2,300	1,664	-	-
<b>New Homes for Neighbourhoods</b>					
Feasibility Studies	150	-	-	-	-
Large Panel System Blocks	3,414	1,138	1,173	1,208	-
Windlesham	2,404	2,195	-	-	-
Moulsecoomb Hub	18,088	39,775	19,888	-	-
Eastergate Road	6,644	2,695	-	-	-
Hollingbury Library	791	-	-	-	-
Portslade Village Centre	6,239	6,085	-	-	-
	<b>72,056</b>	<b>77,569</b>	<b>51,803</b>	<b>2,796</b>	<b>-</b>

### Appendix 3 – HRA Capital Investment Programme 2026/27 – 2030/31

Health & Safety	Total Budget 2026/27 £'000	Provisional Budget 2027/28 £'000	Provisional Budget 2028/29 £'000	Provisional Budget 2029/30 £'000	Provisional Budget 2030/31 £'000
Fire Safety & Asbestos Management	7,550	3,970	3,600	3,600	3,672
Fire Doors	891	924	967	1,002	1,022
Electrical Compliance Testing Programme & Rewires	5,000	3,800	2,800	2,800	2,856
Condensation & Damp Works	2,500	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,040
Lifts	1,350	550	550	260	265
Water Safety	440	400	200	200	204
	<b>17,731</b>	<b>11,644</b>	<b>10,117</b>	<b>9,862</b>	<b>10,059</b>

#### Health & Safety Works

The health & safety of our residents and those who visit and work on our homes is our key priority. Our Council Plan and Housing Strategy both prioritise improving housing safety and regulatory compliance. Legislative and regulatory changes impacting social housing landlords following the Grenfell Tower tragedy, require the Housing service to continually review our approach to health & safety compliance and assurance for council homes.

Cabinet on 11th December 2025 considered a report on 'Regulator of Social Housing - response to Regulatory Judgement including Procurement of Stock Conditions Contractor'. Cabinet noted positive progress made in improving compliance with the Regulator of Social Housing, Safety & Quality Consumer Standard. This follows the Regulator of Social Housing's (RSH) judgement on 9 August 2024 highlighted failings in safety and quality compliance and routine repairs backlog. It reflects the enhanced consumer regulation processes introduced in April 2024 as part of post-Grenfell reforms.

The Capital Investment Programme supports programmes of work that are necessary to meet the regulations requirements. These works are essential for the safety of all our residents and will be required to be included in programmes over the coming years.

## Appendix 3 – HRA Capital Investment Programme 2026/27 – 2030/31

### Major Works

Improving housing quality is a Council Plan and Housing Strategy priority. Major works meet our landlord obligations through maintaining the structural, general external integrity and fabric of our properties. A major works project will be either a combination of multiple work streams (new roof, windows and external repairs), or a single piece of work such as a new roof covering to a high-rise block of flats which typically has increased costs due to the complexity of the project. Other major works may include essential repairs to concrete, brickwork and other areas. Such works will enhance the thermal comfort and living conditions of our residents through improved thermal efficiency and improved wall insulation to the external fabric.

The investment required as a result of the implementation of the Building Safety Act and Fire Safety (England) Regulations continues to be very significant, building on the works requirements arising from the compliance surveys undertaken across our council homes.

Major Works	Total Budget 2026/27 £'000	Provisional Budget 2027/28 £'000	Provisional Budget 2028/29 £'000	Provisional Budget 2029/30 £'000	Provisional Budget 2030/31 £'000
Albion Hill - (High Rise)	1,000	6,500	8,000	5,000	-
Albion Hill - (Low Rise)	1,300	1,500	700	3,000	-
Carlton Court	600	-	-	-	-
Conversions & Extensions	750	750	750	750	-
Grand Parade	600	-	-	-	-
Hampshire Court car park	1,000	-	-	-	-
Hampshire Court Main Works	100	3,000	2,000	-	-
Kingswood & Milner Flats	1,500	1,500	-	-	-
Leach Court	100	1,500	1,500	-	-
Mayflower Square Externals	-	1,500	-	-	-
Minor Structural Repairs	500	500	500	500	-
Stanmer Heights - Orchid View, Stanmer Heights and Chelwood Close	-	-	700	3,000	-
Sylvan Hall	1,950	1,700	-	-	-
Theobald House (including concourse)	500	5,000	4,000	-	-
Wiltshire House	6,569	4,000	-	-	-
PROJECTS TBC					12,495
	<b>16,469</b>	<b>27,450</b>	<b>18,150</b>	<b>12,250</b>	<b>12,495</b>

### Planned Works

Planned works programmes support our Council Plan and Housing Strategy priority of improving housing quality and are formulated for five years. Planned works will typically consist of a single work stream made up of single element works such as replacement of windows or a roof to street properties, low or medium rise blocks of flats. Planned works also include external repairs and decorations, internal decorations to communal areas and replacement of entrance doors. The programmes are developed from stock condition information following our stock surveys. Where possible, external repairs and windows programmes will be combined as a project to make joint use of scaffold for value for money purposes. The service is moving toward development of more proactive planned preventative programmes of works to ensure best use of capital investment to reduce cost pressures of responsive repairs and other reactive works.

### Appendix 3 – HRA Capital Investment Programme 2026/27 – 2030/31

Planned Works	Total Budget 2026/27 £'000	Provisional Budget 2027/28 £'000	Provisional Budget 2028/29 £'000	Provisional Budget 2029/30 £'000	Provisional Budget 2030/31 £'000
Main Door Entry Systems & CCTV	670	610	610	670	683
Ventilation, Lighting & Lightning Protection & Fire Alarms	560	510	360	360	367
Cyclical Repairs & Decorations	1,280	1,400	1,450	1,520	1,550
Kitchens & Bathrooms	2,900	2,900	2,900	2,900	2,958
Windows	1,200	1,350	1,350	1,350	1,377
Roofing	1,358	1,252	1,308	1,355	1,382
Gutter Clearance	500	500	500	500	510
Service Risers	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,020
	<b>9,468</b>	<b>9,522</b>	<b>9,478</b>	<b>9,655</b>	<b>9,848</b>

#### Sustainability

Enabling residents to live in well-insulated, efficiently heated, healthy homes addressing fuel poverty issues remains a key long-term objective of our Council Plan and Housing Strategy which is supported through the capital programme. The five year programme sets out resources of £29.150m; an average investment of £5.830m per annum. This includes investment in making improvements to communal and domestic heating systems as well as identifying opportunities to install energy efficient & low carbon heating systems. The council's solar PV programme is also being taken forward.

Sustainability	Total Budget 2026/27 £'000	Provisional Budget 2027/28 £'000	Provisional Budget 2028/29 £'000	Provisional Budget 2029/30 £'000	Provisional Budget 2030/31 £'000
Domestic/Communal Heating Improvements	2,515	2,602	2,692	2,785	2,841
Energy Efficiency & Low Carbon Heating	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,530
Solar PV	600	800	1,000	1,000	1,020
Cavity Wall Insulation	750	750	750	750	765
	<b>5,365</b>	<b>5,652</b>	<b>5,942</b>	<b>6,035</b>	<b>6,156</b>

#### Other Works

The capital programme allows for investment in supporting people to live independently in their homes for longer through housing adaptations. The programme also supports environmental and communal area improvement work based on resident priorities. Environmental improvements are projects that are guided by communities for improvements to benefit the community on an estate. There is an identified need for the council to have up to date Housing ICT systems required to support and develop our investment programmes, regulatory compliance, works and contractor management and customer service. The capital programme allows for this continued investment.

Other	Total Budget 2026/27 £'000	Provisional Budget 2027/28 £'000	Provisional Budget 2028/29 £'000	Provisional Budget 2029/30 £'000	Provisional Budget 2030/31 £'000
Disabled Aids & Adaptations	1,830	1,830	1,830	1,830	1,867
Housing ICT Systems	300	100	100	100	102
Minor Capital Works	2,320	2,220	2,120	2,120	2,162
Major Empty Property works	500	500	500	500	510
Environmental Improvements	300	300	300	300	306
	<b>5,250</b>	<b>4,950</b>	<b>4,850</b>	<b>4,850</b>	<b>4,947</b>



## Appendix 4 – HRA MTFs and 30 Year financial plan

### 1. Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2026/27 to 2030/31

1.1 The Medium-Term Financial revenue position provides a net deficit after allocation of revenue and capital budgets of £5.163m. There are mitigations that can be put in place to help improve this position, being efficiency savings that can be identified across service expenditure, Local Government Reforms or at the last resort any in-year deficits could be funded from the useable reserve balance of £5.863m.

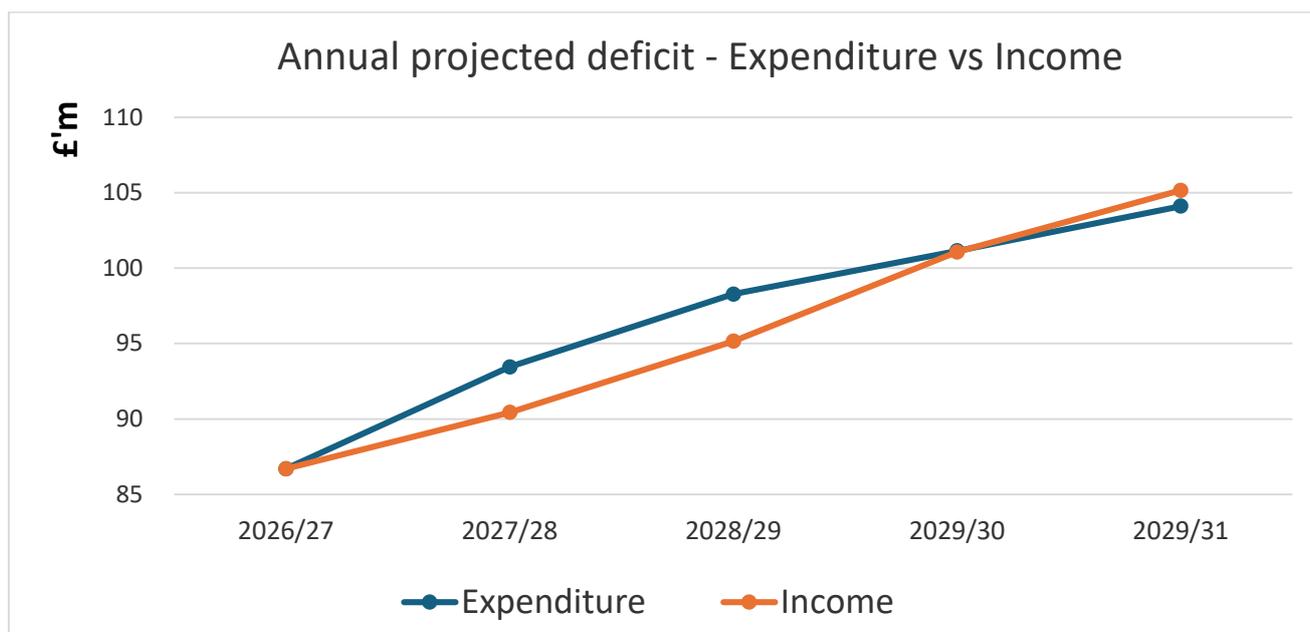
2.1 Current projections show an overall deficit of £5.163m in the HRA over the medium term, as outlined in Table 1 below. There is a break even position in years 1 and 4, with a surplus of £1.051m anticipated by year 5. However, significant deficits are expected in years 2 and 3, at £3.012m and £3.125m respectively. These figures do not account for unbudgeted disrepair claim costs, which are estimated to reflect the £2m incurred in 2025/26, and reducing over the medium term, as action is taken to reduce the costs.

3.1 In the medium term, the primary objective will continue to be the delivery of the main report's key priorities, while endeavouring to do so within the current budget constraints. A robust strategy is being developed to address this, reflecting the challenge faced, not only in Brighton & Hove, but across many local authorities. A survey by the Local Government Association (LGA) indicated that 72 per cent of all respondent councils with an HRA are "very" or "fairly" likely to draw down on reserves to balance their housing budgets from 2025/26 onwards. The LGA also forecasts that HRA deficits will exceed £3b within the next decade due to rising costs in maintenance, safety, and decarbonisation (EPC C standards). However, the projected deficit represents 1.07% of planned expenditure; with effective financial planning, this is manageable, provided that savings and efficiencies are identified and agreed upon at an early stage.

1.1 A review of all income streams will need to be conducted alongside rationalising the service ensuring it is running as efficiently as possible to ensure the HRA maximises all of its resources.

<b>Table 1 – Surplus &amp; Deficit by Year</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29</b>	<b>2029/30</b>	<b>2030/31</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Management & Service Costs	33,105	34,151	34,835	35,532	35,313	172,936
Repairs & Maintenance	20,298	20,907	21,534	21,965	22,404	107,108
Other Costs	2,134	2,177	2,220	2,265	2,310	11,106
Borrowing costs	14,143	18,855	21,983	23,330	25,663	103,974
Depreciation	17,014	17,354	17,701	18,055	18,417	88,541
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>86,694</b>	<b>93,444</b>	<b>98,274</b>	<b>101,147</b>	<b>104,107</b>	<b>483,666</b>
<b>Income</b>						
Rental Income	(75,029)	(78,417)	(82,773)	(88,323)	(92,029)	(416,571)
Service Charges (Tenants)	(5,493)	(5,658)	(5,828)	(6,002)	(6,182)	(29,163)
Other Income	(6,172)	(6,357)	(6,548)	(6,744)	(6,947)	(32,768)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>(86,694)</b>	<b>(90,432)</b>	<b>(95,148)</b>	<b>(101,070)</b>	<b>(105,158)</b>	<b>(478,502)</b>
Contribution to/(from) reserves		-	-	-	-	-
<b>(Surplus) / Deficit</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,012</b>	<b>3,125</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>(1,051)</b>	<b>5,163</b>

## Appendix 4 – HRA MTFS and 30 Year financial plan



### MTFS Assumptions

1.2 The following table outlines the assumptions made in formulating the MTFS figures:

Category	Assumption
Salary related	Based on long term CPI rate of 2%.
Repairs & Maintenance	Based on long term CPI rate of 2%.
Supplies & Services	Based on long term CPI rate of 2%.
Rents	Assumed CPI+1% as per the latest rent setting policy
Service Charges	Based on long term CPI rate of 2%.
Other income	Based on long term CPI rate of 2%.
Savings / Efficiencies	These cannot be quantified for future years – this will require consultation and a full review of the resources available.
LPS	Annual revenue investment for CCTV, security and waste clearance is included in the 5 year MTFS from year six these costs are assumed to be removed.
Reserves	General reserves are maintained at the levels from April 2027.

## 2 30 Year financial forecast

4.1 The introduction of self-financing provided local authorities with the opportunity to develop longer term planning to improve the management and maintenance of council homes. From April 2016, the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 required that rents should be reduced by 1% per annum for four years commencing in 2016/17; the final year of this decrease was 2019/20. This decision in today's terms has removed £9.3m from the core rent budget.

2.1 The government then announced in 2018 that social rents could be increased by a maximum of CPI+1% over a 5-year period commencing in 2020/21. However, rents were capped to a 7% uplift in 2023/24 which removed c.£2.6m from the rental income base.

2.2 The cumulative impact of both of these decisions has removed £11.9m from the core rent budget, over a 30-year period this equates to more than £302m (excluding inflation) from the income stream, reducing the resources available to support investment in homes over that time. This level of income would have supported a viable business plan.

## Appendix 4 – HRA MTFs and 30 Year financial plan

- 2.3 The current financial plan projections shown below indicate that over the medium term the HRA is forecast to be in deficit in 12 months' time where a more pressurised financial position is faced. This continues after year 5 where the HRA is anticipated to remain in a revenue deficit position, which cannot be maintained. Current estimates indicate a total deficit over 30 years of £175.813m as shown in table 2 below. Therefore, it is imperative that action is taken to manage the situation and that the HRA finances are kept under close review to ensure it remains financially stable in the long term.
- 2.4 Table 3 provides a long-term view of the HRA capital programme totalling £1,293,135m, it clearly shows that there is a heavy reliance on external borrowing to fund it. This level of borrowing at the interest rates assumed is having an impact on the revenue costs within 30-year revenue projection.
- 2.5 The investments are based on a view of all known projects in the first five years and then an assumed level of investment determined by the councils asset management system thereafter. Any future asset management strategy will determine the level of investment in future iterations of the plan.
- 2.6 Appendix 3 outlines the HRA reserves projections on the basis that over the 30-year period the reserves will remain at the balance of £8,945m (including the £3m working balance). Use of reserves need to be considered carefully as they are a finite resource.
- 2.7 However, the total level of borrowing regardless of the bottom-line position needs to be considered in line with the prudential indicators the council sets on an annual basis. The total level of borrowing now there is no cap on borrowing needs to be monitored closely. If left to increase the HRA could become highly geared, which is not a recommended position to be in.
- 2.8 All assumptions remain the same as outlined in the MTFs assumption table with the long-term view that inflation will be consistent from years 6 to 30 at 2% per annum for income and expenditure.
- 2.9 A sensitivity analysis has been run against the 30-year plan to assess the impact of the potential for a 10-year rent settlement to be proposed. This could mean that rents could be increased by CPI+1% from year 6 to 10 30-year plan. With all other assumptions remaining the same this would reduce the 30-year deficit to c.£69m but would not have any benefit for the 5-year plan.
- 2.10 This is a snapshot based on the 2026/27 budget proposals and estimates and is subject to change year-on-year. For example, the position could very easily change if the economic environment improves significantly. The overriding assumption is that a projection of costs and income are only included where projects and programmes have received formal Council or Cabinet approval. This means that future pipeline projects where cabinet approval have not given are not included in the projections.
- 2.11 The plan is designed to give an overview of the financial health of the HRA based on broad assumptions for the long term and current approvals. It is not a detailed plan and therefore surpluses or deficits indicated by the 30-year plan cannot be relied on and only provide a guide as to overall financial sustainability. Many factors can change including the funding and financing regime of the HRA itself and government rent policy. However, the movement in the 30 Year Plan year-on-year can provide a guide as to the direction of travel of HRA finances, particularly when looked at over a period of years.

## Appendix 4 – HRA MTFs and 30 Year financial plan

<b>Table 2</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>1-5</b>	<b>6-10</b>	<b>11-20</b>	<b>21-30</b>	
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Revenue Expenditure</b>					
Management & Service Costs	172,936	203,362	419,488	513,979	<b>1,309,765</b>
Repairs and Maintenance	107,108	118,407	269,605	320,034	<b>815,155</b>
Other Costs	11,106	11,738	25,945	31,627	<b>80,415</b>
Borrowing costs	103,974	119,429	217,618	260,304	<b>701,324</b>
Depreciation	88,541	96,360	215,636	250,255	<b>650,791</b>
<b>Total Revenue Expenditure</b>	<b>483,664</b>	<b>549,296</b>	<b>1,148,292</b>	<b>1,376,198</b>	<b>3,557,450</b>
<b>Income</b>					
Rental Income	(416,571)	(447,496)	(942,257)	(1,143,471)	<b>(2,949,795)</b>
Service Charges (Tenants)	(29,163)	(30,864)	(71,496)	(86,781)	<b>(218,303)</b>
Other Income	(32,768)	(41,728)	(62,422)	(76,621)	<b>(213,539)</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>(478,502)</b>	<b>(520,088)</b>	<b>(1,076,175)</b>	<b>(1,306,873)</b>	<b>(3,381,638)</b>
<b>Net Revenue (surplus) / deficit</b>	<b>5,162</b>	<b>29,209</b>	<b>72,118</b>	<b>69,325</b>	<b>175,813</b>

<b>Table 3</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>1-5</b>	<b>6-10</b>	<b>11-20</b>	<b>21-30</b>	
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>					
Capital Investment programme	308,195	198,227	308,631	303,208	<b>1,118,261</b>
Development	174,874	-	-	-	<b>174,874</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>483,069</b>	<b>198,227</b>	<b>308,631</b>	<b>303,208</b>	<b>1,293,135</b>
<b>Funded By:</b>					
Other Capital Income	(75,351)	(3,610)	(8,385)	(10,222)	<b>(97,567)</b>
New Capital Borrowing	(318,177)	(98,259)	(84,610)	(56,000)	<b>(557,046)</b>
Major Repairs Reserve	(89,541)	(96,360)	(215,636)	(236,986)	<b>(638,522)</b>
<b>Total Capital Funding</b>	<b>(483,069)</b>	<b>(198,228)</b>	<b>(308,632)</b>	<b>(303,207)</b>	<b>(1,293,135)</b>



**Brighton & Hove  
City Council**

Title:	<b>Use of the ring-fenced Public Health grant 2025/6 and grant assurance process</b>
Responsible Director:	Deb Austin
Report of:	Director of Public Health Dr Nicola Lang Business Manager Lorraine Leaman
Email:	Nicola.lang@brighton-hove.gov.uk

**Executive Summary**

This paper describes the ringfenced public health grant, national grant conditions, and the breakdown of spend on commissioned public health services, delivery and council services in 2025/6.

**Aim of paper:** to describe the ringfenced public health grant in Brighton & Hove, what the grant can be spent on (national guidelines), and current spend on public health commissioned services, direct delivery, and council services which deliver public health work. The paper also describes how using new underspend (from vacant posts) is supporting additional council public health programmes in 2026/7.

**1 USE OF THE RING-FENCED PUBLIC HEALTH GRANT (NATIONAL GUIDELINES)**

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The Local Government Association (LGA's) guidance on the public health grant notes:

*'Councils have, since 1 April 2013, been responsible for improving the health of their local population and for public health services including some services that support children and young people's health, most sexual health services and services aimed at reducing problem drug and alcohol use. The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care continues to have overall responsibility for improving health and addressing health inequalities.*

*Councils receive an annual ringfenced public health grant from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) plus supplementary public health funding for substance use and stop smoking services. The core condition of this grant is that it*

*should be used only for the purposes of the public health functions of local authorities*<sup>1</sup>.

Local authority public health spend is classified as:

### **1.1 PRESCRIBED FUNCTIONS**

- Sexual health services - STI testing and treatment
- Sexual health services - contraception
- NHS Health Check programme
- Local authority role in health protection
- Public health advice to NHS Commissioners
- National Child Measurement programme
- Prescribed children's 0 to 5 services

### **1.2 NON-PRESCRIBED FUNCTIONS**

- Sexual health services - advice, prevention and promotion
- Obesity - adults
- Obesity - children
- Physical activity - adults
- Physical activity - children
- Treatment for drug misuse in adults
- Treatment for alcohol misuse in adults
- Preventing and reducing harm from drug misuse in adults
- Preventing and reducing harm from alcohol misuse in adults
- Specialist drugs and alcohol misuse services for children and young people
- Stop smoking services and interventions
- Wider tobacco control
- Children 5 to 19 public health programmes

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<sup>1</sup> [Councillors' guide to local authority public health responsibilities | Local Government Association](#)

- Other Children's 0 to 5 services non-prescribed
- Health at work
- Public mental health
- Miscellaneous<sup>23</sup>

## 2 USE OF THE RING-FENCED PUBLIC HEALTH GRANT IN BRIGHTON & HOVE 2025/6

The table below shows the way that the Brighton and Hove public health grant was spent in 2025/6.

Budget Allocation Summary Position					
Service	25/26 PH Grant	25/26 Reserve	25/26 Ext Inc	Total	%
<b>PH Ringfence Grant</b>	<b>£ 24,405,920</b>	<b>£ 1,459,000</b>	<b>£ 5,719,661</b>	<b>£ 31,584,581</b>	
Public health grant allocated to wider Council services	£ 2,759,750	£ 601,000	£ 12,500	£ 3,373,250	10.7%
Commissioned Services (Contracts) and Programme / Grant Funded Services	£ 17,523,614	£ 361,144	£ 5,113,907	£ 22,998,665	72.8%
Staffing Costs	£ 3,833,866	£ 17,010	£ 593,254	£ 4,444,130	14.1%
Supplies and Service Costs	£ 288,690	£ 39,846	£ -	£ 328,536	1.0%
<b>Public Health Reserve</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 440,000</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 440,000</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 24,405,920</b>	<b>£ 1,459,000</b>	<b>£ 5,719,661</b>	<b>£ 31,584,581</b>	<b>100%</b>

Outlined below is the breakdown of the allocation to other areas in the Council 2025/26.

Public health grant allocated to wider Council services					
Service	Description	25/26 PH Grant	25/26 Reserve	25/26 Ext Inc	Total
Service Charges	Corporate Overhead Charges - Various Services	£ 329,445	£ -	£ -	£ 329,445
HR	Council Flu Vaccination Programme	£ 15,000	£ -	£ -	£ 15,000
Corporate Leadership Team	Emergency Planning	£ 12,000	£ -	£ -	£ 12,000
Comms	Comms - Consultation Portal	£ 6,000	£ -	£ -	£ 6,000
City Operations	Active Transport & Road Safety	£ 51,750	£ -	£ -	£ 51,750
	Seafront team: Accident & suicide prevention / health improvement	£ 220,000	£ -	£ -	£ 220,000
	Environmental Health (Nutrition)	£ 50,912	£ -	£ -	£ 50,912
	Notional Botox and Fillers Grant	£ 9,290	£ -	£ -	£ 9,290
FCW	Healthy Neighbourhood Fund	£ 50,000	£ -	£ -	£ 50,000
	Early Help	£ 900,000	£ 400,000	£ -	£ 1,300,000
	RUOK	£ 527,597	£ -	£ -	£ 527,597
	County Lines	£ 80,000	£ -	£ -	£ 80,000
	Sch MH service	£ 67,379	£ 100,000	£ 12,500	£ 179,879
	Data analyst	£ 57,612	£ -	£ -	£ 57,612
	PSHE advisory	£ 44,644	£ -	£ -	£ 44,644
	Emotion coaching	£ 9,567	£ -	£ -	£ 9,567
	FH rental for HV	£ 28,400	£ -	£ -	£ 28,400
	MH Counselling Pilot	£ -	£ 201,000	£ -	£ 201,000
	IDVAs	£ -	£ 120,000	£ -	£ 120,000
HASC	Specialist Drugs and Alcohol Social Care	£ 196,153	£ -	£ -	£ 196,153
	Rough Sleeper Services	£ 80,000	£ 54,000	£ -	£ 134,000
	Supported Accommodation, Young Parents	£ 24,000	£ -	£ -	£ 24,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>£ 2,759,750</b>	<b>£ 875,000</b>	<b>£ 12,500</b>	<b>£ 3,647,250</b>

## 3 PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITIES AND NEW DEMANDS

There are pressing public health priorities in Brighton and Hove which include a high suicide rate, higher than average drug related deaths, and homelessness and rough sleeping (heavily affecting our most disadvantaged residents who have mental health

<sup>2</sup> [Public health ring-fenced grant 2023 to 2024: local authority circular - GOV.UK](#)

<sup>3</sup> can include, but is not exclusive to: nutrition initiatives, accidents prevention, general prevention, community safety, violence prevention and social exclusion, dental public health, infectious disease surveillance and control, environmental hazards protection, seasonal death reduction initiatives, birth defect preventions

and addiction needs), which will need a new approach, working with partners on innovative approaches.

#### **4 ADDED FUNDING FOR PUBLIC HEALTH WORK IN THE COUNCIL**

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In 2025/6, a number of vacant posts were deleted to enable a renewed focus on public health work taking place in other parts of the council. The newly vacant posts deleted are 4.6FTE in total. This has created another £306k in substitutions, which have been allocated to domestic abuse related death reviews (DARDR) and school-based counselling, for 2026/7.

The current underspend in 2025/26 is largely attributable to in-year savings from vacancies and the restructuring of the Public Health team. The full-year savings will be realised in 2026/27 and re-allocated as permanent funding to other council services.

Historical underspends have been driven by pandemic-related service disruptions and uncertainties around NHS Contracts and Integrated Care Board (ICB) funding, which delayed expenditure.

Public Health cannot overspend. Therefore, any underspend is retained as reserves, which are maintained in line with DHSC recommendation at approximately 5% of the grant value.

#### **5 GRANT ASSURANCE PROCESS**

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Department of health and social care (DHSC) runs a grant assurance process including twice yearly assurance letters co-signed by the Section 151 Officer and the Director of Public Health, to confirm the grant is being spent appropriately. There is also a yearly detailed return (with spend set out against a number of categories) sent to the Office for Health Inequalities and Disparities (OHID, part of Department of Health and Social Care). OHID then quality assure the spend and ensure that it is not higher or lower compared with benchmarked averages in other councils.

BHCC, along with every other council nationally and in the South East, has just completed a 'deep dive' grant audit, with particular focus on the 'miscellaneous spend' category. This return was completed on 30 January 2025 and we await the outcome. This will then be followed by yearly financial deep dives/ audits to closely examine the spend.