



**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**TUESDAY 24TH JULY 2018, AT 6.00 P.M.**

**PARKSIDE SUITE - PARKSIDE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTATION**

The attached papers were specified as "to follow" on the Agenda previously distributed relating to the above mentioned meeting.

13. Motions on Notice (to follow if any) (Pages 1 - 8)

A period of up to one hour is allocated to consider the motions on notice. This may only be extended with the agreement of the Council.

15. Background Information on the recommendations from Audit, Standards and Governance Committee (to follow) (Pages 9 - 134)

K. DICKS  
Chief Executive

Parkside  
Market Street  
BROMSGROVE  
Worcestershire  
B61 8DA

19th July 2018

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## BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**COUNCIL**

**24<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

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### **NOTICE OF MOTION – LEP**

The following Notice of Motion has been submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 by Councillor S. Colella:

"This motion calls on the Leader to formally withdraw from the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP) in favour of more heightened involvement in the Worcestershire LEP."

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## BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**COUNCIL**

**24<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

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### **NOTICE OF MOTION – Prayers**

The following Notice of Motion has been submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 by Councillor S. Webb:

"Council notes:

- Of the 6 district councils in Worcestershire, 4 councils currently have a space for prayer and reflection. Since 2015, the right of Councils to decide to hold prayers has been enshrined in law.
- A space for prayers and reflection gives an opportunity to welcome different communities and faiths into the heart of local government in Bromsgrove, and sends a powerful message to all communities that they are welcome here.
- That it is important to make local democracy as open and inclusive as possible, with a role for every faith community and none. Council emphasises that including a space for reflection and prayer is an opportunity to allow all faiths and none to play a role in local government, *not* to appear to subscribe to one faith in particular, and those who do not wish to participate in a prayer or thought for the day have no obligation to do so.

Council resolves:

- To introduce a space for prayers and reflection as a part of Full Council meetings at the beginning. Council takes this opportunity to welcome all faiths and none to play a role in local government in Bromsgrove, and resolves to write to representatives of different faiths and nonreligious local figures to ask if they would like to participate."

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## BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**COUNCIL**

**24<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

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### **NOTICE OF MOTION – Court Leet**

The following Notice of Motion has been submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 by Councillor P. McDonald:

"Although the Court Leet is fictitious the cost to this Council is not. At a time of political austerity with many people going without and local food banks unable to cope with demand; valuable resources cannot be justified for people to dress up as ancient lords of the manor in the twenty first century. Therefore, this Council no longer in anyway facilitates either in monies or kind the antics of those professing to be of the defunct Court Leet."

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## BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**COUNCIL**

**24<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

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### **NOTICE OF MOTION – Housing Shortage**

The following Notice of Motion has been submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 10 by Councillor M. Thompson:

“Council notes the impact of the housing shortage in Bromsgrove. The necessity of this town to provide affordable housing for all is paramount to our economy, livelihoods and wellbeing. Noting this, council resolves to refer the following matters to the Strategic Planning Steering Group for consideration as part of the ongoing review of the Local Plan.

1. Introduce a minimum of 60% affordable housing on all new developments, of which half of this quota is for social rent.
2. 20% of all new developments be made "lifetime homes" (or similar) so that, where necessary, homes are more easily adaptable for the less able.
3. Reduce the minimum quota (for the above) to 5 dwellings (or equivalent on land mass).
4. Publicly declare any variation made by commercial developers.
5. Undertake a feasibility study on cooperative housing developments in Bromsgrove.”

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#### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2017/18

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Brian Cooper
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes
Relevant Head of Service	Jayne Pickering ( Exec Director)
Wards Affected	<b>All</b>
Ward Councillor Consulted	None specific

#### 1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

- 1.1 To enable Members to consider the Statement of Accounts 2017/18 and to recommend to Council their approval.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Audit Standards and Governance considers the Statement of Accounts 2017/18, including the Accounting Policies provided on pages 25 to 35, and recommends the approval of the accounts to Council.

#### 3. KEY ISSUES

##### Financial Implications

- 3.1 None other than those included in this report.

##### Legal Implications

- 3.2 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require that the Council complies with statutory accounting legislation and changes.

##### Service / Operational Implications

- 3.3 The Statement of Accounts were approved by the Executive Director of Finance and Resources by 30<sup>th</sup> May 2018 and submitted to the External Auditors Grant Thornton on the same day. This met the new statutory date of 31<sup>st</sup> May for accounts to be submitted. The Statement of Accounts have to be audited and approved by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018 which is 2 months early than in previous years to meet the revised statutory timeline.
- 3.4 The Statement of Accounts have been audited by Grant Thornton and their audit opinion is included as an agenda item to this meeting. A copy of the Statement of Accounts are provided as Appendix 1.

3.5 In compliance with International Accounting Standards, the Council needs to disclose the accounting policies it has applied to all material balances and transactions, in compiling the Statement of Accounts. These relate to the accounting practices, as set down in the Code, which all local authorities follow. These are provided on pages 25 to 35 of the Statement of Accounts at Appendix 1.

3.6 Included within the Statement of Accounts there are a number of core financial statements that provide a summary of the financial position of the Council. These are:

#### **3.7.1 Movement in Reserves Statement**

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the authority, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other reserves. The Surplus (or Deficit) on the Provision of Services line shows the true economic cost of providing the authority's services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. These are different from the statutory amounts required to be charged to the General Fund Balance for council tax setting purposes. The Net Increase/Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves line shows the Statutory General Fund Balance before any discretionary transfers to or from earmarked reserves undertaken by the council. This schedule shows the revenue balances for 2017/18 have increased to £4.789m by £565k and earmarked reserves have reduced by £202k to £3.405m.

#### **3.7.2 Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement**

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) shows the economic cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Authorities raise taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

#### **3.7.3 The Balance Sheet**

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the authority. The net assets of the authority (assets less liabilities) are matched by reserves held by the authority. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves is usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the authority may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use (for example the Capital Receipts Reserve that may only be used to fund

capital expenditure or repay debt). The second category of reserves is those that the authority is not able to use to provide services. This category includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve), where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets are sold; and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement line 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

### **3.7.4 The Cash Flow Statement**

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the authority during the reporting period. The statement shows how the authority generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities. The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the authority are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the authority. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the authority's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the authority.

### **3.8 The Supplementary Financial Statements:**

#### **3.8.1 The Collection Fund**

The Collection Fund shows the transactions of the Council in relation to the collection of Council Tax, and National Non-Domestic Rates and the way in which these have been distributed to the preceptors (the police, fire authority, county council and parishes). It is a statutory requirement for billing authorities to maintain this account.

### **3.9 Financial Summary**

#### **3.9.1 General Fund Revenue Account**

At its meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017 Bromsgrove District Council set a net revenue budget of £11.113m (including planned transfers to earmarked reserves). Band D equivalent Council Tax was set at £201.24, a £5 increase on the previous year.

The addition to achieving the 2017/18 saving requirement the Council has increased general fund balances to £4.485m. Details of individual earmarked reserves that have been set aside can be found in the notes to these financial statements.

## BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**AUDIT STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE**

**23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018**

A summary of the net expenditure as reported through the management accounts compared with the budget for 2017/18 is shown below:-

Strategic Purpose	Budget £'000	Actuals £'000	Variance £'000
Keep my place safe and looking good	4,154	4,354	200
Help me run a successful business	(681)	(707)	(25)
Help me be financially independent	120	135	15
Help me to live my life independently	(1)	(45)	(43)
Help me find somewhere to live in my locality	614	557	(57)
Provide good things for me to see, do and visit	897	964	67
Enable others to work/do what they need to do (to meet their purpose)	6,165	5,699	(466)
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,268</b>	<b>10,957</b>	<b>(310)</b>
Corporate Financing	<b>(11,327)</b>	<b>(11,320)</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>(60)</b>	<b>(363)</b>	<b>(303)</b>
Planned use of balances	261	261	0
Contribution to reserves	(201)	(201)	0
<b>Total as reported through management accounts/EFA</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(303)</b>	<b>(303)</b>

The variances are explained in the narrative statement contained within the Statement of Accounts.

### 3.9.2 Capital Expenditure

Capital expenditure amounted to £7.8m against a planned budget of £9.3m. The main areas of expenditure were in, Environmental Services replacement of fleet vehicles and plant (£1,387k); Disabled Facilities Grants & Discretionary Home Repairs (£833k) and Leisure and Culture recreation areas for the new leisure centre (£4,854k).

### Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

3.10 None as a direct result of this report.

## 4. RISK MANAGEMENT

4.1 The risks associated with the effective and timely delivery of the Statement of Accounts are to be developed further to ensure that a robust plan is in place to address the concerns raised during this Audit.

## 5. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Bromsgrove District Council Statement of Accounts  
2017/18

### AUTHOR OF REPORT

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# Bromsgrove District Council

Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018



**Bromsgrove**  
District Council

[www.bromsgrove.gov.uk](http://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk)

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## Bromsgrove District Council

Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018

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## Bromsgrove District Council Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2018

### Narrative Report

#### Introduction

Bromsgrove District Council's financial performance for the year ended 31 March 2018 is as set out in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Summary and our financial position is as set out in the Balance Sheet and Cash Flow Statement.

These financial statements have been prepared in line with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 (the Code). It is the purpose of this report to explain, in an easily understood way the financial facts and performance in relation to Bromsgrove.

#### Overview

Bromsgrove faced a difficult time with regards to financial funding arrangements with Revenue Support Grant received from central Government reducing from £1,229k in 2015/16 to £682k in 2016/17 and reduced further to £114k in 2017/18 in the form of transitional grant. In 2018/19 there will be no Revenue Support Grant. The Council has sought to balance the budget through savings whilst attempting to protect the services that are most important to the community.

The budgets set for 2017/18, as with previous years, were challenging but as the council was aware of the need for additional savings in future years, there has been a prudent approach to spending and a commercial approach to attracting income. This has enabled a surplus to be created, thus allowing the Council to increase working balances.

#### Strategic Priorities

What matters: Bromsgrove District Council is committed to providing residents with effective and efficient services that not only meet their needs but understand them as well. Through considering what really matters to our residents we have developed six key priorities for the next four years, supported by six strategic purposes. Working to these purposes will help us to understand the needs of the District and how, together with our partners, we can improve the lives of our residents and the prospects for Bromsgrove District as a whole.

#### Key Priorities 2017-2020



## Strategic Purposes



### Strategic purpose: Help me run a successful business

What matters:

- Encourage local business and inward investment
- Create a more vibrant Bromsgrove Town Centre and flourishing local centres
- Improve connectivity within Bromsgrove (Digital and Transport)
- Invest in our local workforce by supporting training and apprenticeships
  - ❖ Average weekly earnings for fulltime employees by residences increased from £582.10 (2016) to £664.10 (2017)
  - ❖ People who live in Bromsgrove have the highest average wage in Worcestershire

### Strategic purpose: Help me to be financially independent

What matters:

- Develop education and skills to sustain financial independence
- Support communities during changes to welfare and benefits
- Support residents to reduce levels of individual debt
- Support reductions in winter deaths and fuel poverty
- Support the provision of affordable housing in the District to meet the needs of the community
  - ❖ People receiving housing benefit (working age) has reduced from 2,755 (April 2017) to 2,642 (March 2018)
  - ❖ Fuel poverty in Bromsgrove has reduced from 12.6% in 2011 to 10.6% in 2015.
  - ❖ Applications for Essential Living Fund (ELF) have reduced from 218 (2016/17) to 177 (2017/18)

### Strategic purpose: Help me to live my life independently

What matters:

- Help and support the vulnerable
- Promote independence and reduce social isolation
- Help people to be fit and well
- Strengthening and supporting families and individuals
  - ❖ Spend on disabled facilities grants has increased from £563k (2016/17) to £833k (2017/18)
  - ❖ 1,649 (March 2018) vulnerable or elderly residents are being supported by a Lifeline unit in their homes compared with 1,677 in March 2017

### Strategic purpose: Help me to find somewhere to live in my locality

What matters:

- Support the development of appropriate and affordable housing in the district
- Assist in making the best of all housing across the district
- Prevent and respond to homelessness
  - ❖ in 2017/18 107 households have been prevented from becoming homeless (78 in 2016/17)

## **Strategic purpose: Keep my place safe and looking good**

What matters:

- Help support and create communities where people feel safe
- Look after our district to provide clean and tidy streets and open spaces
- Protect and enhance the environment spaces
  - ❖ The average residential waste collected per household in 2017/18 was 452kg the same as 2016/17
  - ❖ The average recycling waste collected per household reduced from 250kg in 2016/17 to 244kg in 2017/18
  - ❖ The average garden waste collected per household reduced from 365kg in 2016/17 to 359kg in 2017/18
  - ❖ Anti social behaviour incidents have remained almost the same being 2,420 in 2016/17 and 2,423 in 2017/18

## **Strategic purpose: Provide good things for me to see, do and visit**

What matters:

- Provide a leisure, cultural and arts programme for the whole district
- Create a more vibrant Bromsgrove Town Centre and flourishing local centres
- Help people to be fit and well and reduce social isolation
  - ❖ There were 19,515 attendances at Bromsgrove District Council events in 2017/18 including 4,000 at street theatre events, 3,100 at Bandstand events, 6,865 at the Bonfire and 4,000 at the Christmas lights
  - ❖ £206k was spent on New Homes Bonus to community projects 2017/18 compared with £91k in 2016/17



## **Financial Outlook**

The Medium Term Financial Plan 2018/19 to 2021/22 was approved by Council on 21st February 2018 and provides the framework within spending decisions can be made. The plan addresses how the Council will provide financial funding to the Strategic Priorities and ensure residents receive quality services to meet their needs in the future.

When reviewing the budget projections consideration is made of the impact of demand on service and the costs associated with this demand. This may result in additional costs (associated with maintaining current service delivery) or reductions in anticipated income revenue over the next 4 years.

There continues to be considerable pressure facing the Council over the next 4 years as a result of a number of issues including:

- Budgetary pressures such as pay inflation (2%), increased contract costs, funding the capital Programme
- Potential further reductions in New Homes Bonus Grant
- Impact of Negative Revenue Support Grant currently estimated at £740k in 2019/20.
- Impact of the Localisation of Business Rates scheme which is now deferred to 2020/21
- Impact of the fair funding review which is to be implemented in 2020/21

The initial Medium Term Financial Plan assumed a 1% increase for pay inflation. National agreements are now running at 2% and this has been adjusted for 2018/19 and 2019/20. There is also increased contract prices, unavoidable cost pressures and the impact of the capital programme that have been added to the plan.

The new homes bonus for 2018/19 has been confirmed at £1,643k which was £128k lower than the amount anticipated. Maintaining the new homes bonus income is dependent upon the number of new homes built in Bromsgrove and possible changes to the formula by the Government.

# Agenda Item 15

Bromsgrove in common with virtually every other Council in the country signed up to the Government offer of a four year funding settlement. This brought more certainty to the funding figures but not complete certainty or protection from changes to the funding levels. From 2019/20 the Revenue Support Grant will become negative and be a repayment from Bromsgrove to the Government in the form of a tariff adjustment. The 2019/20 provisional settlement estimates the repayment at £740k and this will continue annually into the future.

In 2020/21 it is anticipated that there will be a reset of business rates. Since 2013/14 Bromsgrove has been able to retain a proportion of the local business rate growth. The impact of the reset is uncertain as it will depend on the level of growth in Bromsgrove compared with the national position. It is anticipated that an average growth would result in a neutral impact but further details are still to be received on this.

Fair funding formula will also be introduced in 2020/21. This will attempt to calculate the amount the Council needs to spend. It is important because the amount of tariff adjustment the Council will be required to pay to the Government will be based on this formula.

The main source of income continues to be Council tax and the Government continue to allow Councils to increase Council Tax 3% without a referendum. In 2018/19 the Council tax increased from £210.24 to £216.53, £6.29 (2.99%). The medium term financial plan assumes a further 2.99% increase in 2019/20 and £5 increase for 2020/21 and 2021/22.

In 2017/18 the Council approved an Acquisition and Investment Strategy which combines the ambition for economic development in the District with the potential to generate income through an Investment Portfolio Fund. The financial returns from this strategy have been built into the plan and are anticipated to achieve £267k in 2019/20 and increase to £640k in 2020/21 and £1,066k in 2021/22.

A summary of the approved Medium Term Financial Plan is provided below and shows that the Council has a balanced budget in 2018/19 but need to address a shortfall in future years ranging from £626k in 2019/20 to £835k in 2021/22.

	2018/19 £k	2019/20 £k	2020/21 £k	2021/22 £k
<b>Estimated Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>11,293</b>	<b>11,888</b>	<b>12,415</b>	<b>13,037</b>
<b>FUNDED BY</b>				
Council Tax	-7,910	-8,328	-8,612	-8,881
Business Rate Income	-1,622	-1,735	-1,735	-1,735
Tariff Adjustment	0	740	740	740
New Homes Bonus	-1,643	-1,672	-1,520	-1,260
Investment Income	0	-267	-640	-1,066
Collection Fund Surplus	-109	0	0	0
Use of Balances	-9	0	0	0
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>-11,293</b>	<b>-11,262</b>	<b>-11,767</b>	<b>-12,202</b>
<b>Shortfall</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>835</b>

The shortfall will be balanced through savings or additional income, including investment income, to ensure a balanced budget is approved each financial year.

## Governance

Bromsgrove District Council recognises that it is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively.

Governance is about how the Council ensures that it is doing the right things, in the right way, for the right people in a timely, inclusive, open, honest and accountable manner. The Council has in place a Governance Framework which is detailed on page 12 and includes the following key elements:-

- A Council Constitution which clearly sets out the roles and responsibilities for Councillors and Officers and the rules that must be followed
- A transparent decision making process through Council, Cabinet, Planning Committee and Audit, Standards and Governance Committee

# Agenda Item 15

- Review and scrutiny of decision through the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Behaving with integrity supported through a Code of Conduct
- Managing risk through the Corporate Management Team and Audit, Standards and Governance Committee
- Clear strategic priorities linked to the needs of our communities and customers
- Regular performance management linked to strategic priorities and managed through a dashboard which is easily accessed and updated
- Having robust and regular financial management
- Having good communication with Councillors, employees and the Community

The Council undertakes an annual review of its governance arrangements and this is summarised in the Annual Governance Statement on page 12.

## Risks and Opportunities

The Council recognises that it has a responsibility to manage risks effectively in order to control its assets and liabilities, protect its employees and community against potential losses, minimise uncertainty in achieving its goals and objectives, and to maximise the opportunities to achieve its vision.

Risk management is managed through the Corporate Management Team and Audit, Standards and Governance Committee and the current risk register has two significant risks:-

- Failure to manage the financial and service based impacts of the county council commissioning on the council.
- Council do not respond to financial constraints effectively.
- LEP's (and interactions with them) fail to operate effectively.
- Partners are unable (or unwilling) to change how they do things (transformation).
- Political changes at a local or national level.

The Council is keen to use opportunities to be actively working with a commercial approach to achieve new income. During 2017/18 the Council approved:

- an Acquisition and Investment Strategy which combines the ambition for economic development in the Borough with the potential to generate income through an Investment Portfolio Fund: and
- a collaboration with Redditch Borough Council to offer a garden waste collection in their area thereby offering a new service and securing a new income stream.

## Expenditure and Funding Analysis

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis is set out on page 41. The objective is to demonstrate to council tax payers how the funding available to the authority (i.e. Government grants, council tax and business rates) for the year has been used in providing services in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. The Expenditure and Funding Analysis also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision-making purposes between the Council's strategic purposes. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

A summary of the net expenditure as reported through the management accounts compared with the budget for 2017/18 is shown below:-

Strategic Purpose	Budget £'000	Actuals £'000	Variance £'000
Keep my place safe and looking good	4,154	4,354	200
Help me run a successful business	(681)	(707)	(25)
Help me be financially independent	120	135	15
Help me to live my life independently	(1)	(45)	(43)
Help me find somewhere to live in my locality	614	557	(57)
Provide good things for me to see, do and visit	897	964	67
Enable others to work/do what they need to do (to meet their purpose)	6,165	5,699	(466)
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,268</b>	<b>10,957</b>	<b>(310)</b>
Corporate Financing	(11,327)	(11,320)	7
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>(60)</b>	<b>(363)</b>	<b>(303)</b>
Planned use of balances	261	261	0
Contribution from reserves	(201)	(201)	0
<b>Total as reported through management accounts/EFA</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(303)</b>	<b>(303)</b>

The actuals reported above are based on the management accounts for the authority. The management accounts are prepared on controllable budgets and there is a difference to the definitions used in the comprehensive income and expenditure summary (CIES) and the expenditure and funding analysis (EFA). As an example the management accounts would record and manage any direct revenue financing of capital expenditure within the strategic priority but this would be recorded as other income and expenditure in the EFA.

The surplus is consistent with the management accounts reported throughout the year and the main reasons are outlined below:-

## **Keep my place safe and looking good**

These budgets include those relating mainly to environmental services, planning, lifeline, CCTV and other activities to deliver against the purpose to ensuring an area is both safe and attractive for the community.

There has been a shortfall in income on planning applications due to a low number of applications being received. However there have been savings on repairs and maintenance of vehicles and other general supplies.

## **Help me run a successful business**

The budgets within the strategic purpose include economic development, car parking, all licenses and costs associated with the town and other centres within the District.

There has been additional income on Car Parking and Civil Enforcement along with savings made on supplies and services within Economic & Tourism Development.

## **Help me be financially independent**

This strategic purpose includes all costs relating to the support of benefits and the administration and delivery of Council Tax services in the District.

There has been a slight increase in the contributions to provisions causing the variance for 2017/18.

## **Help me to live my life independently**

There are a number of budgets relating to the delivery of the strategic purpose including; Lifeline, Community Transport and Disabled facilities grants.

A number of new contracts which have generate income have been secured by the lifeline team. This income has been reflected in the 2018/19 budget.

## **Help me find somewhere to live in my locality**

The costs associated with homeless prevention, housing strategy and land charges are all included in the strategic purpose.

Savings have also resulted from temporary vacancies and savings made on general supplies and services budgets.

## **Provide good things for me to see, do and visit**

The majority of budgets within this purpose relate to Leisure and Culture services.

There has been some additional costs required in maintaining the sports hall at the Dolphin Centre. These costs will be reduced into 2018/19 along with savings made on NNDR.

## **Enable others to work/do what they need to do (to meet their purpose)**

All support services and corporate overheads are held within the enabling purpose. These include; IT, HR, Finance, Management team and other support costs.

Heads of Services have worked throughout the financial year to identify savings and additional income from 2016/17 that can be delivered in 2017/18 along with additional unallocated savings that sit within Corporate / enabling services. This has been achieved along with further savings found. There have also been savings made within ICT in relation to licences following a full review.

## **Corporate Financing**

Various transfers to reserves to enable specific projects to be undertaken in the future have been made within corporate along with a planned use of reserves. The reserves position is outlined on page 45 of the Financial Statement.



## Capital

Project	Budget £'000	Actuals £'000	Variance £'000
Fleet Replacement	2,040	1,387	(653)
Bromsgrove Sports and Leisure Centre (BSLC)	4,988	4,854	(134)
Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG's)	856	833	(23)
Community s106 Projects	534	297	(237)
Other	631	162	(469)
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,049</b>	<b>7,533</b>	<b>(1,516)</b>
s106 Obligatory Projects	255	255	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,304</b>	<b>7,788</b>	<b>(1,516)</b>

The fleet replacement budget has a variance due to timescales of ordering and receiving the new vehicles and therefore the remaining budget will be requested to be carried forward in to the new financial along with some being offered up as savings due to actual costs being less than estimated costs. The remaining budget on the completed Bromsgrove Sports and Leisure centre will also be requested to be moved into the new financial year to go towards potential future demolition costs.



## Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Summary

This statement, often referred to as the CIES, is on page 18 and shows the expenditure and income in the year incurred in the providing of services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Authorities raise taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations which may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

## The Movement in Reserves Statement

This statement, often referred to as MIRS, is set out on page 17. It shows movement in the year on the different reserves held by Bromsgrove, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other reserves. The 'Surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services' line shows the true economic cost of providing our services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Summary (CIES). These are different from the statutory amounts required to be charged to the General Fund Balance and for council tax setting purposes. The 'Net increase /decrease before transfers to Earmarked Reserves' line shows the statutory General Fund Balance before any discretionary transfers to or from earmarked reserves are undertaken by the Council.

## The Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet set out on page 20 shows the value of our assets and liabilities. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Authority. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category being usable reserves. These are reserves that the Council may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use (for example the Capital Receipts Reserve that may only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt). The second category is unusable reserves. These are those that the authority is not able to use to fund services. This category includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve), where amounts would only become available to provide services on the disposal of an asset.

The main changes to the Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2018 are:-

Property, Plant and Equipment have increased from £38,713k to £44,296k and this mainly relates to the construction of the new Leisure Centre in School Drive.

There has been a reduction in the pension deficit from £42,470k to £38,453k. Note 36 on page 70 provides a detailed analysis of the pension changes but the main reasons for the change is actuarial gains from changes in financial assumptions. The pension liability is reported at £34,106k, £4,349k lower than the deficit and this reflects the 2018/19 and 2019/20 advance payment of pension contributions.

## **Group Accounts**

The Code requires Local Authorities to consider all their interests and to prepare a full set of group financial statements where they have material interests in subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures. Bromsgrove has a material interest in the Bromsgrove Arts Development Trust where we appoint the majority of the Members on the Trust. The interest is limited to the building which is known as the Artrix.

## **The Cash Flow Statement**

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of Bromsgrove during the reporting period. The statement shows how we generate and use cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities. The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations are funded by way of taxation and grant income or service user receipts. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to our future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by lenders to the Council.



## Bromsgrove District Council Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2018

### Statement of the Authority's and Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

#### The Authority's Responsibilities

Bromsgrove District Council is required to:

- make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to
- secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs.
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets
- approve the Statement of Accounts.

#### In this Authority, that officer is the Executive Director of Finance and Resources;

The Executive Director of Finance and Resources is responsible for the preparation of Bromsgrove District Council's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ('the Code').

#### In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Executive Director of Finance and Resources has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- complied with the local authority Code.

#### The Executive Director of Finance and Resources has also:

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

The Accounts present a true and fair view of the financial position of Bromsgrove District Council at 31 March 2018 and its income and expenditure for the year ended on that date.

Signed .....

Date :

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2017/18

### Scope of Responsibility

Bromsgrove District Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively. Bromsgrove District Council also has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

In discharging this overall responsibility, Bromsgrove District Council is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, which includes arrangements for the management of risk.

### The Purpose of the Governance Framework

The governance framework comprises the systems and processes, culture and values by which the authority is directed and controlled and its activities through which it accounts to, engages with and leads its communities. It enables the authority to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate services and value for money.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Bromsgrove District Council's Policies and Strategic Purposes, to evaluate the likelihood and potential impact of those risks being realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

The governance framework has been in place at Bromsgrove District Council for the year ended 31 March 2018 and up to the date of approval of the statement of accounts.

### The Governance Framework

The framework to deliver good governance across the Council's services in delivering the Strategic Purposes encompass a number of elements;

- The Strategic Purposes have been developed in line with the needs of our communities and customers and the Council Plan 2018-2020 is in place and reflects the activities that need to be undertaken by the Council to further support the delivery of these purposes.
- Strategic Partnership meetings are held on a regular basis to ensure that all partners and agencies are engaged in supporting the Council's aims to deliver the purposes to our community. Liaison between officers to deliver joint working arrangements is encouraged and actively undertaken by the Council.
- Performance reports are presented to members on a quarterly basis in relation to the strategic purpose delivery and the associated measures in place.
- A performance dashboard is in place for members and officers to review the performance of key measures, both strategic and operational across the organisation. This includes national statistics where relevant to the community of the District.
- The Council's Constitution clearly sets out the roles and responsibilities of Councillors, and the procedural rules for Full Council, Cabinet and the other Boards operated by the Council
- Terms of reference for member working groups (e.g. Scrutiny Task Groups) are clearly defined.
- Revised Financial Regulations and Contract Procedure Rules have been approved by Council. A full training programme is in place to ensure all relevant officers comply and understand the regulations in place. In addition an officer contract working group has been established with the aim to improve efficiencies in relation to contract management arrangements.
- A clear scheme of Councillor/Officer delegation exists to provide clarity on the powers entrusted to those appointed to make decisions on behalf of the Council. A Member / Officer protocol is also set out in the Constitution.
- The roles and responsibilities of Councillors are underpinned by an extensive Member Development Programme to include both mandatory and discretionary training. This is developed by the cross party Member Development Steering Group and includes; induction, chairmanship and specific Committee based training.
- The behaviour of Councillors is regulated by the Member Code of Conduct and is supported by a number of protocols.
- A review of the Constitution is undertaken on a regular basis to ensure it enables members to make informed and transparent decisions. This includes the scheme of delegation to officers.
- Decision making is carried out through Cabinet, Planning Committee and Audit, Standards and Governance Committee . Overview and Scrutiny Committee has responsibility to review and scrutinise the activities of the Council.

- Regular staff briefings and 4th tier manager forums are held to ensure staff are aware of changes and are engaged in the systems thinking methodology of supporting service changes across the Council. In addition a commercial approach to fees and charges and other income generation has been adopted. A staff survey has also been undertaken and culture workshops developed and delivered to staff to ensure improvements and engagement in light of previous staff surveys.
- Robust financial management arrangements in place through regular budget monitoring, on line purchase ordering systems and robust financial internal controls ensure that the Council complies with statutory legislation. A new enterprise system is to be considered in 2018/19 to improve functionality of the systems and access for managers.
- There is a clear procurement code and policy in place to ensure that purchases are made in a compliant and transparent manner.
- Heads of Service are responsible for establishing and maintaining an adequate system of internal control arrangements when within their own services. They are required to sign off annual Governance and Internal Control returns where they can raise any items of concern. There were no issues raised during 2017/18.
- The Constitution clearly defines the roles of Monitoring Officer, S151 and Head of Paid Service.
- A revised whistle blowing code has been approved in 2017/18.
- Regular press releases are submitted and Better Bromsgrove Together is sent to residents to inform them of the Council's activities and services provided. In addition information on the commercial services provided by the Council was sent out to enable residents to utilise the services offered.

## Review of Effectiveness

Bromsgrove has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the work of the Heads of Service within Bromsgrove District who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment, the Head of Internal Audit's annual report, and also by comments made by the external auditors.

The Constitution clearly identifies the terms of reference, roles and responsibilities of Full Council, Cabinet, Overview and Scrutiny and Audit Committees all of which have fully understood governance responsibilities.

Throughout 2017/18, the Council adopted a robust approach to corporate governance, which has been advised through the work of the Audit, Standards and Governance Committee, Overview and Scrutiny as well as the statutory roles of the S151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer.

- **Audit, Standards and Governance Committee**

The Committee played a role by reviewing and monitoring internal control issues throughout the year. This included approval of the treasury management strategy, savings reports, regular progress reports from Internal Audit and reports and updates from the External Auditors.

- **Internal Audit**

BDC's responsibility for maintaining an effective internal audit function is set out in Regulation 6 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

The Worcestershire Internal Audit Shared Service Team operates in accordance with best practice professional standards and guidelines. It independently and objectively reviews on a continuous basis, the extent to which the internal control environment supports and promotes the achievement of the Council's objectives and contributes to the proper, economic, efficient and effective use of resources.

During 2017/18 the Internal Audit team delivered a comprehensive programme including:

- a number of core systems which were designed to suitably assist the external auditor to reach their 'opinion' and other corporate systems for example Governance, and
- a number of operational systems, for example, Environmental Waste, Land Charges, Disabled Facilities Grants, were looked at to maintain and improve control systems and risk management processes or reinforce oversight of such systems.

Internal Audits work programme helps to assure Audit, Standards and Governance Committee that the framework and statement can be relied upon based on the following:

- Evidence streams which were verifiable and could be relied upon,
- Monitoring and reporting mechanisms were in place to report issues,
- These streams and reporting mechanisms are embedded in the BDC governance process.

Internal Audit reports are considered by the relevant Head of Service and Director of Finance and Resources, before submission to the Audit, Standards and Governance Committee for further scrutiny.

## Significant Governance Issues

In relation to the internal audit reports for 2017/18 areas which returned an assurance level of 'limited' were performance measures and risk management. One Audit was assessed as having a 'limited' level of assurance. This related to Records Management and a number of actions were undertaken immediately to ensure any areas of risk were addressed urgently. In addition there is a clearly defined action plan in place with responsible officers in order to address any other weaknesses and issues identified.

The Heads of Service have actions in place to address any recommendations from Audit reviews and all assessed as being either of high or medium importance have been reported to the Audit Standards and Governance Committee. The Internal Audit team will continue to review the actions as they are implemented.

### Conclusion and Evaluation

As leader and Chief Executive, we have been advised on the results of the review of the effectiveness of the Council's governance framework. Our overall assessment is that this Annual Governance Statement is a balanced reflection of the governance environment and the arrangements continue to be regarded as fit for purpose in accordance with the governance framework.

We are also satisfied that over the coming year, the Council will take appropriate steps to address any significant governance issues and we will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.

**Signed** .....

**Date :**

**Signed** .....

**Date :**

Leader of the Council & Chief Executive on behalf of Bromsgrove District Council.

## Certificate of the Chief Financial Officer

I certify that:

- (a) the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018 has been prepared in the form directed by the Code and under the accounting policies set out on pages 25 to 35.
- (b) in my opinion, the Statement of Accounts gives a true and fair view of the income and expenditure and cash flows for the financial year and the financial position as at the end of the financial year.

.....

**Chief Financial Officer**

## Authority Approval of Statement of Accounts

These accounts were approved by resolution of the Council on xx

.....

**Chairman**

**xx**

## Worcestershire Internal Audit Shared Services Manager's Opinion on the Effectiveness of the System of Internal Control at Bromsgrove District Council for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.

### **1. Audit Opinion**

- 1.1 The internal audit of Bromsgrove District Council's systems and operations during 2017/18 was conducted in accordance with the Internal Audit Annual plan which was presented to the Audit Committee on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and any subsequent revision.
- 1.2 The Internal Audit function was set up as a shared service in 2010/11 and hosted by Worcester City Council for 5 district councils and increased to 6 partners with the inclusion of Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Authority from April 2016. The shared service conforms with CIPFA guidance and the Institute of Internal Auditors Public Sector Internal Audit Standards 2013 as amended and objectively reviews on a continuous basis the extent to which the internal control environment supports and promotes the achievement of the Council's objectives and contributes to the proper, economic and effective use of resources.
- 1.3 The Internal Audit Plan for 2017/18 was risk based (assessing audit and assurance factors, materiality risk, impact of failure, system risk, resource risk fraud risk, and external risk) using a predefined scoring system. It included:
  - \* a number of core systems which were designed to suitably assist the external auditor to reach their 'opinion' and other corporate systems for example governance, and
  - \* a number of operational systems, for example, Environmental Waste, Land Charges, Disabled Facilities Grants, were looked at to maintain and improve control systems and risk management processes or reinforce oversight of such systems.
- 1.4 The 2017/18 internal audit plan and any revision thereto was delivered in full providing sufficient coverage for the s151 and the Head of Internal Audit Shared Service to form an overall opinion.
- 1.5 In relation to the 15 reviews that have been undertaken, 12 have been finalised, 2 at draft report stage and 1 close to completion. An area that returned an assurance level of 'limited' was Records Management. Any area where assurance was 'limited' or below will be addressed by management and have a clearly defined action plan in place in order to address the weaknesses and issues identified. Where audits are to be finalised a comprehensive management action plan will be required and agreed by the s151 Officer from the relevant Service Manager.
- 1.6 As part of the process of assessing the Council's control environment, senior officers within the Council are required to complete an annual "Internal Control Assurance Statement" to confirm that the controls in the areas for which they are responsible are operating effectively. Officers were required to acknowledge their responsibilities for establishing and maintaining adequate and effective systems of internal control in the services for which they are responsible and confirming that those controls were operating effectively except where reported otherwise. For all services no areas of significant risk have been identified. Any concerns raised by managers will be assessed and addressed by the Corporate Management Team.
- 1.7 The majority of the completed audits have been allocated an audit assurance of either 'moderate' or above meaning that there is generally a sound system of internal control in place, no significant control issues have been encountered and no material losses have been identified during a time of continuing significant transformation and change. Where a 'limited' assurance has been reported it indicates weaknesses in the design and / or inconsistent application of controls potentially putting the achievement of the organisation's objectives at risk in those areas reviewed. Any assurance provided is limited to the few areas of the system where controls are in place and are operating effectively.
- 1.8 WIASS can conclude that no system of control can provide absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss, nor can Internal Audit give that assurance. This statement is intended to provide reasonable assurance based on the audits performed in accordance with the approved plan and the scoping therein. Based on the audits performed in accordance with the approved and revised plan, the Head of Internal Audit Shared Service has concluded that the internal control arrangements during 2017/18 managed the principal risks identified in the audit plan and can be reasonably relied upon to ensure that the Council's corporate purposes have been met.

**Andy Bromage**  
**Head of Internal Audit Shared Service**  
**Worcestershire Internal Audit Shared Service**  
**May-18**



**Bromsgrove District Council**  
**Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2018**

**The Core Financial Statements**



# Bromsgrove District Council

## Movement in Reserves Statement For the current and comparative year

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the authority, analysed into 'usable reserves' (ie those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other reserves. The Surplus or (Deficit) on the Provision of Services line shows the true economic cost of providing the authority's services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. This is different from the statutory amounts required to be charged to the General Fund Balance for council tax setting. The Net Increase/Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves line shows the statutory General Fund Balance before any discretionary transfers to or from earmarked reserves undertaken by the Council.

	General Fund Balance*	Earmarked General Fund Reserves*	Total General Fund Balance	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Total Usable Reserves	Total Unusable Reserves	Total Reserves of the Authority	Total Authority Reserves	Authority Share of Subsidiary	Total Authority Reserves Group
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Balance as at 1 April 2016</b>	<b>4,157</b>	<b>3,257</b>	<b>7,414</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,414</b>	<b>(8,938)</b>	<b>(1,524)</b>	<b>(1,524)</b>	<b>5,035</b>	<b>3,511</b>
<b>Movement in reserves during the year</b>											
<b>Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure</b>	(1,153)	0	<b>(1,153)</b>	0	0	<b>(1,153)</b>	(5,771)	<b>(6,924)</b>	<b>(6,924)</b>	0	<b>(6,924)</b>
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations (Note 9)	1,570		<b>1,570</b>	638	0	<b>2,208</b>	(2,208)	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Increase/Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,055</b>	<b>(7,979)</b>	<b>(6,924)</b>	<b>(6,924)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(6,924)</b>
Transfers to or from earmarked reserves	(350)	350	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(113)</b>	<b>(113)</b>
<b>Increase/(Decrease) in Year</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,055</b>	<b>(7,979)</b>	<b>(6,924)</b>	<b>(6,924)</b>	<b>(113)</b>	<b>(6,924)</b>
<b>Balance as at 1 April 2017</b>	<b>4,224</b>	<b>3,607</b>	<b>7,831</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,469</b>	<b>(16,917)</b>	<b>(8,448)</b>	<b>(8,448)</b>	<b>4,922</b>	<b>(3,526)</b>
<b>Movement in reserves during the year</b>											
<b>Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure</b>	(218)	0	<b>(218)</b>	0	0	<b>(218)</b>	6,121	<b>5,903</b>	<b>5,903</b>	0	<b>5,903</b>
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations	581	0	<b>581</b>	10	0	<b>591</b>	(591)	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Increase/Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>5,530</b>	<b>5,903</b>	<b>5,903</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,903</b>
Transfers to or from earmarked reserves	202	(202)	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>512</b>
<b>Increase/(Decrease) in Year</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>(202)</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>5,530</b>	<b>5,903</b>	<b>5,903</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>6,415</b>
<b>Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2018</b>	<b>4,789</b>	<b>3,405</b>	<b>8,194</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,842</b>	<b>(11,387)</b>	<b>(2,545)</b>	<b>(2,545)</b>	<b>5,434</b>	<b>2,889</b>

# Bromsgrove District Council

## Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 31 March 2018

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Authorities raise taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

### Notes

	2017/18			2016/17		
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net
Enabling of the Authority	7,882	(2,753)	5,129	7,325	(2,885)	4,440
Help me be financially independent	17,053	(16,851)	202	17,409	(17,156)	253
Help me find somewhere to live in my locality	1,332	(514)	818	1,149	(245)	904
Help me run a successful business	816	(1,474)	(658)	741	(1,373)	(632)
Help me to live my life independently	1,079	(297)	782	805	(299)	506
Keep my place safe and looking good	13,040	(6,861)	6,179	12,409	(6,791)	5,618
Provide good things for me to see do and visit	1,989	(220)	1,769	2,281	(192)	2,089
<b>Cost of Services</b>	<b>43,191</b>	<b>(28,970)</b>	<b>14,221</b>	<b>42,119</b>	<b>(28,941)</b>	<b>13,178</b>
Other Operating Expenditure	835	0	835	577	0	577
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	915	(2)	913	1,204	(19)	1,185
Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income and Expenditure	8,088	(23,839)	(15,751)	9,424	(23,211)	(13,787)
<b>(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services</b>			<b>218</b>			<b>1,153</b>
Surplus or deficit on revaluation of Property, Plant and Equipment			(488)			(506)
Recognition of Long Term Debtors which in previous years were treated as revenue expenditure charged to capital under statute			(98)			0
Impairments of prior year Assets Under Construction			0			33
Remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability/(asset)			(5,535)			6,244
<b>Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure</b>			<b>(6,121)</b>			<b>5,771</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure</b>			<b>(5,903)</b>			<b>6,924</b>



# Bromsgrove District Council

Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 31 March 2018

## Notes

	2017/18			2016/17		
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net
Enabling of the Authority	7,882	(2,753)	5,129	7,325	(2,885)	4,440
Help me be financially independent	17,053	(16,851)	202	17,409	(17,156)	253
Help me find somewhere to live in my locality	1,332	(514)	818	1,149	(245)	904
Help me run a successful business	816	(1,474)	(658)	741	(1,373)	(632)
Help me to live my life independently	1,079	(297)	782	805	(299)	506
Keep my place safe and Looking Good	13,040	(6,861)	6,179	12,409	(6,791)	5,618
Provide Good things for me to see do and visit	1,306	(220)	1,086	2,432	(192)	2,240
<b>Cost of Services</b>	<b>42,508</b>	<b>(28,970)</b>	<b>13,538</b>	<b>42,270</b>	<b>(28,941)</b>	<b>13,329</b>
Other Operating Expenditure	835	0	835	577	0	577
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	915	(2)	913	1,204	(19)	1,185
Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income and Expenditure	8,088	(23,839)	(15,751)	9,424	(23,211)	(13,787)
Associates and Joint Ventures accounted for on an equity basis			171			(38)
<b>(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services</b>			<b>(294)</b>			<b>1,266</b>
Surplus or deficit on revaluation of Property, Plant and Equipment			(488)			(506)
Recognition of Long Term Debtors which in previous years were treated as revenue expenditure charged to capital under statute			(98)			
Impairments of prior year Assets Under Construction						33
Remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability/(asset)			(5,535)			6,244
<b>Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure</b>			<b>(6,121)</b>			<b>5,771</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure</b>			<b>(6,415)</b>			<b>7,037</b>

## Bromsgrove District Council

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2018

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Council. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the authority may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use (for example the Capital Receipts Reserve that may only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt). The second category of reserves is those that the authority is not able to use to provide services. This category of reserves includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve), where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets are sold; and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement line 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

	Notes	31st March 2018 £000	31st March 2017 £000
Property, Plant & Equipment	<b>14/14a</b>	44,296	38,713
Intangible Assets	<b>16</b>	460	565
Long Term Debtors	<b>19</b>	310	210
<b>Long Term Assets</b>		<b>45,066</b>	<b>39,488</b>
Inventories	<b>18</b>	208	213
Short Term Debtors	<b>19</b>	7,569	6,397
Cash and Cash Equivalents	<b>20</b>	314	303
Assets held for sale	<b>21</b>	1,033	1,033
<b>Current Assets</b>		<b>9,124</b>	<b>7,946</b>
Bank Overdraft	<b>21</b>	(306)	0
Short Term Borrowing	<b>17</b>	(13,022)	(4,022)
Short Term Creditors	<b>22</b>	(6,843)	(6,858)
Provisions	<b>23</b>	(1,553)	(948)
Revenue Grants received in advance	<b>32</b>	(32)	(18)
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		<b>(21,756)</b>	<b>(11,846)</b>
Other Long Term Liabilities	<b>36</b>	(34,106)	(42,470)
Capital Grants received in advance	<b>32</b>	(872)	(1,566)
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>		<b>(34,978)</b>	<b>(44,036)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>(2,545)</b>	<b>(8,448)</b>
Usable reserves	<b>24</b>	8,842	8,469
Unusable Reserves	<b>25</b>	(11,387)	(16,917)
<b>Total Reserves</b>		<b>(2,545)</b>	<b>(8,448)</b>

## Bromsgrove District Council

Group Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2018

	Notes	31st March 2018	31st March 2017
		£000	£000
Property, Plant & Equipment	<b>14/14a</b>	49,730	43,635
Investment Property	<b>16</b>	0	0
Intangible Assets	<b>16</b>	460	565
Long Term Debtors	<b>19</b>	310	210
<b>Long Term Assets</b>		<b>50,500</b>	<b>44,410</b>
Inventories	<b>18</b>	208	213
Short Term Debtors	<b>19</b>	7,569	6,397
Cash and Cash Equivalents	<b>20</b>	314	303
Assets held for sale	<b>21</b>	1,033	1,033
<b>Current Assets</b>		<b>9,124</b>	<b>7,946</b>
Short Term Borrowing	<b>17</b>	(13,022)	(4,022)
Short Term Creditors	<b>22</b>	(6,843)	(6,858)
Provisions	<b>23</b>	(1,553)	(948)
Revenue Grants received in advance	<b>32</b>	(32)	(18)
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		<b>(21,756)</b>	<b>(11,846)</b>
Other Long Term Liabilities	<b>36</b>	(34,106)	(42,470)
Capital Grants received in advance	<b>32</b>	(872)	(1,566)
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>		<b>(34,978)</b>	<b>(44,036)</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>2,890</b>	<b>(3,526)</b>
Usable reserves	<b>24</b>	8,842	8,469
Unusable Reserves	<b>25</b>	(5,953)	(11,995)
<b>Total Reserves</b>		<b>2,890</b>	<b>(3,526)</b>

## Bromsgrove District Council

### Cash Flow Statement at 31 March 2018

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the authority during the reporting period. The statement shows how the authority generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities. The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the authority are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the authority. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the authority's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the authority.

	Notes	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
<b>Net surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services</b>		(218)	(1,153)
Adjustment to surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements	<b>26</b>	(1,388)	1,759
Adjustments for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities	<b>26</b>	(3,044)	(1,706)
<b>Net cash flows from Operating Activities</b>		<b>(4,650)</b>	<b>(1,100)</b>
<b>Investing Activities</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>(5,276)</b>	<b>(4,291)</b>
<b>Financing Activities</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>9,631</b>	<b>4,303</b>
<b>Net increase or (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>(295)</b>	<b>(1,088)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<b>303</b>	<b>1,391</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>303</b>

## Bromsgrove District Council

Group Cash Flow Statement at 31 March 2018

	Notes	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
<b>Net surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services</b>		294	(1,266)
Adjustment to surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements	26	(1,900)	1,872
Adjustments for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities	26	(3,044)	(1,706)
<b>Net cash flows from Operating Activities</b>		<b>(4,650)</b>	<b>(1,100)</b>
<b>Investing Activities</b>	27	<b>(5,276)</b>	<b>(4,291)</b>
<b>Financing Activities</b>	28	<b>9,631</b>	<b>4,303</b>
<b>Net increase or (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>(295)</b>	<b>(1,088)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		303	1,391
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>303</b>

**Bromsgrove District Council**  
**Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2018**

**Notes to the Core Financial Statements**



## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### 1 Accounting Policies

#### General Principles

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2017/18 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2018. The statements are prepared on a general principle of a going concern and that the functions and services provided by the Council will continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2017 which require them to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

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

#### Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

##### I) Accruals of Income and Expenditure

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. In particular:

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Authority transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Authority.
- Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the Authority can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Authority.
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption, they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet.
- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made.
- Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract.
- Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.
- The council has set a de-Minimis level for accruals of creditors and debtors that are calculated manually in order to avoid additional time and cost in estimating and recording accruals.

This level is reviewed annually and is currently set at £5,000. If a payment or receipt is split across different cost centres, the limit is for the whole payment or receipt.

Exceptions to this de Minimis rule where accruals are made in full are:

- Qualifying expenditure upon which income from government grant or other third parties is dependent and associated grant income, where the grant funding would be lost if the accrual is not made.
  - Invoices for substantially the same supply or service that are chargeable to the same service area are aggregated where their total is over £500.
  - Accruals posted based on orders that have been goods receipted on the E-Financials system.
- For capital projects work in progress schedules will be obtained and accruals will be processed on this basis.

##### ii) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in three months or less from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value. In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Authority's cash management.



## iii) **Prior Period Adjustments, Changes in Accounting Policies and Estimates and Errors**

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

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

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

## iv) **Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets**

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

- depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service
- revaluation and impairment losses on assets used by the service where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off
- amortisation of intangible non-current assets attributable to the service.

The Authority is not required to raise council tax to fund depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses or amortisation. However, it is required to make an annual contribution from revenue towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement. This is the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisations are therefore replaced by the MRP contribution in the General Fund Balance, by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

## v) **Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates (England)**

Billing authorities act as agents, collecting council tax and non-domestic rates (NDR) on behalf of the major preceptors (including government for NDR) and, as principals, collecting council tax and NDR for themselves. Billing authorities are required by statute to maintain a separate fund (i.e. the Collection Fund) for the collection and distribution of amounts due in respect of council tax and NDR. Under the legislative framework for the Collection Fund, billing authorities, major preceptors and central government share proportionately the risks and rewards that the amount of council tax and NDR collected could be less or more than predicted.

### **Accounting for Council Tax and NDR**

The council tax and NDR income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the authority's share of accrued income for the year. However, regulations determine the amount of council tax and NDR that must be included in the authority's General Fund. Therefore, the difference between the income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Fund is taken to the Collection Fund Adjustment Account and included as a reconciling item in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The Balance Sheet includes the authority's share of the end of year balances in respect of council tax and NDR relating to arrears, impairment allowances for doubtful debts, overpayments and prepayments and appeals.

## vi) **Employee Benefits Benefits Payable During Employment**

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



## Termination benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Authority to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy in exchange for those benefits and are charged on an accruals basis to the appropriate service or, where applicable to the Non Distributed Costs line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement at the earlier of when the Authority can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the Authority recognises costs for a restructuring.

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

## Post Employment Benefits

Employees of the Authority are members of the below pension scheme:

- The Local Government Pensions Scheme, administered by Worcestershire County Council known as the Worcestershire Pension Fund (WPF)

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

## The Local Government Pension Scheme

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

- The liabilities of the WPF attributable to the Authority are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc., and projections of projected earnings for current employees.
- The liabilities of the WPF attributable to the Authority are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc., and projections of projected earnings for current employees.
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate of 2.6% (based on the indicative rate of return on a basket of high quality corporate bonds, government gilts and other factors).
- The assets of WPF attributable to the Authority are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:
  - quoted securities – current bid price
  - unquoted securities – professional estimate
  - unitised securities – current bid price
  - property – market value.

The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into the following components:

- **Service cost comprising:**
  - current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year – allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked
  - past service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years – debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Non Distributed Costs
  - net interest on the net defined benefit liability i.e. net interest expense for the authority – the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – this is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability at the beginning of the period – taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.
- **Remeasurements comprising:**
  - the return on plan assets – excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability – charged to the
  - actuarial gains and losses – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure
- Contributions paid to the WPF – cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

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

## Discretionary Benefits

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

## vii) Events After the Reporting Period

Events after the balance sheet date are those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Statement of Accounts are authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified:

- those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period – the Statement of Accounts are adjusted to reflect such events
- those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period – the Statement of Accounts are not adjusted to reflect such events, but where a category of events would have a material effect, disclosure is made in the notes of the nature of the events and their estimated financial effect.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Statement of Accounts.

## xviii) Fair Value Measurement

The authority measures some of its non-financial assets such as surplus assets and investment properties and some of its financial instruments such as equity shareholdings [other financial instruments as applicable] at fair value at each reporting date. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

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

The authority measures the fair value of an asset or liability using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest. When measuring the fair value of a non-financial asset, the authority takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use. The authority uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data is available, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs.

Inputs to the valuation techniques in respect of assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the authority's financial statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy, as follows:

□

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

## ix) Financial Instruments

### Financial Liabilities

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

For most of the borrowings that the Authority has, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable (plus accrued interest); and interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount payable for the year according to the loan agreement.

### Financial Assets

Financial assets are classified into two types:

- loans and receivables – assets that have fixed or determinable payments but are not quoted in an active market
- available-for-sale assets – assets that have a quoted market price and/or do not have fixed or determinable payments.

### Loans and Receivables

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

Where assets are identified as impaired because of a likelihood arising from a past event that payments due under the contract will not be made, the asset is written down and a charge made to the relevant service (for receivables specific to that service) or the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The impairment loss is measured as the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the revised future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate.

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

### **Available-for-sale assets**

Available-for-sale assets are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Authority becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured and carried at fair value. Where the asset has fixed or determinable payments, annual credits to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest receivable are based on the amortised cost of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. Where there are no fixed or determinable payments, income (e.g., dividends) is credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when it becomes receivable by the Authority.

Assets are maintained in the Balance Sheet at fair value. Values are based on the following principles:

- instruments with quoted market prices – the market price
- other instruments with fixed and determinable payments – discounted cash flow analysis
- equity shares with no quoted market prices – independent appraisal of company valuations.

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

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

Changes in fair value are balanced by an entry in the Available-for-Sale Reserve and the gain/loss is recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on Revaluation of Available-for-Sale Financial Assets. The exception is where impairment losses have been incurred – these are debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, along with any net gain or loss for the asset accumulated in the Available-for-Sale Reserve.

Where assets are identified as impaired because of a likelihood arising from a past event that payments due under the contract will not be made (fixed or determinable payments) or fair value falls below cost, the asset is written down and a charge made to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. If the asset has fixed or determinable payments, the impairment loss is measured as the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the revised future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. Otherwise, the impairment loss is measured as any shortfall of fair value against the acquisition cost of the instrument (net of any principal repayment and amortisation).

Any gains and losses that arise on the derecognition of the asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, along with any accumulated gains or losses previously recognised in the Available-for-Sale Reserve.

Where fair value cannot be measured reliably, the instrument is carried at cost (less any impairment losses).

### **Government Grants and Contributions**

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third party contributions and donations are recognised as due to the Authority when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the Authority will comply with the conditions attached to the payments, and
- the grants or contributions will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the Authority are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset acquired using the grant or contribution are required to be consumed by the recipient as specified, or future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the transferor.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line (attributable revenue grants and contributions) or Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income (non-ring-fenced revenue grants and all capital grants) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where capital grants are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital Grants Unapplied reserve. Where it has been applied, it is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

## **xi) Intangible Assets**

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

Internally generated assets are capitalised where it is demonstrable that the project is technically feasible and is intended to be completed (with adequate resources being available) and the Authority will be able to generate future economic benefits or deliver service potential by being able to sell or use the asset. Expenditure is capitalised where it can be measured reliably as attributable to the asset and is restricted to that incurred during the development phase (research expenditure cannot be capitalised).

Expenditure on the development of websites is not capitalised if the website is solely or primarily intended to promote or advertise the Authority's goods or services.

Intangible assets are measured initially at cost. Amounts are only revalued where the fair value of the assets held by the Authority can be determined by reference to an active market. In practice, no intangible asset held by the Authority meets this criterion, and they are therefore carried at amortised cost. The depreciable amount of an intangible asset is amortised over its useful life to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. An asset is tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset might be impaired – any losses recognised are posted to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or abandonment of an intangible asset is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where expenditure on intangible assets qualifies as capital expenditure for statutory purposes, amortisation, impairment losses and disposal gains and losses are not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and (for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000) the Capital Receipts Reserve.

## **xii) Interests in Companies and Other Entities**

The Authority has material interests in companies and other entities that have the nature of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures and require it to prepare group accounts. In the Authority's own single-entity accounts, the interests in companies and other entities are recorded as financial assets at cost, less any provision for losses.

## **xiii) Inventories and Long Term Contracts**

Inventories are included in the Balance Sheet at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The cost of inventories is assigned using the weighted average costing formula.

Long term contracts are accounted for on the basis of charging the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services with the value of works and services received under the contract during the financial year.

## **xiv) Joint Operations**

Joint operations are arrangements where the parties that have joint control of the arrangement have rights to the assets and obligations for the liabilities relating to the arrangement. The activities undertaken by the Authority in conjunction with other joint operators involve the use of the assets and resources of those joint operators. In relation to its interest in a joint operation, the Authority as a joint operator recognises:

- its assets, including its share of any assets held jointly
- its liabilities, including its share of any liabilities incurred jointly
- its revenue from the sale of its share of the output arising from the joint operation
- its share of the revenue from the sale of the output by the joint operation
- its expenses, including its share of any expenses incurred jointly.

## **xv) Leases**

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

Where a lease covers both land and buildings, the land and buildings elements are considered separately for classification.

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

## **The Authority as Lessee Finance Leases**

Property, plant and equipment held under finance leases are recognised on the Balance Sheet at the commencement of the lease at its fair value measured at the lease's inception (or the present value of the minimum lease payments, if lower). The asset recognised is matched by a liability for the obligation to pay the lessor. Initial direct costs of the Authority are added to the carrying amount of the asset. Premiums paid on entry into a lease are applied to writing down the lease liability. Contingent rents are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Lease payments are apportioned between:

- a charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property, plant or equipment – applied to write down the lease liability, and
- a finance income (credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement).

Property, Plant and Equipment recognised under finance leases is accounted for using the policies applied generally to such assets, subject to depreciation being charged over the lease term if this is shorter than the asset's estimated useful life (where ownership of the asset does not transfer to the authority at the end of the lease period).

The Authority is not required to raise council tax to cover depreciation or revaluation and impairment losses arising on leased assets. Instead, a prudent annual contribution is made from revenue funds towards the deemed capital investment in accordance with statutory requirements. Depreciation and revaluation and impairment losses are therefore substituted by a revenue contribution in the General Fund Balance, by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

## **Operating Leases**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense of the services benefitting from use of the leased property, plant or equipment. Charges are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g., there is a rent-free period at the commencement of the lease).

## **The Authority as Lessor Finance Leases**

Where the Authority grants a finance lease over a property or an item of plant or equipment, the relevant asset is written out of the Balance Sheet as a disposal. At the commencement of the lease, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet (whether Property, Plant and Equipment or Assets Held for Sale) is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. A gain, representing the Authority's net investment in the lease, is credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal), matched by a lease (long-term debtor) asset in the Balance Sheet.

Lease rentals receivable are apportioned between:

- a charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property – applied to write down the lease debtor (together with any premiums received), and
- finance income (credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement).

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

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

## **Operating Leases**

Where the Authority grants an operating lease over a property or an item of plant or equipment, the asset is retained in the Balance Sheet. Rental income is credited to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Credits are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g., there is a premium paid at the commencement of the lease). Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging the lease are added to the carrying amount of the relevant asset and charged as an expense over the lease term on the same basis as rental income.

## xvii) **Materiality**

Materiality is an expression of the relative significance or importance of a particular matter in the context of the financial statements as a whole. A matter is material if its omission would reasonably influence the reader of the accounts. Notes are only included where items are considered to be material by value or nature.

## xviii) **Overheads and Support Services**

In the Financial Statements overheads are reported under the Strategic Purpose where they are managed which is usually Enabling the Authority.

## xix) **Property, Plant and Equipment**

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes and that are expected to be used during more than one financial year are classified as Property, Plant and Equipment.

### **Recognition**

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

### **Measurement**

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

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

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

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

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

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

- infrastructure, community assets and assets under construction – depreciated historical cost
- dwellings – current value, determined using the basis of existing use value for social housing (EUV-SH)
- council offices - current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value - EUV), except for a few offices that are situated close to the council's housing properties, where there is no market for office accommodation and that are measured at depreciated replacement cost (instant build) as an estimate of current value.
- surplus assets - the current value measurement base is fair value, estimated at highest and best use from a market participant's perspective
- all other assets – current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value – EUV)

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

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

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at current value are revalued sufficiently regularly to ensure that their carrying amount is not materially different from their fair value at the year-end, but as a minimum every five years. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. Exceptionally, gains might be credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement where they arise from the reversal of a loss previously charged to a service.

Where decreases in value are identified, they are accounted for by:

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

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

## **Impairment**

Assets are assessed at each year-end as to whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. Where indications exist and any possible differences are estimated to be material, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated and, where this is less than the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment loss is recognised for the shortfall.

Where impairment losses are identified, they are accounted for by:

- where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains)
- where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.
- Where an impairment loss is reversed subsequently, the reversal is credited to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, up to the amount of the original loss, adjusted for depreciation that would have been charged if the loss had not been recognised.

## **Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided for on all Property, Plant and Equipment assets by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. An exception is made for assets without a determinable finite useful life (i.e., freehold land and certain Community Assets) and assets that are not yet available for use (i.e., assets under construction).

Depreciation is calculated on the following bases:

- dwellings and other buildings – straight-line allocation over the useful life of the property as estimated by the valuer
- vehicles, plant and equipment – a percentage of the value of each class of assets in the Balance Sheet, as advised by a suitably qualified officer
- infrastructure – straight-line allocation over 25 years.

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

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

## **Disposals and Non-Current Assets Held for Sale**

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than its continuing use, it is reclassified as an Asset Held for Sale. The asset is revalued immediately before reclassification and then carried at the lower of this amount and fair value less costs to sell.

Where there is a subsequent decrease to fair value less costs to sell, the loss is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure Line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Gains in fair value are only recognised up to the amount of any losses previously recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services. Depreciation is not charged on Assets Held for Sale.

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

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

Amounts received for a disposal in excess of £10,000 are categorised as capital receipts. Receipts are appropriated to the Reserve from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

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



**xx) Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets**  
**Provisions**

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Authority a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. For instance, the Authority may be involved in a court case that could eventually result in the making of a settlement or the payment of compensation.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year that the authority becomes aware of the obligation, and are measured at the best estimate at the balance sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties.

When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year – where it becomes less than probable that a transfer of economic benefits will now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made), the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service.

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

**Contingent Liabilities**

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

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts.

**Contingent Assets**

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the Authority a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Authority.

Contingent assets are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts where it is probable that there will be an inflow of economic benefits or service potential.

**xxi) Reserves**

The Authority sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by appropriating amounts out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to score against the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The reserve is then appropriated back into the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement so that there is no net charge against council tax for the expenditure.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for non-current assets, financial instruments, retirement and employee benefits and do not represent usable resources for the Authority – these reserves are explained in the relevant policies.

**xxii) Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute**

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but that does not result in the creation of a non-current asset has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year. Where the Authority has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer in the Movement in Reserves Statement from the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the amounts charged so that there is no impact on the level of council tax.



**xxiii) Shared Services**

Bromsgrove District Council provides the hosting for a number of shared service arrangements with Redditch Borough Council and Wyre Forest District Council. A number of other shared services are hosted by Redditch Borough Council (including Worcestershire Regulatory Services which is a Jointly Controlled Operation), Worcester City Council and Wyre Forest District Council.

Each arrangement is accounted for within the records of Bromsgrove District Council with a monitoring report prepared for the partner authority on a monthly basis for consideration of the operational costs together with an annual statement of assets and liabilities extracted from the accounts of Bromsgrove District Council. There is a responsibility for each partner Council to account for their share of the arrangement within their statement of accounts.

When entering into shared services with Redditch Borough Council all capital assets that are purchased are financed by each authority separately and accounted for on their own Balance Sheet. Any assets purchased prior to the start of the shared service are not included in the shared service; the costs associated with this remain on the accounts of the Authority that purchased the asset only.

The Management team is shared across both authorities as well as other services. Cross-charging occurs where a resource is used by the other Authority where there is not a formal shared service in place.

Each Authority pays a fair share of services which are shared, in line with the Business Case; all direct expenditure is shared on this basis, with income staying with the home Authority. Where a cost is only in relation to one Authority, this falls outside the Business Case and the Authority that gains the benefit for this is fully charged.

**xxiv) Value Added Tax (VAT)**

VAT payable is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from HM Revenue and Customs. VAT receivable is excluded from income.

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 2 Accounting Standards That Have Been Issued but Have Not Yet Been Adopted

The code requires that the Council disclose information relating to the impact of an accounting change that will be required by a new standard that has been issued but not yet adopted. These amendments are listed below; it is expected that these will have no material impact on the Statement of Accounts.

**IFRS 9** Financial Instruments, which introduces extensive changes to the classification and measurement of financial assets, and a new "expected credit loss" model for impairing financial assets. The impact will be to reclassify assets currently classified as loans and receivables, and available for sale to amortised cost and fair value through other comprehensive income respectively based on the contractual cash flows and business model for holding the assets. There are not expected to be any changes in the measurement of financial assets. An assessment of the Council's financial assets does not anticipate any impairment.

**IFRS 15** Revenue from Contracts with Customers presents new requirements for the recognition of revenue, based on a control-based revenue recognition model. The Council does not have any material revenue streams within the scope of the new standard.

**IAS 7** Statement of Cash Flows (Disclosure Initiative) will potentially require some additional analysis of Cash Flows from Financing Activities in future years. If the standard had applied in 2017/18 there would be no additional disclosure because the Council does not have activities which would require additional disclosure.

**IAS 12** Income Taxes (Recognition of Deferred tax Assets for Unrealised Losses) applies to deferred tax assets related to debt instruments measured at fair value. Neither of the Council's subsidiary companies in the Group Accounts has such debt instruments.

### Note 3 Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies set out in Note 1, the Authority has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events. The critical judgements made in the Statement of Accounts are:

There is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government. However, the Authority has determined that this uncertainty is not yet sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the Authority might be impaired as a result of a need to close facilities and reduce levels of service provision. The Council holds earmarked reserves of £3,405k and General Fund Balances of £4,789k.

The Council has determined that the Worcestershire Regulatory Services Shared Service meets the definition of a Jointly Controlled Operation. The Council has therefore accounted for its share of the Joint Committee's assets and liabilities and income and expenditure as documented in the Legal Agreement.

The Council has determined that a Group Accounting relationship exists with Bromsgrove Arts Development Trust as it has been identified that the Council is able to appoint the majority of the Board responsible for governing this Trust. Where material the Group position is disclosed on the face of the applicable Core Statements. Further information is disclosed in note 15.

The Council has made a provision against the potential cost of business rates appeals arising from the 2010 rating list based on indicative information from Analyse Local informed by data from the Valuation Office. In previous years a 50% provision was made for appeals which were considered speculative but in 2017/18 a full provision at 100% of the Analyse Local has been made on the basis that the speculative appeals would now have been largely declined or withdrawn. In addition, a provision has been made for appeals against the 2017 rating list. There was insufficient appeal data to inform the provision calculation so the Council has provided for appeals based on 4.7% of the net rate debit in line with the Government assumption when setting the rate multiplier for 2017/18. Further information on these appeals is provided in note 23.

# Agenda Item 15

The Council has determined that it does not hold any assets solely for income or capital appreciation and therefore does not hold any investment properties.

## Bromsgrove District Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

#### Note 4 Assumptions made about the future and other major sources of estimation uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Authority about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the Authority's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2018 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if Actual Results Differ from Assumptions
Property, Plant and Equipment	Assets are depreciated over useful lives that are dependent on assumptions about the level of repairs and maintenance that will be incurred in relation to individual assets. The current economic climate makes it uncertain that the Council will be able to sustain its current spending on repairs and maintenance, bringing into doubt the useful lives assigned to assets.	If the useful life of assets are reduced, depreciation increases and the carrying amount of the assets falls. It is estimated that the annual depreciation charge for PPE would increase by £251k for every year that useful lives had to be reduced.
Pensions Liability	Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Council with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.	The effects on the net pension liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured. For instance, a 0.1% increase in the discount rate would result in a decrease in the pension liability of £3,598k. Further sensitivity analysis can be seen in the defined benefit pension scheme note.
Bad Debt Provisions	As at 31 March 2018 the Council had sundry debtor balances of £705k . Provisions for bad debts are made according to the age of the debt and past experience and a provision of £29k is in place in respect of these balances.	If recoverability of these balances were to fall the amount set aside as a provision for bad debts would have to increase. For example, if recoverability of all ages of debt fell by 10% an additional £13k would have to be set aside.
Provision for Business Rates Appeals	The Council has made a provision against the potential cost of business rates appeals arising from the 2010 rating list based on indicative information from Analyse Local informed by data from the Valuation Office. In addition, a provision has been made for appeals against the 2017 rating list. There was insufficient appeal data to inform the provision calculation so the Council has provided for appeals based on 4.7% of the net rate debit in line with the Government assumption when setting the rate multiplier for 2017/18.	Should the success rate of appeals increase the provision would need to increase accordingly. A 10% increase in the cost of successful appeals would increase Councils share of the provision required by £130k. The provision only covers appeals lodged to date. It is not possible to quantify appeals that have not yet been lodged with the Valuation Office so there is a risk that national and local appeals may have a future impact on the accounts.

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 5 Material Items of Income and Expense

The following three material items have had an impact on the 2017/18 Financial Statements:-

Property, Plant and Equipment have increased from £38,713k to £44,297k and this mainly relates to the construction of the new Leisure Centre in School Drive.

In April 2017 the Council made an advanced payment to Worcestershire Pension Fund for the deficit payments due 2017/18-2019/20 and 90% of the expected pension contributions for current employees for the same period. The total payment was £6,591k compared with a cost of £7,048k if the payments had been made monthly. After allowing for estimated interest costs (£46k) the net savings are estimated at £411k over the 3 years.

There has been a reduction in the pension deficit reducing from £42,470k to £38,455k. Note 36 on page 70 provides a detailed analysis of the pension changes but the main reasons for the change are actuarial gains from changes in financial assumptions. The pension liability is reported at £34,106k, £4,349k lower than the deficit and this reflects the 2018/19 and 2019/20 advance payment of pension contributions.

### Note 6 Events after the Reporting Period

There are no material events after the reporting period.

# Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## Note 7 Expenditure and Funding Analysis For the current and comparative year

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources (government grants, rents, council tax and business rates) by local authorities in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the Council's strategic purposes.

2017/18			Strategic Purpose	2016/17		
Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund Balances	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
£000	£000	£000		£000	£000	£000
5,699	570	5,129	Enabling of the Authority	5,250	810	4,440
135	(67)	202	Help me be financially independent	507	254	253
557	(261)	818	Help me find somewhere to live in my locality	732	(172)	904
(707)	(49)	(658)	Help me run a successful business	(504)	128	(632)
(46)	(828)	782	Help me to live my life independently	(58)	(564)	506
4,353	(1,826)	6,179	Keep my place safe and looking good	4,273	(1,345)	5,618
965	(804)	1,769	Provide good things for me to see do and visit	970	(1,119)	2,089
10,956	(3,265)	14,221	<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	11,172	(2,006)	13,178
(11,319)	2,684	(14,003)	Other Income and Expenditure	(11,589)	436	(12,025)
(363)	(581)	218	<b>Surplus or Deficit</b>	(417)	(1,570)	1,153
(7,831)			Opening General Fund Balance	(7,414)		
(363)			Less/Plus Surplus or (Deficit) on General Fund Balance in Year	(417)		
(8,194)			Closing General Fund Balance at 31 March	(7,831)		

# Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## Note 7a Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis

This note provides a reconciliation of the main adjustments to Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund to arrive at the amounts in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The relevant transfers between reserves are explained in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Adjustments from General Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement amounts	2017/18				
	Adjustments for Capital Purposes	Net change for the Pensions Adjustments	Other Statutory Adjustments	Other Differences	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Enabling of the Authority	(113)	690	1	(8)	570
Help me be financially independent	(55)	(12)	0	0	(67)
Help me find somewhere to live in my locality	(197)	(64)	0	0	(261)
Help me run a successful business	(49)	0	0	0	(49)
Help me to live my life independently	(828)	0	0	0	(828)
Keep my place safe and looking good	(622)	(1,206)	2	0	(1,826)
Provide good things for me to see do and visit	(795)	(9)	0	0	(804)
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>(2,659)</b>	<b>(601)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>(3,265)</b>
Other Income and Expenditure from the Expenditure and Funding Analysis	3,186	(919)	409	8	<b>2,684</b>
<b>Difference between General Fund surplus or deficit and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>(1,520)</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(581)</b>

Adjustments from General Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement amounts	2016/17				
	Adjustments for Capital Purposes	Net change for the Pensions Adjustments	Other Statutory Adjustments	Other Differences	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Enabling of the Authority	(64)	884	(10)	0	810
Help me be financially independent	277	(22)	(1)	0	254
Help me find somewhere to live in my locality	(139)	(32)	(1)	0	(172)
Help me run a successful business	128	0	0	0	128
Help me to live my life independently	(564)	0	0	0	(564)
Keep my place safe and looking good	(678)	(643)	(25)	0	(1,345)
Provide good things for me to see do and visit	(1,119)	0	0	0	(1,119)
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>(2,157)</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>(37)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2,006)</b>
Other Income and Expenditure from the Expenditure and Funding Analysis	1,287	(1,203)	352	0	<b>436</b>
<b>Difference between General Fund surplus or deficit and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services</b>	<b>(870)</b>	<b>(1,015)</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,570)</b>



## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 7b Segmental Income and Expenditure

Income and expenditure on a segmental basis are analysed below:

2017/18	Revenue from External Customers £000	Revenues from Transactions with Other Operating Segments of the Authority £000	Depreciation and Amortisation £000
Enabling of the Authority	(2,579)	(33)	86
Help me be financially independent	(591)	0	55
Help me find somewhere to live in my locality	(412)	0	121
Help me run a successful business	(1,473)	0	49
Help me to live my life independently	(296)	0	1
Keep my place safe and looking good	(6,825)	0	717
Provide good things for me to see do and visit	(220)	0	302
<b>Total Income Analysed on a Segmental Basis</b>	<b>(12,396)</b>	<b>(33)</b>	<b>1,331</b>

2016/17	Revenue from External Customers £000	Revenues from Transactions with Other Operating Segments of the Authority £000	Depreciation and Amortisation £000
Enabling of the Authority	(2,815)	(253)	152
Help me be financially independent	(340)	0	0
Help me find somewhere to live in my locality	(244)	0	126
Help me run a successful business	(1,374)	0	43
Help me to live my life independently	(299)	0	1
Keep my place safe and looking good	(6,398)	(6)	668
Provide good things for me to see do and visit	(185)	0	689
<b>Total Income Analysed on a Segmental Basis</b>	<b>(11,655)</b>	<b>(259)</b>	<b>1,679</b>

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 8 Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

The authority's expenditure and income are analysed as follows:

<b>Expenditure:</b>	2017/18 £000	Re-stated 2016/17 £000
Employee Benefits Expenses	14,352	13,164
Other Expenditure	27,501	27,382
Depreciation, Amortisation, Impairment	1,331	1,679
Interest Payments	915	1,204
Precepts and Levies	851	805
Gain on the Disposal of Assets	(16)	(228)
<b>Income:</b>	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
Fees, Charges and other service Income	(12,396)	(11,655)
Interest and Investment Income	(2)	(19)
Income for Council tax, non-domestic rates, district rate income	(9,712)	(9,800)
Government grants and Contributions	(22,573)	(21,120)
Internal Recharges	(33)	(259)
<b>(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>1,153</b>

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 9 Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations

This note details the adjustments that are made to the total comprehensive income and expenditure recognised by the authority in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the authority to meet future capital and revenue expenditure. The following sets out a description of the reserves that the adjustments are made against.

#### General Fund Balance

The General Fund is the statutory fund into which all the receipts of an authority are required to be paid and out of which all liabilities of the authority are to be met, except to the extent that statutory rules might provide otherwise. These rules can also specify the financial year in which liabilities and payments should impact upon the General Fund Balance, which is not necessarily in accordance with proper accounting practice. The General Fund Balance therefore summarises the resources that the Council is statutorily empowered to spend on its services or on capital investment (or the deficit of resources that the Council is required to recover) at the end of the financial year.

Usable Reserves			
2017/18	General Fund Balance	Capital Receipts Reserve	Movement in Unusable Reserves
	£000	£000	£000
<b>Adjustments to the Revenue Resources</b>			
<b>Amounts by which income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from revenue for the year calculated in accordance with statutory requirements.</b>			
Pension cost (transferred to (or from) the Pensions Reserve)	1,520	0	(1,520)
Council tax and NDR (transfers to or from the Collection Fund)	(409)	0	409
Holiday pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences reserve)	(4)	0	4
Reversal of entries included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure (these items are charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(118)	0	118
<b>Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources</b>	<b>989</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(989)</b>
<b>Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources</b>			
Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	(141)	141	0
Statutory Provision for the repayment of debt (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(267)	0	267
<b>Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources</b>	<b>(408)</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>267</b>
<b>Adjustments to Capital Resources</b>			
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure	0	(131)	131
<b>Total Adjustments to Capital Resources</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(131)</b>	<b>131</b>
<b>Total Adjustments</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>(591)</b>

Usable Reserves			
2016/17	General Fund Balance	Capital Receipts Reserve	Movement in Unusable Reserves
	£000	£000	£000
<b>Adjustments to the Revenue Resources</b>			
<b>Amounts by which income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from revenue for the year calculated in accordance with statutory requirements.</b>			
Pension cost (transferred to (or from) the Pensions Reserve)	1,015	0	(1,015)
Council tax and NDR (transfers to or from the Collection Fund)	(352)	0	352
Holiday pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences reserve)	37	0	(37)
Reversal of entries included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure (these items are charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	2,044	0	(2,044)
<b>Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources</b>	<b>2,744</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2,744)</b>
<b>Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources</b>			
Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	(647)	647	0
Administrative costs of non-current asset disposals (funded by a contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	9	(9)	0
Statutory Provision for the repayment of debt (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(100)	0	100
Capital expenditure financed from revenue balances (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(436)	0	436
<b>Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources</b>	<b>(1,174)</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>536</b>
<b>Total Adjustments</b>	<b>1,570</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>(2,208)</b>

# Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## Note 10 Movements in Earmarked Reserves

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund balances in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund expenditure in 2017/18

	Balance as at 1 April 2016	Transfers In 2016/17	Transfers Out 2016/17	Balance as at 31 March 2017	Transfers In 2017/18	Transfers Out 2017/18	Balance as at 31 March 2018
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>General Fund:</b>							
Building Control Other	7	0	0	7	0	0	7
Building Control Partnerships	73	16	(45)	44	28	(14)	58
Business Transformation	11	0	0	11	0	0	11
Commercialism	0	50	0	50	0	(9)	41
Community Safety	43	3	(13)	33	0	(3)	30
Community Services	40	0	0	40	0	0	40
Economic Regeneration	5	500	(4)	501	0	0	501
Election Services	112	91	0	203	35	(140)	98
Environmental Services	0	15	0	15	11	(13)	13
Financial Services	821	119	(354)	586	375	(149)	812
Housing Schemes	169	224	(26)	367	119	(36)	450
ICT/Systems	266	159	(203)	222	0	(100)	122
Leisure/Community Safety	379	180	(293)	266	177	(166)	277
Litigation Reserve	248	0	(243)	5	0	0	5
Local Development Framework	142	0	0	142	0	0	142
Local Neighbourhood Partnerships	16	0	0	16	0	0	16
Other	88	23	(12)	99	0	(9)	90
Planning & Regeneration	0	100	0	100	0	(100)	0
Regulatory Services (Partner Share)	13	20	0	33	8	0	41
Replacement Reserve (Inc. Recycling)	590	148	(182)	556	0	(216)	340
Shared Services (Severance Costs)	234	300	(223)	311	0	0	311
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>3,257</b>	<b>1,948</b>	<b>(1,598)</b>	<b>3,607</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>(955)</b>	<b>3,405</b>

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 11 Other Operating Expenditure

	2017/18	2016/17
	£000	£000
Parish council precepts	851	805
(Gains)/losses on the disposal of non current assets	(16)	(228)
<b>Total</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>577</b>

### Note 12 Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

	2017/18	2016/17
	£000	£000
Interest payable and similar charges	23	1
Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset)	892	1,203
Interest receivable and similar income	(2)	(19)
<b>Total</b>	<b>913</b>	<b>1,185</b>

### Note 13 Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income and Expenditure

	2017/18	2016/17
	£000	£000
<b>Income</b>		
Council Tax Income	(8,510)	(8,188)
Non Domestic Rates Income and Expenditure	(1,202)	(1,612)
Non-ring-fenced government grants	(3,136)	(2,942)
Grants to Parishes	0	14
Capital Grants and Contributions	(2,903)	(1,059)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(15,751)</b>	<b>(13,787)</b>

# Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## Note 14 Property, Plant and Equipment

### Current Year

Property, Plant & Equipment (PP&E)									Group Asset £000	Total Group PPE £000
	Land £000	Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment £000	Infrastructure Assets £000	Community Assets £000	PP&E Under Construction £000	Surplus Assets £000	Total PP&E £000		
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>										
Balance as at 1 April 2017	9,420	14,020	12,473	635	832	8,826	1,770	47,976	4,922	52,898
Adjusted opening balance	9,420	14,020	12,473	635	832	8,826	1,770	47,976	4,922	52,898
Additions (Note 34)			1,480	151		4,938		6,569		6,569
Revaluation increases/decreases to Revaluation Reserve	(394)	630						236	512	748
Revaluation increases/decreases to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	(158)	0						(158)		(158)
Derecognition - Disposals		(54)	(436)					(490)		(490)
Derecognition - Other		(436)	(361)					(797)		(797)
Impairments of prior year Assets Under Construction								0		0
Reclassifications & Transfers	400	10,551	2,640	88		(13,679)		0	0	0
<b>Balance as at 31 March 2018</b>	<b>9,268</b>	<b>24,711</b>	<b>15,796</b>	<b>874</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>53,336</b>	<b>5,434</b>	<b>58,770</b>
<b>Depreciation and Impairment</b>										
Balance as at 1 April 2017	0	(791)	(8,112)	(360)	0	0	0	(9,263)	0	(9,263)
Adjustments between cost/value & depreciation/impairment										0
Adjusted opening balance	0	(791)	(8,112)	(360)	0	0	0	(9,263)	0	(9,263)
Depreciation Charge		(337)	(824)	(30)				(1,191)	(133)	(1,324)
Depreciation written out on Revaluation Reserve		252						252	133	385
Depreciation written out on Revaluation taken to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services								0		0
Derecognition - Disposals		2	309					311		311
Derecognition - Other		436	415					851		851
Reclassifications & Transfers								0		0
<b>Balance as at 31 March 2018</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(438)</b>	<b>(8,213)</b>	<b>(390)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(9,041)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(9,041)</b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>										
<b>Balance as at 31 March 2018</b>	<b>9,268</b>	<b>24,273</b>	<b>7,584</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>44,296</b>	<b>5,434</b>	<b>49,730</b>
<b>Balance as at 31 March 2018</b>	<b>9,420</b>	<b>13,229</b>	<b>4,361</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>8,826</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>38,713</b>	<b>4,922</b>	<b>43,635</b>

# Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## Note 14 a Comparative Year

	Property, Plant & Equipment (PP&E)								Group Asset £000	Total Group PPE £000
	Land £000	Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment £000	Infrastructure Assets £000	Community Assets £000	PP&E Under Construction £000	Surplus Assets £000	Total PP&E £000		
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>										
Balance as at 1 April 2017	8,958	13,858	12,048	611	832	3,028	1,750	41,085	5,035	46,120
Adjustments between cost/value & depreciation/impairment	0	(28)	(6)	0	0	0	0	(34)	0	(34)
<b>Adjusted opening balance</b>	<b>8,958</b>	<b>13,830</b>	<b>12,042</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>3,028</b>	<b>1,750</b>	<b>41,051</b>	<b>5,035</b>	<b>46,086</b>
Additions (Note 35)	0	371	1,186	24	0	5,856	0	7,437	0	7,437
Revaluation increases/decreases to Revaluation Reserve	466	20	0		0	0	20	506	(113)	393
Revaluation increases/decreases to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	(4)	70	0	0	0	0	0	66	0	66
Derecognition - Disposals	0	0	(757)	0	0	0	0	(757)	0	(757)
Derecognition - Other	0	(54)	0	0	0	0	0	(54)	0	(54)
Impairment of Prior Year Assets Under Construction						(33)		(33)		(33)
Reclassifications & Transfers	0	(217)	2	0	0	(25)	0	(240)	0	(240)
Reclassified to/from Held for Sale	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other movements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Balance as at 31 March 2018</b>	<b>9,420</b>	<b>14,020</b>	<b>12,473</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>8,826</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>47,976</b>	<b>4,922</b>	<b>52,898</b>
<b>Depreciation and Impairment</b>										
Balance as at 1 April 2017	0	(224)	(8,053)	(331)	0	0	0	(8,608)	0	(8,608)
Adjustments between cost/value & depreciation/impairment	0	28	6	0	0	0	0	34		34
<b>Adjusted opening balance</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(196)</b>	<b>(8,047)</b>	<b>(331)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(8,574)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(8,574)</b>
Depreciation Charge	0	(758)	(802)	(29)	0	0	0	(1,589)	(131)	(1,720)
Depreciation written out on Revaluation Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	131	131
Depreciation written out on Revaluation taken to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	0	142	0	0	0	0	0	142	0	142
Derecognition - Disposals	0	0	737	0	0	0	0	737	0	737
Derecognition - Other	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Reclassifications & Transfers	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	19		19
Eliminated on reclassification to Held for Sale	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
<b>Balance as at 31 March 2018</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(791)</b>	<b>(8,112)</b>	<b>(360)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(9,263)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(9,263)</b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>										
<b>Balance as at 31 March 2018</b>	<b>9,420</b>	<b>13,229</b>	<b>4,361</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>8,826</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>38,713</b>	<b>4,922</b>	<b>43,635</b>
<b>Balance as at 31 March 2017</b>	<b>8,958</b>	<b>13,634</b>	<b>3,995</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>3,028</b>	<b>1,750</b>	<b>32,477</b>	<b>5,035</b>	<b>37,512</b>



## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Depreciation

The following useful lives and depreciation rates have been used in the calculation of depreciation:

- Other Land and Buildings - 8-75 years (Land is not depreciated but Buildings are based on Valuers Assessment)
- Vehicles, Plant and Equipment - 1-25 years
- Infrastructure - 5-20 years

### Capital Commitments

There are no major capital commitments as at the 31st March 2018. At the beginning of the year the Council had a major capital commitment for the construction of the new sports and leisure centre and this has been completed during 2017/18.

### Revaluations

The basis for valuation of the individual classes of assets owned by the Council is explained in the Statement of Accounting Policies. The net book value as at 31 March represents the value of the assets belonging to the Council. The Council carries out a rolling programme that ensures that all Property, Plant and Equipment that is required to be measured at fair value is revalued at least every five years. All valuations were carried out by the Council's valuation provider, Place Partnership Limited. Valuations of land and buildings were carried out in accordance with the methodologies and bases for estimation set out in the professional standards of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Valuations of vehicles, plant, furniture and equipment are based on current prices where there is an active second-hand market or latest list prices adjusted for the condition of the asset.

Valuations of non-current assets carried at current value:

Description	Land £000	Building £000	Surplus Assets £000	Other Asset Classes £000	Total £000
Valued at Historical Cost	0	0	0	8,985	8,985
Valued at current value in:					
2017/18	945	19,717	1,770	0	22,432
2016/17	7,090	885	0	0	7,975
2015/16	1,233	3,668	0	0	4,901
2014/15	0	2,643	0	0	2,643
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,268</b>	<b>26,913</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>8,985</b>	<b>46,936</b>

Other Asset Classes include Vehicles, Plant and Equipment (£4,943k), Infrastructure (£484k), Community Assets (£832k) and Assets Under Construction (£85k).

### Fair Value Hierarchy for Surplus Assets

Details of the authority's surplus assets and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 31 March 2018 and 2017 are as follows:

2017/18 Recurring fair value measurement using:	Quoted Prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1) £000	Other significant observable inputs (Level 2) £000	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) £000	Fair value as at 31st March 2018 £000
Council House		1,770		1,770
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,770</b>

2016/17 Recurring fair value measurement using:	Quoted Prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1) £000	Other significant observable inputs (Level 2) £000	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) £000	Fair value as at 31st March 2017 £000
Council House	0	1,770	0	1,770
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,770</b>

### Transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy

There were no transfers between Levels 1 and 2 during the year.

### Valuation Techniques used to Determine Level 2 and 3 Fair Values for Surplus Assets Significant observable inputs – Level 2

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

### Highest and best use of surplus assets

In estimating the fair value of the authority's surplus assets, the highest and best use of the assets is their current use.

### Valuation Techniques

There has been no change in the valuation techniques used during the year for surplus assets.

### Valuation Process for Surplus Assets

The fair value of the authority's Surplus Assets is measured at £1,770k. All valuations are carried out internally, in accordance with the methodologies and bases for estimation set out in the professional standards of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. The authority's valuation experts work closely with finance officers reporting directly to the chief financial officer on a regular basis regarding all valuation matters.

## Bromsgrove District Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

#### Note 15 Group Accounts

##### 1.1 Nature of the relationship between Bromsgrove District Council and Bromsgrove Arts Development Trust

The Bromsgrove Arts Development Trust was established on 23 April 2003 by Trust Deed, the Trustees have been registered with the Official Custodian of Charities, these include Members of Bromsgrove District Council.

The Council appoints the majority of the Members to this Trust with a representation of 6 of the 8 Trustees. As such this gives them the ability to influence decisions made by this Board. The Council supplies no funding for this Trust which solely holds the building known as the Artrix, it is not responsible for service provision and any assets or liabilities arising there from. As such the figures used for consolidation are based on the property valuation which has been carried out by an independent valuation service provided from Place Partnership Limited.

The Bromsgrove Arts Development Trust asset shown in the Group Balance Sheet (PPE) is the Artrix. This is used in the provision of Arts and Culture for the Community and is not the property of Bromsgrove District Council. It should be noted that although consolidation is being undertaken for this asset, not only does the Council not own it, in the event of a possible sale the Council has no right to a share the proceeds nor can the Council determine whether or not sale of this property should be undertaken.

The Trust is not required to produce accounts by the Charities Commission because it has no actual income or expenditure during the year. The only entry for the Trust would be the depreciation calculated for the building.

There is no goodwill as the group did not arise through a purchase.

##### 1.2 Property, Plant and Equipment

	31/03/2018		31/03/2017	
	BDC £000	Trust £000	BDC £000	Trust £000
Property, Plant & Equipment	44,296	5,434	38,713	4,922

The Property, Plant and Equipment Asset being consolidated within the group accounts relates solely to the Artrix Building held by Bromsgrove Arts Development Trust.

##### 1.3 Reconciliation of Group Movement in Reserves Statement to the Group Balance Sheet

	31/03/2018 £000	31/03/2017 £000
Total Reserves in the Group Movement in Reserves	2,889	(3,526)
Minority interest's share of reserves in subsidiaries	1,811	1,640
Total Reserves in the Group Balance Sheet	4,700	(1,886)

##### 1.4 Usable Reserves

There is no impact on the Council's usable reserves as a result of preparing Group Accounts.

## 1.5 Unusable Reserves

	31/03/2018 £000	31/03/2017 £000
Revaluation Reserve	6,267	5,828
Capital Adjustment Account	20,964	20,301
Pensions Reserve	(38,453)	(42,468)
Collection Fund Adjustment Account	17	(392)
Accumulated Adjustments Account	(183)	(187)
Group Revaluation Reserve	3,338	2,712
Building Reserve	2,096	2,210
<b>Total</b>	<b>(5,954)</b>	<b>(11,996)</b>

## 1.6 Group Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement

The group comprehensive income and expenditure mirrors the single entity accounts with the exception of the following items:-

- depreciation charged in relation to the Artrix Building (£133k) and revaluation adjustment (£683k) within Cultural Services, the recognition of the minority interest in this charge (£171k) and an adjustment of £512k to the surplus/deficit on revaluation of Property, Plant and Equipment.

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 16 Intangible Assets

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

The carrying amount of intangible assets is amortised on a straight-line basis. The amortisation of £140k charged to revenue in the current year was charged to the service area using the software, the largest being IT and Finance who report to the strategic priority Enabling of the Authority.

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

	Other Assets
3 years	Software
5 years	Shared Software with Redditch BC
10 years	Large Projects with longer term benefits

The Movement in Intangible Assets for the Year is as follows:

	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
<b>Balance at start of year:</b>		
· Gross carrying amounts	3,630	3,623
· Accumulated amortisation	(3,065)	(3,259)
<b>Net carrying amount at start of year</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>364</b>
<b>Additions:</b>		
· Purchases	35	291
Derecognition Other	0	(284)
	<b>600</b>	<b>371</b>
Derecognition Other	0	284
Amortisation for the period	(140)	(90)
<b>Net carrying amount at end of year</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>565</b>
<b>Comprising:</b>		
· Gross carrying amounts	3,665	3,630
· Accumulated amortisation	(3,205)	(3,065)
<b>Total</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>565</b>

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 17 Financial Instruments

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

	Long-term		Current	
	31/03/2018 £000	31/03/2017 £000	31/03/2018 £000	31/03/2017 £000
Cash and Cash Equivalents	0	0	8	303
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>303</b>
<b>Debtors</b>				
Loans and receivables	310	210	5,394	4,210
<b>Total Debtors</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>5,394</b>	<b>4,210</b>
<b>Borrowings</b>				
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	0	0	(13,000)	(4,000)
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss	0	0	(22)	(22)
<b>Total borrowings</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(13,022)</b>	<b>(4,022)</b>
<b>Total other long term liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(13,022)</b>	<b>(4,022)</b>
<b>Creditors</b>				
Financial liabilities carried at contract amount	0	0	(4,489)	(5,275)
<b>Total creditors</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(4,489)</b>	<b>(5,275)</b>

#### Soft Loans

	2017/18	2016/17
Opening Soft Loans	<b>114</b>	<b>0</b>
Nominal Value of New Loans Granted During the Period	11	29
The fair value adjustment on initial recognition	(2)	(6)
Loans Repaid During the Period	(12)	0
Reclassification	98	129
The fair value adjustment on reclassification/prior year advances	6	(38)
<b>Nominal value of loans at the end of the period</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>114</b>

The new advances are lifetime loans granted to owner occupiers which will be repaid on the sale of the property. No interest is charged on the loans and a fair value adjustment has been made assuming the loan is repaid after 10 years.

In 2017/18 there has been a review of long term loans which identified that the balance had been understated by £98k. The main reason was that loans in previous years to owner occupiers had not been treated as long term debtors but recorded as revenue expenditure financed by capital under statue.

The reclassifications in 2016/17 consist of lifetime loans granted in 2015/16 (£35k) and two rent-to-buy loans granted in 2002 and 2004 (£94k).

No interest is charged on any of the loans and a fair value adjustment is based on a lifetime loan being repaid after 10 years and rent to buy loans after 25 years.

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 18 Inventories

	Consumable Stores	
	2017/18	2016/17
	£000	£000
<b>Balance outstanding at start of year</b>	213	230
Purchases	549	506
Recognised as an expense in year	(573)	(519)
Written off balances	19	(4)
<b>Balance outstanding at year end</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>213</b>

### Note 19 Debtors

	Long term debtors		Short term debtors	
	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Central Government Bodies	0	0	1,114	1,463
Other Local Authorities	0	0	3,433	2,126
Other entities and individuals	310	210	4,617	4,177
Less bad debt provision	0	0	(1,595)	(1,369)
<b>Total</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>7,569</b>	<b>6,397</b>

Included within the debtors balance are provisions for bad and doubtful debts which reduce the value of the related debtor as per the breakdown below:

	2017/18	2016/17
	£000	£000
General Fund Debtors	29	33
Council Tax	337	183
NNDR	481	391
Housing Benefit	748	762

### Note 20 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period can be reconciled to the related items in the Balance Sheet as follows:

	2017/18	2016/17	2015/16
	£000	£000	£000
Cash and Bank balances	314	303	1,391
Short Term Investments	0	0	0
Short Term Deposits	0	0	0
Bank Overdraft	(306)	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>1,391</b>

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 21 Assets Held for Sale

	Current	
	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
<b>Balance outstanding at start of year</b>	<b>1,033</b>	<b>1,423</b>
Additions	0	0
Assets sold	0	(390)
<b>Balance outstanding at year-end</b>	<b>1,033</b>	<b>1,033</b>

The Council owns land for the future Hanover Street Phase 2 development where a conditional deposit has been received. The deposit is recorded as a receipt in advance.

### Note 22 Creditors

	Short term creditors	
	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
Central government bodies	(1,078)	(703)
Other local authorities	(2,691)	(2,396)
Other Entities and Individuals	(3,074)	(3,759)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(6,843)</b>	<b>(6,858)</b>



## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 23 Provisions

	Balance as at 1 April 2017 £000	Change in provision during year £000	Utilised during year £000	Balance as at 31 March 2018 £000
Business Rates Appeals	(762)	(541)	0	(1,303)
Employee Benefits	(186)	0	3	(183)
Insurance Provision	0	(67)	0	(67)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(948)</b>	<b>(608)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>(1,553)</b>

#### Comparative Year

	Balance as at 1 April 2017 £000	Change in provision during year £000	Utilised during year £000	Balance as at 31 March 2018 £000
Business Rates Appeals	(766)	4	0	(762)
Employee Benefits	(149)	(37)	0	(186)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(915)</b>	<b>(33)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(948)</b>

#### **Business Rates Appeals Provision**

The Council has set aside a provision for any potential liabilities as a result of business rates appeals against rateable value. The Council is responsible for a 40% share of any successful appeals. A provision has been made for all outstanding appeals relating to the rate revaluation undertaken in 2010 and this accounts for almost £800k of the provision. A new rate revelation was implemented from 1st April 2017 but it is too early to calculate a provision on actual appeals received to date. Therefore a judgement has been made to create a provision based on the calculation applied when setting the 2017/18 rate poundage (known as the multiplier) where nationally 4.7% of the net rate yield was set aside for appeals. The 4.7% was informed by appeals from the 2010 rate revaluation.

#### **Insurance Provision**

An insurance provision has been created in 2017/18 to cover the cost of a potential levy from Municipal Mutual Insurance Limited (MMI). MMI previously provided assets, employer and public liability insurance to the Council but is now in administration. The levy represents 25% of the claims.

# Bromsgrove District Council

## Notes to the Financial Statements FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 24 Usable Reserves

	31/03/2018 £000	31/03/2017 £000
General Fund Balances	4,789	4,224
Earmarked Reserves	3,405	3,607
Capital Receipts Reserve	648	638
<b>Total Usable Reserves</b>	<b>8,842</b>	<b>8,469</b>

#### Capital Receipts Reserve

These are receipts from the sale of Council assets, which have not yet been used to finance capital expenditure.

	31/03/2018 £000	31/03/2017 £000
<b>Balance 1 April</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>0</b>
Capital Receipts in year	141	638
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>638</b>
<b>Less:</b>		
Capital Receipts used for financing	(131)	0
<b>Balance 31 March</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>638</b>

Since 1st April 2016 local authorities have had more flexibility in the use of capital receipts. There is greater scope to use the capital receipts to fund upfront costs that will generate ongoing savings and/or transform service delivery. All of the £648k held at 31st March 2018 are available to be used either for financing capital investment or funding projects qualifying for the flexible use.

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 25 Unusable Reserves

	31/03/2018	31/03/2017
	£000	£000
Revaluation Reserve	6,267	5,828
Capital Adjustment Account	20,964	20,301
Pensions Reserve	(38,453)	(42,468)
Collection Fund Adjustment Account	17	(392)
Accumulated Absences Account	(183)	(187)
<b>Total Unusable Reserves</b>	<b>(11,388)</b>	<b>(16,918)</b>

#### Revaluation Reserve

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Authority arising from increases in the value of its Property, Plant and Equipment.

The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains are:

- revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost.
- used in the provision of services and the gains are consumed through depreciation, or disposed of and the gains are realised.

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

	31/03/2018	31/03/2017
	£000	£000
<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	<b>5,828</b>	<b>5,823</b>
Upward revaluation of assets	488	506
Surplus or deficit on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	<b>488</b>	<b>506</b>
Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation	(33)	(485)
Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account	<b>(33)</b>	<b>(485)</b>
Derecognition of Property disposed of	(16)	<b>(16)</b>
<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>6,267</b>	<b>5,828</b>

#### Capital Adjustment Account

The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions. The Account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (with reconciling postings from the Revaluation Reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis). The Account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before 1 April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains.

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

## Capital Adjustment Account

	31/03/2018		31/03/17	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Balance at 1 April</b>		<b>20,301</b>		<b>21,341</b>
<b>Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</b>				
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non current assets	(1,191)		(1,589)	
Revaluation losses on Property, Plant and	(158)		175	
Amortisation of Intangible Assets	(140)		(90)	
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(1,170)		(1,137)	
Amounts of non current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(126)		(410)	
		<b>(2,785)</b>		<b>(3,051)</b>
Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve		33		485
<b>Net written out amount of the cost of non current assets consumed in the year</b>		<b>(2,752)</b>		<b>(2,566)</b>
<b>Capital financing applied in the year:</b>				
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	131		0	
Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that have been applied to capital	2,903		1,059	
Application of grants to capital financing from the Capital Grants Unapplied Account	0		0	
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	267		100	
Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	0		436	
		<b>3,301</b>		<b>1,595</b>
Derecognition of Property disposed of		16		(36)
Reclassification from Fixed Assets to Long Term Debtors		0		(33)
Recognition of Long Term Debtors which in previous years were treated as revenue expenditure charged to capital under statute		98		0
<b>Balance at 31 March</b>		<b>20,964</b>		<b>20,301</b>

## Pensions Reserve

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

	31/03/2018	31/03/2017
	£000	£000
<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	<b>(42,468)</b>	<b>(35,209)</b>
Remeasurements of the net defined benefit liability/(asset)	5,535	(6,244)
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(4,009)	(3,327)
Employers pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	2,489	2,312
<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>(38,453)</b>	<b>(42,468)</b>

## Collection Fund Adjustment Account

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

	31/03/2018	31/03/2017
	£000	£000
<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	<b>(392)</b>	<b>(744)</b>
Amount by which council tax and non-domestic rates income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	409	352
<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>(392)</b>

## Accumulated Absences Account

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

	31/03/2018	31/03/2017
	£000	£000
<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	<b>(187)</b>	<b>(149)</b>
Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	187	149
Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	(183)	(187)
<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>(183)</b>	<b>(187)</b>

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 26 Cash Flow Statement - operating activities

The cash flows from operating activities include the following items

	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
Interest Paid	(2)	1
Interest Received	23	21

	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
<b>Adjustment to surplus or deficit on the provision of services for noncash movements</b>		
Depreciation	1,191	1,589
Impairment & downward valuations	158	(123)
Amortisation	140	90
(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors	(1,207)	(494)
Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	429	(824)
(Increase)/Decrease in Inventories	4	18
Movement in pension liability	(2,829)	1,015
Carrying amount of non-current assets, and non-current assets held for sale, sold or de-recognised	126	410
Other items charged to the net surplus or deficit on provision of services	600	78
<b>Total</b>	<b>(1,388)</b>	<b>1,759</b>

<b>Adjust for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities</b>		
Proceeds from the sale of PP&E, investment property and intangible assets	(141)	(647)
Any other items	(2,903)	(1,059)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(3,044)</b>	<b>(1,706)</b>

**Note 27 Cash Flow From Investing Activities**

	<b>2017/18</b> <b>£000</b>	<b>2016/17</b> <b>£000</b>
Purchase of PP&E, investment property and intangible assets	(7,554)	(6,704)
Purchase of Short Term Investments (not considered to be cash equivalents)	(42,000)	(84,250)
Other Payments for Investing Activities	(83)	(57)
Proceeds from the sale of PP&E, investment property and intangible assets	141	647
Proceeds from Short Term Investments (not considered to be cash equivalents)	42,000	84,250
Other Receipts from Investing Activities	2,220	1,823
<b>Net Cash flows from Investing Activities</b>	<b>(5,276)</b>	<b>(4,291)</b>

**Note 28 Cash flows from Financing Activities**

	<b>2017/18</b> <b>£000</b>	<b>2016/17</b> <b>£000</b>
Cash Receipts from Short and Long Term Borrowing	81,000	4,000
Repayment of Short and Long Term Borrowing	(72,000)	(60)
Other payments for Financing Activities	631	363
<b>Net Cash flows from Financing Activities</b>	<b>9,631</b>	<b>4,303</b>

## Bromsgrove District Council

### Notes to the Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

#### Note 29 Members' Allowances

During the year Members allowances, including Employer's costs totalled £207k (2016/17 £210k) and are as follows:

	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
Basic Allowances	135	135
Special Allowances	62	61
Expenses Inc. Car Allowances	10	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>210</b>

#### Note 30 External Audit Costs

The Council has incurred the following costs relating to the annual audit of the Statement of Accounts, certification of grant claims and other services provided by the Councils external auditors.

	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
Housing Benefit Fee Variation 2015/16	1	0
Fee Variation agreed for 2016/17 External Audit	2	0
Housing Benefit Audit 2017/18	9	0
Fees payable with regard to external audit services carried out by the appointed auditor for the year	49	49
Fees payable in respect of other services provided during the year	0	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>57</b>



## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 31 Employee Remuneration

Since 2010/11 the management team has been shared between Bromsgrove District Council and Redditch Borough Council, with each Council charging 50% of the cost of each post.

		Salary, Fees and Allowances £	Pension Contribution £	Total £	50% share to Redditch £	Revised Total
Officers Remuneration Bromsgrove District Council (50% recharged to Redditch Borough Council):						
Chief Executive	2017/18	130,063	18,729	148,792	74,396	<b>74,396</b>
	2016/17	131,401	15,067	146,468	73,234	<b>73,234</b>
Executive Director of Finance & Resources	2017/18	96,505	13,859	110,364	55,182	<b>55,182</b>
	2016/17	95,906	11,149	107,055	53,527	<b>53,528</b>
Head Of Legal & Democratic Services	2017/18	78,072	11,493	89,565	44,783	<b>44,782</b>
	2016/17	79,365	9,284	88,649	44,325	<b>44,324</b>
Total	2017/18	304,640	44,081	348,721	174,361	<b>174,360</b>
	2016/17	306,672	35,500	342,172	171,086	<b>171,086</b>
Officers Remuneration Redditch Borough Council (50% recharged to Bromsgrove District Council):						
		Salary, Fees and Allowances £	Pension Contribution £	Total £	50% share to Bromsgrove £	Total
Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Leisure, Environmental & Community	2017/18	105,468	15,295	120,763	60,382	<b>60,381</b>
	2016/17	103,856	13,187	117,043	58,522	<b>58,521</b>
Total	2017/18	105,468	15,295	120,763	60,382	<b>60,381</b>
	2016/17	103,856	13,187	117,043	58,522	<b>58,521</b>

### Senior Employees' Remuneration

The Authority's other employees receiving more than £50,000 remuneration for the year (excluding employer's pension contributions) were paid the following amounts:

#### Bromsgrove District Council

	2017/18	2016/17
£50,001 to £55,000	2	4
£55,001 to £60,000	10	9
£60,001 to £65,000	0	0
£65,001 to £70,000	0	0
£70,001 to £75,000	1	0
£75,001 to £80,000	2	3
£80,001 to £85,000	0	0
£85,001 to £90,000	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>

#### Redditch Borough Council

	2017/18	2016/17
£50,001 to £55,000	1	0
£55,001 to £60,000	2	4
£60,001 to £65,000	0	0
£65,001 to £70,000	1	1
£70,001 to £75,000	1	0
£75,001 to £80,000	3	3
£80,001 to £85,000	0	0
£85,001 to £90,000	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>

### Exit Packages

The number of exit packages with total cost per band and total cost of the compulsory and other redundancies are set out in the table below:

Exit package cost band (including special payments)	Number of compulsory redundancies		Number of other departures agreed		Total number of exit packages by cost band		Total cost of exit packages in each band	
	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18
£0-£20,000	0	0	1	3	1	3	3,442	41,785
£20,001 - £40,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
£40,001 - £60,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
£60,001 - £80,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
£80,001 - £100,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
£101,001 - £150,000	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	103,445
£150,001 - £200,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total cost included in bandings</b>							<b>3,442</b>	<b>145,230</b>
Recharge to Redditch Borough Council							(1,721)	(72,615)
<b>Cost to Bromsgrove District Council</b>							<b>1,721</b>	<b>72,615</b>
Exit Packages undertaken by Redditch Borough Council with a shared cost to Bromsgrove District Council							0	164,491
<b>Total cost included in the CIES</b>							<b>1,721</b>	<b>237,106</b>

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 32 Grant Income

The Authority credited the following grants, contributions and donations to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in 2017/18.

Credited to Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
Revenue Support Grant	(114)	(682)
New Homes Bonus	(1,917)	(1,703)
Section 31	(1,105)	(557)
Capital Grants	(2,903)	(1,059)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(6,039)</b>	<b>(4,001)</b>

Credited to Services	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
DCLG Local Council Tax Support Admin Subsidy	(75)	(80)
DCLG New Burdens	(5)	(28)
DCLG NNDR Cost of Collection	(119)	(124)
DCLG Homelessness Grants	(101)	0
Other DCLG Grant Income	0	(37)
DWP Admin Grant	(175)	(190)
DWP Discretionary Housing	(86)	(73)
DWP Housing Benefit Subsidy	(15,861)	(16,330)
DWP Homelessness Grants	(55)	0
Other DWP Grant Income	0	(50)
Heritage Lottery Funding	(30)	(129)
Cabinet Office Grants	(13)	(16)
WCC Council Tax Hardship Fund	(14)	(44)
Sport England Grant	0	(7)
Improvement and Development Agency	0	(11)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(16,534)</b>	<b>(17,119)</b>

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

#### Current Liabilities

Grants Received in Advance (Revenue)	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
DEFRA	(6)	(6)
Improvement and Development Agency - Productivity Expert	(6)	(6)
Other Grants	(20)	(6)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(32)</b>	<b>(18)</b>

#### Long-term Liabilities

Grants Received in Advance (Capital)	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
Disabled Facilities Grants	(176)	(146)
Section 106	(696)	(1,403)
Energy Efficiency	0	(17)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(872)</b>	<b>(1,566)</b>

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 33 Related Parties

The Council is required to disclose material transactions with related parties – bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the council or to be controlled or influenced by the council. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the council might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have secured the ability to limit another party's ability to bargain freely with the Council.

#### Central Government

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

#### Members

Members of the council have direct control over the council's financial and operating policies. The total of members allowances paid in 2017/18 is shown in Note 29. The Council maintains a register of Councillors interests that is regularly updated and available online for public inspection.

During 2017/18, many Bromsgrove District Councillors were also County Councillors and/or elected members of the parish council. The Council also has member representatives on various outside bodies, including Bromsgrove Arts Centre Trust and Bromsgrove District Housing Trust. Members also represent the Council on the Worcestershire Regulatory Shared Service Joint Committee.

The Council has paid a grant to Bromsgrove Arts Centre Trust of £64k (£76k in 2016/17). The Council has entered into a contract with BDHT for the provision of homelessness services and is also part of the Worcestershire wide choice based lettings housing allocations service. Bromsgrove paid to BDHT £307k (£310k in 2016/17) for the homelessness service.

#### Officers

There were no disclosures made by officers in 2017/18.

#### Entities Controlled or Significantly Influenced by the Council

As part of the shared services with Redditch Borough Council, Bromsgrove paid £3,114k (£2,787k in 2016/17) for Redditch hosted services and received £6,210k (£5,552k in 2016/17) for services hosted at Bromsgrove.

The Council has been involved in shared service arrangements for Markets, Economic Development, Land Drainage and Shared Emergency Planning with Wyre Forest District Council. The Council has paid £289k (£310k in 2016/17) to Wyre Forest for services hosted by them.

A shared service arrangement has also been set up between the Council, Redditch Borough and Wyre Forest for the provision of Building Control. Bromsgrove received receipts of £142k (£136k in 2016/17) from Wyre Forest.

For the provision of Car Park Services, the Council paid £185k (£203k in 2016/17) to Wychavon District Council.

Under the Internal Audit Shared Service, the Council paid £54k (£48k in 2016/17) to Worcester City Council.

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In 2017/18 as host of the Worcester Regulatory Shared Service Bromsgrove has received £403k (£372k in 2016/17) from Malvern Hills District Council, £489k (£450k in 2016/17) from Wyre Forest District Council, £726k (£673k in 2016/17) from Wychavon District Council, £529k (£505k in 2016/17) Worcester City Council, and £555k (£535k in 2016/17) from Redditch Borough Council.

At 31 March 2018 the following amounts were owed to the partners of shared service:

	£000
Worcester City Council	124
Redditch Borough Council	108
Wychavon District Council	141
Wyre Forest District Council	118
Malvern Hills District Council	82
Worcestershire County Council	2

At 31 March 2017 the following amounts were owed to the partners of shared service:

	£000
Worcester City Council	45
Redditch Borough Council	48
Wychavon District Council	62
Wyre Forest District Council	61
Malvern Hills District Council	41
Worcestershire County Council	21

At 31 March 2018 the following amounts were owed to Bromsgrove for hosting the shared service:

	£000
Worcester City Council	5
Redditch Borough Council	13
Wychavon District Council	7
Wyre Forest District Council	15
Malvern Hills District Council	9
Worcestershire County Council	286

At 31 March 2017 the following amounts were owed to Bromsgrove for hosting the shared service:

	£000
Worcester City Council	14
Redditch Borough Council	35
Wychavon District Council	14
Wyre Forest District Council	12
Malvern Hills District Council	9
Worcestershire County Council	26

These balances have been included within the relevant debtors and creditors balances.

From June 2016 Worcestershire County Council withdrew from Worcester Regulatory Services.

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 34 Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing

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

Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
Opening Capital Financing Requirement	<b>14,494</b>	<b>7,194</b>
<b>Capital Investment</b>		
Property, Plant and Equipment	6,569	7,437
Intangible Assets	35	291
Long Term Debtor	11	30
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute	1,170	1,137
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,785</b>	<b>8,895</b>
<b>Sources of finance</b>		
Capital receipts	<b>(131)</b>	<b>0</b>
Government grants and other contributions	(2,903)	(1,059)
<b>Sums set aside from revenue:</b>		
Direct revenue contributions:		
General Fund	<b>0</b>	<b>(436)</b>
Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)	(267)	(100)
	<b>(3,301)</b>	<b>(1,595)</b>
Closing Capital Finance Requirement	<b>18,978</b>	<b>14,494</b>
<b>Explanation of movements in year</b>		
Increase in underlying need to borrowing (unsupported by government	4,484	7,299
<b>Increase/(decrease) in Capital Financing Requirement</b>	<b>4,484</b>	<b>7,299</b>

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 35 Leases

#### Operating and Finance Leases

##### Authority as Lessee:

##### *Operating Leases (Authority as lessee)*

The Authority has entered into an agreement for a lease of land to operate a car park at Market Place, Bromsgrove which became operational in 2017/18.

The future minimum lease payments due under operating leases in future years are set out below:

	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
Minimum lease rentals payable:		
No later than 1 year	0	0
Later than 1 year and no later than 5 years	125	125
Later than 5 years	200	250
<b>Total</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>375</b>

##### Authority as Lessor:

##### *Operating Leases (Authority as lessor)*

The Authority, in accordance with its statutory and discretionary responsibilities, leases out property and equipment under operating leases for the following purposes:

- for the provision of community services, such as sports facilities, tourism services and community centres.
- for economic development purposes to provide suitable affordable accommodation for small local businesses.
- any other purposes.

The future minimum lease payments receivable under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

	31/03/2018 £000	31/03/2017 £000
No later than 1 year	61	58
Later than 1 year and no later than 5 years	233	231
Later than 5 years	264	323
<b>Total</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>612</b>

The Authority leases out Land and Buildings on operating leases these include Sanders Park, Victoria Ground and Barnsley Hall Football Pitches. The income for these have been credited to the CIES. The amounts received in 2017/18 were £57k and 2016/17 £40k.

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 36 Defined Benefit Pension Schemes

#### Retirement Benefits

##### Participation in the Local Authority Pension Scheme

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

The Authority participates in two post-employment schemes:

- \* The Local Government Pension Scheme, administered locally by Worcestershire County Council - this is a funded defined benefit final salary scheme, meaning that the Authority and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pension's liabilities with investment assets.
- \* Arrangements for the award of discretionary post-retirement benefits upon early retirement - this is an unfunded defined benefit arrangement, under which liabilities are recognised when awards are made. However there are no investment assets built up to meet these liabilities, and cash has to be generated to meet actual pension payments as they eventually fall due.
- \* The Worcestershire County Council pension scheme is operated under the regulatory framework for the Local Government Pension Scheme and the governance of the scheme is the responsibility of Worcestershire County Council. Policy is determined in accordance with the Public Service Pensions Act 2013.
- \* The principal risks to the Authority of the scheme are the longevity assumptions, statutory changes to the scheme, structural changes to the scheme (i.e. large-scale withdrawals from the scheme), changes to inflation, bond yields and the performance of the equity investments held by the scheme. These are mitigated to a certain extent by the statutory requirements to charge to the General Fund the amounts required by statute as described in the accounting policies note.

##### Discretionary Post-retirement Benefits

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

##### Transactions relating to Post-Employment Benefits

The Authority recognises the cost of retirement benefits in the reported cost of service when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions.

However, the charge the Authority is required to make against council tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post-employment/retirement benefits is reversed out of the General Fund via the Movement on Reserves Statement. The following transactions have been made in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the General Fund balance via the Movement in Reserves Statement during the year:

	Local Government Pension Scheme		Discretionary Benefits	
	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
<b>Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>				
<i>Cost of services:</i>				
<i>Service cost comprising:</i>				
Current service cost	3,110	2,079	0	0
Past service cost	7	45	0	0
(Gain)/loss from settlements	0	0	0	0
<b>Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure:</b>				
Net Interest expense	838	1,137	54	66
<b>Total post-employment benefits charged to the Surplus of Deficit on the Provision of Services</b>	<b>3,955</b>	<b>3,261</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>66</b>

<b>Other post-employment benefits charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>				
<b>Remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability comprising:</b>				
Return on plan assets (excluding the amount included in the net interest expense)	(942)	(17,900)	0	0
Actuarial gains and losses arising on changes in demographic assumptions	0	(1,332)	0	(31)
Actuarial gains and losses arising on changes in financial assumptions	(4,581)	24,860	(48)	382
Other	36	265	0	0
<b>Total post employment benefits charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>	<b>(1,532)</b>	<b>9,154</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>417</b>

Movement in Reserves Statement				
Reversal of net charges made to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services for post-employment benefits in accordance with the Code	(3,955)	(3,261)	(54)	(66)
<b>Actual amount charged against the general fund balance for pensions in the year:</b>				
Employers' contributions payable to scheme	2,363	2,172		
Retirement benefits payable to pensioners	0	0	126	140

### Pensions Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet

The amount included in the Balance Sheet arising from the Authority's obligation in respect of its defined benefit plans is as follows:

	Local Government Pension Scheme		Discretionary Benefits	
	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
Present value of the defined obligation	(111,395)	(111,795)	(2,090)	(2,210)
Fair value of plan assets	75,030	71,535	0	0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>(36,365)</b>	<b>(40,260)</b>	<b>(2,090)</b>	<b>(2,210)</b>
Advance Payment of Pension Contributions	4,349	0	0	0
<b>Net liability arising from the defined benefit obligation</b>	<b>(32,016)</b>	<b>(40,260)</b>	<b>(2,090)</b>	<b>(2,210)</b>

In April 2017 the Council made an advance payment of pension contributions 2017/18 to 2019/20 to the Pension Fund in order to secure a reduction in the amount in each of the three financial years. Greater detail is provided later in this note under the heading 'Impact on the Authority's cash flows'. As at 31st March 2018 the Pension Liability is £4,349k lower than the Pension Reserve representing the advance payment relating to 2018/19 (£2,198k) and 2019/20 (£2,151k).

### Reconciliation of movements in the fair value of scheme assets

	Local Government Pension Scheme		Discretionary Benefits	
	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
Opening fair value of scheme assets	71,535	51,405	0	0
Interest income	1,939	1,820	0	0
Remeasurement gain/(loss):				
the return on plan assets, excluding the amount included in the net interest expense	942	17,900	0	0
Change of Reg Services share of assets	0	588	0	0
The effect of changes in foreign exchange rates				
Contributions from employer	2,363	2,172	126	140
Contributions from employees into the scheme	621	609	0	0
Benefits/transfers paid	(2,334)	(2,924)	(126)	(140)
Administration Expenses	(36)	(35)	0	0
<b>Closing value of scheme assets</b>	<b>75,030</b>	<b>71,535</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### Reconciliation of present value of the scheme liabilities:

	Local Government Pension Scheme		Discretionary Benefits	
	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000
<b>Opening balance at 1 April</b>	(111,795)	(84,683)	(2,210)	(1,933)
Current service cost	(3,110)	(2,079)	0	0
Interest cost	(2,777)	(2,957)	(54)	(66)
Contributions from scheme participants	(621)	(609)	0	0
Remeasurement (gains) and losses:				
Actuarial (gains)/losses from changes in demographic assumptions		1,332	0	31
Actuarial (gains)/losses from changes in financial assumptions	4,581	(20,044)	48	(290)
Experience (gains/losses)		(4,816)	0	(92)
Change of Reg. Services share of liabilities		(818)	0	0
Losses/(gains) on curtailments where relevant	(7)	(45)	0	0
Liabilities assumed on entity combinations				
Benefits/transfers paid	2,334	2,924	126	140
<b>Balance as at 31 March</b>	<b>(111,395)</b>	<b>(111,795)</b>	<b>(2,090)</b>	<b>(2,210)</b>



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## Local government pension scheme assets comprised:

	Fair value of scheme assets	
	31/03/2018	31/03/2017
	£000	£000
<b>Cash and cash equivalents</b>	901	1,638
<b>Equities:</b>		
UK Quoted	300	374
Overseas Quoted	21,458	19,987
PIV- UK Managed	18,383	19,286
PIV- UK Managed (overseas)	24,685	21,396
PIV- Overseas Managed	0	0
<b>Sub-total equity</b>	<b>64,826</b>	<b>61,043</b>
<b>Bonds:</b>		
Corporate	300	236
Overseas Corporate	3,301	3,655
<b>Sub-total bonds</b>	<b>3,601</b>	<b>3,891</b>
<b>Property:</b>		
European Property Fund	1,876	2,010
UK Property Debt	600	665
Overseas Property Debt	375	357
UK Property Funds	300	0
<b>Sub-total property</b>	<b>3,151</b>	<b>3,032</b>
<b>Private equity</b>		
UK	0	0
Overseas	0	0
<b>Sub-total private equity</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Other investment funds:</b>		
UK Infrastructure	2,551	1,931
<b>Sub-total other investment funds</b>	<b>2,551</b>	<b>1,931</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>75,030</b>	<b>71,535</b>

All scheme assets have quoted prices in active markets.

## Basis for estimating assets and liabilities

Liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in the future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels, etc.

Both the Local Government Pension Scheme and discretionary benefits liabilities have been assessed by Mercers, an independent firm of actuaries, estimates for the County Council Pension Fund being based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 1 April 2013.

The significant assumptions used by the actuary are set out below:

	Local Government Pension Scheme		Discretionary Benefits Arrangements	
	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17
<b>Mortality assumptions:</b>				
<i>Longevity at 65 current pensioners:</i>				
Men	22.7	22.6	22.7	22.6
Women	25.7	25.6	25.7	25.6
<i>Longevity at 65 for future pensioners:</i>				
Men	24.9	24.8	24.9	24.8
Women	28.0	27.9	28.0	27.9
<b>Financial assumptions:</b>				
Rate of inflation	2.1%	2.3%	2.1%	2.3%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.6%	3.8%	3.6%	3.8%
Rate of increase in pensions	2.2%	2.3%	2.2%	2.3%
Discount Rate	2.7%	2.5%	2.7%	2.5%

The estimation of the defined benefit obligation is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out in the table above.

The sensitivity analysis below have been determined based on reasonably possible changes to the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period and assumes for each change that the assumption analysed changes while all the other assumptions remain constant.

The longevity assumptions, for example, assume that life expectancy increases or decreases for men and women. In practice this is unlikely to occur, and changes in some of the assumptions may be interrelated. The estimations in the sensitivity analysis have followed the accounting policies for the scheme, i.e. on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method. The methods and types of assumptions used in preparing the sensitivity analysis below did not change from those used in the previous period.

	Impact on the Defined Benefit Obligation in the Scheme	
	Increase in assumption £000	Decrease in assumption £000
Longevity (increase or decrease in one year)	2,238	(2,238)
Rate of inflation (increase or decrease by 0.1%)	2,058	(2,058)
Rate of increase in salaries (increase or decrease by 0.1%)	335	(335)
Rate for discounting liabilities (increase or decrease by 0.1%)	(2,022)	2,022

### Impact on the Authority's cash flows

The objectives of the scheme are to keep employers' contributions at as constant a rate as possible. The County Council has agreed a strategy with the scheme's actuary to achieve a funding level of 100% over the next 19 years. Funding levels are monitored on an annual basis.

The scheme takes into account the national changes to the scheme under the Public Pensions Services Act 2013. Under the Act, the Local Government Pension Scheme in England and Wales and the other main existing public service schemes may not provide benefits in relation to service after 31 March 2014 (or service after 31 March 2015 for other main existing public service pension schemes in England and Wales). The Act provides for scheme regulations to be made within a common framework, to establish new career average revalued earnings schemes to pay pensions and other benefits to certain public servants.

The weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation for scheme members is 17 years, 2017/18 (17 years 2016/2017).

In April 2017 the Council made an advanced payment to Worcestershire Pension Fund for the deficit payments due 2017/18-2019/20 and 90% of the expected pension contributions for current employees for the same period. The total payment was £6,591k compared with a cost of £7,048k if the payments had been made monthly. After allowing for estimated interest costs (£46k) the net savings are estimated at £411k over the 3 years.

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### **Note 37**      **Contingent Liabilities**

Contingent liabilities are possible obligations that arise from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events that are not wholly within the council's control.

Various NHS trusts and limited companies have made applications for relief for business rates, this is an on-going issue and the outcome of these appeals will not be known until future years, no provision has been made for this.

### **Note 38**      **Contingent Assets**

A Contingent Assets is a possible asset that arises from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council.

There are no Contingent Assets as at 31 March 2018.

## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Financial Statements  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 39 Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

The Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks:

- credit risk – the possibility that other parties might fail to pay amounts due to the Council
- liquidity risk – the possibility that the Council might not have funds available to meet its commitments to make payments
- market risk – the possibility that financial loss might arise for the Council as a result of changes in such measures as interest rates and stock market movements

The Council's overall risk management programme focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the resources available to fund services. Risk management is carried out by a central treasury team, under policies approved by Cabinet in the annual treasury management strategy. The council provides written principles for overall risk management, as well as written policies covering specific areas, such as interest rate risk, credit risk and the investment of surplus cash.

#### Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions, as well as credit exposures to the Council's customers.

This risk is minimised through the Annual Investment Strategy, which requires that deposits are not made with financial institutions unless they meet identified minimum credit criteria, as laid down by Fitch Ratings Services.

Investment decisions are made by reference to the lowest published long-term credit rating from Fitch, Moody's or Standard & Poor's. Where available, the credit rating relevant to the specific investment or class of investment is used (for example the rating assigned to a secured investment), otherwise the counterparty credit rating is used.

Credit ratings are obtained and monitored by the Council's treasury advisers, who will notify changes in ratings as they occur. Where an entity has its credit rating downgraded so that it fails to meet the approved investment criteria then:

- no new investments will be made,
- any existing investments that can be recalled or sold at no cost will be, and
- full consideration will be given to the recall or sale of all other existing investments with the affected counterparty

The Council defines "high credit quality" organisations and securities as those having a credit rating of A- or higher that are domiciled in the UK or a foreign country with a sovereign rating of AA+ or higher. For Money Market Funds and other pooled funds "high credit quality" is defined as those having a credit rating of A- or higher.

The credit criteria in respect of financial assets held by the Council are as detailed below:

Credit rating	Banks unsecured	Banks secured	Government	Corporates
UK Govt	n/a	n/a	£ Unlimited 50 years	n/a
AAA	£2m 5 years	£2m 20 years	£2m 50 years	£2m 5 years
AA+	£2m 5 years	£2m 10 years	£2m 25 years	£2m 5 years
AA	£2m 4 years	£2m 5 years	£2m 15 years	£2m 5 years
AA-	£2m 3 years	£2m 4 years	£2 m 10 years	£2m 3 years
A+	£2m 2 years	£2m 3 years	£2m 5 years	£2m 2 years
A	£2m 13 months	£2m 2 years	£2m 5 years	£2m 2 years
A-	£2m 6 months	£2m 13 months	£2 m 5 years	£2m 13 months
None	£0.5m 6 months	n/a	£3m 25 years	£500k 1 year
<b>Pooled funds</b>	£2m per fund			
Deposits with Debt Management Account - Deposit Facility (DMADF)	Not applicable - HM Treasury	Not applicable - HM Treasury	£no upper limit	Not applicable - HM Treasury

**Banks Unsecured:** call and notice accounts, deposits, certificates of deposit and senior unsecured bonds with banks and building societies. These investments are subject to the risk of credit loss via a bail-in should the banking regulator determine that the bank/building society is failing or likely to fail.

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**Banks Secured:** covered bonds, reverse repurchase agreements and other collateralised arrangements with banks and building societies. These investments are exempt from bail-in and are secured on the financial institution's assets, which limits the potential losses in the unlikely event of insolvency.

**Government:** Investments with local authorities or guaranteed by national governments, investments with multilateral development banks. These are not subject to bail-in, and there is an insignificant risk of insolvency. Investments with the UK Central Government may be made in unlimited amounts for up to 50 years. Investments with the DMADF are guaranteed by HM Treasury. Following advice from the Council's treasury advisors, no upper limit was imposed on investments with the DMADF.

**Corporates:** Loans, bonds and commercial paper issued by companies other than banks and registered providers. These investments are not subject to bail-in, but are exposed to the risk of the company going insolvent.

**Pooled Funds:** Shares in diversified investment vehicles consisting of the any of the above investment types, plus equity shares and property. These funds have the advantage of providing wide diversification of investment risks, coupled with the services of a professional fund manager in return for a fee. Short-term Money Market Funds that offer same-day liquidity and very low or no volatility will be used as an alternative to instant access bank accounts, while pooled funds whose value changes with market prices and/or have a notice period will be used for longer investment periods.

## Debtors

At 31st March 2018, Bromsgrove District Council had no investments held in our call accounts, the Council did hold £24k in the Current Account.

The Council does not generally allow credit for customers. An aged analysis of the Council's sundry debtor balances at 31st March 2018 is shown in the table below:

	<b>2017/18 £000</b>	<b>2016/17 £000</b>
Less than three months	658	491
Three to six months	18	9
Six months to one year	1	12
More than one year	28	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>545</b>

## Liquidity Risk

The Council has a comprehensive cash flow management system that seeks to ensure that cash is available as needed. If unexpected movements happen, the Council has ready access to borrowings from the money markets and the Public Works Loans Board. There is no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments.

## Market Risk

### **Interest Rate Risk**

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

- borrowings at variable rates – the interest expense charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services will rise
- borrowings at fixed rates – the fair value of the liabilities borrowings will fall
- investments at variable rates – the interest income credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services will rise
- investments at fixed rates – the fair value of the assets will fall

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

The Council is exposed to risk in terms of its exposure to interest rate movements on its investments. It has a number of strategies for managing interest rate risk and these are addressed in the Treasury Management Strategy. In 2017/18, the Council had no variable long term investments or borrowings.

### **Price Risk**

The Council, excluding its exposure to the Pension Fund, does not invest in equity shares.

**Redditch Borough Council**  
**Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2018**

**Collection Fund**

## Bromsgrove District Council

Collection Fund Statement  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

The Collection Fund is an agent's statement that reflects the statutory obligation for billing authorities to maintain a separate Collection Fund. The statement shows the transactions of the billing authority in relation to the collection from taxpayers and distribution to local authorities and the Government of council tax and non-domestic rates.

2016/17			Collection Fund	2017/18		
Business Rates	Council Tax	Total		Business Rates	Council Tax	Total
£000	£000	£000		£000	£000	£000
			<b>INCOME</b>			
	(58,349)	(58,349)	Council Tax Receivable		(60,654)	(60,654)
(27,894)		(27,894)	Business Rates Receivable	(26,847)		(26,847)
	0		Council tax discounts requiring payment from General Fund		(6)	(6)
<b>(27,894)</b>	<b>(58,349)</b>	<b>(86,243)</b>	<b>Total amounts to be credited</b>	<b>(26,847)</b>	<b>(60,660)</b>	<b>(87,507)</b>
			<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
			<b>Apportionment of Previous Year Surplus/Deficit</b>			
(1,051)		(1,051)	Central Government	(253)		(253)
(840)	167	(673)	Bromsgrove District Council	(203)	88	(115)
(189)	813	624	Worcestershire County Council	(46)	434	388
(21)	140	119	Hereford and Worcestershire Fire and Rescue	(5)	30	25
	58	58	Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia		73	73
			<b>Precepts, demands and shares</b>			
13,984		13,984	Central Government	11,162		11,162
11,187	8,071	19,258	Bromsgrove District Council	8,929	8,431	17,360
2,517	39,735	42,252	Worcestershire County Council	2,009	41,657	43,666
280	2,762	3,042	Hereford and Worcestershire Fire and Rescue	223	2,868	3,091
	6,713	6,713	Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia		6,836	6,836
			<b>Charges to Collection Fund</b>			
		0	Write-offs of uncollectable amounts			0
474	237	711	Increase/(decrease) in allowance for impairment	420	306	726
(9)		(9)	Increase/(decrease) in allowance for appeals	1,352		1,352
437		437	Transitional Protection Payments Payable	2,093		2,093
			<b>Payments to General Fund</b>			
124		124	Payment to General Fund for allowable collection costs for non-domestic rates	119		119
<b>26,893</b>	<b>58,696</b>	<b>85,589</b>	<b>Total amounts to be debited</b>	<b>25,800</b>	<b>60,723</b>	<b>86,523</b>
<b>(1,001)</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>(654)</b>	<b>(Surplus) /deficit arising during the year</b>	<b>(1,047)</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>(984)</b>
2,350	(1,393)	957	(Surplus)/deficit b/f at 1 April	1,349	(1,046)	303
<b>1,349</b>	<b>(1,046)</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>(Surplus)/deficit c/f at 31 March</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>(983)</b>	<b>(681)</b>



## Bromsgrove District Council

Notes to the Collection Fund  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Note 1 - Council Tax Income

The amount of Council Tax payable is calculated by establishing a 'Council Tax Base'. This is the Council's estimated number of chargeable dwellings expressed in relation to those dwellings in Band D. Once this has been determined, the Council Tax payable for each band is established as follows: (The actual amount payable for each property is also subject to discounts where applicable.)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

Band		Valuation band limits		Calculated number of dwellings	Adjusted number of dwellings	Ratio to Band D	Equated number of dwellings	Council Tax Payable
		£	£					
					3.00	5/9	1.67	116.80
A	Up to & including	40,000		3,652	2,005.20	6/9	1,336.80	140.16
B		40,001	-	52,000	7,213	7/9	4,273.73	163.52
C		52,001	-	68,000	8,754	8/9	6,519.02	186.88
D		68,001	-	88,000	7,712	9/9	6,986.99	210.24
E		88,001	-	120,000	6,802	11/9	7,651.72	256.96
F		120,001	-	160,000	3,557	13/9	4,836.29	303.48
G		160,001	-	320,000	2,707	15/9	4,217.83	350.40
H	More Than			320,001	339	18/9	596.80	420.48

Adjustment 0.99

Council tax base 36,056.65

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

Band		Valuation band limits		Calculated number of dwellings	Adjusted number of dwellings	Ratio to Band D	Equated number of dwellings	Council Tax Payable
		£	£					
					3.0	5/9	1.64	114.02
A	Up to & including	40,000		3,582	1,928.5	6/9	1,285.68	136.82
B		40,001	-	52,000	7,168	7/9	4,197.27	159.63
C		52,001	-	68,000	8,682	8/9	6,422.33	182.43
D		68,001	-	88,000	7,668	9/9	6,767.43	205.24
E		88,001	-	120,000	6,776	11/9	7,598.90	250.85
F		120,001	-	160,000	3,481	13/9	4,714.70	296.45
G		160,001	-	320,000	2,672	15/9	4,180.90	342.06
H	More Than			320,001	339	18/9	593.66	410.47

Adjustment 0.99

Council tax base 35,404.88

The breakdown above is for Bromsgrove District Council only, below is the total payable for band D equivalent for the district for all Preceptors:

	2017/18 £	2016/17 £
Bromsgrove District Council	210.24	205.24
Worcestershire County Council	1,155.31	1,122.31
Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia	189.60	189.60
Hereford and Worcestershire Fire and Rescue	89.53	78.00
<b>Total Council Tax for non parish areas</b>	<b>1,644.68</b>	<b>1,595.15</b>
Parish Councils (Average)	23.59	22.73
<b>Average Council Tax for the District in parish areas</b>	<b>1,668.27</b>	<b>1,617.88</b>

### Note 2 - Non-Domestic Rates

Non-Domestic Rates are organised on a local basis. The Government specifies a rate poundage and subject to the effects of transitional arrangements, local businesses pay rates calculated by multiplying their rateable value by that amount. In 2017/18 the rate poundage was 47.9p (49.7p 2016/17). The reason for the rate poundage reduction was a national revaluation of rateable values effective from 1 April 2017 and the poundage was set to achieve the same national yield. The Council is responsible for collecting rates due from the ratepayers in its area and distributing the amount collected between itself, central government and major preceptors in proportions specified by central government. The Council share is shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and analysed at Note 13. The total rateable value at 31 March 2018 was £67,167,742 (31 March 2017 £68,988,913).

## Bromsgrove District Council

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

### Glossary

#### AAA FITCH RATING

Highest credit quality - 'AAA' ratings denote the lowest expectation of credit risk. They are assigned only in case of exceptionally strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments. This capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.

#### AA FITCH RATING

Very high credit quality - 'AA' ratings denote a very low expectation of credit risk. They indicate very strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.

#### A FITCH RATING

High credit quality - 'A' ratings denote a low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to changes in circumstances or in economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.

#### ACCOUNTING PERIOD

The period of time covered by the accounts, normally a period of twelve months commencing on 1 April. The end of the accounting period is the Balance Sheet date.

#### ACCRUALS

Sums included in the final accounts to recognise revenue and capital income and expenditure earned or incurred in the financial year, but for which actual payment had not been received or made as at 31 March.

#### ACTUARIAL GAINS AND LOSSES

For a defined benefit pension scheme, the changes in actuarial surpluses or deficits that arise because:

- Events have not coincided with the actuarial assumptions made for the last valuation (experience gains and losses); or
- The actuarial assumptions have changed

#### ASSET

An item having value to the authority in monetary terms. Assets are categorised as either current or non-current:

- A current asset will be consumed or cease to have material value within the next financial year (e.g. cash and stock);
- A non-current asset provides benefits to the Authority and to the services it provides for a period of more than one year and may be tangible e.g. a community centre, or intangible, e.g. computer

#### AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS

An independent examination of the Authority's financial affairs.

#### BALANCE SHEET

A statement of the recorded assets, liabilities and other balances at the end of the accounting period.

#### BORROWING

Using cash provided by another party to pay for expenditure, on the basis of an agreement to repay the cash at a future point, usually incurring additional interest charges over and above the original amount.

#### BUDGET

The forecast of net revenue and capital expenditure over the accounting period.

## **CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

Expenditure on the acquisition of a fixed asset, which will be used in providing services beyond the current accounting period, or expenditure which adds to and not merely maintains the value of an existing fixed asset.

## **CAPITAL FINANCING**

Funds raised to pay for capital expenditure. There are various methods of financing capital expenditure including borrowing, leasing, direct revenue financing, usable capital receipts, capital grants, capital contributions, revenue reserves and earmarked reserves.

## **CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

The capital schemes the Authority intends to carry out over a specific period of time.

## **CAPITAL RECEIPT**

The proceeds from the disposal of land or other fixed assets. Proportions of capital receipts can be used to finance new capital expenditure, within rules set down by the government but they cannot be used to finance revenue expenditure.

## **CIPFA**

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

## **COLLECTION FUND**

A separate fund that records the income and expenditure relating to Council Tax and non-domestic rates.

## **COMMUNITY ASSETS**

Assets that the Authority intends to hold in perpetuity, that have no determinable useful life and that may have restrictions on their disposal. Examples of community assets are parks and historical buildings.

## **COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT**

The account of the Authority that reports the net cost for the year of the functions for which it is responsible and demonstrates how that cost has been financed from precepts, grants and other income.

## **CONSISTENCY**

The concept that the accounting treatment of like items within an accounting period and from one period to the next are the same.

## **CONTINGENT ASSET**

A contingent asset is a possible asset arising from past events whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the Authority's accounts.

## **CONTINGENT LIABILITY**

A contingent liability is either:

- A possible obligation arising from past events whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the Authority's control; or
- A present obligation arising from past events where it is not probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required, or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

## **CORPORATE AND DEMOCRATIC CORE**

The corporate and democratic core comprises all activities that local authorities engage in specifically because they are elected, multi-purpose authorities. The cost of these activities are thus over and above those which would be incurred by a series of independent single purpose, nominated bodies managing the same services. There is therefore no logical basis for apportioning these costs to services.

## **CREDITOR**

Amount owed by the Authority for work done, goods received or services rendered within the accounting period, but for which payment has not been made by the end of that accounting period.

## **CURRENT SERVICE COST (PENSIONS)**

The increase in the present value of a defined benefits pension scheme's liabilities, expected to arise from employee service in the current period.

## **DEBTOR**

Amount owed to the Authority for works done, goods received or services rendered within the accounting period, but for which payment has not been received by the end of that accounting period.

## **DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION SCHEME**

Pension schemes in which the benefits received by the participants are independent of the contributions paid and are not directly related to the investments of the scheme.

## **DEPRECIATION**

The measure of the cost of wearing out, consumption or other reduction in the useful economic life of the Authority's fixed assets during the accounting period, whether from use, the passage of time or obsolescence through technical or other changes.

## **DISCRETIONARY BENEFITS (PENSIONS)**

Retirement benefits, which the employer has no legal, contractual or constructive obligation to award and are awarded under the Authority's discretionary powers such as the Local Government (Discretionary Payments) Regulations 1996.

## **EQUITY**

The Authority's value of total assets less total liabilities.

## **EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE**

Events after the Balance Sheet date are those events, favourable or unfavourable, that occur between the Balance Sheet date and the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue.

## **EXPECTED RETURN ON PENSION ASSETS**

For a funded defined benefit scheme, this is the average rate of return, including both income and changes in fair value but net of scheme expenses, which is expected over the remaining life of the related obligation on the actual assets held by the scheme.

## **FAIR VALUE**

The fair value of an asset is the price at which it could be exchanged in an arm's length transaction.

## **FINANCE LEASE**

A lease that transfers substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of a fixed asset to the lessee.

## **GOING CONCERN**

The concept that the Statement of Accounts is prepared on the assumption that the Authority will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

## **GOVERNMENT GRANTS**

Grants made by the government towards either revenue or capital expenditure in return for past or future compliance with certain conditions relating to the activities of the Authority. These grants may be specific to a particular scheme or may support the revenue spend of the Authority in general.

## **HOUSING BENEFITS**

A system of financial assistance to individuals towards certain housing costs administered by authorities and subsidised by central government.

## **IMPAIRMENT**

A reduction in the value of a fixed asset to below its recoverable amount, the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

## **INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS**

Fixed assets belonging to the Authority that cannot be transferred or sold, on which expenditure is only recoverable by the continued use of the asset created. Examples are highways, footpaths and bridges.

## **INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

An intangible (non-physical) item may be defined as an asset when access to the future economic benefits it represents is controlled by the reporting entity. This Authority's intangible assets comprise computer software licences.

## **INTEREST COST (PENSIONS)**

For a defined benefit scheme, the expected increase during the period of the present value of the scheme liabilities because the benefits are one period closer to settlement.

## **INVESTMENTS (PENSION FUND)**

The investments of the Pension Fund will be accounted for in the statements of that fund. However, authorities are also required to disclose, as part of the disclosure requirements relating to retirement benefits, the attributable share of the pension scheme assets associated with their underlying obligations.

## **LIABILITY**

A liability is where the Authority owes payment to an individual or another organisation.

- A current liability is an amount which will become payable or could be called in within the next accounting period, e.g. creditors or cash overdrawn.
- A deferred liability is an amount which by arrangement is payable beyond the next year at some point in the future or to be paid off by an annual sum over a period of time.

## **LIQUID RESOURCES**

Current asset investments that are readily disposable by the Authority without disrupting its business and are either:

- Readily convertible to known amounts of cash at or close to the carrying amount; or
- Traded in an active market.

## **LONG-TERM CONTRACT**

A contract entered into for the design, manufacture or construction of a single substantial asset or the provision of a service (or a combination of assets or services which together constitute a single project), where the time taken to substantially complete the contract is such that the contract activity falls into more than one accounting period.

## **MATERIALITY**

The concept that the Statement of Accounts should include all amounts which, if omitted, or mis-stated, could be expected to lead to a distortion of the financial statements and ultimately mislead a user of the accounts.

## **MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION (MRP)**

The minimum amount which must be charged to the revenue account each year in order to provide for the repayment of loans and other amounts borrowed by the Authority.

## **NET BOOK VALUE**

The amount at which fixed assets are included in the Balance Sheet, i.e. their historical costs or current value less the cumulative amounts provided for depreciation.

## **NET DEBT**

The Authority's borrowings less cash and liquid resources.

## **NON-DISTRIBUTED COSTS**

These are overheads for which no user now benefits and as such are not apportioned to services

## **NON-DOMESTIC RATES (NDR)**

The Non-Domestic Rate is a levy on businesses, based on a national rate in the pound set by central government and multiplied by the assessed rateable value of the premises they occupy. In England it is collected by the Authority on behalf of itself, central government and major preceptors. In Scotland it is collected by the Authority on behalf of central government and then redistributed back to support the cost of services.

## **NON-OPERATIONAL ASSETS**

Fixed assets held by the Authority but not directly occupied, used or consumed in the delivery of services. Examples are investment properties, assets under construction or assets surplus to requirements pending sale or redevelopment.

## **OPERATING LEASE**

A lease where the ownership of the fixed asset remains with the lessor.

## **OPERATIONAL ASSETS**

Fixed assets held and occupied, used or consumed by the Authority in the pursuit of its strategy and in the direct delivery of those services for which it has either a statutory or discretionary responsibility.

## **PAST SERVICE COST (PENSIONS)**

For a defined benefit pension scheme, the increase in the present value of the scheme liabilities related to employee service in prior periods arising in the current period as a result of the introduction of, or improvement to retirement benefits.

## **PENSION SCHEME LIABILITIES**

The liabilities of a defined benefit pension scheme for outgoings due after the valuation date. Scheme liabilities measured during the projected unit method reflect the benefits that the employer is committed to provide for service up to the valuation date.

## **PRECEPT**

The levy made by precepting authorities by billing authorities, requiring the latter to collect income from Council Tax on their behalf.

## **PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENT**

Material adjustments applicable to previous years arising from changes in accounting policies or from the correction of fundamental errors. This does not include normal recurring corrections or adjustments of accounting estimates made in prior years.

## **PROVISION**

An amount put aside in the accounts for future liabilities or losses which are certain or very likely to occur but the amounts or dates of when they will arise are uncertain.

## **PUBLIC WORKS LOAN BOARD (PWLB)**

A Central Government Agency, which provides loans for one year and above to authorities at interest rates only slightly higher than those at which the government can borrow itself.

## **RATEABLE VALUE**

The annual assumed rental of a hereditament, which is used for NDR purposes.

## **RELATED PARTIES**

The definition of related parties for the Council's purposes are deemed to include the Authority's members, the Chief Executive, its Directors and their close family and household members.

## **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Statement Of Recommended Practice requires the disclosure of any material transactions between the Authority and related parties to ensure that stakeholders are aware when these transactions occur and the amount and implications of such.

## **REMUNERATION**

All sums paid to or receivable by an employee and sums due by way of expenses allowances (as far as those sums are chargeable to UK income tax) and the money value of any other benefits. Received other than in cash. Pension contributions payable by the employer are excluded.

## **RESERVES**

The accumulation of surpluses, deficits and appropriations over past years. Reserves of a revenue nature are available and can be spent or earmarked at the discretion of the Authority. Some capital reserves such as the fixed asset restatement account cannot be used to meet current expenditure.

## **RESIDUAL VALUE**

The net realisable value of an asset at the end of its useful life.

## **RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

All forms of consideration given by an employer in exchange for services rendered by employees that are payable after the completion of employment.

## **REVENUE EXPENDITURE**

The day-to-day expenses of providing services.

## **REVENUE EXPENDITURE CAPITALISED UNDER STATUTE (REFCUS)**

Expenditure which ordinarily would be revenue, but is statutorily defined as capital. Examples of REFCUS include grants of a capital nature to voluntary organisations and back pay expenditure capitalised under Secretary of State Direction

## **REVENUE SUPPORT GRANT**

A grant paid by Central Government to authorities, contributing towards the general cost of their services.

## **STOCKS**

Items of raw materials and stores an authority has procured and holds in expectation of future use. Examples are consumable stores, raw materials and products and services in intermediate stages of completion.

## **TEMPORARY BORROWING**

Money borrowed for a period of less than one year.

## **TRUST FUNDS**

Funds administered by the Authority for such purposes as prizes, charities, specific projects and on behalf of minors.

## **USEFUL ECONOMIC LIFE (UEL)**

The period over which the Authority will derive benefits from the use of a fixed asset.

## **WORCESTERSHIRE PENSION FUND (WPF)**

The Worcestershire Pension Fund is administered by Worcestershire County Council and consists of the County and Districts within Worcestershire together with admitted bodies such as Academy Schools.

### GRANT THORNTON AUDIT FINDINGS REPORT 2017/18

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Brian Cooper
Portfolio Holder Consulted	-
Relevant Head of Service	Jayne Pickering – Exec Director Finance and Resources
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	No
Key Decision / Non-Key Decision	Non–Key Decision

#### 1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

- 1.1 To present Members with the Grant Thornton Audit Findings Report in relation to the final accounts 2017/18.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That the Committee considers and notes the Audit Findings Report 2017/18 as attached at Appendix 1.**
- 2.2 **That the Committee recommend to Council the approval of the draft letter of representation as included at Appendix 2.**

#### 3. KEY ISSUES

##### Financial Implications

- 3.1 The cost associated with the External Audit is funded from approved budgets. There are no additional charges for the 2017/18 Audit work.

##### Legal Implications

- 3.2 The Council has a statutory responsibility to comply with financial regulations. Included within the report is a recommendation to the Council under section 11(3) of the Audit Commission Act 1998. As can be seen within the Appendix, the recommendations relating to the final accounts have all been delivered to the satisfaction of Grant Thornton.

##### Service / Operational Implications

- 3.3 The report attached at Appendix 1 presents the Audit Findings Report in relation to the audit of the 2017/18 Statement of Accounts.
- 3.4 The Statement of Accounts for 2017/18 needed to be submitted by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018 a month earlier than previous years and the external audit completed by the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018 two months earlier than previous years.



**AUDIT STANDARDS & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018

- 3.5 The accounts were submitted to the Auditors on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2018 within the statutory deadline. As noted in the Appendix the Auditors have acknowledged the accounts were submitted in advance of the deadline and that they have been able to complete the audit by the end of July as planned (compared with September last year). There are no material issues or misstatements that have been identified by the Auditors. There was one presentational misstatement relating to cash and cash equivalents where the net figure was shown on face of the balance sheet rather than the gross. This had no impact on the bottom line. The main recommendation is a quality control review to take place prior to account completion.
- 3.6 Whilst minor areas of work are continuing it is anticipated that an unqualified opinion will be given on the accounts.
- 3.7 In relation to the Value for Money judgement the Council now has an unqualified opinion whereas in previous years this has been qualified. This is due to the auditors acknowledging the level of reserves and balances the council has available. However; there is continued pressure to deliver savings required to ensure a balanced MTFP.

**Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

- 3.8 There are no implications arising out of this report.

**4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 4.1 The recommendations from the External Auditors will be picked up within the financial services risk arrangements

**5. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Grant Thornton Audit Findings Letter 2017/18  
Appendix 2 – Letter of Representation

**AUTHOR OF REPORT**

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# Audit Findings

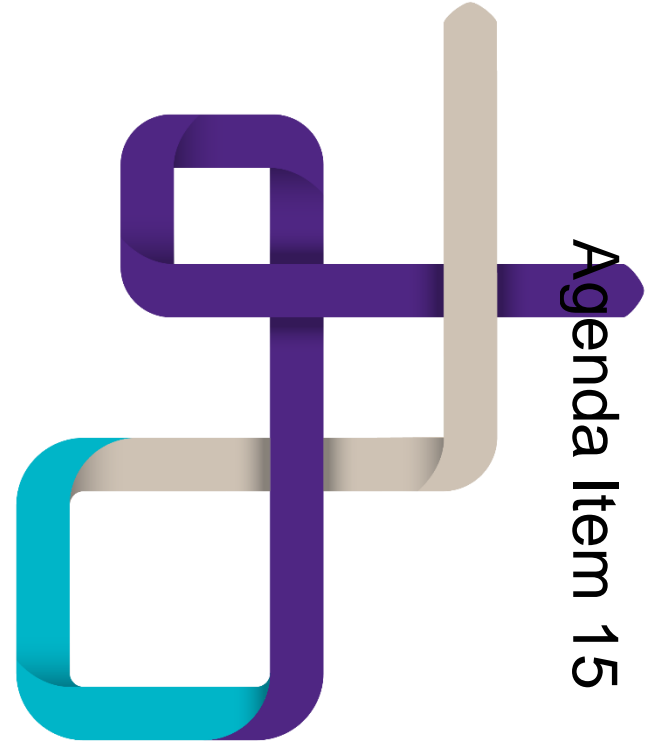
*Year ending 31 March 2018*

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Bronsgrrove District Council

18 July 2018

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Agenda Item 15

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## Section

1. Headlines
2. Financial statements
3. Value for money
4. Independence and ethics

## Appendices

- A. Action plan
- B. Follow up of prior year recommendations
- C. Audit adjustments
- D. Fees
- E. Audit Opinion

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The contents of this report relate only to those matters which came to our attention during the conduct of our normal audit procedures which are designed for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements. Our audit is not designed to test all internal controls or identify all areas of control weakness. However, where, as part of our testing, we identify control weaknesses, we will report these to you. In consequence, our work cannot be relied upon to disclose all defalcations or other irregularities, or to include all possible improvements in internal control that a more extensive special examination might identify. This report has been prepared solely for your benefit and should not be quoted in whole or in part without our prior written consent. We do not accept any responsibility for any loss occasioned to any third party acting, or refraining from acting on the basis of the content of this report, as this report was not prepared for, nor intended for, any other purpose.

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# Headlines

This table summarises the key issues arising from the statutory audit of Bromsgrove District Council ('the Council') and the preparation of the group Council's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018 for those charged with governance.

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 103</p>	<p><b>Financial Statements</b></p> <p>Under the International Standards of Auditing (UK) (ISAs), we are required to report whether, in our opinion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the group and Council's financial statements give a true and fair view of the group's and Council's financial position and of the group and Council's expenditure and income for the year, and</li> <li>have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC code of practice on local authority accounting and prepared in accordance with the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.</li> </ul> <p>We are also required to report whether other information published together with the audited financial statements (including the Statement of Accounts, Annual Governance Statement (AGS) and Narrative Report), is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.</p>	<p>Our audit work was completed on site during May, June and July. Our findings are summarised on pages 4 to 13. We have not identified any adjustments to the financial statements that have resulted in an amendment to the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. Audit adjustments are detailed in Appendix C. We have also raised recommendations for management as a result of our audit work in Appendix A. Our follow up of recommendations from the prior year's audit are detailed in Appendix B.</p> <p>Subject to outstanding queries being resolved, we anticipate issuing an unqualified audit opinion following the Full Council meeting on 24 July 2018, as detailed in Appendix E. These outstanding items include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>receipt of management representation letter;</li> <li>completing testing in a number of areas; and</li> <li>review of the final set of financial statements.</li> </ul> <p>We have concluded that the other information published with the financial statements, which includes the Statement of Accounts, Annual Governance Statement and Narrative Report, are consistent with our knowledge of your organisation and with the financial statements we have audited.</p>
	<p><b>Value for Money arrangements</b></p>	<p>Under the National Audit Office (NAO) Code of Audit Practice ('the Code'), we are required to report whether, in our opinion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Council has made proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources ('the value for money (VFM) conclusion')</li> </ul>
<p><b>Statutory duties</b></p>	<p>The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 ('the Act') also requires us to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>report to you if we have applied any of the additional powers and duties ascribed to us under the Act; and</li> <li>certify the closure of the audit</li> </ul>	<p>We have not exercised any of our additional statutory powers or duties. We have completed the majority of work under the Code and expect to be able to certify the completion of the audit when we give our audit opinion.</p>

## Acknowledgements

We would like to take this opportunity to record our appreciation for the assistance provided by the finance team and other staff during our audit.

# Summary

## Overview of the scope of our audit

This Audit Findings presents the observations arising from the audit that are significant to the responsibility of those charged with governance to oversee the financial reporting process, as required by International Standard on Auditing (UK) 260 and the Code of Audit Practice ('the Code'). Its contents have been discussed with management.

As auditors we are responsible for performing the audit, in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK), which is directed towards forming and expressing an opinion on the financial statements that have been prepared by management with the oversight of those charged with governance. The audit of the financial statements does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities for the preparation of the financial statements.

## Audit approach

Our audit approach was based on a thorough understanding of the Council's business and is risk based, and in particular included:

- an evaluation of the Council's internal controls environment including its IT systems and controls;
- substantive testing on significant transactions and material account balances, including the procedures outlined in this report in relation to the key audit risks; and
- testing of the Bromsgrove Arts Development Trust (Artrix).

## Key messages

Officers produced the financial statements in advance of the deadline and, if we are able to conclude the audit by the end of July as planned, that will represent a significant improvement on the timescale achieved last year. However, our audit identified a higher number of relatively minor amendments than we would expect. A number of the working papers initially supplied did not provide the requisite assurance, or could not be agreed to the financial statements. While officers responded very positively to our questions the Council needs to ensure that next year sufficient time is allowed for a robust and thorough quality review of the accounts and working papers before they are presented for audit.

The other key messages arising from our audit of the Council's financial statements are:

- there was one adjustments to the Balance Sheet, which did not affect the Net Assets figure;
- there are no unadjusted misstatements;
- the Narrative Report was enhanced and expanded in order to meet the Code requirements;

- a number of changes were made to the detailed note on Property, Plant & Equipment (Note 14) in order to ensure correct disclosure and values for asset categories;
- pension fund disclosures were amended to show the correct sensitivity analysis, as required by the Code, and to correct typographical errors;
- the cash and cash equivalent figures were amended to disaggregate the debit and credit balances, rather than netting them off;
- in the Collection Fund, the Rateable Value of businesses was initially recorded as £70,884k which was not agreed to the Valuation report. This has now been amended to £67,167k as in Valuation report;
- the financial statements were submitted before the deadline;
- officers responded to questions in a timely manner; and
- officers have made a number of minor changes to the financial statements to correct typographical errors.

## Conclusion

We have substantially completed our audit of your financial statements and subject to outstanding queries being resolved, we anticipate issuing an unqualified audit opinion following the Audit, Standards and Governance Committee meeting on 24 July 2018, as detailed in. These outstanding items include:

- receipt of management representation letter;
- completing testing in property, plant and equipment and employee remuneration; and
- review of the final set of financial statements.

## Our approach to materiality

The concept of materiality is fundamental to the preparation of the financial statements and the audit process and applies not only to the monetary misstatements but also to disclosure requirements and adherence to acceptable accounting practice and applicable law.

Materiality calculations remain the same as reported in our audit plan - £0.842m (PY £0.839m), which equates to 2% of your gross expenditure for the prior year. We have set a separate lower materiality level for the disclosure note on senior manager's remuneration. In view of the sensitivity of this note to the reader of the accounts, we have set a materiality level of £100k. We are obliged to report uncorrected omissions or misstatements other than those which are 'clearly trivial' to those charged with governance. Clearly trivial has been set at £42k (PY £41k).

# Going concern

## Our responsibility

As auditors, we are required to “obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence about the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern assumption in the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and to conclude whether there is a material uncertainty about the entity's ability to continue as a going concern” (ISA (UK) 570).

## Going concern commentary

### Management's assessment process

Management do not undertake a formal assessment of whether the Council is a going concern.

The Council has a sound income stream through Council Tax (£8.5m) and Business Rates (£1.2m). It has delivered a balanced budget year on year and has a realistic Medium Term Financial Plan.

The Council also has usable, non earmarked reserves of £4.8m.

### Auditor commentary

This is reasonable as the Council has a realistic Medium Term Financial Plan and sufficient reserves to cover any short term unexpected need. It would be considered a going concern even if it demised and the services transferred to another body. Our Informing the Audit Risk Assessment report, presented to Audit, Standards and Governance Committee on 15 March, shows on pages 15 to 16 the arrangements in place to demonstrate that the Council is a going concern.

### Work performed

Our audit work, including our VFM work, has not raised any doubts around the going concern assumption. Also, in the public sector, going concern is taken to mean that the services are transferred / delivered by another body. As the Council services / functions would be delivered by any successor body, the threat of re-organisation does not apply.

### Auditor commentary

We have nothing to report in relation to Going Concern.

# Significant audit risks

## Risks identified in our Audit Plan

## Commentary

1

### Improper revenue recognition

Under ISA 240 (UK) there is a presumed risk that revenue may be misstated due to the improper recognition of revenue. This presumption can be rebutted if the auditor concludes that there is no risk of material misstatement due to fraud relating to revenue recognition.

### Auditor commentary

Having considered the risk factors set out in ISA240 and the nature of the revenue streams at the Council, we have determined that the risk of fraud arising from revenue recognition can be rebutted, because:

- there is little incentive to manipulate revenue recognition
- opportunities to manipulate revenue recognition are very limited
- the culture and ethical frameworks of local authorities, including Bromsgrove District Council, mean that all forms of fraud are seen as unacceptable.

Therefore we do not consider this to be a significant risk for Bromsgrove District Council.

2

### Management override of controls

Under ISA (UK) 240 there is a non-rebuttable presumed risk that the risk of management over-ride of controls is present in all entities.

We identified management override of controls as a risk requiring special audit consideration.

### Auditor commentary

We have undertaken the following work in relation to this risk:

- gained an understanding of the accounting estimates, judgements applied and decisions made by management and considered their reasonableness
- obtained a full listing of journal entries, identified and tested unusual journal entries for appropriateness
- evaluated the rationale for any changes in accounting policies or significant unusual transactions.

Our audit work has not identified any issues in respect of management override of controls.

# Significant audit risks

## Risks identified in our Audit Plan

## Commentary

3

### Valuation of property, plant and equipment

The Council revalues its land and buildings on a five year rolling basis to ensure that carrying value is not materially different from fair value. This represents a significant estimate by management in the financial statements.

We identified the valuation of land and buildings revaluations and impairments as a risk requiring special audit consideration

### Auditor commentary

We have undertaken the following work in relation to this risk:

- reviewed management's processes and assumptions for the calculation of the estimate, the instructions issued to valuation experts and the scope of their work
- considered the competence, expertise and objectivity of any management experts used
- discussed with the valuer the basis on which the valuation was carried out and challenged the key assumptions
- reviewed and challenged the information used by the valuer to ensure it was robust and consistent with our understanding
- tested revaluations made during the year to ensure they were input correctly into the Council's asset register
- evaluated the assumptions made by management for those assets not revalued during the year and how management has satisfied themselves that these are not materially different to current value.

Our audit work identified a number of changes to the disclosure of property, plant and equipment, but these did not affect the net book value as reported in the accounts. Our work in this area is incomplete at the time of writing this report.

4

### Valuation of pension fund net liability

The Council's pension fund asset and liability as reflected in its balance sheet represent a significant estimate in the financial statements.

We identified the valuation of the pension fund net liability as a risk requiring special audit consideration.

### Auditor commentary

We have undertaken the following work in relation to this risk:

- identified the controls put in place by management to ensure that the pension fund liability is not materially misstated. We also assessed whether these controls were implemented as expected and whether they were sufficient to mitigate the risk of material misstatement
- evaluated the competence, expertise and objectivity of the actuary who carried out your pension fund valuation. We also gained an understanding of the basis on which the valuation was carried out
- undertook procedures to confirm the reasonableness of the actuarial assumptions made
- checked the consistency of the pension fund asset and liability and disclosures in notes to the financial statements with the actuarial report from your actuary.

Our audit work identified a number of changes to the pension fund disclosures, but these did not affect the net liability as reported in the accounts.



# Reasonably possible audit risks

## Risks identified in our Audit Plan

### Employee remuneration

Payroll expenditure represents a significant percentage (31%) of the Council's operating expenses.

As the payroll expenditure comes from a number of individual transactions and an interface with sub-systems there is a risk that payroll expenditure in the accounts could be understated. We therefore identified completeness of payroll expenses as a risk requiring particular audit attention.

## Commentary

### Auditor commentary

We have undertaken the following work in relation to this risk:

- evaluated the Council's accounting policy for recognition of payroll expenditure for appropriateness
- gained an understanding of the Council's system for accounting for payroll expenditure and evaluated the design of the associated controls
- obtained the year-end payroll reconciliation and ensured the amount in the accounts can be reconciled to the ledger and through to payroll reports
- performed substantive analytical procedures for the year.

Our audit work to date has not identified any significant issues in respect of the risk identified. However, our work in this area is incomplete at the time of writing this report.

### Operating expenses

Non-pay expenses on other goods and services also represents a significant percentage (52%) of the Council's operating expenses. Management uses judgement to estimate accruals of un-invoiced costs.

We identified completeness of non- pay expenses as a risk requiring particular audit attention.

### Auditor commentary

We have undertaken the following work in relation to this risk:

- evaluated the Council's accounting policy for recognition of non-pay expenditure for appropriateness
- gained an understanding of the Council's system for accounting for non-pay expenditure and evaluated the design of the associated controls
- tested non-pay payments made in April to ensure they have been charged to the appropriate year.


Our audit work has not identified any significant issues in respect of the risk identified.

# Matters discussed with management

This section provides commentary on the significant matters we discussed with management during the course of the audit.

Significant matter	Commentary	Auditor view
Early payment of pension contributions	<p>The Council has made an early payment of £6.6m to the Worcestershire Pension Fund as deficit payment funding 2017-20. The advantage of this is that it provided an ongoing revenue saving to the Council.</p> <p>We discussed the need for officers to demonstrate that they had satisfied themselves the legality of the process, to correctly account for the payment and to ensure there is sufficient prominence within the accounts.</p>	<p>We are satisfied that the Council is satisfied that the early payment is compliant with Regulations and is appropriately reflected in the financial statements.</p>
Consideration of pension guarantees	<p>We discussed with officers the need to consider the accounting treatment of any guarantees that the Council may have with the pension fund in relation to staff that have transferred to another employer.</p> <p>Officers contacted the Worcestershire Pension Fund to confirm the position and considered the likelihood of any arrangement being activated. They concluded that there is a low risk.</p>	<p>We are satisfied that officers have made appropriate enquiries concerning potential pension guarantees and that their view that there is a low risk of any arrangement being activated is reasonable.</p>



# Accounting policies

Accounting area	Summary of policy	Comments	Assessment
<b>Revenue recognition</b>	<p>Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Authority transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Authority.</p> <p>Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the Authority can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Authority.</p> <p>Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract.</p> <p>Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.</p> <p>Accruals will be made for items of income and expenditure in excess of £5,000, lower amounts will only be actioned at the request at the request of the relevant budget holder.</p>	<p>We have considered the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriateness of the Council's policies under International Financial Reporting Standards, as adopted through the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting for 2017/18.</li> <li>• Adequacy of disclosure of accounting policy. Our review has not highlighted any issues which we wish to bring to your attention.</li> </ul>	 (Green)




**Assessment**

- Marginal accounting policy which could potentially be open to challenge by regulators
- Accounting policy appropriate but scope for improved disclosure
- Accounting policy appropriate and disclosures sufficient

# Accounting policies

Accounting area	Summary of policy	Comments	Assessment
<b>Judgements and estimates</b>	<p>Key estimates and judgements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Valuation of Property, Plant and Equipment</li> <li>– Provision for NNDR appeals</li> </ul>	<p><b>Valuation of property, plant and equipment</b></p> <p>The Council revalues its assets on a rolling basis over a five year period. We have undertaken the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reviewed management's processes and assumptions for the calculation of the estimate;</li> <li>• reviewed the competence, expertise and objectivity of the valuation expert, the instructions issued to them and the scope of their work; and</li> <li>• tested the revaluations made during the year to ensure they are input correctly into the Council's asset register and financial statements.</li> </ul> <p>The Code requires that the Council ensures that the carrying value at the balance sheet date is not materially different from current value. We are satisfied that this is the case.</p> <p><b>Business Rates Appeal Provision</b></p> <p>The Council has made a provision for the Business Rate appeals that have been received but not settled, and those not yet lodged at year end. The Council's estimate is based on the likelihood of various types of claims having to be settled and the estimated value of the settlement. Overall we are satisfied with the approach taken and that the provision is not materially misstated.</p>	<p> (Green)</p>
<b>Other critical policies</b>		<p>We have reviewed the Council's policies against the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice. The Council's accounting policies are appropriate and consistent with previous years.</p>	<p> (Green)</p>

## Assessment

-  Marginal accounting policy which could potentially be open to challenge by regulators
-  Accounting policy appropriate but scope for improved disclosure
-  Accounting policy appropriate and disclosures sufficient

# Other communication requirements

We set out below details of other matters which we, as auditors, are required by auditing standards and the Code to communicate to those charged with governance.

Issue	Commentary
① <b>Matters in relation to fraud</b>	We have previously discussed the risk of fraud with the Audit, Standards & Governance Committee. We have not been made aware of any material incidents in the period and no other issues have been identified during the course of our audit procedures.
② <b>Matters in relation to related parties</b>	From the work we carried out, we have not identified any related party transactions which have not been disclosed.
③ <b>Matters in relation to laws and regulations</b>	You have not made us aware of any significant incidences of non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations and we have not identified any incidences from our audit work.
④ <b>Written representations</b>	A standard letter of representation has been requested from the Council, including specific representations in respect of the Group which is included in the Audit, Standards & Governance Committee papers.
⑤ <b>Confirmation requests from third parties</b>	We requested from management permission to send confirmation requests to banks and councils with whom the Council had investments or borrowing. This permission was granted and the requests were sent. All of these requests were returned with positive confirmation.
⑥ <b>Disclosures</b>	We identified changes to a number of other disclosures in the financial statements which the Council has agreed to amend.
⑦ <b>Audit evidence and explanations</b>	All information and explanations requested from management was provided.
⑧ <b>Significant difficulties</b>	We have not encountered any significant difficulties with accounts closedown, production of draft accounts and working papers. We have made a recommendation that time be allowed for a robust and thorough quality review of the financial statements and supporting working papers before they are presented for audit.

# Other responsibilities under the Code

We set out below details of other matters which we, as auditors, are required by the Code to communicate to those charged with governance.

Issue	Commentary
① <b>Other information</b>	<p>We are required to give an opinion on whether the other information published together with the audited financial statements (including the Statement of Accounts, Annual Governance Statement (AGS) and Narrative Report), is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.</p> <p>No inconsistencies have been identified/Inconsistencies have been identified but have been adequately rectified by management. We plan to issue an unqualified opinion in this respect – refer to Appendix E.</p>
② <b>Matters on which we report by exception</b>	<p>We are required to report on a number of matters by exception in a numbers of areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the Annual Governance Statement does not meet the disclosure requirements set out in the CIPFA/SOLACE guidance or is misleading or inconsistent with the other information of which we are aware from our audit</li> <li>• If we have applied any of our statutory powers or duties</li> </ul> <p>We have nothing to report on these matters.</p>
③ <b>Specified procedures for Whole of Government Accounts</b>	<p>We are required to carry out specified procedures (on behalf of the NAO) on the Whole of Government Accounts (WGA) consolidation pack under WGA group audit instructions.</p> <p>Work is not required as the Council does not exceed the threshold.</p>
④ <b>Certification of the closure of the audit</b>	<p>We intend to certify the closure of the 2017/18 audit of Bromsgrove District Council in the audit opinion, as detailed in Appendix E.</p>

# Value for Money

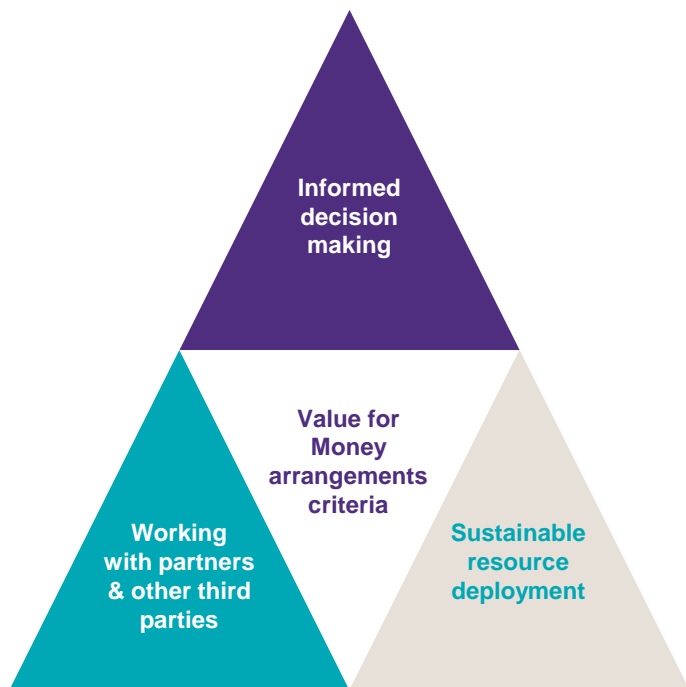
## Background to our VFM approach

The NAO issued its guidance for auditors on Value for Money work for 2017/18 in November 2017. The guidance states that for local government bodies, auditors are required to give a conclusion on whether the Council has proper arrangements in place.

The guidance identifies one single criterion for auditors to evaluate:

*“In all significant respects, the audited body takes properly informed decisions and deploys resources to achieve planned and sustainable outcomes for taxpayers and local people.”*

This is supported by three sub-criteria, as set out below:



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## Risk assessment

We carried out an initial risk assessment in and identified two significant risks in respect of specific areas of proper arrangements using the guidance contained in AGN03. We communicated these risks to you in our Audit Plan dated 1 March 2018.

We have continued our review of relevant documents up to the date of giving our report, and have not identified any further significant risks where we need to perform further work.

We carried out further work only in respect of the significant risks we identified from our initial and ongoing risk assessment. Where our consideration of the significant risks determined that arrangements were not operating effectively, we have used the examples of proper arrangements from AGN 03 to explain the gaps in proper arrangements that we have reported in our VFM conclusion.

The main focus of auditor's value for money work is financial sustainability. The scope of the work does not cover, for example, whether goods or services have been procured to achieve best value for money, or whether services provided by councils offer good value for money.

# Value for Money

## Our work

AGN 03 requires us to disclose our views on significant qualitative aspects of the Council's arrangements for delivering economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

We have focused our work on the significant risks that we identified in the Council's arrangements. In arriving at our conclusion, our main considerations were:

- financial sustainability; and
- in year financial reporting to Members.

We have set out more detail on the risks we identified, the results of the work we performed and the conclusions we drew from this work on pages 16 and 17.

## Overall conclusion

Based on the work we performed to address the significant risks, we concluded that the Council had proper arrangements in all significant respects to ensure it delivered value for money in its use of resources.

The text of our report, which confirms this can be found at Appendix E.

## Significant difficulties in undertaking our work

We did not identify any significant difficulties in undertaking our work on your arrangements which we wish to draw to your attention.

## Significant matters discussed with management

There were no matters where no other evidence was available or matters of such significance to our conclusion or that we required written representation from management or those charged with governance.



## Key findings

We set out below our key findings against the significant risks we identified through our initial risk assessment and further risks identified through our ongoing review of documents.

Significant risk	Findings	Conclusion
<p><b>Financial sustainability</b></p>	<p>1) The MTFP to 2020/21 shows that significant savings are required. There is also a planned use of balances of £1.6 million and potential income from the Investment Strategy of up to £2.0 million.</p> <p>We tested seven different savings schemes to assess whether improvements have been made to the identification and timing of savings delivery. While there are not formal business cases for other than the biggest schemes (the new Leisure Centre for example), the level of benchmarking and analysis is appropriate for smaller savings. A robust approach has been taken to reducing the budget by adopting a zero based approach. Review of the minutes of the Finance and Budget Working Group indicates robust discussion on the MTFP and budget, with Members clearly understanding the scale of the challenge and that action is needed. The additional level of scrutiny this Group provides around financial issues is extremely useful in providing challenge to officers.</p> <p>While there is no financial impact on the current MTFP, the Council Acquisition and Investment Strategy is proposing borrowing £20m from PWLB to finance investments within the Bromsgrove District Council area. Officers will need to prepare a paper for Members that assesses the impact of the revised Statutory Investment Guidance on their plans. In particular, the Guidance is clear that: "Authorities must not borrow more than or in advance of their needs purely in order to profit from the investment of the extra sums borrowed." [paragraph 46, Statutory Guidance on Local Authority Investment].</p> <p>2) The management restructure has not progressed, mainly due to issues with Redditch Borough Council's senior management arrangements. This makes any joint restructuring very difficult. In addition, Leaders of both Bromsgrove DC and Redditch BC wanted to see the outcome of the LGA Peer Review before making any decisions.</p> <p>The LGA Peer Review highlighted the need to "define a new shared culture from the bottom up" and "establish a single workforce and reduce duplication and time spent navigating two structures and systems of governance". The management review is an essential part of responding to this challenge.</p>	<p><b>Auditor view</b></p> <p>The approach adopted is proportionate for the savings involved. While the Council has sufficient reserves and balances to ensure any slippage in the MTFP can be covered, Officers and Members need to ensure that the pace of change to a long-term financially sustainable Council, without the need to use balances, is sufficient to allow an appropriate level of balances to be maintained.</p> <p>Should the Council decide to proceed with the Acquisition and Investment Strategy a paper will be needed which clearly sets out how the Council is complying with the Statutory Investment Guidance.</p> <p>The management restructure has not progressed due to issues with Redditch Borough Council's management arrangements. As this is a joint restructuring we have concluded that there are valid reasons for this delay. It is however important that the restructure is now progressed as part of the wider response to the issues identified in the LGA Peer Review.</p> <p><b>Management response</b></p> <p>Officers are reviewing the investment strategy to ensure the new guidance is addressed.</p> <p>Budget assumptions to be considered earlier to ensure sufficient time and information given to members for decision making.</p>

1

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2

**Significant risk**

**In year financial reporting to Members**

How informative is in year financial reporting to Members?

We have previously identified that improvement is needed in reliable and timely financial reporting that supports the delivery of strategic purposes.

We said we would follow up recommendations from our 2016/17 Audit Findings Report to determine whether sufficient progress has been made in addressing our recommendations:

3) Further improvement to the overall reporting of savings, including a clear picture of planned savings to be delivered, progress to date, risk to full achievement and mitigating actions;

4) Monitoring of progress against the actions plans supporting the delivery of the Council Plan and quarterly reporting to Cabinet.

**Findings**

3) Savings are reported against the Efficiency Plan monitoring report in a one page summary. As such it does not contain much detail, but Members are able to ask questions or see more detail if they wish. Our work demonstrated that Service Managers and accountants have worked together to reduce budgets or increase income projections where appropriate. There are no business cases to support this, but we have seen email correspondence and workings to support the figures we have tested. The work undertaken is proportionate for the type and amount of savings. We discussed with Officers that, as time moves on, it may now be more appropriate to monitor and report savings and income generation against the MTFP, rather than the Efficiency Plan, as this is more current.

4) Corporate Performance is now presented bi-monthly using a new format. The first report was presented to Cabinet on 7 March 2018. The report is very comprehensive and thorough, an is also easily understandable. This report notes the strategic measures that are currently used to understand the purpose 'keep my place safe and looking good'. These are reported, along with others relevant to the strategic purpose. The Council is now adequately reporting progress against the Council Plan and the key indicators for each strategic purpose to Cabinet.

**Conclusion**

**Auditor view**

Savings reporting continues to improve. The high level figures presented to Members are underpinned by appropriate levels of information and analysis. However, in reporting against the Efficiency Plan officers are reporting against old measures, which are difficult to reconcile to the latest MTFP. It would be more transparent and provide Members with better assurance that the MTFP is on track, if savings and income generation were reported against the MTFP.

The Council is now adequately reporting progress against the Council Plan and the key indicators for service areas to Cabinet.

**Management response**

Monitoring statements to be enhanced for 2018/19 to include savings plans against the MTFP.

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# Independence and ethics

## Independence and ethics

We confirm that there are no significant facts or matters that impact on our independence as auditors that we are required or wish to draw to your attention. We have complied with the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard and confirm that we, as a firm, and each covered person, are independent and are able to express an objective opinion on the financial statements

We confirm that we have implemented policies and procedures to meet the requirements of the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard and we as a firm, and each covered person, confirm that we are independent and are able to express an objective opinion on the financial statements.

Further, we have complied with the requirements of the National Audit Office's Auditor Guidance Note 01 issued in December 2017 which sets out supplementary guidance on ethical requirements for auditors of local public bodies.

Details of fees charged are detailed in Appendix D.

## Audit and Non-audit services

For the purposes of our audit we have made enquiries of all Grant Thornton UK LLP teams providing services to the Council. The following non-audit services were identified.

Service	£	Threats	Safeguards
<b>Audit related</b>			
None			
<b>Non-audit related</b>			
CFO insights – a data analytics tool through subscription (to be confirmed).	£7,500 (estimated)	None	This fee is for one year only, and does not involve any members of the audit team.

The amounts detailed are fees agreed to-date for audit related and non-audit services to be undertaken by Grant Thornton UK LLP in the current financial year. All services have been approved by management.

None of the services provided are subject to contingent fees.

# Action plan

We have identified one recommendation for the Council as a result of issues identified during the course of our audit. We have agreed our recommendations with management and we will report on progress on these recommendations during the course of the 2018/19 audit. The matters reported here are limited to those deficiencies that we have identified during the course of our audit and that we have concluded are of sufficient importance to merit being reported to you in accordance with auditing standards.

1	Assessment	Issue and risk	Recommendations
●	While the financial statements were presented for audit by 31 May, there is scope to improve the quality of the statements and the supporting working papers.	Officers should ensure that sufficient time is built into the financial statements production process to allow for a robust and thorough quality review of both the statements and supporting working papers.	<b>Management response</b>
			• [...]

## Controls

- High – Significant effect on control system
- Medium – Effect on control system
- Low – Best practice

# Follow up of prior year recommendations (Financial Statements)

We identified the following issues in the audit of Bromsgrove District Council's 2016/17 financial statements, which resulted in nine recommendations being reported in our 2016/17 Audit Findings report. We are pleased to report that management have implemented eight of our recommendations, with one (Management restructure) still to be completed.

Assessment	Issue and risk previously communicated	Update on actions taken to address the issue
1 ✓	<p><b>IT Systems review</b></p> <p>A review of the staff assigned administrator rights should be performed on a periodic basis to ensure that administrator level access is given on a needs only basis. Least privilege should be the guiding principle when granting all system access.</p> <p>The Agresso accounts should be removed as the system has been replaced this year.</p>	<p><b>Management response</b></p> <p>A review of administrator rights within active directory has been implemented. Date due for completion 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017.</p> <p>Agresso is switched off and only accessed by a formal request from Finance.</p> <p><b>Audit finding</b></p> <p>A review of IT access rights has been undertaken within EFIN. Agresso is switched off and can only be accessed via formal request from finance.</p> <p>Of the nine SuperUsers only seven have admin rights. This number is still a little high, but there is scope to review this if and when the new ledger system is introduced.</p>
2 ✓	<p><b>Pension fund returns</b></p> <p>The Council should ensure that all necessary returns are made to the County Council on a timely basis.</p>	<p><b>Management response</b></p> <p>Agreed. Awaiting a fix from Frontier (software supplier) but will find a manual way of calculating if this is not available by the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017.</p> <p>30th September 2017</p> <p>Business Support</p> <p><b>Audit finding</b></p> <p>Manual monthly pension returns are calculated and agreed back to the payroll system before being sent to Worcestershire County Council. This has been in operation since October 2017 but all returns show the figures to date so no estimations are required.</p>

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#### Assessment

- ✓ Action completed
- X Not yet addressed

# Follow up of prior year recommendations (Financial Statements)

Assessment	Issue and risk previously communicated	Update on actions taken to address the issue
3 ✓	<p><b>Journal authorisation</b></p> <p>Parameters within the ledger should be reviewed to ensure that only those individuals set up to authorize journals can complete that process.</p>	<p><b>Management response</b></p> <p>Agreed. Preference is to remove the ability to create and post a journal but need to speak to the software producer (ABS).</p> <p>31st December 2017</p> <p>Financial Services Manager</p> <p><b>Audit finding</b></p> <p>There is no change to this. Personnel who can approve a journal can also post their own journal. We therefore reflected this in our testing approach.</p>
4 ✓	<p><b>Asset valuation reports</b></p> <p>The Council should ensure that final version of valuation reports are received promptly from Place Partnership and that these are the basis for asset valuation adjustments within the financial statements.</p>	<p><b>Management response</b></p> <p>Agreed. We will also look to change the valuation date to the 31<sup>st</sup> December to avoid delay and speed up closure.</p> <p>30th October 2017</p> <p>Chief Accountant</p> <p><b>Audit finding</b></p> <p>The Council received a draft valuation report as at December 2017 and a formal report as at 31 March 2018.</p>

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**Assessment**

- ✓ Action completed
- X Not yet addressed

# Follow up of prior year recommendations (Value for Money)

Assessment	Issue and risk previously communicated	Update on actions taken to address the issue
1 ✓	All savings plans are appropriately supported by a business case, all aspects of the savings are identified, it is clear when the planned savings will be delivered and what needs to happen to realise the savings.	<p><b>Management response</b></p> <p>Business case framework agreed to be used for development and presentation of business cases for 2018/19. This will include detailed calculations of planned saving and the rationale for the proposal.</p> <p>November 2017</p> <p>Executive Director of Finance and Resources</p> <p><b>Audit finding</b></p> <p>See Page 16.</p>
2 ✓	Further improvements to the overall reporting of savings is needed, including a clear picture of planned savings to be delivered, progress to date, risk to full achievement and mitigating actions.	<p><b>Management response</b></p> <p>Reporting is currently under review using templates from best practice councils as identified by the auditors. This is to be used for quarter 2 to improve capturing and reporting to members.</p> <p>November 2017</p> <p>Executive Director of Finance and Resources</p> <p><b>Audit finding</b></p> <p>See Page 17.</p>
3 ✓	Progress against the action plans supporting the delivery of the Council Plan needs to be monitored and reported on a quarterly basis to Cabinet.	<p><b>Management response</b></p> <p>Officers are in discussion with members as to the most appropriate mechanism for reporting . Overview and Scrutiny have requested updates on the council plan actions.</p> <p>October 2017</p> <p>Head of Transformation</p> <p><b>Audit finding</b></p> <p>See Page 17.</p>

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Agenda Item 15

**Assessment**  
 ✓ Action completed  
 X Not yet addressed

# Follow up of prior year recommendations (Value for Money)

	Assessment	Issue and risk previously communicated	Update on actions taken to address the issue
4	X	Priority is given by Cabinet to ensuring that the management restructure is progressed on a timely basis.	<p><b>Management response</b></p> <p>Proposals to be developed by Senior Management Team to be presented to Cabinet in late 2017. December 2017 Chief Executive</p> <p><b>Audit finding</b></p> <p>See Page 16.</p>
5	✓	The performance dashboard needs to be reported to Members and Officers on a regular basis.	<p><b>Management response</b></p> <p>We will be undertaking a review of the dashboard in line with changes to our thinking as the organisation continues to change and transform.</p> <p>We will be reporting performance to Members at both Councils in line with the Corporate Performance Strategy – this will commence in November 2017. November 2017 Head of Transformation</p> <p><b>Audit finding</b></p> <p>Performance is now reported to Cabinet through the use of the online Measures Dashboard, supported by a bi-monthly report.</p>

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**Assessment**

- ✓ Action completed
- X Not yet addressed



# Audit Adjustments

We are required to report all non trivial misstatements to those charged with governance, whether or not the accounts have been adjusted by management.

## Impact of adjusted misstatements

All adjusted misstatements are set out in detail below along with the impact on the key statements and the reported net expenditure for the year.

Detail	Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £'000	Balance Sheet £' 000	Impact on total net expenditure £'000
1 Cash & Cash Equivalents shown within Net Current Assets as £8,000. However, this nets off debit and credit balances. Hence, the Cash & Cash Equivalents within current assets should show a total of £314,027, with the debit bank balances of £305,537 being shown under current liabilities.	0	Dr. Current Assets 306 Cr. Current Liabilities 306	0
<b>Overall impact</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>

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## Misclassification and disclosure changes

The table below provides details of misclassification and disclosure changes identified during the audit which have been made in the final set of financial statements.

Disclosure omission	Detail	Auditor recommendations	Adjusted?
Note 36 - Defined Benefit Pension Schemes	The sensitivity note has been amended to show the impact of the different changes on the overall liability, rather than the impact on the total service cost for the next year.	The note has been amended.	✓
Narrative Report	The Narrative Report presented for audit did not comply with the Code requirements.	The Narrative Report has been enhanced to comply with the Code and to expand on the financial challenges the Council faces.	✓
Collection Fund	The Rateable Value of businesses was initially recorded as £70,884k which was not agreed to the Valuation report. This has now been amended to £67,167k as in Valuation report.	The note has been amended to show the correct rateable value.	✓

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# Audit Adjustments

## Misclassification and disclosure changes (continued)

Disclosure omission	Detail	Auditor recommendations	Adjusted?
Property, Plant & Equipment (PPE) (Note 14)	<p>1) Vehicles, Plant &amp; Equipment (VPE) – Cost or Valuation - the derecognition disposals figure is shown as (£799k). This should be split:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Derecognition disposals = (£436k)</li> <li>• Derecognition other = (£361k)</li> </ul> <p>2) VPE – Depreciation &amp; Impairment - the derecognition disposals figure is shown as £725k. This should be split</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Derecognition disposals = £309k</li> <li>• Derecognition other = £415k</li> </ul> <p>3) £400k relating to Operational Land is categorised under additions instead of reclassifications/transfers.</p> <p>4) £4,454k expenditure in year on Assets Under Construction (AuC) was incorrectly shown in PPE note as Buildings additions. £4,454k should be moved from additions under land &amp; buildings and entered as additions under AUC.</p>	The Note has been amended for these issues.	✓

### Impact of unadjusted misstatements

There are no adjustments identified during the 2017/18 audit which have not been made within the final set of financial statements.

# Fees

We confirm below our final fees charged for the audit and provision of non-audit services.

## Audit Fees

	Proposed fee (£)	Final fee (£)
Council Audit	48,680	TBC
Grant Certification	8,260	TBC
<b>Total audit fees (excluding VAT)</b>	<b>£56,940</b>	<b>TBC</b>

The final audit fee has yet to be agreed pending completion of our work. Our fees for grant certification cover only housing benefit subsidy certification, which falls under the remit of Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. This work will be completed in November. Fees in respect of other grant work, such as reasonable assurance reports, are shown under 'Fees for other services'.

## Non Audit Fees

Fees for other services	Fees (£)
<b>Audit related services:</b>	
None	
<b>Non-audit services:</b>	7,500 (estimated)
CFO insights (TBC)	
	<b>£7,500 (estimated)</b>

# Audit opinion

We anticipate we will provide the Group with an unmodified audit report

## Independent auditor's report to the members of Bromsgrove District Council

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Bromsgrove District Council (the 'Authority') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2018 which comprise the Group and Authority Movement in Reserves Statement, the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Group Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, the Group Cash Flow Statement, the Pensions Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the group and of the Authority as at 31 March 2018 and of the group's expenditure and income and the Authority's expenditure and income for the year then ended;
- have been prepared properly in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and the Authority in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Who we are reporting to

This report is made solely to the members of the Authority, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in paragraph 43 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Authority's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Authority and the Authority's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Executive Director of Finance and Resources' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Executive Director of Finance and Resources has not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the group's or the Authority's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

#### Other information

The Executive Director of Finance and Resources is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Statement of Accounts set out on pages **[\*\*xx to xx\*\*]**, other than the group and Authority financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge of the group and Authority obtained in the course of our work including that gained through work in relation to the Authority's arrangements for securing value for money through economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of its resources or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### **Other information we are required to report on by exception under the Code of Audit Practice**

Under the Code of Audit Practice published by the National Audit Office on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (the Code of Audit Practice) we are required to consider whether the Annual Governance Statement does not comply with the 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework (2016)' published by CIPFA and SOLACE or is misleading or inconsistent with the information of which we are aware from our audit. We are not required to consider whether the Annual Governance Statement addresses all risks and controls or that risks are satisfactorily addressed by internal controls.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### **Opinion on other matter required by the Code of Audit Practice**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit of the financial statements and our knowledge of the Authority gained through our work in relation to the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, the other information published together with the financial statements in the Statement of Accounts for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

#### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

Under the Code of Audit Practice we are required to report to you if:

- we have reported a matter in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we have made a written recommendation to the Authority under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we have exercised any other special powers of the auditor under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

We have nothing to report in respect of the above matters.

#### **Responsibilities of the Authority, the Executive Director of Finance and Resources and Those Charged with Governance for the financial statements**

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Authority's and Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts set out on page 9, the Authority is required to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this authority, that officer is the Executive Director of Finance and Resources. The Executive Director of Finance and Resources is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18, which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Executive Director of Finance and Resources determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Executive Director of Finance and Resources is responsible for assessing the group's and the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the group or the Authority lacks funding for its continued existence or when policy decisions have been made that affect the services provided by the group or the Authority.

The Audit, Standards and Governance Committee is Those Charged with Governance.

#### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

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

### **Report on other legal and regulatory requirements - Conclusion on the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources**

#### **Conclusion**

On the basis of our work, having regard to the guidance on the specified criterion issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in November 2017, we are satisfied that *the Authority* put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2018.

#### **Responsibilities of the Authority**

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

#### **Auditor's responsibilities for the review of the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources**

We are required under Section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to be satisfied that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. We are not required to consider, nor have we considered, whether all aspects of the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

We have undertaken our review in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance on the specified criterion issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in November 2017, as to whether in all significant respects the Authority had proper arrangements to ensure it took properly informed decisions and deployed resources to achieve planned and sustainable outcomes for taxpayers and local people. The Comptroller and Auditor General

determined this criterion as that necessary for us to consider under the Code of Audit Practice in satisfying ourselves whether the Authority put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2018.

We planned our work in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice. Based on our risk assessment, we undertook such work as we considered necessary to be satisfied that the Authority has put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

#### **Report on other legal and regulatory requirements - Certificate**

We certify that we have completed the audit of the financial statements of the Authority in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice.

#### **Richard Percival**

for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Appointed Auditor

The Colmore Building  
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Birmingham  
B4 6AT

24 July 2018

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23 July 2018

Dear Sirs

### **Bromsgrove District Council Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2018**

This representation letter is provided in connection with the audit of the financial statements of Bromsgrove District Council and its subsidiary undertaking (The Bromsgrove Arts Development Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2018 for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the group and parent Council financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 and applicable law.

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge and belief having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves:

#### **Group Financial Statements**

- i We have fulfilled our responsibilities for the preparation of the group and parent Council's financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 ("the Code"); in particular the group and parent Council financial statements are fairly presented in accordance therewith.
- ii We have complied with the requirements of all statutory directions affecting the group and parent Council and these matters have been appropriately reflected and disclosed in the group and parent Council financial statements.
- iii The Council has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the group and parent Council financial statements in the event of non-compliance. There has been no non-compliance with requirements of any regulatory authorities that could have a material effect on the group and parent Council financial statements in the event of non-compliance.
- iv We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- v Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
- vi Except as disclosed in the group and parent Council financial statements:
  - a there are no unrecorded liabilities, actual or contingent
  - b none of the assets of the group and parent Council has been assigned, pledged or mortgaged
  - c there are no material prior year charges or credits, nor exceptional or non-recurring items requiring separate disclosure.



- vii We confirm that we are satisfied that the actuarial assumptions underlying the valuation of pension scheme assets and liabilities for IAS19 Employee Benefits disclosures are consistent with our knowledge. We confirm that all settlements and curtailments have been identified and properly accounted for. We also confirm that all significant post-employment benefits have been identified and properly accounted for.
- viii Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards and the Code.
- ix All events subsequent to the date of the group and parent Council financial statements and for which International Financial Reporting Standards and the Code require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.
- x We have considered the adjusted misstatements, and misclassification and disclosures changes schedules included in your Audit Findings Report. The group and parent Council financial statements have been amended for these misstatements, misclassifications and disclosure changes and are free of material misstatements, including omissions.
- xi Actual or possible litigation and claims have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards.
- xii We have no plans or intentions that may materially alter the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the group and parent Council financial statements.
- xiii We believe that the group and parent Council's financial statements should be prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that current and future sources of funding or support will be more than adequate for the group and parent Council's needs. We believe that no further disclosures relating to the group and parent Council's ability to continue as a going concern need to be made in the financial statements.

## Information Provided

- xiv We have provided you with:
  - a. access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the group and parent Council financial statements such as records, documentation and other matters;
  - b. additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of your audit; and
  - c. unrestricted access to persons within the Council from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
- xv We have communicated to you all deficiencies in internal control of which management is aware.
- xvi All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the group and parent Council financial statements.
- xvii We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the group and parent Council financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- xviii We have disclosed to you all information in relation to fraud or suspected fraud that we are aware of and that affects the group and parent Council and involves:
  - a. management;
  - b. employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
  - c. others where the fraud could have a material effect on the group and parent Council financial statements.

- xix We have disclosed to you all information in relation to allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the group and parent Council's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.
- xx We have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- xxi We have disclosed to you the identity of the group and parent Council's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.
- xxii We have disclosed to you all known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the group and parent Council financial statements.

## **Annual Governance Statement**

- xxiii We are satisfied that the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) fairly reflects the Council's risk assurance and governance framework and we confirm that we are not aware of any significant risks that are not disclosed within the AGS.

## **Narrative Report**

- xxiv The disclosures within the Narrative Report fairly reflect our understanding of the group and parent Council's financial and operating performance over the period covered by the group and parent Council financial statements.

## **Approval**

The approval of this letter of representation was minuted by the Council's Audit, Standards and Governance Committee at its meeting on 23 July 2018.

Yours faithfully

Name.....

Position.....

Date.....

Name.....

Position.....

Date.....

**Signed on behalf of the Council**

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