

# Statement of Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2021



## **INTRODUCTION**

This document contains the Statement of Accounts that the Council publishes in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (as amended).

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**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**NARRATIVE REPORT: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**The Harrogate District**

Harrogate is a beautiful district in the county of North Yorkshire offering a superb quality of life. We have a strong local economy, low unemployment, unrivalled natural and built heritage, low levels of crime and excellent sporting and cultural opportunities. Key features of the district and the council include:



## In a typical week, we:

Assist

**4,900**

people via email,  
phone or online



Prevent

**10 people**

from becoming homeless



Complete **154** repairs in  
the homes of our tenants



Welcome

**3,770 visitors**

to our tourist information centres  
and information points

Collect

**990 tonnes**

of household waste



Process

**980**

benefit claims  
and changes



Investigate **9** noise  
complaints and...



...catch **2** stray dogs



Welcome

**1,370  
visitors**

to our  
museums and galleries  
(virtually and in person)

Welcome

**14,000  
people**

to our sport and  
leisure facilities



Inspect **10 food  
premises**



Deal with

**82**

local search and  
land charges  
requests



Review and process

**35 planning  
applications**

Our corporate priorities and values are:



### Our values

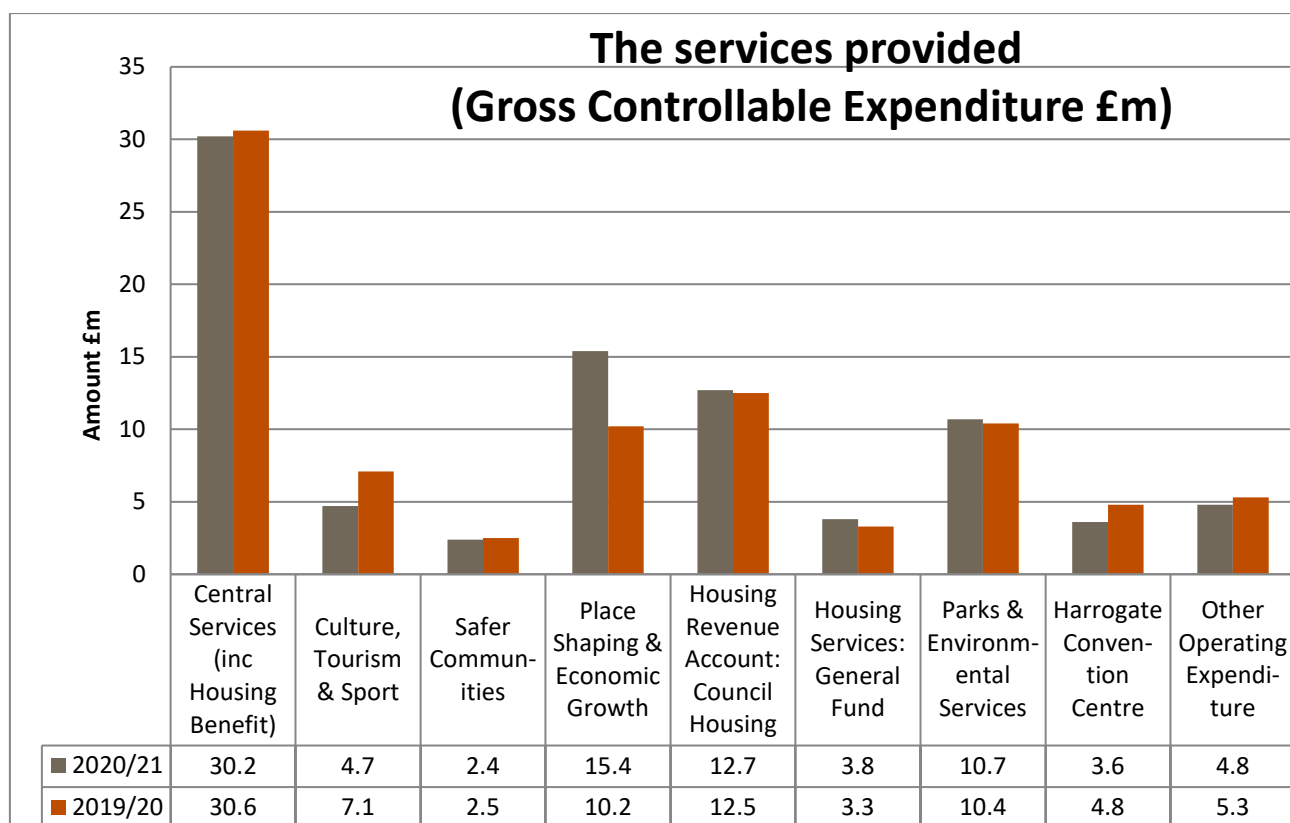
Our vision + our values + our behaviour = our responsibility

- *Delivering excellent customer service*
- *Taking responsibility*
- *Showing resilience*
- *Working together*
- *Leading by example*

## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### NARRATIVE REPORT: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Local Government service delivery in the district is split between Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) and North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC). NYCC are responsible for services such as social care, education and highways. The services provided by HBC are:



**Central Services** includes expenditure on housing benefit (£18.7m in 2020/21 and £19.0m in 2019/20) as well as the Information Communication & Technology, Legal, Finance and Organisational Development & Improvement services. These are largely 'back office' functions and support the other services that the Council provides, although included within here are services such as Revenues & Welfare and Elections.

**Culture, Tourism and Sport** includes recreation and sport, museums and arts and holiday tourism.

**Safer Communities** includes community safety including CCTV, licensing, food safety, environmental protection and car parking.

**Place Shaping and Economic Growth** includes forward planning, development control, building control, economic development and building maintenance. In 2020/21, includes expenditure on Covid-related grants to businesses where there was a discretionary element to the award.

**Housing Services: Council Housing** includes expenditure and income in relation to the Council's own housing stock, which is charged to a separate ring-fenced account called the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).

**Housing Services: General Fund** includes housing services provided to non-Council tenants, such as homelessness, housing advice and housing improvement grants.

**Parks and Environmental Services** includes open spaces, waste collection, recycling, cemeteries and crematoria, street cleansing and pest control.

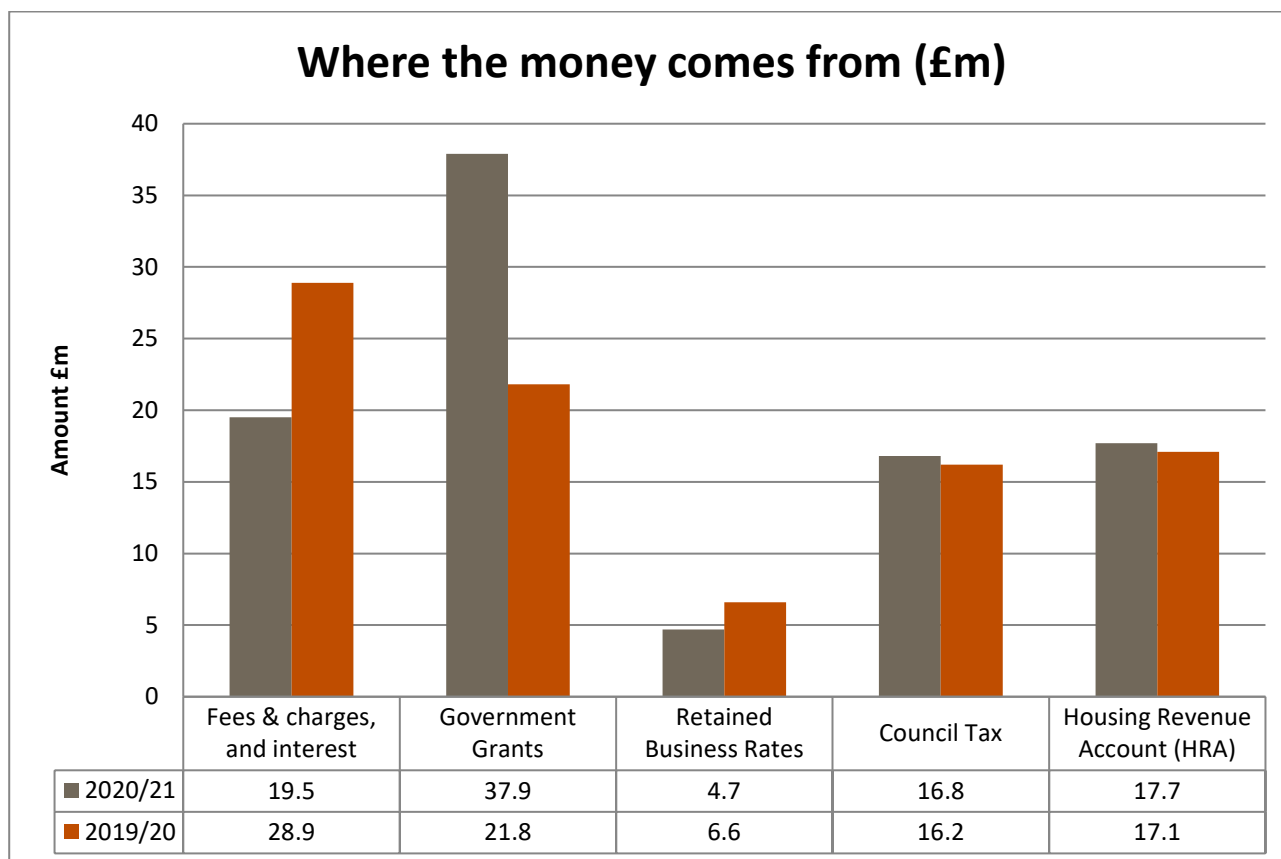
**Harrogate Convention Centre** includes services provided by the Convention Centre.

**Other Operating Expenditure** includes interest costs (including for the HRA), precept payments to Parishes and the contribution to the Government's Housing Capital Receipts Pool.

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NARRATIVE REPORT: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Funding comes from the following sources:



The table shows the importance of government grants, despite their general continued reduction. That said, a significant amount of the grant figure (£18.7m in 2020/21 and £19.0m in 2019/20) relates to Housing Benefit grant. In 2020/21 the figure is much higher due to the various Covid-related grants that the Council received, some to be retained by the Council and others to be distributed to businesses to support them during the pandemic.

In 2020/21 no Revenue Support Grant was received by the Council (£0 received in 2019/20).

New Homes Bonus grant totalled £1.7m in 2020/21 and £1.2m in 2019/20 and is a key element of funding, but one that is not guaranteed beyond 2021/22.

Business rates income decreased slightly in 2020/21 as the Council moved from being part of a 75% retention pilot as part of a North and West Yorkshire (N&WY) pool in 2019/20, to a 'standard' 50% retention N&WY pool in 2020/21. The opportunity to be part of a 75% pilot was only available for one year. The impact of Covid on net business rates income to the Council was not really felt in 2020/21, as the Government compensated local authorities for the additional reliefs that were granted.

It will be important to maximise the opportunities for generating sales income in order to mitigate against future funding cuts and to keep council tax as low as possible.

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**NARRATIVE REPORT: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The **General Fund** budget for 2020/21 and a comparison with actual performance are set out below:

	<b>Net Controllable Budget £000</b>	<b>Outturn £000</b>	<b>COVID Variance £000</b>	<b>Other Variance £000</b>
<b>Community:</b>				
Housing & Property	1,591	1,865	+328	-54
Parks & Environmental Services	3,925	4,555	+1,067	-437
Safer Communities	-1,415	522	+2,050	-113
<b>Corporate Affairs:</b>				
Finance	2,369	3,109	+970	-230
Legal & Governance	2,214	2,214	+73	-73
ICT	2,822	2,671	+23	-174
Organisational Development & Improvement	2,062	1,895	-66	-101
<b>Economy &amp; Culture:</b>				
Culture, Tourism & Sport	602	3,830	+3,849	-621
Place Shaping and Economic Growth	5,283	5,578	+1,099	-804
<b>Harrogate Convention Centre</b>	-556	-342	+822	-608
Treasury Management & Other Corporate Items	-1,885	-8,965	-7,766	+686
<b>Total Net GF Expenditure</b>	<b>17,012</b>	<b>16,932</b>	<b>+2,449</b>	<b>-2,529</b>
Funding	-17,012	-16,932	0	+80
<b>Net Position</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>+2,449</b>	<b>-2,449</b>

Overall, the Council outturned on budget. This compares to an overspend of £327k in 2019/20 and an underspend of £380k in 2018/19. The COVID-19 pandemic had a major impact on the financial performance in the year. Before taking into account Government grant support, the pandemic resulted in an overspend of £10,278k against budget due to significant income shortfalls in areas such as sport & leisure (£4,845k), revenues enforcement and recovered court cost income (£1,043k) and from parking (£1,985k), together with additional expenditure requirements. Offsetting these costs was Government grant support of £7,829k, resulting in a net cost to the Council of £2,449k as shown in the table above. In anticipation of there being such a cost that would need to be funded by the Council, a Financial Recovery Plan was approved in June 2020 which introduced measures such as a recruitment freeze, a halt on all but essential expenditure and a review of reserve balances. As a result of these measures, £205k of balances not required were released from reserves, revenue savings of £2,441k were delivered and we were able to replenish the working balance by the £198k utilised in 2019/20. Salary savings across the Council of £2,154k due to vacancies and the recruitment freeze account for the majority of the revenue savings figure. More detail can be found in the '2020/21 Year end Finance and Performance report', which was published in July 2021.



## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### NARRATIVE REPORT: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The **Housing Revenue Account** budget for 2020/21 and a comparison with actual performance are set out below:

	<b>Net budget</b>	<b>Outturn</b>	<b>Variance</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Expenditure	19,414	15,175	-4,239
Income	-18,157	-18,203	-46
Net Expenditure	<b>1,257</b>	<b>-3,028</b>	<b>-4,285</b>
Working Balance:			
Brought forward	22,161	25,253	3,092
Carried forward	20,904	28,281	7,377

Expenditure was significantly lower than budget, primarily because the contribution to capital expenditure was reduced by £4.2m due to a reduction in the planned programme and delayed refurbishments due to the Covid-19 pandemic, combined with the increased use of the Major Repairs Reserve to provide funding rather than the revenue budget.

Income was largely in line with budget, with only small variances.

The HRA working balance carried forward is £28.3m, in preparation for repaying in 2021/22 £15m of loan funding that was taken out to fund the self-financing payment to Government in 2012.

#### Capital

In 2020/21 the Council spent £20.6m on capital projects compared with the original overall budget of £24.4m. Of this total, Housing capital spending for 2020/21 was £9.5m compared to a budget of £11.1m, a net reduction of £1.6m. Within this, there were a number of increases and decreases. Planned maintenance and improvements works were heavily affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and costs reduced by £1.9m. House building schemes were similarly affected, with expenditure reducing by £2.0m. There was a saving of £0.7m due to changes to the redevelopment at Allhallowgate in Ripon and £0.5m due to works on unadopted roads being delayed. Offsetting these were increased spends on property acquisitions to add to the housing stock, totalling £3.1m across a number of new developments and open market acquisitions. These were approved after the original budget for the year was set.

Capital spending on non-housing schemes was £11.1m, compared to an original budget of £13.3m. The Covid-19 pandemic again had a significant impact on major projects; included within this variance of £2.2m was £1.9m of expenditure on the new swimming pool in Ripon being carried forward to 2021/22, along with £0.6m for the works redeveloping a property in Knaresborough High Street. Work on the digital incubator progressed more slowly than originally envisaged, with £0.4m being carried forward to 2021/22. Offsetting these savings was an increase of £0.4m on ICT expenditure. The major areas of expenditure in the year included the swimming pool at Ripon (£5.6m), vehicle replacements (£1.4m), replacement cremators at Stonefall crematorium (£1.3m) and IT hardware and software (£1.0m).

Capital receipts from asset sales during the year totalled £2.6m. £2.0m related to Council dwelling sales within the HRA, and there was an additional £0.1m of shared ownership property sales. Of the HRA receipts, £0.8m was paid over to the Government in line with the pooling requirements. The non-housing-related sales in the year related to an empty house that had been subject to a voluntary purchase in March 2020, and two deeds of easement on pieces of land that the Council owns.

#### Financial performance and the Covid-19 pandemic

The financial performance in the year was once again encouraging for the HRA, with a very similar level of surplus (just over £3m) to 2019/20 and as discussed above, the General Fund outturned on budget, despite the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### NARRATIVE REPORT: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

As we moved into the 2020/21 financial year, very quickly the Council had to adapt to operating in some very different ways in order to continue to provide the high level of services that the public expect. In some cases this simply wasn't possible, as leisure facilities, for example, were closed due to the lockdown and the Harrogate Convention Centre was converted into a Nightingale Hospital. However, where possible, staff were redeployed in order to keep other front-line services, such as refuse and recycling collection, operating 'as normal' despite the difficulties posed by social distancing requirements. Staff were also redeployed as part of the Council's response to support the community across the district. By June 2020, redeployed staff were making an average of 1,500 welfare telephone calls per week to members of the community who were shielding. Additional support was also provided to individuals who were rough sleeping at the time of the outbreak of the pandemic. The Council worked extensively with partner organisations, including North Yorkshire County Council and voluntary and community sector organisations.

The Government announced significant financial support to businesses soon after the pandemic took hold. Very quickly, processes were put in place in order to distribute over £48m of grants to nearly 4,000 businesses across the district. A £2.4m discretionary grant scheme followed on from this, whilst business rates relief totalling over £36m was given to over 1,200 businesses across the district. The Council also worked closely with businesses, to help them to stay open or re-open safely. As the year progressed, a number of different grant schemes to businesses and individuals were introduced by the Government and distributed via Local Authorities. A summary of the schemes operating in 2020/21 is shown below – these grants are not included with the Council's accounts as it is deemed that we are simply passporting these grants on from central government to businesses.

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Amount of grant paid out</b>
Small Business Grant Fund and Retail, Hospitality & Leisure Grant Fund	£48,170k
Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRSB) (Closed) Addendum 5 Nov – 1 Dec 2020	3,151k
LRSB (Sector)	£7k
LRSB (Closed) 2 Dec 2020 – 4 Jan 2021	£189k
LRSB (Closed) Addendum 5 Jan 2021 onwards	£9,744k
Test and Trace	£103k
Christmas Support Payments for wet led pubs	£98k
Closed Business Lockdown Payments	£9,637k

The Government also provided some funding for businesses that were not eligible for the main schemes. The Council had some discretion over these grant schemes and these are therefore included in the Council's accounts, within the Place Shaping and Economic Growth (PSEG) service. These schemes are summarised below:

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Amount of grant paid out</b>
Small Business Grant Fund and Retail, Hospitality & Leisure Grant Fund	£2,025k
LRSB (Open)	£825k

As at 31 March 2021, a further £485k of grant had been received but not paid out. It is anticipated that the unspent funds will be repaid to the Government and the balance has therefore been included as a creditor on the balance sheet.

The Government also recognised that some other businesses would be severely impacted and gave an allocation of 'Additional Restrictions Grant' to local authorities to distribute to businesses in line with a locally-determined policy. There was also a discretionary element of test and trace grant received. The spending on these grants is again included within the PSEG service within the Council's income and expenditure statement. The amounts paid out in 2020/21 were as follows:

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**NARRATIVE REPORT: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Amount of grant paid out</b>
Additional Restrictions Grant	£3,255k
Test & Trace	£49k

A further amount of £1,460k remained unspent at year-end and has been carried forward in an earmarked reserve for use in 2021/22.

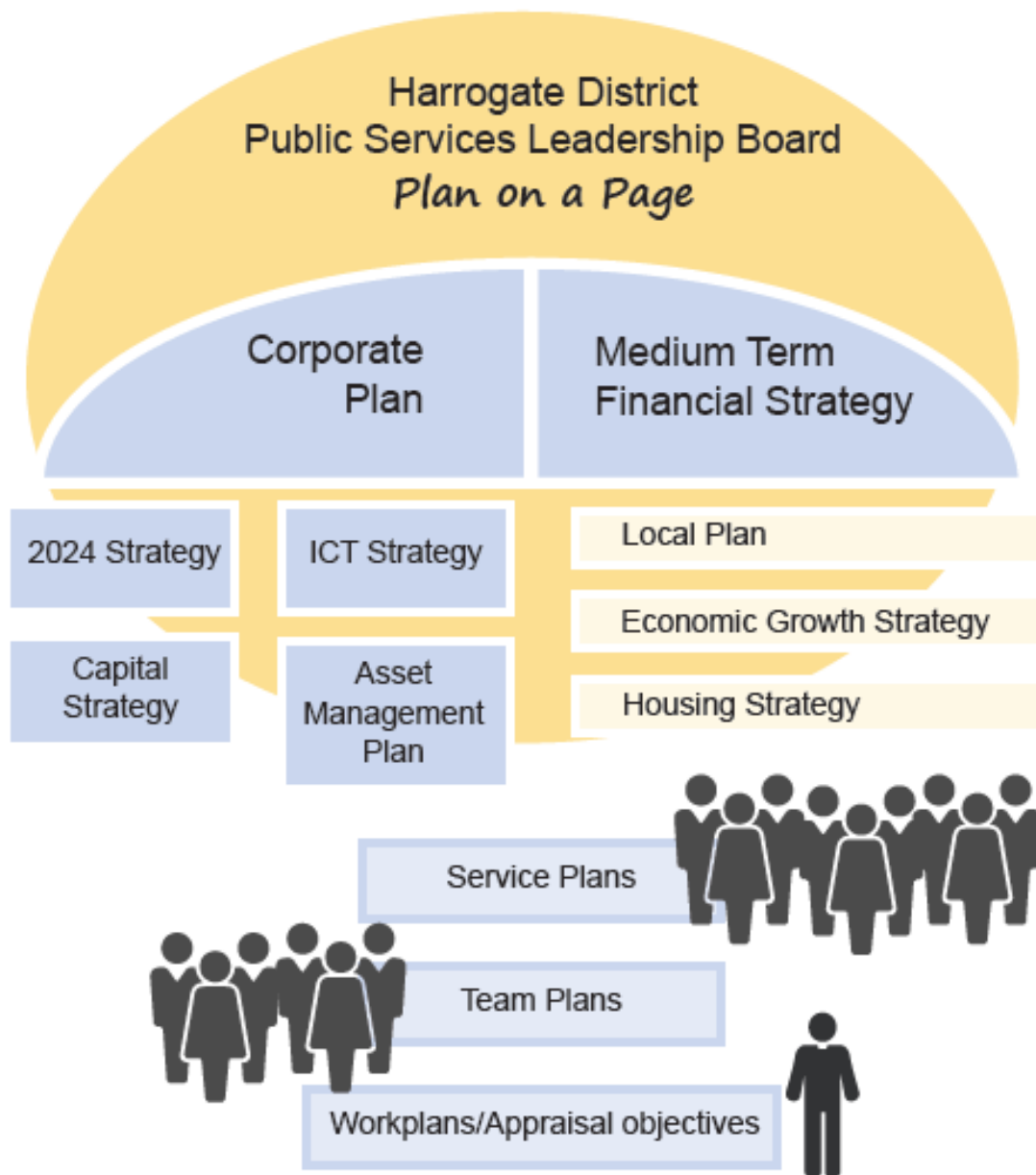
In terms of the financial impact upon the Council itself, by far the largest impact has been in terms of lost income, primarily from the Harrogate Convention Centre, leisure sites and car parking. To support local authorities in this regard, the Government has provided compensation for 75% of lost income (after a 'disregard' of 5% of budgeted income). The Government also provided grants to support the additional costs being incurred by the Council in response to the pandemic.

A financial recovery plan was established early in 2020/21 to put a number of mitigating measures in place. Non-essential expenditure, both revenue and capital, was constrained, a recruitment freeze was implemented and a review of reserve balances was carried out. The Council's capital and investment programme was carefully reviewed in order to minimise and/or postpone expenditure where possible, but with an eye on proceeding with projects that supported the recovery of the Council and the district.

There will continue to be an impact on the Council's finances, both in the immediate term and in the medium to long-term, as residents and businesses adapt to 'the new normal' following the pandemic. The impact is still difficult to estimate with confidence, as the situation continues to change rapidly and it will take time for the true picture to become clear in terms of council tax and business rates income in particular. However, the Council is relatively well-placed to deal with the financial fallout of the pandemic. Reserve levels are significant and cash balances are relatively high. Investments are being kept relatively liquid in order to mitigate against the shortfalls in income being generated by Council services. Whilst income to the Council has been falling, we have been making payments to suppliers as quickly as possible in order to support businesses and individuals. Cash flow is being monitored carefully to ensure that funds are available when they are required.

The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) was updated over the summer of 2021 and sets out the latest position in terms of the upcoming financial challenges and risks, together with the latest proposals as to how to overcome them. The MTFS is just one element of the strategic planning process, which is set out below:

# How our STRATEGIES AND PLANS fit together



In 2018/19 the Council adopted an updated transformation programme – the 2024 programme. The programme has made a number of significant achievements in the past two years, including:

## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### NARRATIVE REPORT: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

- Completion of a new civic centre and successful relocation of 500 staff and customer facing services
- Achieving projected income in excess of £2.5m through the commercialism agenda
- Development of an award winning website
- Over 77,000 online accounts set up by customers
- Roll out of a leadership and management programme to increase skills and effectiveness of senior managers
- Embedding of new standards of behaviour and staff recognition programmes

The *2024 Programme* is addressing the challenges and opportunities now facing the Council, including:

#### Challenges:

- **Funding** – there is significant uncertainty over future funding levels, with a Fair Funding Review theoretically due to implement new baseline funding allocations for local authorities from 2022/23, although it is highly likely that it will be postponed again.
- **Ageing workforce** – the Council must address how it will retain knowledge and experience as a significant proportion of the workforce approaches retirement age
- **Technological change** – ensuring that the council has the capacity to invest in and implement infrastructure change, in order to operate efficiently and to meet customer needs

#### More widely, the district faces key challenges including:

- **Ageing population** – the number of people aged over 65 is forecast to increase by 49% by 2035
- **Economic growth** – the district is forecast to grow more slowly than the wider Leeds City Region over the next five years
- **Transport** – ongoing issues with road and rail connectivity and traffic congestion
- **Housing** - high cost of renting and purchasing housing, with a limited supply of affordable housing

#### Opportunities:

- **Income generation** – commercial opportunities, including the Turkish Baths and Convention Centre
- **Alternative service delivery models** – to maximise commercial opportunities
- **Digitisation** – improved and quicker communications with customers

**Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)** will also have a major impact on the Council within the next couple of years. In July 2021, having consulted upon two potential options for reorganising local government across North Yorkshire, the Government announced that from 1 April 2023 North Yorkshire County Council will combine with all of the districts in the county to form a single unitary authority; Harrogate Borough Council will therefore cease to exist from this date (the City of York Council will remain separate and unchanged). There will be a significant amount of work to do both prior to and following the 'vesting day' of 1 April 2023 in order to ensure that services continue to operate seamlessly and, subsequently, the opportunities of operating as a single authority are fully realised. There is likely to be a short-term cost of implementing the new authority before, ultimately, ongoing savings are achieved through operating as a single entity.

#### Financial and Service Performance

In planning to meet these challenges and to take advantage of these opportunities, the Council recognises that the integration of financial and service performance is key. Each year, in order to present a balanced budget, each service has to critically review its spending and service delivery in order to make budgetary savings whilst continuing to provide services of the same or improved standard, meaning that there is an on-going commitment to increasing the economy, efficiency and effectiveness across all service areas.

The Council's service planning arrangements are integrated with its financial management arrangements. A strategic approach is taken to service and financial planning during the Performance Clinic process in which the

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### NARRATIVE REPORT: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

budgets and performance of each service are scrutinised by Management Board. Integrated finance and performance monitoring reports are taken to Management Board on a monthly basis and go forward to Cabinet each quarter. In 2018/19, additional quarterly Management Board performance and finance meetings were introduced to allow for detailed discussions on any areas of concern in order to identify further support required by services.

The Council produces an annual delivery plan to deliver its Corporate Plan – the actions and performance indicators in the annual delivery plan can change on an annual basis in order to ensure we are focusing on our priority areas. On presentation of the year-end performance report for 2020/21, Management Board felt that this year's performance report has been a good news story. The pandemic has been a major challenge for local authorities everywhere, especially so after years of a difficult financial climate. They asked that staff be congratulated and commended for their contributions which make Harrogate a high performing local authority. In many cases this has included extra duties in supporting people and businesses across the district.

Based on the report, Management Board identified homelessness and temporary accommodation as an area to focus for the coming year. Another area to focus on is the reopening of services again at Harrogate Convention Centre to assist the economic recovery of the district.

The coronavirus pandemic has had a significant impact on how we have performed over the past 12 months. We have been in and out of lockdowns, seen the majority of staff work from home, and others having to be redeployed within the organisation as a result of not being able to do their normal job. We have not been able to carry out some services as usual and the whole Council has had to adapt to the changes quickly. Other services have found themselves taking on additional work to respond to the pandemic. Despite all of this, we have still managed to complete and remain on track with most of our corporate actions.

Some examples of additional work include:

- Paying out £76.7m worth of business support grants across 10 schemes
- Our #shopsafeshoplocal campaign to encourage the safe re-opening of high streets and town centres
- A number of events confirmed for the summer of 2021
- Proposals to maximise the use of outdoor space
- Helping in setting up the NHS Nightingale Hospital in the Convention centre
- Developing and delivering our Covid Community support plan

2020/21 has ended with actions performing strongly. 90% of actions are either on target or completed. KPIs, however, have not performed as strongly with only 36% on target in Q4 and 41% on target against annual targets. A high percentage of KPIs are performing worse than the same period last year for both Q4 and year end totals. This is consistent with what we have seen throughout the year and reflects that actions were reprioritised in light of the pandemic, but KPI targets were maintained to allow us to accurately see the impact of the pandemic. In many cases these KPIs are not too far off their original target, and the percentages of PIs worsening are also fairly small.

**Key outcomes achieved in 2020/21 were (note that green text indicates areas that are on target, whilst amber text indicates areas of concern):**

- **Develop a strong local economy;** *The digital skills and inclusion project was accelerated* with the launch of 'Get Digital'. There are now 28 external and 24 internal Champions signed up to access the resources that can be emailed or printed off to assist those who need help to do something digitally and there has been involvement from 30 VCS groups. *The Station Gateway project masterplan is progressing* with a Heads of Terms agreement to partner commitment being drafted. *The economic impact of the Convention Centre and the Convention Centre overall income are considerably below target and previous year performance.* This is due to the Centre being closed for the entire year as a result of the government's lockdown on conference and exhibition venues.
- **A sustainable Environment;** *Council adopted the Community Infrastructure Levy in July. The proportion of waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting this year is better than target and at a consistent level*

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### NARRATIVE REPORT: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

*with the previous year.* The first phase implementation plan for the *rollout of electric vehicle charging points has been approved by Cabinet.*

- **Supporting our Communities;** We have *delivered 363 affordable homes*, a significant increase since last quarter and more than the previous year. The *Fern House, Spa Lane temporary accommodation development has been completed* and we have welcomed our first residents to the facility. The *number of new homes built by the council is slightly off target with 22 against a target of 25.* The majority of completions are in Quarter 4 including 19 units as part of the Spa Lane temporary accommodation unit. However, the council has bought 25 homes in 2020/21, significantly ahead of the target of 15. The *average length of stay in both B&B accommodation and temporary accommodation is significantly worse than target.* However, the average length of stay in a temporary hostel accommodation has reduced by over 5 weeks since Q3 and is similar to the same point last year. These missed targets are due to the challenges of moving people on during a pandemic.
- **Excellent Public Service;** The *People Strategy has been endorsed by Management Board and approved by HR Committee. Commercial trials at the horticultural nursery continue to yield success.* The team have exceeded both their budget target and stretch target, with income 23.11% up on budget for the year. *New Photon based corporate websites (Harrogate Borough Council, Turkish Baths and Bracewell Homes) were launched 22 October.*

More detail regarding the Council's performance during the year can be found in the Council's Corporate Performance Report 2020/21, which can be found here:

<https://democracy.harrogate.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=137&Mid=3113&Ver=4>

#### Planned Future Developments in Service Delivery

The Council is continuing to pursue its comprehensive programme of innovation and business transformation, designed to reduce costs, improve services, drive cultural change and place the customer at the heart of everything that we do. The *2024 Programme* is focusing on four areas of activity:

- Sustainable Harrogate – using our assets and powers to support economic growth and the provision of affordable housing
- Destination Harrogate – promoting Harrogate as an events destination in order to support the visitor economy
- Digital Harrogate – improving our communications through the use of digital and social media; and harnessing digital technology advances to improve access to services, reduce isolation and improve the effectiveness of the Council
- Commercial Harrogate – making the best use of resources by pursuing commercial opportunities and making efficiencies

Our approach to transformation enables the Council to continue to improve its services whilst ensuring that the financial footing of the Council remains solid.

#### Further information

The following documents are all available on our website ([www.harrogate.gov.uk](http://www.harrogate.gov.uk)):

**District Profile** – sets out the context for our plans, detailing information about our district and residents.

**Corporate Plan and Delivery Plan** – the Corporate Plan sets out our ambitions, corporate priorities and values. Each year we publish our Delivery Plan alongside the Corporate Plan, which details what we will do, what our targets are and how we will measure these.

**Medium Term Financial Strategy** – sets out how we plan to manage our finances and how we can more closely align resource to the priorities set out in our key strategic planning documents.

**2024 Programme** – is our integrated transformation and organisational development strategy, setting out our ambition for the Council.

### The Financial Statements

The Council's Statement of Accounts sets out the Council's income and expenditure for the year, and its financial position at 31 March 2021. It comprises core and supplementary statements, together with disclosure notes. The format and content of the financial statements are prescribed by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21, which in turn is underpinned by International Financial Reporting Standards.

The **Core Statements** are:

- the **Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts** – which explains both the Council's and Head of Finance's responsibilities in respect of the Statement of Accounts.
- the **Movement in Reserves Statement** – this Statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Council, 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 Council'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 and Housing Revenue Account for council tax setting and dwellings rent setting purposes. The Net Increase/Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves line shows the statutory General Fund Balance and Housing Revenue Account Balance before any discretionary transfers to or from earmarked reserves undertaken by the Council.
- the **Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement** – 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.
- the **Balance Sheet** – 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 is usable reserves, i.e. those 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 of reserves consists of those that the Council is not able to use to provide services. This 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'.
- the **Cash Flow Statement** – the Cash Flow statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Council 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 Council are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the Council. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Council'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 Council.
- the **Notes to the Financial Statements** – the notes to the accounts disclose the information required by the CIPFA Accounting Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting that is not presented elsewhere in the financial statements and which is relevant to the understanding of them.



## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### NARRATIVE REPORT: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The **Supplementary Financial Statements** are:

- the **Movement on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Statement** – which shows how the HRA Income and Expenditure Account surplus or deficit for the year reconciles to the movement on the HRA Balance for the year.
- the **Housing Revenue Account Income and Expenditure Statement** – this Statement shows the economic cost in the year of providing housing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from rents and government grants. Authorities charge rents to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The increase or decrease in the year, on the basis on which rents are raised, is shown in the Movement on the Housing Revenue Account Statement.
- the **Collection Fund (England) Statement** – this 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.

#### **Supporting Statements**

- the **Annual Governance Statement (Appendix 1)** which explains how the Council maintains an effective system of internal financial control.

#### **Further Information**

Further information about the accounts is available from the Corporate Finance team at Finance, Harrogate Borough Council, PO Box 787, Harrogate HG1 9RW, telephone (01423) 500600 or email [corporatefinance@harrogate.gov.uk](mailto:corporatefinance@harrogate.gov.uk).

In addition, interested members of the public have a statutory right to inspect the accounts before the audit is completed. The availability of the accounts for inspection is advertised on the Council’s website.

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH  
2021**

**The Authority's Responsibilities**

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 Head of Finance;
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets;
- approve the Statement of Accounts.

**The Head of Finance's Responsibilities**

The Head of Finance is responsible for the preparation of the authority's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ('the Code').

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Head of Finance 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 Head of Finance has also:

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

**Statement by the Head of Finance**

I certify that this Statement of Accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Harrogate Borough Council at 31 March 2021 and its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

-----  
**Paul Foster CPFA, Head of Finance** -----  
21 March 2022

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**APPROVAL BY CHAIR OF AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

This Statement of Accounts was approved by a resolution of the Audit & Governance Committee of Harrogate Borough Council on 21 March 2022.

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**Councillor V Oldham, Stand-in Chair of Audit & Governance Committee** -----  
21 March 2022

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	HRA Major Repairs Reserve £'000	Earmarked GF Reserves £'000 Note 7	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Total Usable Reserves £'000	Unusable Reserves £'000 Note 16	Total Reserves £'000
<b>Balance at 31 March 2020</b>	7,979	1,338	24,926	3,314	2,302	25,253	65,112	268,128	333,240
<b>Movement in Reserves during 2020/21</b>									
<b>Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-885</b>	<b>3,462</b>	<b>2,577</b>	<b>6,872</b>	<b>9,449</b>
<b>Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations:</b>									
Depreciation, impairment and revaluation losses of non-current assets	0	0	0	0	4,566	4,788	9,354	-9,354	0
Amortisation of intangible assets	0	0	0	0	95	0	95	-95	0
Transfer of amount equivalent to depreciation from HRA to MRR	0	4,676	0	0	0	-4,676	0	0	0
Movements in the fair value of investment properties	0	0	0	0	1,174	0	1,174	-1,174	0
Capital grants and contributions credited to the CI&E Statement	0	0	0	2,869	-2,869	0	0	0	0
Net gain or loss on sale or derecognition of non-current assets	2,608	0	0	0	-191	-571	1,846	-1,846	0
Transfer to/from Deferred Capital Receipts	0	0	0	0	10	0	10	-10	0
Amount by which pension costs calculated in accordance with IAS19 are different from the contributions due under pension scheme regulations	0	0	0	0	4,916	519	5,435	-5,435	0
Amount by which Council Tax/NDR Income taken to CI&E is different to amount taken to GF in accordance with regulations	0	0	0	0	13,934	0	13,934	-13,934	0
Amount by which short term accumulated absences charged to CI&E is different to amount taken to GF in accordance with regulations	0	0	0	0	-7	0	-7	7	0
Movement in fair value of pooled investment funds	0	0	0	0	99	0	99	-99	0
Statutory Provision for repayment of Principal	0	0	0	0	-754	0	-754	754	0
Capital expenditure charged to the General Fund/HRA Balances	0	0	0	0	-790	-495	-1,285	1,285	0
Transfer from Capital Receipts Reserve equal to amount payable to Housing Receipts Pool	-792	0	0	0	792	0	0	0	0
Usable Reserves used to Finance Capital Expenditure	-5,064	-6,014	0	-1,830	0	0	-12,908	12,908	0
<b>Net Increase/Decrease(-) before transfers to Earmarked Reserve</b>	<b>-3,248</b>	<b>-1,338</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>20,090</b>	<b>3,028</b>	<b>19,571</b>	<b>-10,122</b>	<b>9,449</b>
Transfers to/from(-) Earmarked Reserves	0	0	19,892	0	-19,892	0	0	0	0
<b>Increase /Decrease(-) in year</b>	<b>-3,248</b>	<b>-1,338</b>	<b>19,892</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>3,028</b>	<b>19,571</b>	<b>-10,122</b>	<b>9,449</b>
<b>Balance at 31 March 2021 carried forward</b>	<b>4,731</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>44,818</b>	<b>4,353</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>28,281</b>	<b>84,683</b>	<b>258,006</b>	<b>342,689</b>

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	HRA Major Repairs Reserve £'000	Earmarked GF Reserves £'000 Note 7	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Total Usable Reserves £'000	Unusable Reserves £'000 Note 16	Total Reserves £'000
<b>Balance at 31 March 2019</b>	5,822	976	23,623	2,968	2,657	22,161	58,207	270,521	328,728
<b>Movement in Reserves during 2019/20</b>									
<b>Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure</b>	0	0	0	0	-5,452	6,034	582	3,930	4,512
<b>Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations:</b>									
Depreciation, impairment and revaluation losses of non-current assets	0	0	0	0	2,779	2,208	4,987	-4,987	0
Amortisation of intangible assets	0	0	0	0	83	0	83	-83	0
Transfer of amount equivalent to depreciation from HRA to MRR	0	4,676	0	0	0	-4,676	0	0	0
Movements in the fair value of investment properties	0	0	0	0	1,372	0	1,372	-1,372	0
Capital grants and contributions credited to the CI&E Statement	0	0	0	1,247	-1,247	0	0	0	0
Net gain or loss on sale or derecognition of non-current assets	6,878	0	0	0	1,528	-948	7,458	-7,458	0
Transfer to/from Deferred Capital Receipts	0	0	0	0	15	0	15	-15	0
Amount by which pension costs calculated in accordance with IAS19 are different from the contributions due under pension scheme regulations	0	0	0	0	4,710	473	5,183	-5,183	0
Amount by which Council Tax/NDR Income taken to CI&E is different to amount taken to GF in accordance with regulations	0	0	0	0	-1,044	0	-1,044	1,044	0
Amount by which short term accumulated absences charged to CI&E is different to amount taken to GF in accordance with regulations	0	0	0	0	8	0	8	-8	0
Movement in fair value of pooled investment funds	0	0	0	0	35	0	35	-35	0
Statutory Provision for repayment of Principal	0	0	0	0	-767	0	-767	767	0
Capital expenditure charged to the General Fund/HRA Balances	0	0	0	0	-1,864	0	-1,864	1,864	0
Transfer from Capital Receipts Reserve equal to amount payable to Housing Receipts Pool	-792	0	0	0	792	0	0	0	0
Usable Reserves used to Finance Capital Expenditure	-3,929	-4,314	0	-901	0	0	-9,144	9,144	0
<b>Net Increase/Decrease(-) before transfers to Earmarked Reserve</b>	<b>2,157</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>3,092</b>	<b>6,905</b>	<b>-2,393</b>	<b>4,512</b>
Transfers to/from(-) Earmarked Reserves	0	0	1,303	0	-1,303	0	0	0	0
<b>Increase/Decrease(-) in year</b>	<b>2,157</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>1,303</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>-355</b>	<b>3,092</b>	<b>6,905</b>	<b>-2,393</b>	<b>4,512</b>
<b>Balance at 31 March 2020 carried forward</b>	<b>7,979</b>	<b>1,338</b>	<b>24,926</b>	<b>3,314</b>	<b>2,302</b>	<b>25,253</b>	<b>65,112</b>	<b>268,128</b>	<b>333,240</b>

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	2020/21 Expenditure £'000	2020/21 Income £'000	2020/21 Net Cost £'000	2019/20 Expenditure £'000	2019/20 Income £'000	2019/20 Net Cost £'000
<i>Housing General Fund</i>	4,097	-2,038	2,059	3,322	-1,285	2,037
<i>Parks &amp; Environmental Services</i>	13,623	-6,455	7,168	12,761	-5,949	6,812
<i>Safer Communities</i>	2,960	-1,968	992	2,922	-3,949	-1,027
<i>Finance</i>	23,276	-20,345	2,931	22,911	-20,470	2,441
<i>Legal &amp; Governance</i>	3,176	-192	2,984	3,353	-649	2,704
<i>Information, Communications &amp; Technology</i>	3,051	-12	3,039	2,890	-33	2,857
<i>Organisational Development &amp; Improvement</i>	2,108	-12	2,096	2,167	-16	2,151
<i>Culture, Tourism &amp; Sport</i>	6,384	-709	5,675	8,448	-6,179	2,269
<i>Place Shaping &amp; Economic Growth</i>	16,371	-11,693	4,678	11,134	-4,616	6,518
<i>Harrogate Convention Centre</i>	3,874	-3,079	795	4,625	-5,234	-609
<i>Corporate</i>	605	-270	335	758	-281	477
<i>Housing Revenue Account</i>	13,300	-17,728	-4,428	10,531	-17,067	-6,536
<b>Cost of Services</b>	<b>92,826</b>	<b>-64,501</b>	<b>28,325</b>	<b>85,822</b>	<b>-65,728</b>	<b>20,094</b>
<b>Other Operating Expenditure</b>						
Parish Precepts	1,131	0	1,131	1,085	0	1,085
Contribution to Housing Pooled Capital Receipts	792	0	792	792	0	792
Gain(-) or loss on disposal of Non-current assets	0	-769	-769	559	0	559
Other Capital Receipts	0	-13	-13	0	0	0
<b>Financing &amp; Investment Income &amp; Expenditure</b>						
External Interest Payments (note 11b)	1,587	0	1,587	1,588	0	1,588
Net Interest on the Net Defined Benefit Liability (Asset) (note 26)	790	0	790	815	0	815
External Interest Income (note 11b)	0	-459	-459	0	-623	-623
Movement in fair value of financial assets (note 11)	99	0	99	35	0	35
Investment Property I&E and changes in fair value (note 10)	1,174	-181	993	1,372	84	1,456
<b>Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income</b>						
Income from Council Tax	0	-16,568	-16,568	0	-16,181	-16,181
Capital Grant Income (note 21)	0	-2,869	-2,869	0	-1,247	-1,247
Other Non-ringfenced Government Grants (note 21)	0	-27,935	-27,935	0	-6,053	-6,053
Non-Domestic Rates Income and Expenditure *	23,219	-10,901	12,318	31,223	-34,125	-2,902
<b>Surplus(-) or Deficit on the Provision of Services</b>	<b>121,619</b>	<b>-124,196</b>	<b>-2,577</b>	<b>123,291</b>	<b>-123,873</b>	<b>-582</b>
Surplus(-) or Deficit on the Revaluation of Non-current Assets			-2,345			1,063
Remeasurements pension assets/liabilities (note 26)			-4,527			-4,993
<b>Other Comprehensive Income &amp; Expenditure</b>			<b>-6,872</b>			<b>-3,930</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Income &amp; Expenditure</b>			<b>-9,449</b>			<b>-4,512</b>

\* In 2019/20, the Council was part of the North and West Yorkshire 75% business rate retention pilot, which meant that the income retained by the Council, and the tariff payable by the Council, were significantly higher than they were in 2020/21, when the Council was part of the North and West Yorkshire 50% business rate retention pool and the COVID-19 pandemic impacted on income.

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2021**

	Note	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Property, Plant & Equipment	8		
Council Dwellings		244,925	240,402
Other Land & Buildings		85,176	86,174
Vehicles, Plant & Equipment		8,865	8,180
Infrastructure Assets		1,056	950
Community Assets		2,161	2,161
Surplus Assets		92	142
Assets Under Construction		10,658	5,819
		<u>352,933</u>	<u>343,828</u>
Heritage Assets	9	42,789	41,570
Investment Property	10	1,717	3,091
Intangible Assets		947	391
Long Term Debtors	11	1,507	1,392
Long Term Investments	11	4,866	4,965
<b>Long Term Assets</b>		<u>404,759</u>	<u>395,237</u>
Short Term Investments	11	34,005	31,133
Assets Held for Sale	12	353	316
Inventories		225	236
Short Term Debtors	13	27,078	6,163
Cash & Cash Equivalents			
Cash In Hand/At Bank	11	2,918	281
Cash Equivalents	11	5,400	14,114
<b>Current Assets</b>		<u>69,979</u>	<u>52,243</u>
Bank overdraft	11	0	0
Short Term Borrowing	11	-15,027	-27
Short Term Creditors	14	-10,405	-15,735
Provisions	15	-2,335	-3,319
Grants Receipts in Advance (Revenue)	21	-24,432	-3,716
Grants Receipts In Advance (Capital)	21	-2,963	0
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		<u>-55,162</u>	<u>-22,797</u>
Long Term Borrowing	11	-38,061	-53,067
Provisions	15	-1,662	-2,120
Other Long Term Liabilities – Pensions Liability	26	-37,164	-36,256
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>		<u>-76,887</u>	<u>-91,443</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>342,689</u>	<u>333,240</u>
Usable Reserves			
Usable Capital Receipts Reserve		4,731	7,979
Major Repairs Reserve		0	1,338
General Fund Earmarked Reserves	7	44,818	24,926
Capital Grants Unapplied Account		4,353	3,314
Working Balances:			
General Fund		2,500	2,302
HRA		28,281	25,253
Unusable Reserves			
Revaluation Reserve	16	70,428	69,259
Capital Adjustment Account	16	238,573	234,919
Deferred Capital Receipts	16	507	517
Pensions Reserve	16	-37,164	-36,256
Accumulated Absences Adjustment Account	16	-501	-508
Collection Fund Adjustment Account	16	-13,703	232
Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account	16	-134	-35
<b>Total Reserves</b>		<u>342,689</u>	<u>333,240</u>

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	2020/21 £'000	2019/20 £'000
<b>Operating Activities</b>		
Net surplus(-) or deficit on the provision of services excluding interest transactions:		
External Interest paid	-3,705	-1,546
External Interest received	1,587	1,588
	-459	-624
<b>Net surplus(-) or deficit on the provision of services</b>	<b>-2,577</b>	<b>-582</b>
<b>Adjust net surplus(-) or deficit for non-cash movements:</b>		
Depreciation and amortisation	-4,692	-3,692
Impairment and revaluations	-1,254	1,925
Movement in fair value of pooled investment funds	-99	-35
Increase(-)/decrease in impairment for bad debts	-296	495
Increase(-)/decrease in other provisions	1,442	2,359
Increase(-)/decrease in creditors	-20,505	-1,705
Increase/decrease(-) in debtors	3,563	-824
Increase/decrease(-) in inventories	-11	68
Pension Liability – contributions more/less(-) than IAS19 Costs	-5,435	-5,183
Carrying amount of non-current assets sold or derecognised	-1,846	-7,458
Increase(-)/decrease in Major Repairs Reserve (MRR)	1,338	-362
<b>Adjust net surplus(-) or deficit for investing activity items:</b>		
Less purchase of property, plant and equipment from MRR	-6,014	-4,551
Proceeds from the sale of non-current assets	2,608	6,878
Less Capital Grants credited to CI&ES	2,869	1,247
Less other Capital Receipts	-136	-15
<b>Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>-31,045</b>	<b>-11,435</b>
<b>Investing Activities</b>		
Purchase of property, plant & equipment and intangible assets	20,158	13,615
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	-2,609	-6,878
Capital grants received	-5,493	-985
Purchase of/proceeds from(-) long-term investments	125	5,875
Proceeds from(-)/purchase of short term deposits	2,872	86
<b>Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>	<b>15,053</b>	<b>11,713</b>
<b>Financing Activities</b>		
Repayments of long & short term borrowing	5	5
Change in net debtors for Council Tax and NDR income	22,063	-4,807
<b>Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>	<b>22,068</b>	<b>-4,802</b>
<b>Net Increase(-)/Decrease in Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>6,077</b>	<b>-4,524</b>
<b>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>		
Bank overdraft	0	0
Cash at Bank/in hand	-281	-291
Cash Equivalents*	-14,114	-9,580
	<b>-14,395</b>	<b>-9,871</b>
<b>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>		
Bank overdraft	0	0
Cash at Bank/in hand	-2,918	-281
Cash Equivalents*	-5,400	-14,114
	<b>-8,318</b>	<b>-14,395</b>

\* Short Term Investments that mature within one month of date of acquisition  
Credit cash balances are depicted as negative amounts

## **1. Accounting Policies**

### **i. General Principles**

The Accounts have been prepared in accordance with the 2020/21 Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting issued in July 2020 by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), based on International Financial Reporting Standards. The Accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention modified to account for the revaluation of non-current assets. All the figures presented are rounded to varying levels of precision and this is made clear in each case.

### **ii. 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 contracts with service recipients, whether for services or the provision of goods, is recognised when (or as) goods or services are transferred to the service recipient in accordance with the performance obligations in the contract.
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies 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.
- 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.

### **iii. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents are short term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. The Council has adopted a policy of cash equivalents being short term investments which mature within one month of their acquisition.

### **iv. Contingent Assets and Liabilities**

Contingent assets and liabilities are not recognised within the financial statements. Contingent assets are disclosed by way of a note to the accounts if the inflow of economic benefits or service potential is probable.

Contingent liabilities are disclosed by way of a note to the accounts if there are possible obligations that may require payment or a transfer of economic benefits.

### **v. Employee Benefits**

#### **Benefits Payable during Employment**

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled within twelve months of the year-end. They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits (e.g. cars) for current employees and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Council. 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 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.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

**Termination Benefits**

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Council 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. They are charged on an accruals basis to the relevant service or, where applicable, to Non Distributed Costs within the Corporate line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, at the earlier of when the Council can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the Council recognises costs for 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 Council to the pension fund in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, transfers are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

**Retirement Benefits**

In line with the CIPFA Accounting Code, the Council has adopted the full accounting requirements of IAS19 (Retirement Benefits). The disclosures required under IAS19 are set out in the notes to the Financial Statements, note 26.

Employees of the Council are members of the Local Government Pensions Scheme, administered by North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC). The scheme provides defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees work for the Council.

**The Local Government Pension Scheme**

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

- The liabilities of the NYCC pension scheme attributable to the Council 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 earnings for current employees
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current price, using a discount rate of 2.1% (based on the indicative rate of return on AA-rated corporate bonds)
- The assets of the NYCC pension fund attributable to the Council 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 revenue accounts of 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 Net Cost of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Non Distributed Costs within the Corporate line on the statement

## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

- net interest cost on the net defined liability (asset) i.e. net interest expense for the Council – the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability (asset) 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 (asset) at the beginning of the period – taking into account any changes in the net defined liability (asset) during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments

#### **Remeasurements comprising:**

- the return on plan assets – excluding amounts included in the net interest on the net defined liability (asset) charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure
- 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 – debited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – charged to the Pensions Reserve as other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure
- contributions paid to the NYCC pension fund – 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 Council to the pension fund in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement there are transfers to and from the Pensions Reserve to the General Fund Balance to remove the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and any amounts payable to the fund but unpaid at the year-end.

#### **Discretionary Benefits**

The Council 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 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.

#### **vi. Events after the Reporting Date**

Events after the Reporting 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 is 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 is adjusted to reflect such events.
- those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period – the Statement of Accounts is 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.

#### **vii. Financial Liabilities**

Financial Liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council 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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

was originally recognised. This means that for all the Council's borrowings the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal plus accrued interest repayable and the interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount payable for the year according to the loan agreement.

**viii. Financial Assets**

Financial assets are classified based on a classification and measurement approach that reflects the business model for holding the financial assets and their cash flow characteristics. The Council holds financial assets measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit and loss (FVPL)

Financial assets measured at amortised cost

Financial assets measured at amortised cost are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council 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 financial assets held by the Council, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal plus accrued interest receivable and interest credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount receivable for the year according to the loan agreement.

Expected Credit Loss Model:

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

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

Financial assets measured at fair value through profit and loss

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

Fair value is measured in accordance with the Council's Fair Value Measurements policy (see xxv below).

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.

The Council has chosen to apply statutory provisions for mitigating the impact of fair value movements on Pooled Investment Funds as directed in the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 [SI 2018/1207]. This allows (where relevant criteria are met) for fair value gains and losses on Pooled Investment Funds to be reversed to an account established solely for the purpose of recognising fair value gains and losses – the Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

This statutory provision applies from 1 April 2018 until 31 March 2023.

**ix. Grants and Contributions**

Grants and Contributions relating to capital and revenue expenditure are accounted for on an accruals basis. They are recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as income in the period in which the conditions of the grant have been complied with and there is reasonable assurance that the grant or contribution will be received. Specific service revenue grants are shown in the relevant service line, general revenue grants and capital grants are shown in the Non Specific Grant Income lines.

Where a revenue grant is received in advance of the related expenditure the money is transferred to an earmarked reserve to reflect the expenditure commitment in future years.

Where a capital grant or contribution has been recognised as income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the grant or contribution is transferred to the Capital Grants Unapplied Account to reflect its status as a capital resource available to finance expenditure. This transfer is reported in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the expenditure to be financed has been incurred at the balance sheet date the grant is transferred from the Capital Grants Unapplied Account to the Capital Adjustment Account. This transfer is also reported in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Where a capital grant or contribution has a condition that the Council has not satisfied at the balance sheet date, the grant or contribution is credited to Capital Grants Receipts in Advance on the Balance Sheet. Once the condition has been met the grant is transferred and recognised as income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

**x. Heritage Assets**

The Council has four main collections of heritage assets that are held primarily for the purpose of preserving them in trust for future generations because of their cultural, environmental or historical associations. Heritage Assets are recognised and measured (including the treatment of revaluation gains and losses) in accordance with the Council's accounting policies on property, plant and equipment. However, some of the measurement rules are relaxed in relation to heritage assets, as detailed below. The Council's collections of heritage assets are accounted for as follows:

• **Museums and Art Exhibits:**

Museum and Art Collections are reported on the Balance Sheet at insurance valuations, which are based on market values assessed by expert external valuers in 2006 and 2007, reviewed and updated annually by the Curator of Arts to include donations and purchases since this date at valuation or cost.

Sculptures included in this category are also reported at insurance valuations assessed by the Curator of Art in 1996 with more recent acquisitions being included at cost or valuation.

Acquisitions are normally purchases either at auction or from private collections and are funded using grants and contributions received for this purpose. These items, irrespective of value, are included in capital expenditure and recognised initially at cost on the Balance Sheet. Donations and bequests are few; where they do occur, they are recognised at valuation on the Balance Sheet, with a corresponding credit to the Donated Assets Account, or Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement once any conditions of the donation are met.

There is a strong presumption against the disposal of any items in the Museum & Art Collections but where a disposal does occur then the proceeds of such items are treated as capital receipts in the same way as Property, Plant & Equipment disposals but are to be applied for the benefit of the collections. This would normally mean that they would be used for the purchase of further acquisitions.

## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Full details of the Council's Acquisition and Disposal Policy for Museum and Art Collections can be found on the Council's website [www.harrogate.gov.uk](http://www.harrogate.gov.uk) in the Collection Development Policy.

These items are deemed to have indeterminate lives and high residual values, and depreciation is therefore not charged.

- **Civic Regalia:**

The Council's Civic Regalia – including the Mayor's and Mayoress' chains, badges of office, items of jewellery and mace – are included on the Council's Balance Sheet at their insurance valuation (replacement cost), as assessed by external experts in 2020/21. These items are used on a frequent basis outside of safe storage at public events so the insurance value is updated as regularly as possible. The number of valuations that can be carried out each year is restricted due to the costs involved.

The civic regalia category also includes a large number of trophies, bowls and other trinkets, many of which are made of silver and have been presented to the Council over the years to commemorate special occasions. Due to the large volume and diverse nature of these items, these items are not regularly valued due to the cost not being commensurate with the benefit attained. However, an up to date insurance valuation was commissioned in 2020/21.

The Council recognises these assets on the Balance Sheet at their insurance valuation, which is the expert valuation figure obtained in 2020/21.

The items included on the Balance Sheet are deemed to have indeterminate lives and high residual values, and depreciation is therefore not charged.

Acquisitions and donations are rare. Where they do occur, acquisitions are initially recognised at cost. Donations are not normally valued unless there are exceptional items that are likely to be of high value, in which case they would be valued by external specialists and recognised on the Balance Sheet, with a corresponding entry in the Donated Assets Account if there are conditions outstanding or in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement where there are no outstanding conditions.

- **Memorials and Monuments:**

The Council holds a small but diverse range of memorials and monuments. These are reported on the Balance Sheet at their insurance valuations, which are based on the estimated rebuilding costs that are reviewed and updated annually. These assets are considered to have indeterminate useful lives and depreciation is therefore not charged.

Acquisitions and disposals are not expected in this category.

- **Buildings:**

The Council holds one building that is classified as a heritage asset, namely the Royal Hall in Harrogate. Although historic cost information is available regarding the refurbishment that took place between 2006 and 2008, this cost relates only to aspects of the structure and interior of the building and not to the building as a whole. The asset is therefore held on the Balance Sheet at its insurance valuation which is based on the rebuilding cost as assessed by the Assets Manager. This valuation is reviewed annually. Depreciation is not charged on the Royal Hall as it is deemed to have an indeterminate useful life.

Acquisitions and disposals are not expected in this category.

**xi. Intangible Assets**

Expenditure on non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are controlled by the Council 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.

Intangible assets are valued initially at cost. Amounts are only revalued where the fair value of the assets held by the Council can be determined by reference to an active market. In practice, no intangible asset held by the Council meets this criterion, and they are therefore carried at amortised cost. The depreciable amount of an intangible asset is amortised over its useful life (usually 3-5 years) to the relevant services line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on a straight line basis. 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 lines 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. Inventories**

Inventories are included on the Balance Sheet at the lower of actual cost or net realisable value.

**xiii. Investment Property**

Investment Property is property (land and/or buildings) held solely to earn rental income or for capital appreciation or both. The Council's property portfolio is reviewed annually to identify any additional assets which meet these criteria.

Investment Properties are initially recognised at cost, but are subject to valuation at fair value at the end of each accounting period. When an asset is transferred to this category it is re-valued to fair value on transfer and any gain is recognised in the Revaluation Reserve. A loss is recognised in the Revaluation Reserve up to the balance on the Reserve and then to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Any balance on the Revaluation Reserve is frozen until the asset is derecognised.

Subsequent revaluation gains or losses on Investment Property are included in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure section of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in addition to the rental income and any direct expenditure.

Depreciation is not charged on Investment Property.

**xiv. Operating Leases**

Assets utilised under operating leases are not shown on the Balance Sheet. The rentals payable are charged evenly to revenue and disclosed in the notes to the Financial Statements together with outstanding commitments at 31 March.

Council Assets rented out under operating leases are recorded as non-current assets and the rental income credited evenly to revenue over the period of the lease. The rental income is shown in the notes to the Financial Statements.

**xv. Costs of Support Services**

The costs of overheads and support services are included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) against the service within which they are managed and monitored, although the Housing Revenue Account includes its share of support charges and the costs are netted off the expenditure of the appropriate recharging service.

**xvi. Property, Plant and Equipment**

All expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of non-current assets is capitalised on an accruals basis (subject to the application of a deminimis of £10,000 for land and buildings, £5,000 for equipment and £0 for heritage assets for schemes to be included on the Council's capital programme). Property, Plant and Equipment assets are included in the Balance Sheet at current value. For land and buildings this is market value in existing use (or depreciated replacement cost, if there is no market based evidence of current value). Council dwellings are included on the basis of existing use value for social housing. For non-property assets that have short useful lives or low value (or both), depreciated historical cost basis is used as a proxy for current value.

Assets under Construction, Infrastructure Assets and Community Assets are included at historic cost. The current asset values used in the accounts are certified by the Council's internal valuers under a five year rolling programme of revaluations. Subsequent additions are included in the accounts at the cost of acquisition.

The increases in valuations arising on the revaluation of Property, Plant and Equipment at current value are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. Exceptionally gains may be credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement where they arise from the reversal of a revaluation or impairment loss previously charged to a service revenue account.

An impairment or revaluation loss on a previously revalued asset is initially recognised in the Revaluation Reserve up to the balance on the Reserve in relation to that asset, any remaining loss being recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Property, Plant and Equipment are depreciated over their useful economic lives, except where any provision for depreciation would not be material. Depreciation is calculated using the straight line method for buildings, generally over a period between one and forty years. Depreciation on small items of plant and equipment, along with infrastructure assets, is calculated on a straight line basis over periods ranging from four to twenty years and the reducing balance method is used for vehicles at 30% per annum. Assets in the course of construction are depreciated from the point at which the asset is brought into use. Council dwellings are depreciated on a straight line basis over forty years.

The Council is not required to raise Council Tax to cover depreciation, revaluation or impairment losses. However it is required to make an annual provision from revenue to contribute towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirements (equal to an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the Council in accordance with Statutory guidance). Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses are therefore replaced by revenue provision in the General Fund Balance on the Movement in Reserves Statement, by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account.

**Componentisation**

When expenditure over £400k is incurred on a component of a building, the component is reviewed by the Council's valuers to assess whether the asset life of the component is significantly different to the life of the rest of the building. If it is considered to be materially different, the component will be recorded separately in the asset register for the purposes of calculating depreciation charges for the building.

When carrying out the rolling programme of building revaluations, the Council's valuers review all buildings with an asset value over £1m for significant components representing at least 20% of the overall original building cost, subject to a deminimis of £400k and with an asset life materially different to that of the rest of

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

the building. If any are identified they are included in the year end revaluation report and separated out on the asset register. These components are then taken into account in the calculation of the total depreciation charges to services for the building in the following year.

For some buildings (e.g. swimming pools), the valuer may define a component as a group of items which have similar significantly shorter lives than the rest of the building and collectively represent over 20% of the original cost of the building, subject to the £400k de minimis.

**Assets Held For Sale**

These are assets that have been declared surplus to the Council's operational requirements, are being actively marketed and have an estimated sale date within twelve months of the balance sheet date. Assets that are to be abandoned or scrapped are not reclassified as Assets Held for Sale.

Assets Held for Sale are included on the Balance Sheet at the lower of the carrying amount or the fair value of the asset less the costs to sell the asset.

Impairment or revaluation losses on initial classification or subsequent write down to fair value are charged directly to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement even if the asset has been previously revalued. Any balance on the Revaluation Reserve remains until the asset is sold.

Assets Held for Sale are not subject to depreciation.

**Disposals**

When an asset is disposed of, the value of the asset on the Balance Sheet is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. The receipt from the disposal is also credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and netted off against the balance sheet value to show the net gain or loss on disposal of the fixed asset.

Amounts in excess of £10,000 must be treated as capital receipts. A proportion of receipts relating to housing disposals are payable to the Government.

Capital receipts are transferred to the Usable Capital Receipts Reserve (to fund future capital investment and the payment to the Government) and the balance sheet value of the assets sold is transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account. The net amount is shown as a transfer of the gain or loss on sale of non-current assets on the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement to neutralise the effect of recognising the gain or loss on disposal of fixed assets in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement surplus or deficit.

Any revaluation gains in the Revaluation Reserve relating to the asset sold are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

**xvii. Provisions**

Provisions are made where an event has taken place which gives the Council 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.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year that the Council becomes aware of the obligation and are measured at the best estimate at the balance sheet date of the amount 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. Provisions are reviewed at the end of each financial year and where it has become less 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.



**xviii. Reserves**

The Council sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by transferring amounts out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement on Reserves Statement.

When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to an appropriate service to score against the surplus or deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The reserve is then transferred back into the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement so there is no net charge against Council Tax for the expenditure.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for non-current assets, collection fund, retirement and employee benefits and do not represent usable resources for the Council. These reserves and the movements on them in the year are explained in more detail in note 16 to the Financial Statements.

**ix. 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 non-current assets has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year. Where the Council has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the amounts charged to the General Fund Balance so there is no impact on the level of Council Tax.

**xx. Value Added Tax (VAT)**

The Council is VAT registered. The VAT that the Council pays on purchases of goods and services (input tax) and VAT that the Council collects on income from the supply of goods and services (output tax) are collected in a separate VAT Account. VAT collected on income must be paid to Her Majesty's Revenues and Customs (HMRC) whilst the VAT paid is recoverable from HMRC in the majority of cases.

The Council completes a monthly VAT return to HMRC and depending on the net position each month either the Council makes a payment to HMRC or HMRC makes a repayment to the Council.

Where VAT is not recoverable it is charged to the appropriate service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure statement.

When HMRC makes a refund of VAT collected in prior years due to a change in VAT regulations, the refunded VAT is credited to the appropriate service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year it is received. Any interest paid on the refunded VAT balance is credited to External Interest Income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

At the year-end any balance due to or from HMRC is included as a creditor or debtor on the Council's Balance Sheet.

**xxi. Internal Interest**

External interest receipts and payments are collected centrally and shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure. The Housing Revenue Account is credited and debited with internal interest, being a share of these interest receipts and payments in accordance with the formulae set out in the Item 8 Credit and Item 8 Debit (General) Determination issued by the Government each year in exercise of its powers under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

**xxii. Borrowing Costs**

Borrowing costs are interest and other costs that are incurred in connection with the borrowing of funds. The Council has adopted a policy of recognising these costs as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

**xxiii. Exceptional items and prior year adjustments**

Any material exceptional items are included within the cost of the relevant individual service or, if a degree of prominence is necessary in order to give a fair presentation of the accounts, separately identified on the face of the revenue account. Details of any such exceptional items are given in the explanatory notes.

Material prior period adjustments arising from changes in accounting policies or from the correction of material errors have been accounted for by restating the comparative figures in the financial statements and notes, along with the cumulative effect on reserves. Any effect of material prior period adjustments is disclosed separately as a note to the accounts.

**xxiv. Collection Fund**

The Council is required by statute to maintain a separate fund for the collection and distribution of amounts due in respect of Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates (NDR). The Statutory Collection Fund (England) Statement is included as a supplementary statement in the accounts.

In its capacity as billing authority the Council acts as an agent. It collects and distributes NDR on behalf of the Government, North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) and North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority (NYFRA), and Council Tax on behalf of NYCC, North Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner (NYPCC) and NYFRA.

NDR accrued income for the year and Non-Domestic Ratepayers debtors, creditors, impairment allowance for doubtful debts and provision for appeals are shared between the Government, NYCC, NYFRA and the Council.

Council Tax accrued income for the year and Council Taxpayers debtors, creditors and impairment allowance for doubtful debts at 31 March are shared between the major preceptors and the Council based on their percentage share of the total demands/precepts for the following year.

Collection Fund debtors are reviewed collectively at the balance sheet date by debt type and provision is made for impairment based on the historical evidence of default in each category. The Council's share of the Collection Fund debtors shown on the Balance Sheet is net of this bad debt provision.

In accordance with the current accounting code of practice the Council's Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement includes its share of accrued NDR and Council Tax Income. Where this amount is more or less than the amount to be credited to the General Fund under statute, there is an adjusting transfer in the Movement in Reserves Statement, between the General Fund Balance and the Collection Fund Adjustment Account. This account holds the Council's share of the Collection Fund Surplus or Deficit at 31 March.

The Council's Balance Sheet includes the net creditor/debtor position with the Government and other local authorities for taxes collected on their behalf and not yet paid to them or taxes paid to them but not yet collected from taxpayers.

**xxv. Fair Value**

The Council measures some of its non-financial assets, such as surplus assets and investment properties, 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 Council measures the fair value of an asset or liability on the same basis 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 Council 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 Council uses appropriate valuation techniques for each circumstance, maximising the use of relevant known data and minimising the use of estimates or unknowns.

## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Inputs to the valuation techniques in respect of assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the Council'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 Council 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.

#### **xxvi. Going Concern**

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis, under the assumption that the Council will continue in existence for the foreseeable future. Although Local Government Reorganisation is due to take effect in North Yorkshire from 1 April 2023, the functions of the Council will transfer to the new unitary authority.

#### **2. Accounting Standards Issued but not yet Adopted**

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

Definition of a Business: Amendments to IFRS 3 Business Combinations

Interest Rate Benchmark Reform: Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS 39 and IFRS 7

Interest Rate Benchmark Reform – Phase 2: Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS 39, IFRS 7, IFRS 4 and IFRS 16

None of these are expected to have a material impact on the Council's accounts.

#### **3. Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies**

In applying the Accounting Policies set out in note 1, the Council 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, this uncertainty is not yet sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the council might be impaired as a result of a need to close facilities and reduce levels of service provision.

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**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 Council 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 on the Council's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2021 for which there are significant risks of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are shown in the table overleaf:

	<b>Uncertainties</b>	<b>Effect if Actual Results Differ from Assumptions</b>
Valuations of property, plant and equipment	Judgements are made by valuers when valuing property.	Discussed in more detail below.
(a) Other property, plant and equipment	Judgements are made by valuers when valuing property. A wide range of variables are involved and some, such as building costs, can be volatile. Properties such as the Harrogate Convention Centre are particularly open to variation as there is a significant amount of subjectivity involved in the valuers coming to their conclusions.	The balance sheet values of the non-current assets (£85,176k) could change. A 1% change in the net book value of other land and buildings would amount to £0.9m. Under current accounting rules, any revaluation gain or loss has no impact on the General Fund or HRA Balances.
Business Rates	Since the introduction of the Business Rates Retention Scheme from 1 April 2013, Local Authorities have become liable for a proportion of the cost of successful appeals against business rates charged to businesses. A provision has therefore been recognised for an estimate of the amount that businesses have been overcharged up to 31 March 2021. The estimate has been calculated in two parts. Firstly, in relation to the 2010 rating list, by using the Valuation Office ratings list of appeals and historical analysis of successful appeals. Secondly, in relation to the 2017 rating list, by using the allowance included within the business rates multiplier for appeals and multiplying it by the rateable value, and then adjusting for the amendments that have so far been made to valuations.	There are a number of variables that can affect the calculated level of provision. For example, a 1% increase in the historic reduction in RV of all successful appeals would result in the provision relating to the 2010 list increasing by £60k. The Council's share of the provision is 40% in 2020/21 and totals £3,157k.
Pensions Liability	Estimation of the net liability to pay pension depends on a number of complex factors. Actuaries make judgements in relation to factors such as the rate of inflation, the rate of increase in salaries, and mortality rates.	The effects on the net pension liability (£37,164k as at 31 March 2021) of changes in individual assumptions can be measured – for example, a 0.1% increase in the rate of increase in salaries assumption would increase the pension liability by £0.7m. However, changes are complex because the different assumptions interact. Under current accounting rules, a change in the pension liability does not impact upon the net cost of the General Fund or HRA Balances.

**5. Events after the Reporting Period**

All events between the balance sheet date and the date the accounts were authorised for issue by the Head of Finance of 21 March 2022 have been considered and there are two non-adjusting post reporting period events to disclose:

**Transfer of Sport and Leisure to wholly-owned company from 1 August 2021**

From 1 August 2021, the Council transferred responsibility for running its sport and leisure activities to a new, wholly-owned company called Brimhams Active. The facilities that transferred consisted of the pools and leisure centres, community centres, Turkish Baths and Little Explorers Day Nursery. Again, this has no impact on the statement of accounts as at 31 March 2021.

Approximately 150 members of staff have transferred to Brimhams Active and the company is overseen by a new Managing Director and company board. The ownership of the land and building assets has been retained by the Council. Brimhams Active has been admitted as a designated member of the North Yorkshire Pension Fund, which means that it makes contributions to the fund on the same basis that the Council does. The estimated exit valuation obtained from the Actuary set out that £6.2m of pension fund assets and liabilities relate to staff transferred to the company, although the Council will remain ultimately liable for any pension deficit relating to the company.

**Local Government Reorganisation**

In July 2021 the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government announced its decision on Local Government Reorganisation in North Yorkshire. The outcome of this was that from 1 April 2023 a single unitary authority for North Yorkshire will replace the current county council and seven districts and boroughs. This has no impact upon the current statement of accounts. Until 31 March 2023, the Council will continue to operate as it does now; from 1 April 2023 the assets and functions of the Council will transfer to the new unitary authority.

**6. Adjustments between Accounting and Funding Basis under Regulations**

The adjustments made to the total comprehensive income and expenditure recognised by the Council in the year in accordance with proper accounting practices to the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Council to meet future capital and revenue expenditure are set out on the face of the Movement in Reserves Statement. A description of the reserves that these adjustments are made against is set out below:

**General Fund Balance** - The General Fund is the statutory fund into which all the receipts of the Council are required to be paid and out of which all liabilities of the Council 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 on 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. However, the balance is not available to be applied to fund HRA services.

**Housing Revenue Account Balance** - The Housing Revenue Account Balance reflects the statutory obligation to maintain a revenue account for local authority council housing provision in accordance with Part VI of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. It contains the balance of income and expenditure as defined by the 1989 Act that is available to fund future expenditure in connection with the Council's landlord function or (where in deficit) that is required to be recovered from tenants in future years.

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

**Usable Capital Receipts Reserve** - This reserve holds the capital receipts that have been set aside from the disposal of non-current assets. The use of these receipts is restricted by statute to fund new capital expenditure or to be set aside to finance historical capital expenditure.

**Capital Grants Unapplied Account** - This reserve holds the balance of capital grants received and credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement but not yet used to finance capital schemes. The balance is restricted by grant terms as to capital expenditure against which it can be applied and/or the financial year in which this can take place.

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

**7. Movements in General Fund Earmarked Reserves**

	1 April 2020	Transfers In 2020/21	Transfers Out 2020/21	31 March 2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Council Investment Reserve (see i below)	15,292	3,729	-2,520	16,501
Service Reserves (ii)	2,886	1,040	-1,134	2,792
Insurance Reserve (iii)	356	190	-154	392
Corporate Projects & Innovate Reserves (iv)	400	5	-60	345
COVID Grants Reserve (v)	0	1,460	0	1,460
Council Tax/Housing Benefit Reserve (vi)	184	560	-89	655
Budget Transition Fund (vii)	2,790	2,015	0	4,805
Business Rate Retention Reserve (viii)	412	14,683	-404	14,691
Other Earmarked Reserves (ix)	2,606	834	-263	3,177
<b>Total 2020/21</b>	<b>24,926</b>	<b>24,516</b>	<b>-4,624</b>	<b>44,818</b>

	1 April 2019	Transfers In 2019/20	Transfers Out 2019/20	31 March 2020
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Council Investment Reserve	15,056	3,753	-3,517	15,292
Service Reserves	3,377	493	-984	2,886
Insurance Reserve	495	117	-256	356
Corporate Projects Reserve	135	142	-217	60
Innovate Reserve	551	-39	-172	340
Council Tax/Housing Benefit Reserve	294	22	-132	184
Budget Transition Fund	633	2,157	0	2,790
Business Rates Retention Reserve	287	196	-71	412
Other Earmarked Reserves	2,795	913	-1,102	2,606
<b>Total 2019/20</b>	<b>23,623</b>	<b>7,754</b>	<b>-6,451</b>	<b>24,926</b>

i) The Council Investment Reserve is used to pool capital and investment resources across the Council.

ii) Service Reserves are built up from annual savings and are available to fund investment in services.

iii) The Insurance Reserve is held to meet any future self-insurance liabilities.

iv) The Corporate Projects and Innovate Reserves have been set up to fund any future costs that may arise from corporate restructuring reviews and the introduction of improved working arrangements.

v) The COVID grants reserve was established in 2020/21 to hold unspent grant funding that the council has some discretion over as to how it's used.

vi) The Council Tax/Housing Benefit Reserve is used to fund initiatives within the Revenues, Welfare & Customer Services function, including support for channel shift, as well as smoothing the budgetary effects of annual variations in the Benefits Subsidy that the Council receives.

vii) The Budget Transition Fund is used to smooth out the sharp changes that are required to the Council's budget in some years due to reductions in funding and one-off expenditures.

viii) The Business Rate Retention Reserve is used to smooth the impact of business rate deficits. In-year savings are set aside to fund the associated future deficits. The balance is unusually high at 31 March 2021 due to grants being received to fund the COVID-related reliefs in 2020/21; the balance will be used to fund the associated deficit on the collection fund in 2021/22 and 2022/23.

ix) Other earmarked reserves are established for services across the Council to support specific work areas.

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

**8. Property, Plant & Equipment (PP&E)**

**a) Movement on Balances 2020/21**

	Property, Plant and Equipment							
	Council Dwellings	Other Land & Building	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	Infrastructure Assets	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets Under Construction	Total PP&E
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>								
1 April 2020	240,402	87,624	19,236	4,133	2,161	142	5,819	359,517
Additions	8,605	302	3,026	346	0	0	6,638	18,917
Revaluation Increases/decreases (-) to RR*	94	1,068	0	0	0	0	0	1,162
Revaluation Increases/decreases (-) to SDPS**	-4,488	-1,067	0	0	0	0	0	-5,555
Derecognition – Disposals	-1,487	-51	-389	0	0	0	0	-1,927
Derecognition – Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reclassifications	1,799	-40	0	0	0	-50	-1,799	-90
31 March 2021	<u>244,925</u>	<u>87,836</u>	<u>21,873</u>	<u>4,479</u>	<u>2,161</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>10,658</u>	<u>372,024</u>
<b>Depreciation and Impairment</b>								
1 April 2020	0	-1,450	-11,056	-3,183	0	0	0	-15,689
Depreciation Charge to SDPS**	-4,508	-2,206	-2,319	-240	0	0	0	-9,273
Depreciation charge written out on revaluation	4,480	994	0	0	0	0	0	5,474
Impairment Losses/reversal to RR*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Impairment Losses/reversal to SDPS**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Derecognition – Disposals	28	1	367	0	0	0	0	396
Derecognition – Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31 March 2021	<u>0</u>	<u>-2,661</u>	<u>-13,008</u>	<u>-3,423</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-19,092</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 March 2021</b>	<u>244,925</u>	<u>85,175</u>	<u>8,865</u>	<u>1,056</u>	<u>2,161</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>10,658</u>	<u>352,932</u>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2020	240,402	86,174	8,180	950	2,161	142	5,819	343,828

\*RR = Revaluation Reserve

\*\*SDPS = Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services



HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

b) Movement on Balances 2019/20

	Property, Plant and Equipment							
	Council Dwellings	Other Land & Buildings	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	Infrastructure Assets	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets Under Construction	Total PP&E
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>								
1 April 2019	237,366	91,690	18,158	3,730	2,161	5,785	1,992	360,882
Additions	5,143	940	2,252	403	0	0	4,461	13,199
Revaluation Increases/decreases (-) to <b>RR**</b>	1,474	-3,454	1	0	0	-31	0	-2,010
Revaluation Increases/decreases (-) to <b>SDPS***</b>	-2,087	-1,280	-28	0	0	38	0	-3,357
Derecognition – Disposals	-1,623	-295	-1,147	0	0	-5,650	0	-8,715
Derecognition – Other	-98	0	0	0	0	0	-384	-482
Reclassifications	227	23	0	0	0	0	-250	0
31 March 2020	<u>240,402</u>	<u>87,624</u>	<u>19,236</u>	<u>4,133</u>	<u>2,161</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>5,819</u>	<u>359,517</u>
<b>Depreciation and Impairment</b>								
1 April 2019	0	-1,916	-10,332	-2,993	0	-52	0	-15,293
Depreciation Charge to <b>SDPS***</b>	-4,441	-1,763	-1,860	-190	0	-52	0	-8,306
Depreciation charge written out on revaluation	4,411	2,215	28	0	0	0	0	6,654
Impairment Losses/reversal to <b>RR**</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Impairment Losses/reversal to <b>SDPS***</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Derecognition – Disposals	30	14	1,108	0	0	104	0	1,256
Derecognition – Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reclassifications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31 March 2020	<u>0</u>	<u>-1,450</u>	<u>-11,056</u>	<u>-3,183</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-15,689</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 March 2020</b>	<u>240,402</u>	<u>86,174</u>	<u>8,180</u>	<u>950</u>	<u>2,161</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>5,819</u>	<u>343,828</u>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2019	<u>237,366</u>	<u>89,774</u>	<u>7,826</u>	<u>737</u>	<u>2,161</u>	<u>5,733</u>	<u>1,992</u>	<u>345,589</u>

\* RR = Revaluation Reserve

\*\* SDPS = Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**c) Depreciation**

For more information on depreciation methods and rates see Accounting Policy note 1(xvi).

**d) Capital Commitments**

The Council has authorised expenditure in 2021/22 of £20.6m (plus expenditure carried forward from 2020/21 of £5.5m) (£24.5m authorised in 2020/21 as at 31 March 2020 plus £5.7m carried forward). At 31 March 2021 £3.4m is contractually committed, being: £2.5m for Ripon Pool & Leisure Centre, £0.3m for replacement cremators at Stonefall Cemetery, £0.1m for computer equipment, £0.2m for vehicle purchases and £0.3m of various small commitments (£8.7m for Ripon Pool & Leisure Centre, £1.6m for replacement cremators at Stonefall Cemetery, £0.3m for computer equipment, £0.2m for vehicle purchases and £0.2m of various small commitments at 31 March 2020).

**e) Effects of changes in Estimates**

There were no material charges in the 2020/21 accounts resulting from changes in estimates for Property Plant and Equipment.

**f) Revaluations**

During the year all Council dwellings and approximately one fifth of other Council properties were revalued in accordance with the capital accounting rules, as part of the Council's five year rolling programme of valuations. All assets were reviewed for evidence of impairment at 31 March. The effective date for these revaluations was 31 March 2021, and the basis of all valuations is explained in Accounting Policy note 1(xvi).

Most of the properties were valued by internal valuers; Glenn Levison BSc (Hons) MRICS, Tom Broadley BSc (Hons) MRICS, Susan Beaumont BSc (Hons) MRICS, Emma Guy BSc (Hons) MRICS, Lisa Corby BSc (Hons) MRICS, Andrew Whelan BSc (Hons) MRICS, Susan Jackson BSc (Hons), and James Bean BSc (Hons) FRGS (the latter two under the supervision of one of the other internal RICS registered valuers). The following properties were valued by external valuers: Council dwellings and other HRA properties by Align Property Partners; Victoria Gardens Shopping Centre by Jones Lang LaSalle Ltd.

The following table shows the progress of the Council's rolling programme for the revaluation of non-current assets:

	Council Dwellings	Other Land & Buildings	Vehicles Plant & Equipment	Infrastructure Assets
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Valued at Historic Cost</b>	0	0	6,358	1,056
<b>Valued at current value in:</b>				
<b>2016/17</b>	0	4,567	0	0
<b>2017/18</b>	0	28,144	200	0
<b>2018/19</b>	0	2,697	889	0
<b>2019/20</b>	0	28,946	52	0
<b>2020/21</b>	244,925	20,822	1,366	0
<b>Total</b>	<u>244,925</u>	<u>85,176</u>	<u>8,865</u>	<u>1,056</u>
	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets Under Construction	Total Property Plant & Equipment
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Valued at Historic Cost</b>	2,161	0	10,658	20,233
<b>Valued at current value in:</b>				
<b>2016/17</b>	0	0	0	4,567
<b>2017/18</b>	0	0	0	28,344
<b>2018/19</b>	0	0	0	3,586
<b>2019/20</b>	0	0	0	28,998
<b>2020/21</b>	0	92	0	267,205
<b>Total</b>	<u>2,161</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>10,658</u>	<u>352,933</u>

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The revaluation of Council Dwellings to reflect the current housing market resulted in a total revaluation increase of £94k.

**9. Heritage Assets**

Reconciliation of the Carrying Value of Heritage Assets held by the Council. The four categories of Heritage Assets below are all shown on the Balance Sheet at their insurance valuations.

	<b>Museums &amp; Art Exhibits</b>	<b>Civic Regalia</b>	<b>Memorials &amp; Monuments</b>	<b>Buildings Royal Hall</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>1 April 2020</b>	<b>8,620</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>2,093</b>	<b>30,446</b>	<b>41,570</b>
Additions	100	0	0	0	100
Donations	0	0	0	0	0
Derecognition – other	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation Increases/ decreases (-) to RR*	0	143	63	913	1,119
<b>31 March 2021</b>	<b>8,720</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>2,156</b>	<b>31,359</b>	<b>42,789</b>
<b>*RR – Revaluation Reserve</b>					
1 April 2019	8,620	411	2,032	29,559	40,622
Additions	0	0	0	0	0
Donations	0	0	0	0	0
Derecognition – other	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation Increases/ decreases (-) to RR*	0	0	61	887	948
31 March 2020	8,620	411	2,093	30,446	41,570

\*RR – Revaluation Reserve

**Museums and Art Exhibits**

For Museums and Art Exhibits, the insurance valuations shown are based on the market values assessed by external expert valuers in 2006 (items of Russian jewellery valued by Wartski of London) and 2007 (Fine art, ceramics, jewellery, Egyptology and Greek, Roman & South American collections valued by Tennants Fine Art Auctioneers). These insurance valuations have been updated in 2020/21 by the Curator of Art for acquisitions since that date, purchases being at cost, and donations at valuation, and the movements are shown as additions in the year. The collection is being externally revalued during the course of 2021/22.

Within Museums and Art exhibits there are a number of sub-categories of heritage assets. The fine art collection consists of 2,500 works and accounts for the majority of the museums and arts collection's valuation.

A significant collection of foreign antiquities is held, with the Egyptology collection forming the majority of it, together with a collection of Greek, Roman and South American pieces.

There is also a collection of decorative and applied arts, consisting of ceramics, glass, silver and jewellery, and a collection of British archaeological material, together with a social history collection that covers a range of materials relating to domestic, community and working life in the Harrogate district, mainly dating from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The Council's Museums and Arts service cares for and promotes the above collections, which span the areas of Human History with 20,000 objects and Fine Art with 2,500 objects. All collections are stored in a purpose built secure storage and they are displayed principally at three sites; the Mercer Gallery, the Royal Pump Room Museum and Knaresborough Castle. Items are also loaned out to other museums and galleries in the UK and occasionally overseas.

## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Council is committed to making the collections as intellectually and physically accessible as possible, not only to residents in its District but also in the wider north of England region and, where appropriate, nationally and internationally. For example, there are both permanent and temporary themed displays at the sites above, as well as education programmes for young people and the opportunity for supervised private individual academic study.

In addition to the above collections, the Council holds nine sculptures that have been included in the Museum and Art Exhibits category.

The Museums and Arts service maintain inventory books with hand written entries for each item as they have come into the collection, giving each item an accession number. They also maintain a computerised catalogue of all collections called the MODES system.

#### **Civic Regalia**

These items are included on the Council's Balance Sheet at their insurance valuation, being the cost of replacement assessed by external specialists, Ogden of Harrogate and Tennants Auctioneers, in 2020/21.

The collection includes items such as the Mayor's and Mayoress' chains and their badges of office, together with a number of trophies, bowls and other trinkets, many of which are made of silver and have been presented to the Council over the years to commemorate special occasions.

The majority of the civic regalia collection is kept in secure storage, although items are sometimes displayed at the Council's museums. The Mayor and Mayoress use their chains of office for public engagements.

The Mayor's secretary maintains an inventory of all the items presented to the Council and the valuation schedules for the Civic Regalia.

#### **Memorials and Monuments**

Memorials and monuments are included on the Balance Sheet at their insurance valuation. This insurance valuation for the estimated cost of replacement is provided by the Council's Assets Manager and is based on rebuilding costs, which are reviewed annually.

The Council is responsible for twelve memorials and monuments, including the clock tower on North Road in Ripon, the Queen Victoria monument in Harrogate town centre and the obelisk in Ripon Market Place.

The increase in valuation in 2020/21 reflects an inflationary increase in the assessment of the rebuilding cost of all the memorials and monuments.

The monuments and memorials are all located in community open spaces across the district and are accessible to the public. The items are recorded in the property schedules maintained for insurance purposes.

#### **Buildings**

The Royal Hall, Harrogate, is the only building held by the Council in the Heritage Asset category. It was originally built in 1903 and was fully restored between 2006 and 2008 with the assistance of grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Royal Hall Restoration Trust. It is a unique local asset and is an important Grade II listed building. It is held on the Balance Sheet at its insurance valuation, being the estimated cost of replacement based on an assessment carried out by the Council's Asset Manager. This valuation is reviewed annually.

The building is recorded in the property schedules maintained for insurance purposes.

In accordance with the conditions of the Heritage Lottery Grant, the Royal Hall is open to the public by way of regular entertainment events, as well as public open days, and group tours can also be arranged.

The Council has a number of other heritage buildings e.g. Pump Room Museum, Mercer Gallery and Knaresborough House, but in accordance with the accounting code of practice these are treated as

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

operational assets. They are included in the Property, Plant and Equipment Category on the Balance Sheet at current value and are not included as Heritage Assets.

The Council does not possess any intangible heritage assets.

**10. Investment Property**

The Council received rental income of £181k from investment property in 2020/21 (£65k in 2019/20, although this was offset by a prior-year adjustment of -£149k, resulting in a net cost of £84k), whilst direct operating expenses amounted to £0k (£0k in 2019/20). As part of the asset revaluation process in 2020/21 the Council's internal valuers have reviewed all of the investment properties and are not aware of any material restrictions on the realisability of investment property or the remittance of income and proceeds on disposal.

A reconciliation of the carrying amounts of investment property at the beginning and end of 2019/20 and 2020/21 is set out below:

	<b>31 March 2021</b>	<b>31 March 2020</b>
<b>Fair Value</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
1 April	3,091	4,463
Disposals	0	0
Net gains or losses(-) from fair value adjustments	-1,174	-1,372
Reclassifications	-200	0
<b>31 March</b>	<b>1,717</b>	<b>3,091</b>

**Fair Value Hierarchy**

Details of the Council's investment properties and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 31 March 2021 and 2020 are as follows:

	Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Other significant observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)	Fair value as at 31 March 2021
<i>Recurring fair value measurements using:</i>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Shopping Centre	0	925	0	925
Secondary Industrial Land	0	0	792	792
Garage Block	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	925	792	1,717

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

2020 Comparative Figures:

	Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Other significant observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)	Fair value as at 31 March 2020
<i>Recurring fair value measurements using:</i>	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Shopping Centre	0	2,200	0	2,200
Secondary Industrial Land	0	0	691	691
Garage Block	0	0	200	200
Total	0	2,200	891	3,091

There were no transfers between Levels 1, 2 and 3 during the year.

**Valuation Techniques used to determine Level 2 and 3 Fair Values for Investment Properties**

Significant Observable Inputs – Level 2

The shopping centre has been valued using an investment method of valuation using an initial yield. When valuing the asset, regard has been made to comparable investments with characteristics similar, but not identical, to the subject property.

Significant Unobservable Inputs – Level 3

The secondary industrial land has been valued using an investment method of valuation, with an initial yield applied to the income stream. However, due to the nature and location of these assets there is no evidence of disposals of similar properties and little quantitative information to consider, and therefore the valuer has relied upon other information and appropriate assumptions. For this reason, these assets are categorised as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy as the valuation method uses significant unobservable inputs to determine the fair value (and there is no reasonably available information that indicates that market participants would use different assumptions).

**Highest and Best Use of Investment Properties**

In estimating the fair value of the Council's investment properties, the highest and best use of the shopping centre is its current use. The secondary industrial land is currently leased out and generate income, but there is the potential that their value could increase if they were reviewed and planning permission sought for development.

**Valuation Process for Investment Properties**

The fair value of the Council's investment property is measured annually at each reporting date. The valuations are carried out by both internal and external valuers, in accordance with the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Valuation – Professional Standards. The Council's valuations experts work closely with finance officers regarding all valuation matters.

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

**11. Financial Instruments**

**a) Categories for Financial Instruments**

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

Financial Assets	Non-current				Current			
	Investments		Debtors		Investments		Debtors	
	31 March	31 March	31 March	31 March	31 March	31 March	31 March	31 March
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Fair value through profit &amp; loss</b>	<b>4,866</b>	4,965	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0
<b>Amortised Cost:</b>								
Principal	<b>0</b>	0	<b>1,507</b>	1,392	<b>34,000</b>	31,000	<b>24,937</b>	4,364
Investment accrued interest	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>5</b>	133	<b>0</b>	0
Cash & cash equivalents	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>8,318</b>	14,395	<b>0</b>	0
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>	<b>4,866</b>	4,965	<b>1,507</b>	1,392	<b>42,323</b>	45,528	<b>24,937</b>	4,364

Financial Liabilities	Non-current				Current			
	Borrowings		Creditors		Borrowings		Creditors	
	31 March	31 March	31 March	31 March	31 March	31 March	31 March	31 March
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Amortised Cost</b>								
Principal	<b>38,061</b>	53,067	<b>0</b>	0	<b>15,006</b>	6	<b>6,006</b>	11,525
Loans accrued interest	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>21</b>	21	<b>0</b>	0
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>38,061</b>	53,067	<b>0</b>	0	<b>15,027</b>	27	<b>6,006</b>	11,525

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**b) Income, Expense, Gains and Losses**

Interest income of £191k (£497k 2019/20) on financial assets at amortised cost and interest expense of £1,587k (£1,588k 2019/20) on financial liabilities at amortised cost are included in the surplus or deficit on the provision of services for the year, giving a net expense of £1,396k in the year (£1,091k net expense in 2019/20).

Interest income of £196k (£80k 2019/20) on financial assets at fair value through profit and loss was also included in the surplus or deficit on the provision of services for the year. A revaluation loss of £99k (£35k 2019/20) was charged to the surplus or deficit on provision of services in the year but, as dictated by statutory provision, was reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement so as to not impact on the General Fund balance.

£67k (£30k 2019/20) of interest payments were received from Bracewell Housing, the Council's wholly-owned company, on the loans made to the company. Additionally, £5k (£16k 2019/20) of interest was received in relation to historic NNDR and Council Tax payments made to us following bankruptcy claims.

**c) Fair Value of Financial Assets and Liabilities**

	<b>31 March</b>			
	<b>Carrying Amount 2021 £'000</b>	<b>Fair Value 2021 £'000</b>	<b>Carrying Amount 2020 £'000</b>	<b>Fair Value 2020 £'000</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities at amortised cost</b>				
PWLB loans	<b>53,088</b>	<b>60,088</b>	53,094	56,838
Total	<b>53,088</b>	<b>60,088</b>	53,094	56,838
<b>Financial assets at amortised cost</b>	<b>42,323</b>	<b>42,323</b>	45,528	45,528
<b>Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss</b>	<b>4,866</b>	<b>4,866</b>	4,965	4,965
<b>Total</b>	<b>47,189</b>	<b>47,189</b>	50,493	50,493

Financial Liabilities consists of Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) loans. The fair value of PWLB loans is higher than the carrying amount because the Council's portfolio of loans includes a number of fixed rate loans where the interest payable is higher than the rates available for similar loans at the balance sheet date. This commitment to pay interest above current market rates increases the amount that the Council would have to pay if the lender agreed to early repayment of the loan. The fair value has been assessed by calculating the present value of the remaining cash flows by reference to the PWLB 'premature repayment' set of rates in force at the balance sheet date.

However, the Council has a continuing ability to borrow at concessionary rates from the PWLB rather than from the markets, termed the PWLB Certainty interest rates. A supplementary measure of the fair value as a result of its PWLB commitments for fixed rate loans is to compare the terms of these loans with the new borrowing rates available from the PWLB. If a value is calculated on this basis, the carrying amount of £53,088k would be valued at £60,088k. But, if the Council were to seek to avoid the projected loss by repaying the loans to the PWLB, the PWLB would raise a penalty charge, based on the redemption interest rates, for early redemption of £9,175k for the additional interest that will not now be paid. The exit price for the PWLB loans including the penalty charge would be £62,263k.

In 2020/21 the fair value of financial assets at amortised cost is equal to the carrying amount because all of the Council's investments have less than twelve months to maturity and therefore the carrying amount is assumed to approximate to fair value.

The financial assets at fair value through profit and loss are investments in property funds. The input level in the fair value hierarchy is at level 2, with valuations based on comparable investments with characteristics similar, but not identical, to the subject properties.

See note 28 for further information regarding financial instruments.



HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

**12. Assets Held for Sale**

	<b>31 March 2021 £'000</b>	31 March 2020 £'000
Balance outstanding at start of year	316	0
Assets newly qualified as held for sale:		
Property, Plant & Equipment	290	316
Revaluation increases/decreases(-)	63	0
Assets sold	<b>-316</b>	0
Balance outstanding at year-end	<b>353</b>	316

**13. Debtors**

Debtors have been reviewed collectively for impairment, based on historical loss experience at 31 March in the following categories shown in the table. Other Entities and Individual Debtors are reviewed individually by age analysis of the debtor system balance. The estimated impairment allowance for doubtful debts required has been charged to net cost of services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

	<b>31 March</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Central Government Bodies	17,510	2,254
NHS	516	0
Other Local Authorities	5,593	991
Other entities and individuals	1,505	1,275
<i>Impairment Allowance</i>	<i>-187</i>	<i>-156</i>
	<b>1,318</b>	1,119
Payments in Advance	648	892
<b>Total Customer Debtors</b>	<b>25,585</b>	5,256
NDR/Council Taxpayers	3,082	2,264
<i>Impairment Allowance</i>	<i>-1,708</i>	<i>-1,439</i>
	<b>1,374</b>	825
Housing Rents	333	299
<i>Impairment Allowance</i>	<i>-214</i>	<i>-217</i>
	<b>119</b>	82
<b>Total Statutory Debtors</b>	<b>1,493</b>	907
<b>Net Debtors</b>	<b>27,078</b>	6,163
<b>Total Impairment Allowance</b>	<b>-2,109</b>	-1,812

We allowed an extra amount for impairment of customer debts at 31 March 2021 than we normally would do because of the uncertainty surrounding the impact of the covid-19 pandemic on businesses and individuals.

**14. Creditors**

	<b>31 March</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Central Government Bodies	-921	-3,334
Other Local Authorities	-2,587	-4,086
Housing Rents	-236	-207
NDR/Council Taxpayers	-20	-1
Other entities and individuals	-2,498	-4,105
Receipts in Advance (Non-Grant Income)	-4,143	-4,002
<b>Total</b>	<b>-10,405</b>	-15,735

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

**15. Provisions**

**Current Liabilities:**

	1 April 2020	Additional Provision In Year	Used In Year	Released In Year	31 March 2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
NNDR Appeals	-2,394	-395	379	625	-1,785
Insurance Liabilities	-498	-91	239	86	-264
Redundancy Provision	-63	0	46	0	-17
Other	-364	-5	0	100	-269
<b>Total 2020/21</b>	<b>-3,319</b>	<b>-491</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>-2,335</b>
Total 2019/20	-4,888	-716	693	1,592	-3,319

**Long Term Liabilities:**

	1 April 2020	Additional Provision In Year	Used In Year	Released In Year	31 March 2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
NNDR Appeals	-1,841	-303	292	480	-1,372
Energy Bill Provision	-279	-20	0	9	-290
<b>Total 2020/21</b>	<b>-2,120</b>	<b>-323</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>-1,662</b>
Total 2019/20	-2,910	-609	187	1,212	-2,120

Under the Business Rate Retention Scheme introduced on 1 April 2013, the Council has to make provision against its estimated liability for possible successful appeals against non-domestic rate (NDR) bills issued in 2020/21 and prior years. Payment from the provision will depend on the final settlement of these appeals by the Valuation Office and the time taken to settle appeals can vary significantly. Of the total £1,105k shown as being 'released in the year', £1,008k actually relates to the reduction in the Council's share of the provision due to the change in the Council's share from 52.5% in 2019/20 (under a 75% retention pilot) to 40% in 2020/21 (under the 'standard' pooling arrangements).

The Council is self-insured up to £50,000 per claim for public liability and employer's liability claims. Any claims beyond these levels are met by insurers. The level of provision made is adequate to meet the Council's estimated known liabilities under its self-insurance arrangements for all outstanding claims. Claims can take a number of years to resolve with, on average, annual settlements of around £150,000 being made. The value of outstanding claims is assessed by the Council's professional advisors and provided in full. The insurance provision also includes the estimated liability under the scheme of arrangement with the Council's former insurer Municipal Mutual Insurance (MMI) for claims relating to pre-1993 policies.

The provision for Energy Bills relates to a number of outstanding invoices from utility companies for gas and electricity used at a number of sites, mainly in relation to 2016/17 and 2017/18. The settlement date will depend on the receipt of outstanding invoices from Energy Companies.

The Redundancy Provision was used to meet the liabilities arising from redundancies in 2020/21 that had been negotiated in 2019/20. No new provision has been made for redundancies as none have been negotiated in 2020/21 that will be paid in 2021/22.

Included within 'Other Provisions' is a provision for some disputed contract costs. The settlement date will depend upon when the dispute is resolved, though it is hoped that this will be in 2021/22.

No reimbursement is currently expected in relation to any of these provisions.

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

**16. Total Movement on Unusable Reserves**

	1 April 2020	Gains/ Losses(-) in year	Transfers Between Reserves	31 March 2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Revaluation Reserve (see i below)	69,259	2,345	-1,176	70,428
Capital Adjustment Account (ii)	234,919	0	3,654	238,573
Deferred Capital Receipts (iii)	517	0	-10	507
Pension Reserve (iv)	-36,256	4,527	-5,435	-37,164
Accumulated Absences Adjustment Account (v)	-508	0	7	-501
Collection Fund Adjustment Account (vi)	232	0	-13,935	-13,703
Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account (vii)	-35	-99	0	-134
<b>Total 2020/21</b>	<b>268,128</b>	<b>6,773</b>	<b>-16,895</b>	<b>258,006</b>

	1 April 2019	Gains/ Losses(-) in year	Transfers Between Reserves	31 March 2020
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Revaluation Reserve (i)	74,354	-1,063	-4,032	69,259
Capital Adjustment Account (ii)	233,013	0	1,906	234,919
Deferred Capital Receipts (iii)	532	0	-15	517
Pension Reserve (iv)	-36,066	4,993	-5,183	-36,256
Accumulated Absences Adjustment Account (v)	-499	0	-9	-508
Collection Fund Adjustment Account (vi)	-813	0	1,045	232
Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account (vii)	0	-35	0	-35
<b>Total 2019/20</b>	<b>270,521</b>	<b>3,895</b>	<b>-6,288</b>	<b>268,128</b>

**i) Revaluation Reserve**

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

	31 March 2021	31 March 2020
	£'000	£'000
<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	<b>69,259</b>	<b>74,354</b>
Upward Revaluation of Assets	2,884	3,517
Downward revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	-539	-4,580
Surplus or Deficit on revaluation of non-current assets not charged to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	2,345	-1,063
Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation	-1,176	-966
Accumulated gains on assets sold	0	-3,066
Amount written off to Capital Adjustment Account	-1,176	-4,032
<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>70,428</b>	<b>69,259</b>

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**ii) Capital Adjustment Account**

The Capital Adjustment Account is used to absorb 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 is credited with the amounts set aside by the Council as finance for the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement.

The Account is used to hold accumulated gains and losses on Investment Properties and gains recognised on donated assets that have yet to be consumed by the Council.

The Account is also used to hold revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before 1 April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains. It is not available to support spending.

	<b>31 March</b>	31 March
	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	<b>234,919</b>	233,013
Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement (CI&ES):		
Charges for the depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-current assets	<b>-9,368</b>	-8,368
Revaluation losses on Property, Plant & Equipment	<b>-114</b>	-396
Reversal Revaluation Losses on Property, Plant & Equipment	<b>33</b>	3,694
Movement in the market value of Investment Property	<b>-1,174</b>	-1,372
Amount of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal	<b>-1,846</b>	-7,459
Capital Financing Applied in year:		
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	<b>5,064</b>	3,929
Use of Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	<b>6,014</b>	4,314
Capital Grants and Contributions credited to the CI&ES that have been applied to capital financing	<b>1,830</b>	901
Statutory Provision for the repayment of Principal	<b>754</b>	767
Capital expenditure charged against General Fund and HRA balances	<b>1,285</b>	1,864
Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve	<b>1,176</b>	4,032
<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>238,573</b>	234,919

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

iii) Deferred Capital Receipts

The Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve holds the gains recognised on the disposal of non-current assets or on making improvement loans to home owners repayable when their house is sold, for which cash settlements have yet to take place. These items form Long Term Debtors.

Under statutory arrangements, the Council does not treat these gains as usable for financing new capital expenditure until they are backed by cash receipts. When the deferred cash settlement eventually takes place, amounts are transferred to the Usable Capital Receipts Reserve (or where the capital receipt is less than the £10,000 de minimis under legislation, to the Housing Capital Reserve).

	<b>31 March 2021 £'000</b>	31 March 2020 £'000
<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	<b>517</b>	532
New Deferred Receipts in year credited to CI&ES	<b>13</b>	0
Transfer to Usable Receipts reserve/GF Balance upon receipt of cash	<b>-23</b>	-15
<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>507</b>	517

iv) Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve is used to absorb the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Council 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 Council makes employer's contributions to the pension fund. 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 Council 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.

	<b>31 March 2021 £'000</b>	31 March 2020 £'000
<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	<b>-36,256</b>	-36,066
Remeasurement gains or losses (-) on pensions assets and liabilities	<b>4,527</b>	4,993
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the surplus or deficit on the Provision of Services in the CI&ES	<b>-9,286</b>	-9,359
Employer's Pension Contributions payable in the year	<b>3,851</b>	4,176
<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>-37,164</b>	-36,256

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

v) Accumulated Absences Adjustment Account

The Accumulated Absences Adjustment Account is used to absorb the differences that would normally be charged to 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 reversed by transfers to or from the Account.

	<b>31 March 2021 £'000</b>	31 March 2020 £'000
<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	<b>-508</b>	-499
Reversal of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	<b>508</b>	499
Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	<b>-501</b>	-508
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the CI&ES on an accruals basis is different to remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	<b>7</b>	-9
<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>-501</b>	-508

vi) Collection Fund Adjustment Account

The Collection Fund Adjustment Account is used to account for the differences from the recognition of council tax and non-domestic rates (NDR) income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as it falls due from tax payers compared with the statutory arrangements for paying across amounts to the General Fund from the Collection Fund.

	<b>31 March 2021 £'000</b>	31 March 2020 £'000
<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	<b>232</b>	-813
Amount by which the Council Tax Income credited to the CI&ES on an accruals basis is different to Council Tax Income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	<b>-200</b>	92
Amount by which the NDR Income credited to the CI&ES on an accruals basis is different to the NDR income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	<b>-13,735</b>	953
<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>-13,703</b>	232

vii) Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account

The Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account is used solely for the purpose of recognising fair value gains and losses on the Council's pooled investment funds under statutory provisions.

	<b>31 March 2021 £'000</b>	31 March 2020 £'000
<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	<b>-35</b>	0
Changes in the fair value of pooled investment funds	<b>-99</b>	-35
<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>-134</b>	-35

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

17. Expenditure and Funding Analysis and Segmental Income

a) Expenditure and Funding Analysis

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

2020/21	Net Expenditure chargeable to the General Fund and HRA balances	Adjustments for Capital Purposes (Note i)	Net change for the Pensions Adjustments (Note ii)	Other Differences (Note iii)	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Housing General Fund	1,769	27	263	0	2,059
Parks & Environmental Services	4,211	1,815	1,142	0	7,168
Safer Communities	423	316	252	0	991
Finance	2,277	97	557	0	2,931
Legal & Governance	2,743	41	200	0	2,984
Information, Communications & Technology	2,237	650	152	0	3,039
Organisational Development & Improvement	1,799	44	253	0	2,096
Culture, Tourism & Sport	3,978	1,263	434	0	5,675
Place Shaping and Economic Growth	3,713	328	637	0	4,678
Harrogate Convention Centre	517	40	239	0	796
Corporate	306	40	-3	-7	336
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	-5,059	112	519	0	-4,428
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>18,914</b>	<b>4,773</b>	<b>4,645</b>	<b>-7</b>	<b>28,325</b>
Other Income & Expenditure	-42,032	-3,694	790	14,033	-30,903
Transfers to/from(-) Earmarked Reserves	19,893	0	0	-19,893	0
Surplus(-) or Deficit	-3,225	1,079	5,435	-5,866	-2,577
Opening General Fund & HRA Balances at 31 March 2020	-27,555				
Surplus(-)/Deficit on General Fund and HRA Balances in year	-3,225				
<b>Closing General Fund &amp; HRA Balances at 31 March 2021*</b>	<b>-30,780</b>				

\* For a split of this balance between General Fund and HRA, see the Movement in Reserves Statement

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

2019/20	Net Expenditure chargeable to the General Fund and HRA balances	Adjustments for Capital Purposes (Note i)	Net change for the Pensions Adjustments (Note ii)	Other Differences (Note iii)	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Housing General Fund	1,821	4	211	0	2,036
Parks & Environmental Services	4,408	1,409	995	0	6,812
Safer Communities	-1,554	286	242	0	-1,026
Finance	1,940	-35	536	0	2,441
Legal & Governance	2,510	5	189	0	2,704
Information, Communications & Technology	2,243	463	151	0	2,857
Organisational Development & Improvement	1,871	29	251	0	2,151
Culture, Tourism & Sport	877	827	566	0	2,270
Place Shaping and Economic Growth	5,575	328	615	0	6,518
Harrogate Convention Centre	-436	-494	320	0	-610
Corporate	610	40	-181	8	477
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	-4,542	-2,468	473	0	-6,537
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>15,323</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>4,368</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>20,094</b>
Other Income & Expenditure	-19,363	-1,119	815	-1,009	-20,676
Transfers to/from(-) Earmarked Reserves	1,303	0	0	-1,303	0
Surplus(-) or Deficit	-2,737	-724	5,183	-2,304	-582
Opening General Fund & HRA Balances at 31 March 2019	-24,818				
Surplus(-)/Deficit on General Fund and HRA Balances in year	-2,737				
<b>Closing General Fund &amp; HRA Balances at 31 March 2020**</b>	<b>-27,555</b>				

\* For a split of this balance between General Fund and HRA, see the Movement in Reserves Statement



## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

#### i) Adjustments for Capital Purposes:

This column adds in depreciation and impairment and revaluation gains and losses in the services lines, and for Other Income and Expenditure:

- Adjusts for capital disposals with a transfer of income on disposal of those assets and the amounts written off for those assets
- Removes the charges for capital financing – i.e. Minimum Revenue Provision and voluntary set aside to repay debt, as these are not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practices
- Adds the contribution to Housing Pooled Capital Receipts
- Adds in revaluation gains or losses for Investment Properties
- Adds the transfer from deferred capital receipts for repaid housing improvement loans
- Adds capital grant income for grants that are receivable in the year without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied in the year

#### ii) Net Change for the Pensions Adjustments:

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

- For services this represents the removal of the employer pension contributions made by the authority as allowed by statute and their replacement with current service costs and past service costs
- For Other Income and Expenditure, the net interest on the defined benefit liability is charged to the CIES

#### ii) Other Differences:

Other differences between amounts debited/credited to the CIES and amounts payable/receivable to be recognised under statute:

- For services this represents the adjustment for accumulated absences
- For Other Income and Expenditure, the difference between what is chargeable under statutory regulations for council tax and business rates that was projected to be received at the start of the year and the income recognised under generally accepted accounting practices. This is a timing difference as any difference will be brought forward in future surpluses or deficits on the Collection Fund
- Transfers between Earmarked Reserves and the General Fund Working Balance are also adjusted for in this column

#### b) Segmental Income

Revenue received from external customers is analysed on a segmental basis below:

	2020/21	2019/20
<b>Services</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Housing General Fund	-371	-254
Parks & Environmental Services	-4,982	-4,882
Safer Communities	-1,889	-3,872
Finance	357	-628
Legal & Governance	-46	-53
Information, Communications & Technology	-3	-22
Organisational Development & Improvement	-6	-10
Culture, Tourism & Sport	-602	-5,467
Place Shaping and Economic Growth	-3,055	-3,394
Harrogate Convention Centre	-3,074	-5,230
Corporate	-3	-20
Housing Revenue Account (including rents)	-17,432	-16,798
<b>Total</b>	<b>-31,106</b>	<b>-40,630</b>

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

**18. Members' Allowances and Expenses**

Allowances paid in the year amounted to £346,000 in aggregate (£349,000 2019/20).

This comprised:	<b>2020/21</b>	2019/20
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Basic Allowances	<b>231</b>	230
Special Responsibility Allowances	<b>100</b>	94
Mayoral Allowance	<b>14</b>	15
Members' Car & Other Allowances	<b>1</b>	10
Expenses	<b>0</b>	0
	<b>346</b>	349

**19. Employees' earnings**

a) The numbers of employees (excluding senior officers - see note c) whose remuneration (excluding pension contributions) was £50,000 or more in the year were as follows:

Remuneration Band	2020/21	2019/20
	Number of Employees	Number of Employees
£50,000 - £54,999	8	7
£55,000 - £59,999	1	3
£60,000 - £64,999	6	6
£65,000 - £69,999	1	0
£70,000 - £74,999	0	0
£75,000 - £79,999	0	1
	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>

b) 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:

a. Exit Package cost band (including special payments)	b. Number of compulsory redundancies		c. Number of other departures agreed		d. Total number of exit packages by cost band [(b) + (c)]		e. Total cost of exit packages in each band £'000	
	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20
Value								
£0 - £20,000	0	3	1	8	1	11	15	76
£20,001 - £40,000	0	2	0	4	0	6	0	161
£40,001 - £60,000	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	55
£60,001 - £80,000	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	62
£80,001 - £100,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>354</b>

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

c) Senior Officers whose remuneration was £50,000 or more

	Salary, Including Fees & Allowances	Benefits in Kind e.g. car allowance	Compensation for Loss of Office	Employers Pension Contribution	Total Remuneration including Pension Contributions
2020/21	£	£	£	£	£
Chief Executive	118,447	58	0	0	118,505
Director, Harrogate Convention Centre	104,502	0	0	17,034	121,536
Director of Economy & Culture (Note 1)	97,143	4	0	15,834	112,981
Director of Corporate Affairs (Note 1)	99,618	0	0	16,238	115,856
Head of Finance	66,763	0	0	10,883	77,646

Note 1: The Director of Community post was vacant throughout 2020/21, with the duties of the post being covered on an interim basis by the Directors of Economy & Culture and Corporate Affairs. Included within the salary figures shown above are honoraria payments of £4,923 to the Director of Economy & Culture and £7,385 to the Director of Corporate Affairs.

	Salary, Including Fees & Allowances	Benefits in Kind e.g. car allowance	Compensation for Loss of Office	Employers Pension Contribution	Total Remuneration including Pension Contributions
2019/20	£	£	£	£	£
Chief Executive (see note 1)	125,476	95	0	0	125,571
Director, Harrogate Convention Centre	101,705	0	0	18,307	120,012
Director of Economy & Culture	90,560	115	0	16,301	106,976
Director of Corporate Affairs	91,274	59	0	16,430	107,763
Director of Community (see note 2)	91,310	6	55,065	16,064	162,445
Director of Major Projects (see note 3)	57,484	0	0	9,154	66,638
Head of Finance	64,976	24	0	11,696	76,696

Note 1: The Chief Executive's salary for 2019/20 includes Acting Returning Officer fees of £10,199.

Note 2: The Director of Community post was vacant from 29 March 2020. Compensation for loss of office includes £20,650 payment in lieu of notice.

Note 3: The Director of Major Projects post was a temporary post that was in place until 30 September 2019. The figures show the actual salary paid for the portion of the year that the postholder was in place.

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

**20. External Audit Costs**

	2020/21	2019/20
	£'000	£'000
The following amounts were payable to external auditors in the year:		
Fees for external audit services (Mazars LLP)	39	39
Additional fee variations for external audit services (Mazars LLP)	0	17
Fees for assurance work on housing benefits subsidy return (KPMG)	26	22
Fees for agreement of other returns and work (Mazars LLP)	8	2
	<u>73</u>	<u>80</u>

The table above shows currently agreed fees. However, further fees may be added if additional work is needed.

**21. Grant Income**

The Council credited the following grants and contributions to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in 2020/21:

	2020/21	2019/20
	£'000	£'000
<b>Credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income:</b>		
<b>Government Capital Grants</b>		
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (Housing Grants)	48	38
Homes England (Housing Grants)	1,117	677
<b>Other Capital Grants</b>		
Developers Section 106 and other contributions (Housing & Play Areas)	1,604	505
Donated arts exhibits	100	0
Other small grants and contributions	0	27
	<u>2,869</u>	<u>1,247</u>
<b>Other Government non-ringfenced grants</b>		
New Homes Bonus Grant	1,717	1,245
Business Rate Relief Grants	17,702	4,715
Covid sales, fees & charges income loss compensation grant	5,938	0
Local Authority Covid Grant funding	1,891	0
Local Tax Income Guarantee grant	411	0
Rural Services Delivery Grant	240	0
Other Small Grants – Council Tax Annex Grant etc	36	93
	<u>27,935</u>	<u>6,053</u>
<b>Credited to Services:</b>		
<b>Capital Grants to Finance Revenue Expenditure Funded by Capital under Statute</b>		
<b>Government Grants</b>		
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (Housing Grants)	777	690
	<u>777</u>	<u>690</u>
<b>Specific Revenue Grants</b>		
<b>Government Grants</b>		
Housing Rent Allowances (Department for Work and Pensions – DWP)	12,465	13,053
Housing Rent Rebates (DWP)	5,999	5,965
Administration and various one-off grants (DWP)	327	338
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government:		
Covid-related business grants	2,240	0
Housing, Planning & Finance	1,023	745
Dept for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy – Covid-related grants	5,470	0
Lottery Grants (Cultural & Heritage Services)	0	95
Natural England (AONB, Planning Services)	189	197
Other Grants (DOE, English Heritage, Cabinet Office)	134	162
	<u>27,847</u>	<u>20,555</u>
<b>Non-Government Grants</b>		
Leeds City Region Business Rates Pool (Cultural Services and Economic Development)	0	958
NYCC (Housing and Cultural Services)	399	247
Other Grants (Housing, Community Safety, Planning and Cultural Services)	108	183
	<u>507</u>	<u>1,388</u>
<b>Total Grants and Contributions</b>	<u>59,935</u>	<u>29,933</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

In 2020/21, in addition to the above, £27,395k of grant income was held as receipts in advance. £18,462k of this was Business Rates grants; this relates to grants to compensate for the additional COVID-related reliefs that were granted in 2020/21. The grants paid included the shares of central government and the other preceptors, in order to support the Council's cashflow position. In 2021/22, the non-Council shares must be repaid and will then be replaced with central government and the preceptors paying their share of the accumulated deficit on the collection fund. £5,834k relates to COVID grants from the Government (Local Restrictions Support Grants etc) where the Council has not spent its full allocation and there will be a reconciliation exercise in 2021/22 and the Council will owe the unspent balances back to central government. £2,422k is Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme grants from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and £540k is Land Release Fund grant. Finally, £137k was Benefits Subsidy grant from DWP. In 2019/20, £3,717k of grant income was held as receipts in advance. £3,600k of this was Business Rates grants relating to 2020/21, paid early by MHCLG in light of the cash flow issues that the covid-19 pandemic was causing some local authorities. £111k was Benefits Subsidy grant from the DWP, with the £6k balance being a cyber-security grant from Improvement and Development Agency.

**22. Related Party Transactions**

Related party transactions are those involving Councillors, senior officers, precepting local authorities and Central Government. They are described here apart from those appearing elsewhere in these accounts.

Central Government exerts significant influence through legislation and funding. Details of the grants received from Central Government can be found in note 21 and on the face of the CIES.

North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) also exerts its influence through the provision of grants for various purposes (see note 21). In addition, the Council provides the following services on an agency basis to NYCC; the Council collected £1,369k of on-street parking income in 2020/21 (£2,729k 2019/20) and after deduction of related costs of £816k (£861k 2019/20), the balance of £553k (£1,868k 2019/20) was paid to NYCC in four quarterly instalments. NYCC were charged £100k (£93k 2019/20) for Grounds Maintenance works and paid £40k (£56k 2019/20) towards Housing Services lifelines and sheltered housing costs under the Supporting People Scheme. NYCC also paid £27k towards Community Safety expenditure (£45k 2019/20). NYCC paid £86k (£90k 2019/20) for routine rentals for schools under Joint Use Agreements for Sport and Leisure Activities, and £57k for footway lighting, parish lighting and associated consultancy fees (£81k 2019/20).

The North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner paid £27k (£33k 2019/20) towards Community Safety expenditure.

Payments totalling £58k (£51k 2019/20) were paid to Parish and Town Councils towards the cost of Grounds & Cemeteries Maintenance, Community Projects, and Christmas Lighting. Income of £38k (£12k 2019/20) was received for rental and caretaking services of recreation areas and properties leased to Parish and Town Councils.

During 2020/21, a number of Members held directorships at organisations with which the Council had transactions. In total, the Council made payments totalling £62k (£219k 2019/20) to such organisations and received payments totalling £20k (£133k 2019/20). One of the Council's directors is also a board member of the Harrogate Business Improvement District (BID). The Council bills for and collects the BID levies payable by businesses within the area covered by the BID and received a fee of £15k for doing so (£15k 2019/20).

There were no advances (£13k 2019/20) for car loans made to chief officers in the year under their conditions of service. Repayments of car loans were £4k (£3.5k 2019/20), leaving a balance of £8k (£12k 2019/20) at the year-end. Other transactions with these related parties are not listed individually, as their values are not regarded as material to a fair understanding of the accounts. This is on the basis of individual questionnaires returned by all senior officers and councillors. There were no former councillors for 2020/21.

In 2020/21, the Council loaned £125k to Bracewell Homes Ltd, its wholly-owned company. The Council received £67k of interest from Bracewell Homes on this loan in the year (£31k 2019/20), as well as £25k (£10k in 2019/20) to cover the time spent by Council staff working on behalf of Bracewell Homes. As at 31 March 2021, the total value of loans from the Council to Bracewell Homes was £1,000k (£875k 2019/20). The company reported a net profit after tax of £705k in 2020/21 (£130k 2019/20) and had net assets of £835k as at 31 March 2021 (£130k 2019/20).

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

**23. Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing**

	2020/21			2019/20
	General Fund £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Total £'000	Total £'000
<b>Opening Capital Financing Requirement</b>	<b>24,703</b>	<b>61,189</b>	<b>85,892</b>	83,595
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>				
Property, Plant & Equipment	9,395	9,522	18,917	13,199
Heritage Assets	100	0	100	0
Loan to wholly-owned company	125	0	125	875
Assets Held for Sale	0	0	0	315
Intangible Assets	651	0	651	165
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute (included in the surplus on the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Account)	790	0	790	690
	<b>11,061</b>	<b>9,522</b>	<b>20,583</b>	15,244
<b>Sources of Finance</b>				
Capital Receipts	-3,503	-1,561	-5,064	-3,929
Grants and Contributions	-1,155	-1,452	-2,607	-1,836
Revenue	-803	-495	-1,298	-1,864
Major Repairs Reserve	0	-6,014	-6,014	-4,551
	<b>-5,461</b>	<b>-9,522</b>	<b>-14,983</b>	-12,180
<b>Minimum Revenue Provision/set aside receipts</b>	<b>-754</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-754</b>	-767
<b>Closing Capital Financing Requirement</b>	<b>29,549</b>	<b>61,189</b>	<b>90,738</b>	85,892
<b>Explanation of movement in year</b>				
Borrowing - internal	5,600	0	5,600	3,064
Statutory Revenue set aside	-754	0	-754	-767
<b>Increase / Decrease (-) in Capital Financing Requirement</b>	<b>4,846</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,846</b>	2,297
<b>Items of Capital Expenditure</b>			<b>2020/21 £'000</b>	<b>2019/20 £'000</b>
Improvements to Council Dwellings – inc new build and purchases			9,522	6,936
Ripon Pool			5,581	2,805
Vehicles and Plant			1,379	1,596
Stonefall Cremators			1,310	39
Computer Investment – hardware and software			987	741
Private Sector Housing Grants/Loans			790	690
Open Space & Community Facilities			288	198
78-82a High Street, Knaresborough			139	259
Loan to wholly-owned housing company			125	875
Phoenix Workshops extension			124	0
Conyngham Hall refurbishment			89	398
Play area refurbishments			59	201
Digital Incubator at Springfield House			22	76
Empty property house purchase			0	316
Other schemes			168	114
			<b>20,583</b>	15,244

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**24. Operating Leasing Payments and Commitments**

**Council as Lessee:**

**Operating Leases (for land and buildings)**

i) Leasing rentals paid to lessors in the year were:

	<b>2020/21</b>	2019/20
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Minimum lease payments	99	88
Contingent rents	9	15
	<b>108</b>	103

ii) The minimum lease payments for land and buildings due under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

	<b>31 March</b>	31 March
	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Not later than one year	71	66
Later than one year and not later than five years	57	116
Later than five years	42	48
	<b>170</b>	230

**Council as Lessor:**

The Council leases out property and equipment under operating leases mainly 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 local businesses
- To provide investment income

i) Minimum lease payments received from lessees in the year were £854k (£1,084k in 2019/20).

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

	<b>31 March</b>	31 March
	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Not later than one year	597	592
Later than one year and not later than five years	962	991
Later than five years	12,152	12,326
	<b>13,711</b>	13,909

The minimum lease payments do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews. In 2020/21 £311k of contingent rents were receivable (£129k in 2019/20).

**25. Termination Benefits**

During 2020/21, 1 exit package was agreed (19 in 2019/20), with an associated liability of £15k (£354k 2019/20) - see note 19(b) for the number of exit packages and total cost per band. Of the £15k (£354k 2019/20) payable, £15k was paid out during 2020/21 (£291k 2019/20), with no provision necessary for any payments to be made in 2021/22 (£63k provided for in 2019/20 to be paid in 2020/21). Of the total payable, £0k related to pension costs (£75k 2019/20).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

**26. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes**

**a) Participation in Pensions Schemes**

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

The Council participates in two post-employment schemes:

- The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), administered locally by North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) – this is a funded defined benefit scheme, meaning that the council and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pensions liabilities with investment assets
- Arrangements for the award of discretionary post-retirement benefits upon early retirement – this is an unfunded defined benefit arrangement, under which liabilities are recognised when awards are made. However, there are no investment assets built up to meet these pension liabilities, and cash has to be generated to meet actual pension payments as they eventually fall due

The North Yorkshire pension scheme is operated under the regulatory framework for the LGPS and the governance of the scheme is the responsibility of the Pension Fund Committee of NYCC. Policy is determined in accordance with Pensions Fund Regulations. The investment managers of the fund are appointed by the committee, which takes advice from the Corporate Director – Strategic Resources and the fund’s investment advisers.

The principal risks to the Council of the scheme are the longevity assumptions, structural changes to the scheme (i.e. large scale withdrawals), changes to inflation, bond yields and the performance of equity investments held by the scheme.

**b) Transactions Relating to Retirement Benefits**

The costs of retirement benefits are recognised in the Net Cost of Services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge that is required to be made against Council Tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of retirement benefits is reversed out of the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account via the Movement in Reserves Statement. The following transactions have been made in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and Movement in Reserves Statement during the year:

	2020/21	2019/20
	£'000	£'000
<b>Comprehensive Income &amp; Expenditure Statement</b>		
<i>Cost of Services:</i>		
<i>Service cost comprising:</i>		
• Current Service Cost	8,486	8,541
• Past Service Cost	10	3
• Gain(-)/loss from settlements	0	0
<i>Financing &amp; Investment Income &amp; Expenditure:</i>		
Net interest expense	790	815
<b>Total Post-employment Benefits charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services</b>	<b>9,286</b>	<b>9,359</b>
<i>Other Post-employment Benefits charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</i>		
Remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability comprising:		
• Return on plan assets (excluding the amount included in the net interest expense)	59,982	-3,669
• Experience gain/loss(-)	3,317	-6,533
• Gain/loss(-) due to changes in demographic assumptions	0	9,508
• Gain/loss(-) due to changes in financial assumptions	-58,772	5,687
	<b>4,527</b>	<b>4,993</b>
<b>Total Post-employment Benefits charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>	<b>13,813</b>	<b>14,352</b>



HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

b) Transactions Relating to Retirement Benefits (continued)

<b>Movement in Reserves Statement</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	2019/20
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Reversal of net charges made to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	<b>-9,286</b>	-9,359
<i>Actual amount charged against the General Fund Balance and HRA Balance for pensions in the year:</i>		
Employers' contributions payable to the scheme	<b>3,851</b>	4,176
<b>Amount by which pension costs calculated in accordance with IAS19 are different from the contributions due under pension scheme regulations</b>	<b>-5,435</b>	-5,183

c) Local Government Pension Scheme Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet

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

	<b>31 March</b>	31 March
	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Present value of the defined benefit obligation	<b>-350,189</b>	-286,265
Fair value of plan assets	<b>313,025</b>	250,009
<b>Net liability arising from defined benefit obligation</b>	<b>-37,164</b>	-36,256

d) Reconciliation of the Movements in the Fair Value of Scheme Assets

	<b>31 March</b>	31 March
	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Opening fair value of scheme assets at 1 April	<b>250,009</b>	251,557
Interest on plan assets	<b>5,721</b>	5,993
Remeasurement gain/loss(-):		
• Return on plan assets, excluding the amount included in the net interest expense	<b>59,982</b>	-3,669
Employer contributions	<b>3,851</b>	4,176
Member contributions	<b>1,490</b>	1,458
Benefits/transfers paid	<b>-8,028</b>	-9,506
<b>Closing fair value of scheme assets at 31 March</b>	<b>313,025</b>	250,009

e) Reconciliation of the Present Value of the Scheme Liabilities (Defined Benefit Obligation)

	<b>31 March</b>	31 March
	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Opening balance at 1 April	<b>286,265</b>	287,623
Current service cost	<b>8,486</b>	8,541
Interest cost	<b>6,511</b>	6,808
Member contributions	<b>1,490</b>	1,458
Remeasurement gains(-) and losses:		
• Experience gain(-)/loss	<b>-3,317</b>	6,533
• Gain(-)/loss due to changes in demographic assumptions	<b>0</b>	-9,508
• Gain(-)/loss due to changes in financial assumptions	<b>58,772</b>	-5,687
Past service cost loss/gain(-) on curtailments	<b>10</b>	3
Benefits/transfers paid	<b>-8,028</b>	-9,506
<b>Closing balance at 31 March</b>	<b>350,189</b>	286,265

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

f) Local Government Pension Scheme assets comprised:

	Quoted Price in Active Market Y/N	Fair Value of Scheme Asset 31 March			
		2021 %	2021 £'000	2020 %	2020 £'000
Equities	Y	57.8	180,928	58.5	146,255
Property	Y	6.1	19,095	7.3	18,251
Government Bonds	Y	16.2	50,710	19.1	47,752
Corporate Bonds	Y	2.1	6,574	0.0	0
Cash	Y	3.3	10,330	4.1	10,250
Other	Y	8.1	25,355	4.1	10,250
Other	N	6.4	20,033	6.9	17,251
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.0</b>	<b>313,025</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>250,009</b>

g) Basis for Estimating Assets and Liabilities

Liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels, etc. The NYCC fund liabilities have been assessed by Aon Hewitt Limited, an independent firm of actuaries, estimates being based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 31 March 2019.

	2020/21	2019/20
The significant assumptions used by the actuary have been:		
Mortality assumptions:		
Longevity at 65 for current pensioners		
Men:	21.9 yrs	21.8 yrs
Women:	24.0 yrs	23.9 yrs
Longevity at 65 for future pensioners		
Men:	23.6 yrs	23.5 yrs
Women:	25.8 yrs	25.7 yrs
Rate of Inflation CPI	2.70%	2.00%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.95%	3.25%
Rate of increase in pensions	2.70%	2.00%
Rate for discounting scheme liabilities	2.10%	2.30%

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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 £'000
Longevity (increase by 1 year)	12,957
Rate of increase in pensions (increase by 0.1% per annum)	6,303
Rate of increase in salaries (increase by 0.1% per annum)	700
Rate for discounting scheme liabilities (increase by 0.1% per annum)	-7,004

**h) Impact on the Council'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 20 years; for Harrogate Borough Council, funding is currently at 100%. Funding levels are monitored on an annual basis. The next triennial valuation is due to be completed as at 31 March 2022.

The scheme takes into account changes to the value of pension liabilities on a defined benefits basis, due to the enactment of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013. LGPS benefits in relation to service up to 31 March 2014 are determined on a final salary basis. Benefits accrued from 1 April 2014 are determined on a career average revalued earnings basis.

The total contributions expected to be made to the Local Government Pension Scheme by the Council in the year to 31 March 2022 is £3.57m (year to 31 March 2021 £3.86m).

The weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation for scheme members is 20.4 years (20.4 years 2019/20).

**i) Investment Strategy**

The Pension Fund Committee of North Yorkshire County Council has determined the investment strategy, which is aimed at growing the Fund's assets to meet benefit obligations when they fall due. As required by the regulations, the suitability of various classes of investments has been considered including assessing the benefit of asset class diversification. The Fund is primarily invested in equities (57.8% of scheme assets) and fixed income (16.2%), with investments also in property and alternatives. This strategy is reviewed periodically, dependent on changes to market conditions and the solvency position of the Fund.

**27. Contingent Assets and Contingent Liabilities**

There are no contingent assets or liabilities as at 31 March 2021.

**28. 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. Procedures for risk management on treasury management are set out in the Local Government Act 2003 and associated regulations. These require the Council to comply with the CIPFA Prudential Code and the CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services Code plus investment guidance issued under the Act. Risk management is carried out by a central treasury team, under policies approved by the Council 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.

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

a) Credit Risk

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

The prime objective of treasury management activities is the security of the principal sums it invests. This is achieved through the Council's Annual Investment Strategy, which will ensure that its counterparty list and limits reflect a prudent attitude towards organisations with whom funds may be deposited. Deposits are not made with banks and financial institutions unless they achieve a minimum level of credit worthiness. This is based on credit ratings from all three rating agencies, Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's, as the core element, plus credit watches and credit outlooks from credit rating agencies and Credit Default Swap spreads, to give early warning of likely changes in credit ratings.

The following analysis summarises the Council's potential maximum exposure to credit risk, based on experience of default and uncollectability over the last five financial years, adjusted to reflect current market conditions and the age of the debts.

	Amount at 31 March 2021 £'000	Historical Experience of Default %	Adjusted for Market Conditions at 31 March %	Estimated Maximum Exposure to Default and Uncollectability £'000	Estimated Maximum Exposure 31 March 2020 £'000
Deposits with Banks and Financial Institutions Customers:	<b>43,482</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Government and Local Authorities	<b>23,619</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Other	<b>1,319</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>60</b>
				<b>70</b>	<b>60</b>

No credit limits were exceeded during the reporting period by banks and financial institutions and the Council does not expect any losses from non-performance by any of its counterparties in relation to deposits.

The Council does not generally allow credit for customers, such that £1.9m of the £24.9m balance is past its due date for payment. This amount can be analysed by age as follows:

	31 March 2021 £'000	31 March 2020 £'000
Less than three months	<b>1,420</b>	<b>1,365</b>
Three to six months	<b>133</b>	<b>39</b>
Six months to one year	<b>256</b>	<b>11</b>
More than one year	<b>76</b>	<b>12</b>
	<b>1,885</b>	<b>1,427</b>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

**Amounts arising from expected credit loss**

All of the Council’s financial assets have been assessed as Stage 1 at both 31 March 2020 and 31 March 2021, which means that there has been no significant increase in their credit risk. The 12-month expected credit loss for these assets has been assessed as nil. Impairment allowances for losses in relation to receivables due from customers are shown within the debtors note (note 13). The Council calculates allowances based on estimated default rates in combination with specific adjustments for individual debts when appropriate. We allowed an extra amount for customer bad debts at 31 March 2021 than we normally would because of the ongoing uncertainty surrounding the impact of the covid-19 pandemic on businesses. There is a rebuttable presumption in IFRS 9 that aged debt older than 30 days should be impaired. We have reviewed the aged debt older than 30 days, as disclosed above, and are satisfied that our existing impairment allowance adequately provides for this.

**b) Liquidity Risk**

The level of short term deposits held by the Council mean that it does not currently require any additional long term borrowings and is in a position to meet the repayments due on its long term loans.

The Council has ready access to borrowings from the Public Works Loan Board and would be able to take up this option whenever rates are favourable. When new borrowings are required the Council must ensure that a significant proportion of the borrowings are not undertaken at a time of unfavourable interest rates.

	<b>31 March 2021 £'000</b>	31 March 2020 £'000
The maturity analysis of financial liabilities is:		
Less than one year	<b>15,027</b>	27
1 - 2 years	<b>6</b>	15,006
2 - 5 years	<b>24</b>	22
5 - 10 years	<b>15,054</b>	15,052
10 - 15 years	<b>22,977</b>	22,987
15 - 20 years	<b>0</b>	0
	<b><u>53,088</u></b>	<u>53,094</u>

**c) 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 Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement will rise
- borrowings at fixed rates – the fair value of the liabilities will fall
- investments at variable rates – the interest income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement 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 Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. However, changes in interest payable and receivable on variable rate borrowings and investments will be posted to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and affect the General Fund Balance £ for £.

The Council has a number of strategies for managing interest rate risk. The policy is to aim to keep the proportion of interest paid on borrowing, which is at variable rates, at a maximum of 25%. During periods of falling interest rates, and where economic circumstances make it favourable, fixed rate loans will be repaid early to limit exposure to losses.

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

In 2020/21 all borrowings and investments were at fixed rates. If interest rates had been 1% higher with all other variables held constant, the financial effect at 31 March 2021, would be:

	<b>31 March £'000</b>
Decrease in fair value of fixed rate investment assets (no impact on CI&ES Statement)	<b>0</b>
Decrease in fair value of fixed rate borrowings liabilities (no impact on CI&ES Statement)	<b>3,925</b>

The impact of a 1% fall in interest rates would be as above but with the movements being reversed.

**d) Price Risk**

The Council does not invest in equity shares and has no exposure to loss arising from movements in the prices of shares.

**e) Foreign Exchange Risk**

The Council has no financial assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies and therefore has no exposure to loss arising from movements in exchange rates.

**29. Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature**

	<b>2020/21 £'000</b>	2019/20 £'000
<b>Expenditure/Income</b>		
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Employee expenses	<b>34,151</b>	35,430
Other service expenses	<b>48,445</b>	44,535
Support Service recharges	<b>782</b>	786
Depreciation, amortisation, revaluation losses and impairments	<b>9,548</b>	5,106
Interest and investment payments	<b>3,551</b>	3,775
Precepts and levies (inc Business Rates tariff)	<b>24,350</b>	32,308
Payments to Housing capital receipts pool	<b>792</b>	792
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	<b>0</b>	559
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>121,619</b>	123,291
<b>Income</b>		
Fees, charges and other service income	<b>-34,549</b>	-44,455
Income from Council Tax and Business Rates	<b>-27,469</b>	-50,305
Government grants and contributions	<b>-59,052</b>	-28,041
Non-Government capital grants	<b>-1,704</b>	-532
Interest and investment income	<b>-640</b>	-540
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	<b>-769</b>	0
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	<b>-13</b>	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>-124,196</b>	-123,873
<b>Surplus(-) or Deficit on Provision of Services</b>	<b>-2,577</b>	-582

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MOVEMENT ON THE HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

		<b>31 March 2021</b>	31 March 2020
		<b>£'000</b>	£'000
<b>Note</b>	<b>HRA Balance brought forward</b>	<b>-25,253</b>	-22,161
	<b>Surplus (-) or Deficit in the year on HRA Income &amp; Expenditure Statement</b>	<b>-3,462</b>	-6,035
	<b>Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations</b>		
	Gain or Loss (-) on sale of HRA non-current assets	<b>571</b>	948
	HRA share of contributions to or from (-) the Pensions Reserve	<b>-520</b>	-473
	Capital Expenditure funded by the HRA	<b>495</b>	0
	Transfer to Major Repairs Reserve	<b>4,676</b>	4,676
	Transfers to/from (-) the Capital Adjustment Account:		
<b>2</b>	Depreciation, impairments and revaluation losses	<b>-4,788</b>	-2,208
	<b>Net increase (-) or decrease before transfers to or from Reserves</b>	<b>-3,028</b>	-3,092
	<b>Increase (-) or decrease in the year on the HRA</b>	<b>-3,028</b>	-3,092
	<b>HRA Balance carried forward</b>	<b>-28,281</b>	-25,253

HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH  
2021

	2020/21	2019/20
	£'000	£'000
<b>Note Expenditure</b>		
Repairs and maintenance	4,540	4,920
Supervision and management	3,822	3,252
<b>2</b> Depreciation and impairments of non-current assets	4,788	2,208
Debt Management Costs	32	31
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>13,182</b>	<b>10,411</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Dwelling Rents (gross)	-16,497	-15,765
Non-dwelling rents (gross)	-167	-186
Charges for services and facilities	-778	-867
Contributions towards expenditure	-286	-249
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>-17,728</b>	<b>-17,067</b>
<b>Net Cost/Surplus (-) of HRA Services included in the Whole Authority Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>	<b>-4,546</b>	<b>-6,656</b>
HRA share of Corporate Costs	118	119
<b>Net Cost/Surplus (-) of HRA Services</b>	<b>-4,428</b>	<b>-6,537</b>
<b>HRA share of the other operating income and expenditure included in the Whole Authority Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>		
Gain (-) or loss on sale HRA non-current assets	-571	-948
<b>3</b> Interest payable	<b>1,610</b>	<b>1,654</b>
<b>3</b> Investment Income	<b>-73</b>	<b>-204</b>
<b>Surplus (-) or Deficit for the year on HRA services</b>	<b>-3,462</b>	<b>-6,035</b>



**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**1. General**

The Housing Revenue Account is kept in accordance with the financial regime introduced in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The account for 2020/21 is presented in accordance with the Accounting Code of Practice.

The Movement on the HRA Statement incorporates the surplus or deficit on the Income and Expenditure Statement and effectively meets the statutory requirement to include the Housing Revenue Account as a single statement in the Statement of Accounts.

**2. Depreciation, Impairments and Revaluation Losses**

	<b>2020/21</b>	2019/20
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Council Dwellings:		
Depreciation	<b>4,508</b>	4,441
Revaluation losses	<b>8</b>	0
Reversal Prior Year Revaluation Losses	<b>0</b>	-2,324
Other Land and Buildings:		
Depreciation	<b>119</b>	186
Revaluation losses	<b>105</b>	0
Reversal Prior Year Revaluation Losses	<b>-1</b>	-144
Vehicles, Plant & Equipment		
Depreciation	<b>41</b>	41
Infrastructure Assets		
Depreciation	<b>8</b>	8
	<b>4,788</b>	2,208

During 2020/21, the valuation of the Council's housing stock was revised in line with the latest market values. This led to a £94k net increase in the valuation, which was credited to the revaluation reserve.

**3. Capital Asset Charges Accounting Adjustment**

HRA paid interest charges in 2020/21 in accordance with the Item 8 Credit and Item 8 Debit (General) Determination 2012 (as amended). Interest paid is related to the HRA Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) which represents the HRA share of the Council's borrowing for capital expenditure.

<b>Interest Payable</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	2019/20
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Interest on loans included in the HRA CFR	<b>1,588</b>	1,588
Interest on unfinanced HRA CFR	<b>22</b>	66
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,610</b>	1,654

From 1 April 2012 all of the Council's external loans were earmarked as either for General Fund or HRA and interest paid on each loan is charged accordingly. Where HRA has not borrowed externally to finance its CFR in full, it pays interest to the General Fund on the part which is being financed from internal balances. The interest rate charged to HRA on the unfinanced CFR is the average rate of interest on the Council's approved investments in the year (0.28% for 2020/21 and 0.82% in 2019/20).

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

In accordance with the same determination, HRA received the following interest credits:

<b>Investment Income</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	2019/20
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Average notional cash balance in year including Major Repairs Reserve	<b>26,571</b>	24,868
Average interest rate on approved investments	<b>0.28%</b>	0.82%
Interest on Notional Cash Balance	<u><b>-73</b></u>	<u>-204</u>

**4. Council House Rent Arrears**

For the financial year 2020/21 rent arrears from Council house tenants (both current and former) represented 1.69% of the total Council house rent income due (1.91% in 2019/20). This comprised 0.96% for current tenants (1.16% in 2019/20) and 0.73% for former tenants (0.75% in 2019/20). The arrears figures are as follows:

	<b>2020/21</b>	2019/20
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Arrears at 31 March:		
- current tenants	<b>156</b>	181
- former tenants	<b>120</b>	118
	<u><b>276</b></u>	<u>299</u>
Impairment of Debtors Allowance	<u><b>214</b></u>	<u>217</u>

**5. Housing Stock**

The Council was responsible for managing 3,873 dwellings as at 31 March 2021. The stock was made up as follows:

	<b>31 March</b>	31 March
	<b>2021</b>	2020
Houses	<b>1,312</b>	1,302
Flats, Bedsits and Maisonettes	<b>1,802</b>	1,801
Bungalows	<b>674</b>	674
Hostel Places	<b>43</b>	43
Shared Ownership* (1 property moved to social rented dwellings in 2020/21)	<b>42</b>	43
	<u><b>3,873</b></u>	<u>3,863</u>

\*This is the total number of properties in which the Council holds an equity stake – the retained proportion of each property will vary.

The changes in the general housing stock can be summarised as follows:

	<b>2020/21</b>	2019/20
Stock at 1 April	<b>3,863</b>	3,869
Sales to Council Tenants	<b>-20</b>	-22
Additions to council dwelling stock	<b>30</b>	13
Additions to Shared Ownership stock	<b>0</b>	3
	<u><b>3,873</b></u>	<u>3,863</u>

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**6. Balance sheet values**

	<b>31 March 2021</b>	1 April 2020
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Council Dwellings	<b>244,925</b>	240,402
Other Land and Buildings	<b>4,066</b>	4,396
Vehicles, Plant and Equipment	<b>658</b>	699
Infrastructure Assets	<b>104</b>	112
Assets Under Construction	<b>995</b>	1,877
	<b><u>250,748</u></b>	<u>247,486</u>

The balance sheet value of dwellings at 1 April 2020 is £240m on a tenanted valuation (£237m 1 April 2019). The vacant possession value of dwellings at 1 April 2020 is £579m (£577m 1 April 2019). These two values show the economic cost of providing council housing at less than market rents.

**7. Capital Expenditure Analysis**

	<b>2020/21</b>	2019/20
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
<b>HRA Capital Expenditure</b>		
Planned maintenance and improvements	<b>1,906</b>	3,299
Purchase of properties to add to council dwelling stock	<b>6,165</b>	1,646
Purchase of Affordable housing for shared ownership	<b>0</b>	391
Construction of new dwellings	<b>1,451</b>	1,600
	<b><u>9,522</u></b>	<u>6,936</u>
<b>HRA Capital Funding</b>		
Major repairs reserve	<b>-6,014</b>	-4,551
Capital Contributions and Grants	<b>-1,452</b>	-947
Contributions to disabled adaptations	<b>0</b>	-1
HRA revenue funding	<b>-495</b>	0
HRA capital receipts	<b>-1,561</b>	-1,437
	<b><u>-9,522</u></b>	<u>-6,936</u>

**8. Capital Receipts Analysis**

	<b>2020/21</b>	2019/20
	<b>£'000</b>	£'000
Sale of council dwellings	<b>-1,958</b>	-2,113
Payment to national pool	<b>792</b>	792
Sale of shares in shared ownership properties	<b>-124</b>	-719
Balance of usable receipts available to finance capital expenditure	<b><u>-1,290</u></b>	<u>-2,040</u>

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**THE COLLECTION FUND (ENGLAND) STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

		2020/21		2019/20
		£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Income</b>				
Council Tax collectable – Note 1		-124,692		-119,461
Transfers to(-)/from General Fund:	Council Tax benefits	512		32
	Transitional Protection	1	-124,179	2
Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) collectable – Note 2			-28,395	-64,083
<b>Total Income</b>			<b>-152,574</b>	<b>-183,510</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Council Tax Precepts and Demands:	North Yorkshire County Council	86,482		81,896
	North Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner	16,857		15,976
	North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority	4,611		4,451
	Harrogate Borough Council	16,729	124,679	16,133
NDR Share Payments:	Central Government	31,281		15,323
	North Yorkshire County Council	5,630		13,178
	North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority	626		613
	Harrogate Borough Council	25,025	62,562	32,178
NDR charges/receipts (-)	Cost of collection allowance	280		283
	Renewable Energy Payment to NYCC	228		224
	Transitional Protection Payments	109	617	-295
Uncollectable Amounts:	Council Tax Allowance for Impairment	407		485
	Council Tax written off	303	710	136
	NDR Allowance for Impairment	1,148		128
	NDR Allowance for Appeals	-173		626
	NDR written off	272	1,247	632
Council Tax surplus/deficit(-) re prior year to/from(-):	NYCC, NYPCC & NYFRA		248	-273
	HBC		39	-44
NDR surplus/deficit(-) re prior year to/from(-):	Central Government, NYCC & NYFRA		-272	-427
	HBC		-678	-327
<b>Total Expenditure</b>			<b>189,152</b>	<b>180,896</b>
Surplus(-)/Deficit for the year – Council Tax			1,497	-667
Surplus(-)/Deficit for the year – NDR			35,081	-1,947
Total Surplus(-)/Deficit for the year			<b>36,578</b>	<b>-2,614</b>
Fund Surplus(-)/Deficit at start of year – Council Tax			-264	403
Fund Surplus(-)/Deficit at start of year – NDR			-715	1,232
Total Fund Surplus(-)/Deficit at start of year			<b>-979</b>	<b>1,635</b>
Fund Surplus(-)/Deficit at end of year – Council Tax (Note 3)			1,233	-264
Fund Surplus(-)/Deficit at end of year – NDR (Note 4)			34,366	-715
Total Fund Surplus(-)/Deficit at end of year			<b>35,599</b>	<b>-979</b>

**HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**THE COLLECTION FUND (ENGLAND) STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**Note 1 Council Tax 2020/21**

The Council's Taxbase (the estimated number of chargeable dwellings in each Band, adjusted for discounts and converted to an equivalent number of Band D dwellings) was calculated as follows:

Valuation Band	Chargeable dwellings	Ratio to Band D	Band D Equivalents
A- (inc disabled relief)	29	5/9	16
A	5,270	6/9	3,513
B	10,648	7/9	8,282
C	13,807	8/9	12,273
D	9,572	9/9	9,572
E	9,183	11/9	11,223
F	6,026	13/9	8,704
G	5,323	15/9	8,872
H	602	18/9	1,205
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,460</b>		<b>63,660</b>
Adjustment for collection rate, banding appeals, contributions in lieu etc.			-232
<b>Council Taxbase</b>			<b>63,428</b>

The average Band D Council Tax of £1,947.85 (£1,879.12 in 2019/20) was set by dividing the total of Precepts and Demands on the Collection Fund by the Council Taxbase shown above (62,461 in 2019/20). The Council Tax for dwellings in other Valuation Bands is the appropriate Ratio of the Band D tax.

Council Tax collectable includes £946k (£888k in 2019/20) of Government contributions in lieu of Council Tax for Ministry of Defence properties.

**Note 2 Non Domestic Rates 2020/21**

Non-domestic rates are collected on an agency basis and shares of the amount collectable are distributed in accordance with Business Rate Retention legislation, the shares for 2020/21 being: 50% to Central Government, 40% to HBC, 9% to NYCC and 1% to NYFRA.

The non-domestic rate was set by the Government at 51.2p for the year (50.4p 2019/20), and the total non-domestic rateable value at the end of the year was £163,964,830 (£164,699,094 2019/20). The gross rates thus payable for the year were abated by reliefs for empty property, charitable occupiers, rating appeals and transition, to give the net amount collectable shown above.

**Note 3 Movement on the Fund Balance – Council Tax**

Each Authority's share of the movement on the Fund Balance in the year, a deficit of £1,497k (£667k surplus 2019/20) is: NYCC £1,041k (£462k surplus 2019/20), NYPCC £201k (£88k surplus 2019/20), NYFRA £55k (£25k surplus 2019/20) and HBC £200k (£92k surplus 2019/20).

This amount is added to the Council Tax Demand for the year and any prior year surplus/deficit to give the Council Tax Income figure on an accruals basis shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

**Note 4 Movement on the Fund Balance - NDR**

Each Authority's share of the movement on the Fund Balance in the year, a deficit of £35,081k (£1,947k surplus 2019/20) is: Central Government £17,898k (£650k surplus 2019/20), NYCC £3,098k (£324k surplus 2019/20), NYFRA £351k (£20k surplus 2019/20) and HBC £13,734k (£953k surplus 2019/20).

This amount is added to the NDR Share for the year less the tariff and levy payments to the North & West Yorkshire Business Rates Pool to give the retained Non-domestic Rate Income figure on an accruals basis shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

#### **Accounting Policies**

Principles, rules and procedures selected and followed by the management of an organisation in preparing and reporting the financial statements.

#### **Accruals**

The concept that income and expenditure are recognised as they are earned or incurred, not as cash is received or paid.

#### **Amortisation**

The allocation of the value of an intangible asset (less any expected residual value) over its useful life.

#### **Capital Expenditure**

Expenditure on the acquisition of a non-current asset or expenditure which enhances, rather than simply maintaining, an existing non-current asset.

#### **Capital Receipts**

The proceeds from the sale of non-current assets in excess of £10,000. These are then available to fund future capital investment.

#### **CIPFA**

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

#### **Collection Fund**

The account into which Council Taxes and Non-Domestic Rates are paid, for distribution to preceptors, the Council's General Fund, and Central Government.

#### **Community Assets**

Assets that an authority intends to hold in perpetuity, that have no determinable useful life and which may have restrictions on their disposal.

#### **Contingent Asset**

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 authority.

#### **Contingent Rent**

The portion of a lease payment that is not fixed in amount but is based on the future amount of a factor that changes other than with the passage of time – for example, percentage of future sales, future inflation rates.

#### **Contingent Liability**

A possible obligation 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 authority,

or:

a present obligation that arises from past events but is not recognised because:

- a) it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, or
- b) the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

#### **Creditors**

Amounts owed by the Council at year end for which payment has not yet been made.

#### **Current Assets**

Current Assets are cash and items that can be readily converted into cash.

#### **Current Liabilities**

Current Liabilities are amounts that are due for payment by the Council within the near future.

#### **Current Service Cost (Pensions)**

The increase in the value of the pension scheme's future pension liabilities arising from the employees' membership of the pension scheme in the year.

#### **Debtors**

Amounts owed to the Council at the year end, where services have been delivered but payment has not been received.

#### **Depreciation**

The allocation of the value of an asset (less any expected residual value) over its useful life.

#### **Earmarked Reserves**

Earmarked reserves are balances set aside for specific purposes. For each reserve, the purpose, usage and procedures for transactions need to be clearly defined.

#### **Fair Value**

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.

#### **Financial Instruments**

A contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Examples include loans and investments.

#### **General Fund (GF)**

The account that includes expenditure and income associated with all Council services, apart from the Council's own housing stock (see Housing Revenue Account).

#### **Heritage Assets**

Assets that are intended to be preserved in trust for future generations because of their cultural, environmental or historical associations. Examples include museum and art collections, civic regalia and historic buildings and monuments.

#### **Historical Cost**

The amount of money originally paid for an asset.

#### **HMRC**

Her Majesty's Revenues and Customs.

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

This account includes the expenditure and income associated with the Council's own housing stock. Under statute, these costs and income must be accounted for separately from the rest of the Council's operations.

## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

#### **IFRS**

International Financial Reporting Standards. These are guidelines and rules set by the International Accounting Standards Boards (IASB) that organisations follow when compiling financial statements. The Council does this by virtue of complying with CIPFA's Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting, which is based on IFRS.

#### **Impairment**

The reduction in value of a non-current asset through physical damage, dilapidation or obsolescence.

#### **Infrastructure Assets**

Inalienable assets, expenditure on which is only recoverable by continued use of the asset created, i.e. there is no prospect of sale or alternative use. Examples include roads, footpaths and bridges.

#### **Intangible Asset**

An identifiable non-monetary asset without physical substance. An example would be computer software.

#### **Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)**

The amount that the Council has calculated to be the prudent amount that it must charge to its revenue account in the year to repay debt, as required by statute.

#### **Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)**

Otherwise known as business rates, these are collected from businesses by the Council. The Council was part of the North and West Yorkshire Business Rates Pool in 2020/21. Shares of the income were paid over to Central Government (50%), North Yorkshire County Council (9%) and North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority (1%), with 40% being retained by the Council.

#### **Net Book Value**

The amount at which non-current assets are included in the balance sheet. This will be their historical cost or current valuation, less any depreciation that has been charged.

#### **Non-current Assets**

Assets such as buildings and vehicles, the benefits of which will be realised over a period of greater than one year.

#### **Operating Lease**

Under this type of lease, the risks and rewards of ownership of the leased goods remain with the lessor (the organisation leasing out the goods).

#### **Past Service Cost (Pensions)**

The change in the obligation for employee service in prior periods, arising as a result of changes to plan arrangements in the current period. Past service cost may be either positive (where benefits are introduced or improved) or negative (where existing benefits are reduced).

#### **Precept/Preceptors**

A precept is the amount that each non-billing authority (County Council, Police and Crime Commissioner, Fire & Rescue Authority, Parish Councils) asks the Council to collect from taxpayers on its behalf. The County Council etc are known as preceptors.

#### **Provision**

A liability of uncertain timing or amount.



## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

#### **Prudential Borrowing**

The Council's borrowing for capital purposes must conform to the Prudential Code, a set of rules governing Local Authority borrowing in the UK which (among other things) requires that borrowing is affordable and prudent.

#### **PWLB**

The Public Works Loan Board – a government body that lends money to public sector organisations.

#### **Remeasurements of Pension Assets and Liabilities**

The changes in the pension fund surplus or deficit that arise because a) actual events have not coincided with the assumptions made by the actuaries when they last valued the pension fund and/or b) the actuaries have updated the assumptions they've made since the previous valuation of the fund.

#### **Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute (REFCUS)**

Expenditure that may be funded from capital resources but that does not result in an asset on the Council's balance sheet.

#### **Revenue Support Grant (RSG)**

A general grant paid by Central Government towards the cost of providing local authority services in the area.

#### **Useful Life**

The period for which an asset is expected to be available for use

## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

#### Report on the audit of the financial statements

#### Opinion on the financial statements

We have audited the financial statements of Harrogate Borough Council ('the Council') for the year ended 31 March 2021, which comprise the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, the Movement on the Housing Revenue Account Statement, the Housing Revenue Account Income and Expenditure Statement, the Collection Fund 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 2020/21.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

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

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities section of our report. We are independent of the Council 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.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the the Head of Finance with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

#### Other information

The Head of Finance is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Statement of Accounts, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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 obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such

## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

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.

### **Responsibilities of the Head of Finance for the financial statements**

As explained more fully in the Head of Finance's Responsibilities, the Head of Finance is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Head of Finance is also responsible for such internal control as the Head of Finance determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Head of Finance is required to comply with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21 and prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, on the assumption that the functions of the Council will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Head of Finance is responsible for assessing each year whether or not it is appropriate for the Council to prepare its accounts on the going concern basis and disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern.

### **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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. Based on our understanding of the Council, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to the Local Government Act 2003 (and associated regulations made under section 21), the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended) and the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 (and associated regulations made under section 32), and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements.

We evaluated the Head of Finance's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting manual journal entries to manipulate financial performance, management bias through judgements and assumptions in significant accounting estimates and significant one-off or unusual transactions.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to those identified risks, including non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) and fraud that are material to the financial statements. Our audit procedures included but were not limited to:

- discussing with management and the Audit and Governance Committee the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations;
- communicating identified laws and regulations throughout our engagement team and remaining alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout our audit; and

## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

- considering the risk of acts by the Council which were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

Our audit procedures in relation to fraud included but were not limited to:

- making enquiries of management and the Audit and Governance Committee on whether they had knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- gaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud;
- discussing amongst the engagement team the risks of fraud; and
- addressing the risks of fraud through management override of controls by performing journal entry testing.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities including fraud rests with management and the Audit and Governance Committee. As with any audit, there remained a risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal controls. We are also required to conclude on whether the Head of Finance's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. We performed our work in accordance with Practice Note 10: Audit of financial statement and regularity of public sector bodies in the United Kingdom, and Supplementary Guidance Note 01, issued by the National Audit Office in April 2021.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the [Financial Reporting Council's website](#). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### **Report on the Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources**

#### **Matter on which we are required to report by exception**

We are required to report to you if, in our view, we are not satisfied that the Council has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2021.

We have not completed our work on the Council's arrangements. On the basis of our work to date, having regard to the guidance issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in April 2021, we have not identified any significant weaknesses in arrangements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

We will report the outcome of our work on the Council's arrangements in our commentary on those arrangements within the Auditor's Annual Report. Our audit completion certificate will set out any matters which we are required to report by exception.

#### **Responsibilities of the Council**

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

#### **Auditor's responsibilities for the review of arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources**

## HARROGATE BOROUGH COUNCIL

We are required under section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to satisfy ourselves that the Council 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 Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

We have undertaken our work in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in April 2021.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception under the Code of Audit Practice**

We are required by the Code of Audit Practice to report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make a recommendation under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; or
- we exercise any other special powers of the auditor under sections 28, 29 or 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

We have nothing to report in these respects.

### **Use of the audit report**

This report is made solely to the Members of Harrogate Borough Council, as a body, in accordance with part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in paragraph 44 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 Members of the Council 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 Members of the Council, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### **Delay in certification of completion of the audit**

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

- the work necessary to issue our assurance statement in respect of the Council's Whole of Government Accounts consolidation pack; and
- the work necessary to satisfy ourselves that the Council has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.



Mark Kirkham  
Partner  
For and on behalf of Mazars LLP  
5th Floor  
3 Wellington Place  
Leeds  
LS1 4AP  
Date: 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**APPENDIX 1**

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**ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

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