

Democratic Services

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Date: 14 September 2011

E-mail: Democratic_Services@bathnes.gov.uk

To: All Members of the Corporate Audit Committee

Councillors: Andrew Furse (Chair), Gerry Curran, Barry Macrae, Brian Simmons,
Kate Simmons, Will Sandry and Geoff Ward

Independent Member: John Barker

Chief Executive and other appropriate officers

Press and Public

Dear Member

Corporate Audit Committee: Thursday, 29th September, 2011

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **Corporate Audit Committee**, to be held on
Thursday, 29th September, 2011 at 5.30 pm in the. **Kingston Room - Pump Room, Bath.**

The agenda is set out overleaf.

Yours sincerely

Sean O'Neill
for Chief Executive

If you need to access this agenda or any of the supporting reports in an alternative accessible format please contact Democratic Services or the relevant report author whose details are listed at the end of each report.

This Agenda and all accompanying reports are printed on recycled paper

NOTES:

1. **Inspection of Papers:** Any person wishing to inspect minutes, reports, or a list of the background papers relating to any item on this Agenda should contact Sean O'Neill who is available by telephoning Bath 01225 395090 or by calling at the Riverside Offices Keynsham (during normal office hours).
2. **Public Speaking at Meetings:** The Council has a scheme to encourage the public to make their views known at meetings. They may make a statement relevant to what the meeting has power to do. They may also present a petition or a deputation on behalf of a group. Advance notice is required not less than two full working days before the meeting (this means that for meetings held on Wednesdays notice must be received in Democratic Services by 4.30pm the previous Friday)

The public may also ask a question to which a written answer will be given. Questions must be submitted in writing to Democratic Services at least two full working days in advance of the meeting (this means that for meetings held on Wednesdays, notice must be received in Democratic Services by 4.30pm the previous Friday). If an answer cannot be prepared in time for the meeting it will be sent out within five days afterwards. Further details of the scheme can be obtained by contacting Sean O'Neill as above.

3. **Details of Decisions taken at this meeting** can be found in the minutes which will be published as soon as possible after the meeting, and also circulated with the agenda for the next meeting. In the meantime details can be obtained by contacting Sean O'Neill as above.

Appendices to reports are available for inspection as follows:-

Public Access points - Riverside - Keynsham, Guildhall - Bath, Hollies - Midsomer Norton, and Bath Central, Keynsham and Midsomer Norton public libraries.

For Councillors and Officers papers may be inspected via Political Group Research Assistants and Group Rooms/Members' Rooms.

4. **Attendance Register:** Members should sign the Register which will be circulated at the meeting.
5. THE APPENDED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ARE IDENTIFIED BY AGENDA ITEM NUMBER.
6. **Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

When the continuous alarm sounds, you must evacuate the building by one of the designated exits and proceed to the named assembly point. The designated exits are sign-posted.

Arrangements are in place for the safe evacuation of disabled people.

Corporate Audit Committee - Thursday, 29th September, 2011

at 5.30 pm in the Kingston Room - Pump Room, Bath

A G E N D A

1. EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chair will draw attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out under Note 8.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

To elect a Vice-Chair (if required) for this meeting.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations from Members/Officers of financial or other interests in respect of matters for consideration at this meeting, together with their statements on the nature of any such interests declared.

5. TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

The Chair will announce any items of urgent business.

6. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS

7. ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTED AND ADDED MEMBERS

To deal with any petitions, statements or questions from Councillors and, where appropriate, co-opted and added Members.

8. MINUTES: 28 JUNE 2011 (Pages 5 - 12)

9. PRESENTATION ON THE ACCOUNTS

10. B&NES AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2010/11 (Pages 13 - 112)

11. PRESENTATION ON THE AUDIT OF THE ACCOUNTS

12. GOVERNANCE REPORT B&NES COUNCIL 2010/11 (Pages 113 - 146)

13. GOVERNANCE REPORT AVON PENSION FUND 2010/11 (Pages 147 - 172)

14. BRIBERY ACT 2010 (Pages 173 - 178)

The Committee Administrator for this meeting is Sean O'Neill who can be contacted on 01225 395090.

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CORPORATE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held

Tuesday, 28th June, 2011, 5.00 pm

Councillors: Gerry Curran, Barry Macrae, Will Sandry, Kate Simmons, Brian Simmons and Geoff Ward

Independent Member: John Barker

Officers in attendance: Andrew Pate (Strategic Director, Resources & Support Services), Tim Richens (Divisional Director - Finance), Jeff Wring (Head of Risk and Assurance) and Andy Cox (Risk Manager)

Guests in attendance: Wayne Rickard (Audit Commission) and Chris Hackett (Audit Commission)

1 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Democratic Services Officer read out the procedure.

2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED that a Vice-Chair was not required on this occasion.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

There were none.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

John Barker, Independent Member, declared a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of item 15, under which the future of the Independent Member role would be discussed.

Cllr Barry Macrae declared a personal and potentially prejudicial interest in relation to agenda item 13 as an employee of Capita working for Mendip District Council. He said that he would withdraw if there was any discussion of contractual arrangements between B&NES and the South West Audit Partnership, which undertakes work for Mendip District Council.

5 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

There was none.

6 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS

There were none.

7 ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTED AND ADDED MEMBERS

There were none.

8 MINUTES: 1ST FEBRUARY 2011

These were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

9 ACCOUNTS UPDATE & POLICY RE ACCOUNTING FOR COMPONENTS

The Divisional Director – Finance introduced this item. He reported that the Council's annual accounts were near to completion and would be presented to the Committee in September after they had been audited. The outturn would also be reported to Cabinet. There had been an underspend of £445,000, 0.1% of the total budget. The accounts would be fully compliant with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Three schools, Oldfield, Norton Hill and Somervale, had become academies, and this had to be reflected on the balance sheet, as would the creation of further academies. The creation of the social enterprise would have an impact. The Government's decision that pension increases should be linked to CPI rather than RPI would reduce the liabilities of the Avon Pension Fund. The draft accounts would be published on the Council's website on 30th June.

He invited the Committee to approve the new treatment of property components required by IFRS. An exercise carried out to assess the effect on depreciation showed that accounting separately for components of assets valued at less than £500,000 had no material impact. It was therefore proposed to consider only assets with a value in excess of £500,000.

A Member asked whether the Council had enough staff with expertise in IFRS. The Divisional Director – Finance that IFRS expertise had been concentrated in one individual, who had retired. There were now three staff who shared the expertise between them and three new staff who were being trained.

A Member asked about the transfer of assets when functions were outsourced. The Divisional Director – Finance replied that this happened with academies, but not with the social enterprise. The Member asked about property like the Victoria Hall, Radstock. The Divisional Director – Finance said that short-term leases appeared on the balance sheet, but long-term leases did not.

RESOLVED

(a) to note the update on the Accounts;

(b) approve the accounting policy for components.

10 TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN REPORT 2010/11

The Divisional Director – Finance introduced this item. He said that there were two types of Treasury operation: investment of cash and borrowing to support the capital programme. The average rate of investment return for 2010/11 had been 0.51% above the benchmark rate. The Council was careful where it put its money and only lent money to top-rated institutions. The borrowing portfolio was set out in Appendix 4 on page 23 of the agenda. New loans totalling £10 million had been taken out from the Public Loans Work Board, in order to benefit from lower rates of interest

available before the increase in rates announced in the Comprehensive Spending Review took effect.

The Chair commented that the credit ratings for the financial institutions listed in Appendix 4 seemed lower than last year. The Divisional Director – Finance replied that there had been a general recovery in credit ratings this year and that UK institutions had strengthening balance sheets. Abbey National had been downgraded because it was domiciled in Spain.

A Member asked about the risk of borrowing. The Strategic Director of Resources and Support Services said the risk was the future level of interest rates. Regulations required all Council borrowing to be fully covered by revenue. Alternative methods of financing the capital programme were being reviewed.

RESOLVED:

1. To note the Treasury Management Annual Report to 31st March 2011.
2. To note the 2010/11 actual Treasury Management Indicators.

11 CONSULTATION - FUTURE OF LOCAL PUBLIC AUDIT

The Head of Risk and Assurance introduced this item. The Department of Communities and Local Government had launched a consultation on the future of local public audit in March. The background to the consultation was the need to establish alternative arrangements for the external audit of local public bodies after the planned abolition of the Audit Commission. However, the DCLG appeared to have underestimated the work necessary to revise the current audit framework and the consultation paper addressed wider issues, including the composition of the Audit Committee and the role of the Section 151 Officer. Officers had felt it was not possible simply to reply to the list of consultation questions on pages 56-59 of the consultation document, because of the interconnectedness of the issues. The draft response had therefore been structured in five sections:

- (a) general comments;
- (b) principles for local public audit;
- (c) the new role for local authorities in procuring their external auditor;
- (d) the new proposals for changing the membership and scope of the Audit Committee;
- (e) options on scope of audit work.

The consultation document proposed that Audit Committees should have a stronger independent element and might even consist entirely of independent members. It also proposed that Section 151 officers should have responsibility for procuring the external audit of small public bodies in their Council's area. With regard to the latter proposal, the view of officers was that the existing system of national frameworks established by the Audit Commission should be continued in some form, for the reasons listed on page 3 of the draft response (page 99 of the agenda). These reasons included the need for common standards and the avoidance of additional costs.

The Director of Resources and Support Services commented that the DCLG might be trying to give more autonomy to local authorities, but they were doing so in a very unhelpful way. It was not a good idea to make the Section 151 Officer spend a large amount of time procuring external audit for other organisations, or to impose onerous functions on local audit committees. Colleagues in other authorities agreed that the proposals were over the top and bureaucratic. Several Members expressed their agreement with this view.

The Independent Member said that appointing auditors and regulating external audit were key functions. He thought that the Audit Commission performed its regulatory role well. Recruiting external auditors would be expensive; the proposals were likely to lead to increased, not reduced, costs. He did not think that the paper recognised the value of the local knowledge brought to audit committees by local elected members. He thought that there would probably be a second consultation in the autumn.

The District Auditor said that the views expressed by previous speakers were shared by the other local authorities with which he had dealings. The DCLG proposals probably went too far. He felt that one of the things the Audit Commission was good at was disseminating information and examples of good practice. He wondered how the proposals could lead to cost savings. He believed that they were a retrograde step, which would burden local authorities rather than liberate them. A Member questioned whether the Audit Commission was truly independent. It was seen by some as just a Government quango. There had to be more localism and independence for local authorities. The District Auditor responded that his role was independent of the Audit Commission and local authorities. He emphasised the variety of functions that the Commission performed, including inspection, regulation and research. The consultation paper focussed only on the audit role. A Member said that he believed that the Audit Commission had performed a valuable service by providing information about how the performance of the Council compared with that of other local authorities. The Director of Resources and Support Services said that he wanted to emphasise that the draft response was not a rejection of localism. Increased local choice was desirable, but under the current proposals the role of local elected members would actually be reduced. He would argue that local members were independent. Localism could exist within national frameworks. He was very concerned about the proposals for new duties for the Section 151 Officer, whom he would not wish to see burdened in the same way as the Monitoring Officer had been burdened by the local assessment of standards complaints. However, these were not meant to be understood as arguments for retaining the Audit Commission. The Head of Risk and Assurance said that in his opinion the effectiveness of the current system had increased in the past five years. The contribution made by the Independent Member was a valuable one. A Member suggested that the number of auditors who could carry out the work was very limited and that costs would rise as demand for their services increased.

RESOLVED to endorse the proposed response to the DCLG consultation paper on the future of local public audit.

12 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW UPDATE

The Head of Risk and Assurance introduced this item. He explained that the Annual Governance Statement is an output of the Annual Governance Review, and that it is

a managerial statement not a member statement. The framework for the Review was summarised in Appendix 1 on page 109 of the agenda. The most important part of the Statement is the list of significant issues, a copy of which he circulated to Members. The list would have come to the May meeting of the Committee had this not been cancelled because of its closeness to the election. The list had been considered by the Strategic Directors Group and the Chair had been consulted about it. He explained the background to the individual issues and Members commented on them.

A Member suggested that officers should continue to monitor the government grant that B&NES was losing because of equalisation. The Director of Resources and Support Services said that was already being done and officers were raising issues about the calculation of grant with the DCLG. A new system of local government finance would be introduced in 2013-2014 with local authorities being allowed to retain local business rates. However, the baseline would continue to be affected by historic issues.

A Member thought that there was a danger that the Council might become risk averse and unwilling to take enforcement action. Another Member, however, thought that members of the Development Control Committee, of whom he was one, needed to have greater regard for the advice of officers and be wary of pressurising them into taking precipitate action.

The Head of Risk and Assurance suggested that it was appropriate that the Committee should be involved in the monitoring of the improvement plan for Peoples Services & Information Governance.

The Head of Risk and Assurance said that usually Members would have had a chance to input into the list at an earlier stage. However, they could still suggest any items for inclusion. The criterion could be, for example, systems failure or the risk of significant loss. A Member asked why there was so little in the list relating to Social Services, which accounted for a significant portion of Council expenditure. The Head of Risk and Assurance replied that the list was based on events that had occurred during the year. Social Services would only feature in the list if there had been, for example, an incident in a care home, a failure in safeguarding or an adverse ombudsman report.

RESOLVED to confirm that the Committee has considered the Annual Governance Statement 2010/11 and to recommend to the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive to sign it.

13 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT - (OUTTURN 2010/11 & ANNUAL PLAN 2011/12)

The Head of Risk and Assurance introduced this item. He said that overall the performance of Internal Audit had been positive. 81% of the plan had been completed despite a large amount of unplanned work and a high rate of staff sickness. There had been restructuring accompanied by redundancies, the costs savings from which would show up next year. There were challenges from national policies, such as the promotion of academies and social enterprises. Discussions with Bristol City Council about the possibility of joint arrangements for Internal Audit were continuing. Next year there would a greater focus on IT risks.

A Member asked about prioritisation and the contingency for unplanned work. He wondered whether the plan had perhaps been too optimistic. The Head of Risk and Assurance replied that even though only 65% of staff days had been available, 81% of the plan had been completed, which reflected well on the service. 18% of staff days had been set aside as contingency for unplanned work, but the amount of unplanned work had exceeded this.

RESOLVED, with one Member abstaining:

(a) to note the summary of audit work during 2010/11;

(b) to approve the Internal Audit Plan for 2011/2012.

14 EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORTS & UPDATE

Mr Hackett introduced this item. He said that there two main strands to the work of the external auditor: the review of the control environment and the review of financial systems. One key control issue had been identified, which concerned the manual system for the authorisation of journals (adjustments to amounts recorded in the accounts). Evidence for authorisation was not always recorded promptly or recorded at all. The Divisional Director – Finance said that it was planned to introduce an electronic system for journals.

A Member asked about virements. The Divisional Director – Finance that these were tightly controlled and always reported to Council.

The District Auditor reported that neither of the two objections to the Council's 2009/10 accounts, which were reported to the Committee in the 2009/10 audit letter, had been upheld.

RESOLVED to note the update from the External Auditor and the findings in the Interim Audit Summary of Key Findings.

15 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CORPORATE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Head of Risk and Assurance introduced this item. He requested the Committee to delegate responsibility to the Chair and himself to prepare the Annual Report.

John Barker said that he was content with the issues listed in paragraph 4.2 of the covering report. He then withdrew in accordance with his declaration of interest.

The Head of Risk and Assurance reminded Members that when the Committee had reviewed the role of the Independent Member the previous year, it had agreed that there should be fresh external recruitment exercise. However, because of the implications for the Council's governance arrangements of the Government review of external audit for public bodies, he suggested that the recruitment process for the Independent Member should be postponed and that the current Independent Member should continue in the role for further 6 months or 1 year.

Members commented on the effectiveness of the Committee in carrying out its role in 2010/11. One Member emphasised the need for ongoing training for Members.

Members also commented on the effectiveness of the role of Independent Member on the Committee.

RESOLVED

1. To delegate responsibility to Councillor Andrew Furse as Chair of the Committee during 2010/11 and the Head of Risk and Assurance to prepare an annual report for submission to Council in September.
2. To delegate responsibility to Councillor Andrew Furse and the Head of Risk and Assurance to decide on future arrangements for the Independent Member in 2011/12.

16 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates of future meetings were noted.

It was agreed that the preferred start time for meetings was 5.30pm and that dates should be scheduled beyond December 2011.

The meeting ended at 7.18 pm

Chair(person)

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services

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Bath & North East Somerset Council		
MEETING:	Corporate Audit Committee	
MEETING DATE:	29th September 2011	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
TITLE:	BATH & NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2010/11	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE: E
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1 – Bath & North East Somerset Council Audited Statement of Accounts 2010/11		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 The Annual Accounts (Audited Statement of Accounts) for 2010/11 have been formally prepared and this report introduces and summarises the Council's Accounts for 2010/11.

2 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The Committee is asked to:

Approve the audited Statement of Accounts for 2010/11 after receiving the Governance Reports from the Audit Commission for the Council and Pension Fund.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The Council's Statement of Accounts sets out the Income and Expenditure for the 2010/11 financial year together with the Balance Sheet and all related supporting information.

4 COUNCIL'S ACCOUNTS

4.1 This is the first year that the statement of accounts has been produced in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The presentation of the accounts is different from those previously presented under UK GAAP regulations and there are a substantial number of technical changes. The 2009/10 accounts have been restated in accordance with IFRS requirements for comparison purposes.

4.2 The work carried out by the Audit Commission has resulted in a number of presentational changes to the statement of accounts which was produced in June. However the Council's Balance Sheet and Useable Reserves remain unchanged.

4.3 The foreword to the accounts on pages 2 – 8 gives an overview of the financial position as set out in the accounts in the detailed statements and notes.

5 AVON PENSION FUND

5.1 The Pension Fund accounts now comply with the CIPFA Code of Practice based on International Financial Reporting Standards. In compliance with this, contributions paid to the Fund by B&NES Council and payments paid to B&NES pensioners are disclosed separately.

5.2 There have been some presentational and technical changes to the Pension Fund accounts that were presented to the Pensions Committee in June. The main changes are:

- i) The cost of the Triennial Valuation of £134,000 has been charged to administration costs in 2010/11 rather than being deferred over the period to which the valuation applies.
- ii) An additional Note (note 23) has been included to disclose the Fund's holdings of financial instruments and related income, expenses, gains and losses.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 The Council's ongoing financial situation is an identified risk that is regularly monitored.

7 RATIONALE

7.1 This report is a mandatory requirement of the Local Authority Accounting Code of Practice.

8 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 None as this report is a statutory requirement.

9 CONSULTATION

9.1 Consultation has been carried out with the Section 151 Finance Officer.

10 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

10.1 No decision as this is a statutory requirement.

11 ADVICE SOUGHT

11.1 The Council's Section 151 Officer has had the opportunity to input to this report and has cleared it for publication.

Contact person	Irene Draper (01225) 477325 Liz Feinstein Pensions Investment Manager (01225 395306)
Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	

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BATH & NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2010/11

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FOREWORD TO THE ACCOUNTS

Introduction

The Statutory Statement of Accounts have been produced in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting based on International Financial Reporting Standards.

2010/11 is the first year that local authorities have had to fully implement International Financial Reporting Standards.

The 2009/10 figures have been restated based IFRS standards.

The move to an IFRS based Code from UK GAAP based statement of recommended practice results in a number of significant changes in accounting practice.

The key changes include:

- * Grants and contributions for capital purposes are now recognised as income immediately rather than being deferred and released to revenue to match depreciation.
- * The main financial statements have changed.
- * There is emphasis on component accounting and derecognising parts of an asset that are replaced.
- * Some property leases may be classified and accounted for as separate leases of land and buildings.
- * Investment properties are measured at fair value, with gains and losses recognised in surplus or deficit rather than through the revaluation reserve.
- * Impairment losses are taken initially to the revaluation reserve to the extent that there is a balance on that reserve relating to the specific asset.
- * There is a new classification of non-current assets held for sale.
- * All employee benefits are now accounted for as they are earned by the employee. This requires accruals for items such as holiday pay.
- * The definition of associates for group accounts is now based on the ability to control rather than actual control.

RECONCILIATION OF NET WORTH UNDER IFRS TO UK GAAP

UK GAAP		Restatement Adjustments					IFRS	
Balance Sheet		Lease	Government	Assets	Cash &		Balance Sheet	
as at 31 March 2010		Classification	Grants	Held for	Cash		as at 31 March 2010	
	£'000	/ accruals	Deferred	Sale	Equivalents			£'000
Long term Assets							Property, Plant & Equipment:	
Intangible Fixed Assets	785						Intangible Assets	785
Operational Assets :								
- Other Land & Buildings	280,189						Land & Buildings	280,189
- Community Assets	3,183						Community Assets	3,183
- Infrastructure	42,488						Infrastructure	42,488
- Vehicles, plant & equipment	4,953	260					Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	5,213
- Investment Properties	224,067	(6,633)					Investment Property	217,434
- Assets under Construction	19,086						Assets under Construction	19,086
- Surplus Assets	20,160			(1,145)			Surplus assets	19,011
Investments	6						Long Term Investments	6
Long Term Debtors	457						Long Term Debtors	457
Total Long Term Assets	595,374						Long Term Assets	587,852
Stocks and Work in Progress	600						Inventories	600
Debtors and Prepayments	28,902						Short Term Debtors	28,902
Investments-Cash on Deposit	69,594					(20,121)	Short Term Investments	49,473
Cash and Bank	11,325					21,121	Cash and Cash Equivalents	31,446
				1,145			Assets Held for Sale	1,145
Current Assets	110,421						Current Assets	111,566
Creditors	(60,995)	(1,762)					Short Term Creditors	(62,757)
Bank Overdraft	(13,943)						Bank Overdraft	(13,943)
Current Liabilities	(74,938)						Current Liabilities	(76,700)
Long Term Borrowing	(81,815)						Long Term Borrowing	(81,815)
Capital Grants Deferred	(59,465)		59,465				Long Term Creditors	-
Provisions for Liabilities	(570)						Provisions	(570)
Capital Grants Unapplied	(9,216)						Other Long Term Liabilities	(210,677)
Deferred Liability-Avon Loan	(17,114)						Deferred tax liability	-
Pensions Liability	(193,563)						Long Term Liabilities	(293,062)
Long Term Liabilities	(361,743)							
Net Assets	269,114						Net Assets	329,656
Financed By:								
General Fund Balances	35,693						Usable reserves	45,812
Collection Fund Adjustment Account	973						Unusable Reserves	283,844
Useable Capital Receipts	903							
Deferred Capital Receipts	339							
Capital Adjustment Account	386,519	(6,373)	59,465					
Revaluation Reserve	38,250							
Accumulated absences a/c	-	(1,762)						
Pensions Reserve	(193,563)							
	269,114						Total Reserves	329,656

FOREWORD TO THE ACCOUNTS - continued

UK GAAP		Restatement Adjustments				IFRS	
Balance Sheet						Balance Sheet	
as at 31 March 2009		Lease	Gov. Grants	Assets Held	Cash &	as at 31 March 2009	
		Classification	Deferred	for Sale / Gain	Cash		
		/ accruals		on Investment	Equivalents		
				Properties			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Long term Assets						Property, Plant & Equipment:	
Intangible Fixed Assets	805					Intangible Assets	805
Operational Assets :							
- Other Land & Buildings	284,499	(3,504)				Land & Buildings	280,995
- Community Assets	3,164					Community Assets	3,164
- Infrastructure	40,349					Infrastructure	40,349
- Vehicles, plant & equipment	6,484	833				Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	7,317
- Investment Properties	223,216	(4,720)				Investment Property	218,496
- Assets under Construction	11,828					Assets under Construction	11,828
- Surplus Assets	17,228			(1,698)		Surplus assets	15,530
Investments	6					Long Term Investments	6
Long Term Debtors	410					Long Term Debtors	410
Total Long Term Assets	587,989					Long Term Assets	578,900
Stocks and Work in Progress						Inventories	285
Debtors and Prepayments	38,262					Short Term Debtors	38,262
Investments-Cash on Deposit	82,175				(13,903)	Short Term Investments	68,272
Cash and Bank	10,484				13,903	Cash and Cash Equivalents	24,387
				1,698		Assets Held for Sale	1,698
Current Assets	131,208					Current Assets	132,904
Creditors	(84,941)	(1,873)				Short Term Creditors	(86,814)
Bank Overdraft	(6,337)					Bank Overdraft	(6,337)
Current Liabilities	(91,278)					Current Liabilities	(93,151)
Long Term Borrowing	(81,818)					Long Term Borrowing	(81,818)
Capital Grants Deferred	(44,263)		44,263			Long Term Creditors	-
Provisions for Liabilities	(714)					Provisions	(714)
Capital Grants Unapplied	(11,980)					Other Long Term Liabilities	(158,932)
Deferred Liability-Avon Loan	(17,796)					Deferred tax liability	
Pensions Liability	(141,136)					Long Term Liabilities	(241,464)
Long Term Liabilities	(297,707)						
Net Assets	330,212					Net Assets	377,189
Financed By:							
General Fund Balances	33,810						
Collection Fund Adjustment							
Account	1,258						
Useable Capital Receipts	-						
Deferred Capital Receipts	359					Usable reserves	47,048
Capital Adjustment Account	411,558	(7,391)	44,263	17,485		Unusable Reserves	330,141
Revaluation Reserve	24,361			(17,485)			
Accumulated absences a/c	-	(1,873)					
Pensions Reserve	(141,136)						
Total Reserves	330,212					Total Reserves	377,189

UK GAAP	2009/10 Income & Expenditure Account					IFRS
	Reconciliation to Net Cost of Services					
	Restatement Adjustments					
	reverse 08/09 holiday pay accrual	holiday pay accrual 09/10	deferred grant amortisat'n	Investment Properties Income & Expenditure		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Central Services to the Public	(686)	(1)			(563)	(1,250)
Cultural Environmental, Regulatory & Planning Services	39,444	(11)	89	103		39,625
Education & Children's Services	33,062	(1,781)	1,531	1,053		33,865
Highways & Transportation Services	11,452		(7)	452		11,897
Housing Services	4,573	(2)				4,571
Adult Social Care Services	46,556	(31)	54	769		47,348
Corporate and Democratic core	1,510	(38)	95	1,000	11,472	14,039
Non Distributed Pensions costs	841					841

Net Cost of Services

136,752

150,936

FOREWORD TO THE ACCOUNTS - continued

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 require that the Statement of Accounts shall be approved by a resolution of a Committee of the relevant body and that following approval, the Statement of Accounts be signed and dated by the person presiding at the Committee.

The main purpose of a local authority's published Statement of Accounts is to provide electors, Council Tax payers, members of the Council, employees and other interested parties, with clear information about the Council's financial position. It should aim to provide answers to the following questions:

- What did the Council's services cost in the year?
- Where did the money come from?
- What are the Council's assets and liabilities at the year-end?

The main financial statements are:

Movement in Reserves Statement

The Movement on Reserves Statement shows the movement in the year on different reserves held by the authority.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account summarises the resources that have been generated and consumed in providing services and managing the Council during the year.

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the assets and liabilities of the Council as a whole at the 31 March 2011.

Cash Flow Statement

This statement summarises the inflows and outflows of cash arising from external transactions for both capital and revenue purposes.

Collection Fund

These statements show income from local taxes and from the national non-domestic rates pool, and how these are allocated to the Council and the Police and Fire Authorities on whose behalf they are collected.

Pension Fund Accounts

A summary of the Pension Fund accounts is included, as the Council is the administering authority for the Avon Pension Fund.

Statement of Accounting Policies

The statement describes the accounting concepts and policies adopted in the preparation of the accounts. It contains a number of technical notes, none of which are unusual or which differ from the concepts adopted by the majority of other Local Authorities. The Council complied with all recommended accounting practices contained within the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2010, which is recognised by statute as representing proper accounting practices. The Code of Practice incorporates Best Value Accounting principles with which the Council has also complied.

FOREWORD TO THE ACCOUNTS - continued

General Review

Summary of the Council's financial performance

Despite a number of major pressures, the Council underspent its revenue budget by £0.4m in 2010/11.

The Council has a robust action plan system for addressing service overspends which are monitored on a monthly basis and has helped produce a favourable outturn position. Cost pressures relating to both Adult and Children care placements and severance costs related to the Councils need to downsize placed significant pressure on services to remain within budget. The Council also had to manage the impact of the governments in year cuts with losses of £1.8m per annum in revenue funding (equivalent to 2.5% on Council Tax) and a £1.8m reduction in capital funding. The majority of these cuts fell in Children's Services. The main areas contributing to the underspend relates to investment interest where cash balances remained higher than anticipated and savings on waste contracts and reduced waste disposal tonnages.

The Next Twelve Months

The medium term planning period from 2011/12 remains challenging as the government continues to tackle the national budget deficit through significant reductions in public expenditure. The Council was well prepared for this and its Medium Term Service and Resource Planning process continues to prepare the Council for the financial challenge ahead. However, given the scale of efficiency savings already achieved and those planned for 2011/12 it is increasingly likely that future savings will require some reductions in Council services.

The Council's change programme has been refocused to take account of changes since July 2010 which include the Coalition Government's austerity measures, the Academies Act, new requirements on the NHS, which affect our Health and Wellbeing partnership and the new Economic Growth White Paper. The programme has been extended to:

- * create an organisation (Core Council) that understands local needs and commissions the right service from the right provider.
- * reshape Customer Services to be the public face of the Council, where 80% of questions are dealt with at the first point of contact.
- * bring together Support Services to deliver more effective and efficient services.
- * make better use of the Council's property assets.
- * meet the government's requirements for Children's Services, Academies and Social Care.
- * make further efficiency savings on top of other savings from re-prioritisation of services.

The change programme is making a significant contribution to both the future delivery of Council services and helping to meet the overall financial challenge facing the Council.

Revenue outturn and balances

The Council's net revenue budget was set at £129.94 million leading to a 2.5% increase in its part of the 2010/11 Council Tax. Dedicated schools grant funding of £98.9m separately supports expenditure on schools.

Total net spending amounted to £128.9 million against a revised budget of £129.3m, with a year end surplus of £0.4 million on general fund spending.

The Council followed well established procedures for monitoring its finances and reporting the position to the Cabinet. Despite a number of major pressures during 2010/11, the budget has been managed in total with a small underspend. The main areas contributing to the underspend relates to capital financing and waste management savings through contract savings and reduced disposal tonnages.

The Council continues with its programme of budget management where overspends and underspends are carried forward (rollovers) subject to policy approval. After transfers to earmarked reserves the General Fund stands at £13.3m.

The main adverse variances from budget incurred are:

Service Delivery overspend of £305k - mainly due to staff severance costs partly offset by waste management savings.

The main favourable variances from budgets incurred are:

Adult Social Services & Housing underspend of £396k - mainly due to additional income from service user contributions and the completion of tendering processes for Supporting People and Community Funding programmes.

Corporate & Agency underspend of £541k - mainly due to additional investment income as a result of higher cash balances, interest savings on Ex Avon debt following loan restructuring and reduced non-recoverable Housing/Council Tax benefit subsidy.

FOREWORD TO THE ACCOUNTS - continued

The outturn position compared to the budget and the last reported forecast is as follows:

Service	Budgeted	Actual	(Under)/ Over
	Spend	Spend	Spend
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Service Delivery	29,489	29,794	305
Children's Services	26,217	26,346	128
Adult Social Services & Housing	51,466	51,070	(396)
Resources & Support Services	3,276	3,459	183
Improvement & Performance	2,829	2,755	(74)
Development & Major Projects	2,010	2,069	58
Council Solicitor	2,523	2,416	(108)
Corporate & Agency Budgets	11,516	10,975	(541)
	129,329	128,884	(445)

In addition the net position on schools was an overall underspend of £2,048k, comprising an underspend of £2,618k on Dedicated Schools grant partly offset by use of schools reserves totalling £570k. The School's Forum has deliberately created a large carry forward as part of its budget planning to support the changes to funding allocations as part of the Academies programme. The carry forward reflects the significant carry forward from 2009/10 into 2010/11 and will be utilised when the DFE adjust recoupment charges for those schools converting in 2011/12.

Collection Fund

The estimated surplus on the Collection was £700,000. The actual surplus after allowance for the Police and Fire Authorities share is £843,000. This has been taken into account when setting the 2011/12 budget.

Income and Expenditure Account

The Income and Expenditure Account includes a number of items that are not required to be included in the General Fund and to be taken into account in setting the council tax. The Income and Expenditure Account included within this Statement of Accounts shows the net cost of services for the year of £150.6m. This reconciles to the General Fund spending reported above as follows:

	£m	£m
Total net spending by departments		126,836
Add:		
Charges related to capital assets:		
- depreciation	15,791	
- revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	17,152	
- impairment, including non-enhancing capital expenditure	38,938	
		<u>71,881</u>
Offset by:		
Grant funded revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	11,085	
Unapportioned pensions contributions	1,650	
Levy payments	221	
Interest received and paid	(3,835)	
Other movements on funds and balances	(2,114)	
Pensions Fund past service cost gains	31,603	
Net transfers to reserves	9,422	
		<u>48,032</u>
Cost of services - continuing operations		150,685

The principal differences relate to capital assets. The general fund includes the cost of financing capital assets whereas the Income and Expenditure Account includes depreciation and impairment.

FOREWORD TO THE ACCOUNTS - continued

Capital Expenditure

Capital expenditure in 2010/11 totalled £51.5m. Overall capital spending was 72% of the revised capital budget. New borrowing of £10m was taken from the Public Works Loan Board to fund historic capital spend. Details are:

Departments	Planned Spend £,000's	Actual Spend £,000's	Variation on planned spend £,000's
Service Delivery	17,905	15,541	(2,364)
Children's Services	24,485	19,932	(4,553)
Adult Social Services & Housing	2,739	2,458	(281)
Resources & Support Services	7,791	6,453	(1,338)
Development & Major Projects	11,838	7,142	(4,696)
Corporate	6,518	-	(6,518)
	71,276	51,526	(19,750)

Capital expenditure was financed as:

	£,000's
Capital receipts	2,383
Capital grants and contributions	26,182
Revenue	1,768
Borrowing	21,193
	51,526

Long term debt at 31 March 2010 is shown in the Balance Sheet at £91.9m (2009/10 £81.8m).

Pensions Fund

As required under the Regulations, a triennial valuation of the Avon Pension Fund was carried out as at 31 March 2010 which sets the employer contribution rates from 1 April 2011. The funding level was calculated at 82% (i.e. the Funds assets cover 82% of future liabilities) which compares to 83% in 2007. The deficit widened during the period due to the investment returns below expectations in the 3 years and the lower real yields (bond yields less inflation) causing an increase in liabilities. However, the government announcement in 2010 that pension benefits are to be linked to the Consumer Price Index rather than the Retail Price Index, helped limit the increase in the liabilities.

Pension Liabilities

The Council has a liability of £154.3m for future pensions costs. This is because under FRS17 the Council must account for pensions for former members of staff when the commitment is made not when the pension is paid. The liability is £39.2m less than in 2009/10. This is mainly due to pensions benefits being linked to the Consumer Price Index rather than the Retail Price Index as mentioned above.

Group Accounts

There is now a requirement to include a consolidation of group accounts under the Local Authority Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2010. The Council has group relationships with Bath Tourism Plus, Connexions West of England and the West of England Partnership. The turnover and assets held by these companies are not considered significant enough to produce Group Accounts.

FOREWORD TO THE ACCOUNTS - continued

Further Information

Further information on the Council's Accounts and those of the Avon Pension Fund is available on the Councils' website and that of the Avon Pension Fund:

www.bathnes.gov.uk/BathNES/councilinformation/finance

www.avonpensionfund.org.uk

Once again the accounts have been produced promptly and to a high standard. This would have not been possible without the hard work of finance staff across the Council. My thanks go to all finance staff and to Service Directors for their assistance in the preparation of these accounts and for their support throughout the year.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'TR', followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Tim Richens

Divisional Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)

MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT 2010/11

This Statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the authority, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other reserves. The 'Surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services' line shows the true economic cost of providing the authority's services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement. These are different from the statutory amounts required to be charged to the General Fund Balances for Council Tax setting purposes. The 'Net increase/decrease before transfers to earmarked reserves' line shows the statutory General Fund Balance before any discretionary transfers to and from earmarked reserves undertaken by the Council.

	General Fund Balance	Earmarked General Fund Reserves	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Balance at 31 March 2010	14,638	21,055	903	9,216	45,812	283,844	329,656
Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services (accounting basis)	(28,024)				(28,024)		(28,024)
Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure	-		-	-	-	64,977	64,977
Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure	(28,024)	-	-	-	(28,024)	64,977	36,953
Adjustment between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	36,077	(51)	(901)	(3,828)	31,297	(31,297)	-
Net Increase/Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves	8,053	(51)	(901)	(3,828)	3,273	33,680	36,953
Transfers to/from earmarked reserves	(9,422)	9,422			-	-	-
Increase/Decrease in Year	(1,369)	9,371	(901)	(3,828)	3,273	33,680	36,953
Balance at 31 March 2011	13,269	30,426	2	5,388	49,087	317,524	366,611

	General Fund Balance	Earmarked General Fund Reserves	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Balance at 31 March 2009	24,402	10,666	-	11,980	47,048	330,141	377,189
Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services (accounting basis)	(9,823)				(9,823)		(9,823)
Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure	-				-	(37,710)	(37,710)
Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure	(9,823)	-	-	-	(9,823)	(37,710)	(47,533)
Adjustment between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	11,100	(652)	903	(2,764)	8,587	(8,587)	-
Net Increase/Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves	1,277	(652)	903	(2,764)	(1,236)	(46,297)	(47,533)
Transfers to/from earmarked reserves	(11,041)	11,041			-		-
Increase/Decrease in Year	(9,764)	10,389	903	(2,764)	(1,236)	(46,297)	(47,533)
Balance at 31 March 2010	14,638	21,055	903	9,216	45,812	283,844	329,656

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2010/11

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

Notes	2009/10 Gross Exp £'000	2009/10 Gross Inc £'000	2009/10 Net Exp £'000		2010/11 Gross Exp £'000	2010/11 Gross Inc £'000	2010/11 Net Exp £'000
				Expenditure on Services			
	7,798	(9,048)	(1,250)	Central Services to the Public	4,372	(3,698)	674
				Cultural Environmental, Regulatory	-		
	63,883	(24,258)	39,625	& Planning Services	70,579	(26,255)	44,324
	181,766	(147,901)	33,865	Education & Children's Services	216,485	(155,313)	61,172
	27,701	(15,804)	11,897	Highways & Transportation Services	32,717	(17,522)	15,195
	61,932	(57,361)	4,571	Housing Services	67,810	(59,177)	8,633
	84,340	(36,992)	47,348	Adult Social Care Services	87,662	(38,420)	49,242
	27,657	(19,664)	7,993	Corporate and Democratic Core	49,383	(48,431)	952
48	841	-	841	Non Distributed Pensions Costs	1,570	(31,603)	(30,033)
48	22,092	(22,092)	-	Stone Mines Project	3,551	(3,025)	526
	478,010	(333,120)	144,890	Cost of Services - continuing Operations	534,129	(383,444)	150,685
9			(207)	Other Operating Expenditure			21,534
				Financing and Investment Income			
10			6,291	& Expenditure			(2,698)
			-	Surplus or Deficit on Discontinued Operations			-
				Taxation and Non-Specific Grant			
11			(141,151)	Income			(141,497)
			9,823	Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services			28,024
				Surplus or Deficit on Revaluation of Non-current Assets			(51,072)
			-	Surplus or Deficit on Revaluation of Available for Sale Financial Assets			-
38			47,070	Actuarial Gains/Losses on Pension Assets/Liabilities			(13,905)
			-	Share of Other Comprehensive Expenditure & Income of Associates & Joint Ventures			-
			37,710	Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure			(64,977)
			47,533	Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure			(36,953)

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 MARCH 2011

The Balance sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the asset and liabilities recognised by the authority. The net assets of the authority (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the authority. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the authority may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use (for example the capital receipts reserve that may only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt). The second category of reserves are those that the authority is not able to use to provide services. This category of reserves include 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 regulations".

Notes	31 March 2010 £'000	31 March 2009 £'000		31 March 2011 £'000
12			Property, Plant & Equipment:	
	280,189	280,995	Land & Buildings	276,733
	3,183	3,164	Community Assets	3,127
	42,488	40,349	Infrastructure	45,297
	5,213	7,317	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	8,716
	19,086	11,828	Assets under Construction	19,205
	19,011	15,530	Surplus assets	26,022
13	217,434	218,493	Investment Property	219,289
14	785	805	Intangible Assets	848
	6	6	Long Term Investments	5
	457	410	Long Term Debtors	791
	-	-	Deferred tax asset	-
	<u>587,852</u>	<u>578,900</u>	Long Term Assets	600,031
15	49,473	68,272	Short Term Investments	35,291
17	600	285	Inventories	543
18	28,902	38,262	Short Term Debtors	23,714
19	31,446	24,387	Cash and Cash Equivalents	39,757
20	<u>1,145</u>	<u>1,698</u>	Assets Held for Sale	1,879
	111,566	132,904	Current Assets	101,184
	(13,943)	(6,337)	Bank Overdraft	(14,790)
	-	-	Short Term Borrowing	-
21	<u>(62,757)</u>	<u>(86,814)</u>	Short Term Creditors	(56,491)
	(76,700)	(93,151)	Current Liabilities	(71,281)
	-	-	Long Term Creditors	-
22	(570)	(714)	Provisions	(722)
15	(81,815)	(81,818)	Long Term Borrowing	(91,867)
	<u>(210,677)</u>	<u>(158,932)</u>	Other Long Term Liabilities	(170,734)
	(293,062)	(241,464)	Long Term Liabilities	(263,323)
	<u>329,656</u>	<u>377,189</u>	Net Assets	366,611
	45,812	47,048	Usable reserves	49,087
23	<u>283,844</u>	<u>330,141</u>	Unusable Reserves	317,524
	<u>329,656</u>	<u>377,189</u>	Total Reserves	366,611

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

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

	2009/10	See Note 24 for further details	2010/11
	£'000		£'000
	(9,823)	Net surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services	(28,024)
		Adjustment to surplus or deficit on the provision of services	
A	37,644	for non cash movements	40,452
		Adjust for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision	
A	(64,535)	of services that are investing and financing activities	(12,481)
	<u>(36,714)</u>	Operating Activities	<u>(53)</u>
C	40,372	Investing Activities	(6,264)
D	(4,205)	Financing Activities	13,780
	<u>(547)</u>	Net Increase/(decrease) in cash equivalents	<u>7,464</u>
E	18,050	Cash & cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	17,503
E	17,503	Cash & cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	24,967

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2010/11 financial year and its position at the year-end 31 March 2011. It has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2010/11 and supported by International Financial Reporting Standards. The accounting convention adopted is principally historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain categories of non-current assets and financial instruments.

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:

- * Fees, charges and rents due from customers are accounted for as income at the date the Council provides the relevant goods or services.
- * 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.
- * Works are charged as expenditure when they are completed, before which they are carried as works in progress on the balance sheet.
- * Interest payable on borrowings and receivable on investments is accounted for on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract.
- * Where income and expenditure has been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the balance sheet. Where it is doubtful that debts will be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.
- * Income and expenditure are credited and debited to the relevant service account, unless they properly represent capital receipts or capital expenditure.
- * Employee benefits are accounted for as they are earned.

Provisions

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Council an obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits, but where the timing of the transfer is uncertain. For instance, the Council may be involved in a court case that could eventually result in the making of a settlement or the payment of compensation.

Provisions are charged to the appropriate service revenue account in the year that the Council becomes aware of the obligation, based on the best estimate of the likely settlement. When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision set up in the balance sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year - where it becomes more likely than not that a transfer of economic benefits will not now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made), the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service revenue account.

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

Reserves

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

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for tangible fixed assets and retirement benefits and that do not represent useable resources for the council - these reserves are explained in the relevant policies below. Capital reserves are not available for revenue purposes.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Government Grants and Contributions

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

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

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

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

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

Retirement Benefits

Employees of the Council are members of two separate pension schemes:

- * The Teachers' Pension Scheme, administered by Capita Teachers' Pensions on behalf of the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF).
- * The Local Government Pensions Scheme, administered by Bath & North East Somerset Council.

Both schemes provided defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees who worked for the Council.

However, the arrangements for the Teachers' scheme mean that liabilities for these benefits cannot be identified to the Council. The scheme is therefore accounted for as if it were a defined contributions scheme - no liability for future payments of benefits is recognised in the balance sheet and the Education service revenue account is charged with the employer's contributions payable to Teachers' Pensions in the year. The authority is however responsible for the costs of additional benefits awarded upon early retirement outside of the terms of the teachers scheme. These benefits are fully accrued in the pensions liability.

The Local Government Pension Scheme

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

- * The liabilities of the Avon 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 projected earnings for current employees.
- * Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate of 5.5% (based on the indicative rate of return on high quality corporate bonds).
- * The assets of the Avon Pension Fund attributable to the Council are included in the balance sheet at their fair value:
 - quoted securities - bid price
 - unquoted securities - professional estimate
 - unitised securities - average of the bid and offer rates
 - property - market value.
 - The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into seven components:
 - current service cost - the increase in liabilities as result of years of service earned this year - allocated in the Income and Expenditure Account to the revenue accounts of services for which the employees worked
 - past service cost - the increase in liabilities arising from current year decisions whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years - debited to the net Cost of Services in the Income and Expenditure Account as part of Non-Distributed Costs
 - interest cost - the expected increase in the present value of liabilities during the year as they move one year closer to being paid - debited to Net Operating Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account
 - expected return on assets - the annual investment return on the fund assets attributable to the Council, based on an average of the expected long-term return - credited to Net Operating Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account
 - gains/losses on settlements and curtailments - the result of actions to relieve the Council of liabilities or events that reduce the expected future service or accrual of benefits of employees - debited to the Net Cost of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account as part of Non-Distributed Costs
 - 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.
 - contributions paid to the Avon Pension Fund - cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statutory provisions limit the council to raising the council tax to cover the amounts payable by the Council to the pension fund in the year. In the Movement in Reserves Statement on the General Fund Balance this means there are appropriations to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and 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 (including teachers) are accrued in the year of the decision to make the award and accounted for using the same policies as are applied to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

VAT

Income and expenditure excludes any amounts related to VAT, as all VAT collected is payable to HM Revenue and Customs and all VAT paid is recoverable from them.

Overheads and Support Services

The costs of overheads and support services are charged to those that benefit from the supply or service in accordance with the costing principles of the CIPFA *Best Value Accounting Code of Practice 2008*. The total absorption costing principle is used - the full cost of overheads and support services are shared between users in proportion to the benefits received, with the exception of:

- * Corporate and Democratic Core - costs relating to the Council's status as a multi-functional, democratic organisation.
- * Non Distributed Costs - the cost of discretionary benefits awarded to employees retiring early and any depreciation and impairment losses chargeable on non-operational properties.

These two cost categories are defined in BVACOP and accounted for as separate headings in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account, as part of Net Cost of Services.

Intangible Assets

Expenditure on assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and controlled by the Council (e.g. software licences) is capitalised when it will bring benefits to the Council for more than one financial year. The balance is amortised to the relevant service revenue account over the economic life of the investment (3 years) on a straight line basis to reflect the pattern of consumption of benefits.

Property, Plant & Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are assets held for use in the provision of services or for administrative purposes on a continuing basis.

Recognition: expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of property, plant and equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided that it yields benefits to the Council and the services that it provides for more than one financial year. Expenditure that secures but does not extend the previously assessed standards of performance of assets (e.g. repairs and maintenance) is charged to revenue as it is incurred.

Measurement: Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising all expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset into working condition for its intended use. Assets are then carried in the balance sheet using the following measurement bases:

- * dwellings, other land and buildings, vehicles, plant and equipment - fair value, unless there is no market-based evidence because of the specialist nature of the asset then depreciated replacement cost
- * infrastructure assets, community assets and assets under construction - depreciated historical cost.
- * all other assets - fair value determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use.

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

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

Non-current assets are valued in accordance with the Manual published by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. Valuations are undertaken by the Council's Property Services division on a 5 year rolling programme but reviewed annually for impairment.

Assets included in the balance sheet at current value are re-valued where there have been material changes in the value, but as a minimum every five years. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. Exceptionally, gains might be credited to the Income and Expenditure Account where they arise from the reversal of an impairment loss previously charged to a service revenue account.

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

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

- * where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the

asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of accumulated gains).

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- * where there is no balance or insufficient balance in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

Depreciation: depreciation is provided for on all assets with a determinable finite life (except for investment properties) by allocating the value of the asset in the balance sheet over the periods expected to benefit from their use.

Depreciation is calculated on the following bases:

- * other buildings - straight-line allocation over the life of the property as estimated by the valuer
- * vehicles, plant and equipment - straight-line allocation over the life of the asset as advised by a suitably qualified officer
- * community assets - straight line allocation over the life of the property as estimated by the valuer
- * infrastructure - straight-line allocation over 10 years.

Where an asset has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item (i.e. 20% or more of the asset as a whole), with different estimated useful lives, these are depreciated separately. Assets with a value of less than £500,000 are not subject to the componentisation policy.

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

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

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

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Amounts in excess of £10,000 are categorised as capital receipts. A proportion of receipts relating to housing disposals (75% for dwellings, 50% for land and other assets, net of statutory deductions and allowances) is payable to the Government. The balance of receipts is required to be credited to the Usable Capital Receipts reserve, and can then only be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce the council's underlying need to borrow (the capital financing requirement). Receipts are appropriated to the reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against council tax, as the cost of fixed assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account then reversed out in the Movement in Reserves Statement so there is no impact on the level of council tax.

Charges to Revenue for Property, Plant & Equipment

Service revenue accounts, support services and trading accounts are debited with the following amounts to record the real cost of holding fixed assets during the year:

- * depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service
- * impairment losses attributable to the clear consumption of economic benefit on property, plant and equipment used by the service and other losses where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which they can be written off
- * amortisation of intangible fixed assets attributable to the service.

The Council is not required to raise council tax to cover depreciation, impairment losses or amortisations. However, it is required to make an annual provision from revenue to contribute towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement (equal to at least 4% of the underlying amount measured by the adjusted Capital Financing Requirement). Depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are therefore replaced by revenue provision in the Movement in Reserves Statement, by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account for the difference between the two.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Revenue expenditure funded from capital by statute

Previously called 'Deferred charges' this is expenditure that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but does not result in the creation of tangible assets. Revenue expenditure funded from capital incurred during the year has been written off as expenditure to the relevant service revenue account in the year. Where the council has determined to meet the costs from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the amounts charged on General Fund Balances in the Movement in Reserves Statement so there is no impact on the level of council tax.

Investment Property

Investment properties are those that are used solely to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation. The definition is not met if the property is used in any way to facilitate the delivery of services or production of goods or is held for sale.

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value, based on the amount at which the asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable partners at arms-length. Properties are not depreciated but are re-valued annually according to market conditions at year end. Gains and losses on revaluation are posted to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The same treatment is applied to gains and losses on disposal.

Rental received in relation to Investment properties are credited to the Financing and Investment Income line and result in a gain for the General Fund Balance. However, revaluation and disposal gains and losses are not permitted by statutory arrangements 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 the Capital Receipts Reserve.

Cash & Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are investments that mature in (specified period, no more than three months) or less from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

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

Leases

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

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

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

The Authority as Lessee

Finance Leases

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

Lease payments are apportioned between:

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

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

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

Operating Leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense of the services benefiting from use of the leased property, plant or equipment. Charges are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Authority as Lessor

Finance Leases

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

Lease rentals receivable are apportioned between:

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

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

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

Operating Leases

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

Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value and carried at their amortised cost. Annual charges to the Income and Expenditure Account for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the borrowings that the council has, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable and interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account is the amount payable for the year in the loan agreement.

Gains and losses on the repurchase or early settlement of borrowing are credited and debited to Net Operating Expenditure in the Income and Expenditure Account in the year of repurchase/settlement. However, where repurchase has taken place as part of a restructuring of the loan portfolio that involves the modification or exchange of existing instruments, the premium or discount is respectively deducted from or added to the amortised cost of the new or modified loan and the write down to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account is spread over the life of the loan by an adjustment to the effective interest rate.

Financial Assets

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

Loans and Receivables

Loans and receivables are initially measured at fair value and carried at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the loans that the council has made, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable and interest credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

The Council has no soft loans.

Where assets are identified as impaired because of a likelihood arising from a past event that payments due under the contract will not be made, the asset is written down and a charge made to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account.

Any gains and losses that arise on the de-recognition of the asset are credited/debited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account.

Available-for-sale Assets

The Council has no available-for-sale assets.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Instruments Entered into Before 1 April 2006

The council entered into a number of financial guarantees that are not required to be accounted for as financial instruments. These guarantees are reflected in the Statement of Accounts to the extent that provisions might be required or a contingent liability note is needed under the policies set out in Policy 3.

Inventories and Work in Progress

Inventories and work in progress are included in the Balance Sheet at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Controlled Companies

The Council has two controlled companies - Bath Tourism Plus Ltd and Connexions West of England.

The turnover and assets held by these companies are not considered significant and therefore no Group Accounts have been produced. If they were material they would be treated as an investment.

Contingent Liabilities

Contingent Liabilities are not recognised in the accounting statements but disclosed by way of a note giving a brief explanation of any possible obligations and an estimate of the likely financial effect if known.

Exceptional Items

Items which require a degree of prominence in order to give a fair presentation of the accounts are shown separately on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account. A description of any exceptional items is given in a note to the accounts.

Joint Working Arrangements

Where the Council has a joint working arrangement with other organisations, the authority's share of income and expenditure is accounted for only in the Council's accounts. An example of this the West of England Partnership.

Comparative Figures

The 2009/10 figures have been restated based on International Financial reporting Standards.

2 ACCOUNTING STANDARDS THAT HAVE BEEN ISSUED BUT HAVE NOT YET BEEN ADOPTED

Heritage Assets: Impact of the adoption of the new standard on 2011/12 financial statements

The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2011/12 has introduced a change in accounting policy in relation to the treatment of heritage assets held by the Authority, which will need to be adopted fully by the authority in the 2011/12 financial statements.

The new standard will require that a new class of asset, heritage assets, is disclosed separately on the face of the Authority's Balance Sheet in the 2011/12 financial statements.

Heritage assets are assets that are held by the authority principally for their contribution to knowledge or culture.

The heritage assets held by the authority are the collections of assets and artefacts either exhibited or stored in the Roman Baths Museum, Victoria Art Gallery, Museum of Costume, Bath Records Office and libraries.

The collections include:

- * archaeological artefacts and numismatic collections
- * fine and decorative art collections
- * fashionable dress, accessories and associated paperwork collections
- * rare books, maps, manuscripts and local history collections

The authority's heritage assets are currently accounted for at a proxy for historical cost as no information is available on the cost of these assets.

The Code will require that heritage assets are measured at valuation in the 2011/12 financial statements, however obtaining valuations for these assets would involve a disproportionate cost in comparison to the benefits to the users of the Authority's financial statements and therefore exemption from this requirement is permitted by the 2011/12 code.

The carrying value of heritage assets currently held in the Balance Sheet as Community Assets within Property, Plant and Equipment at 1 April 2010 is £100,000.

There is no depreciation charged on the heritage assets that are currently classified as community assets because it has been estimated that the assets have indeterminate lives. This assumption remains and so the policy of no depreciation on heritage assets will not change.

3 CRITICAL JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

Future Funding Levels

The Comprehensive Spending Review in October 2010 identified a significant reduction in Central Government funding for local authorities over the CSR period. The Council's medium term financial planning process is based on the anticipated implications for the Authority although at this time it is not possible to provide an indication if any of the

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Accounting for Elderly Peoples Extra Care Homes

The accounting treatment for two extra care homes leased to Somer Housing Trust has been reviewed following implementation of International Financial Accounting Standards and no change has been made to the way they have been accounted for.

4 ASSUMPTIONS MADE ABOUT THE FUTURE AND OTHER MAJOR SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

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

The items in the Authority's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2010 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Pensions Liability

Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Authority with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.

Property, Plant and Equipment Values

The Council has a large number of properties including an investment estate which are re-valued on a five year rolling programme to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice.

Over the last two years as a consequence of the exceptional economic climate there have been falls in property values nationally. Bath has bucked this trend to a degree and arguably, over the year has been more resilient to the wide spread effects of the recession.

Indeed the Council's Investment Estate key performance indicators show that income for 2009/10 exceeded expectations. Void levels and rent payments received have also not deteriorated over the financial year and moreover rent arrears levels have reduced by 30% over this period.

The Council has undertaken a desktop re-valuation of its property assets using national indices. It has also considered other local factors, in order to determine what adjustment, if any, is required to the values derived from the normal five yearly revaluation process. The analysis has been undertaken by Bath & North East Somerset valuation officers and an independent review of the data has been undertaken by external property experts (BNP Paribas Real Estate).

The valuation dates are spread over a five year period as the council operates a five yearly valuation process. When account is taken both of the likely increase in value for those properties in the early cycle as well as recent likely fall, we are of the opinion that any overall impairment to property values is not material. An analysis shows that the perceived change in value is less than 10% for both the investment and operational estate. Consequently no

adjustments have been made to the asset values in respect of impairments other than those that have been valued as part of the normal five year programme.

This opinion has been supported by independent external advisers who have confirmed the approach taken is consistent with other public bodies and verified the analysis as accurate.

5 MATERIAL ITEMS OF INCOME AND EXPENSE

There were no material items of Income and Expenditure.

6 EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

The Statement of Accounts was authorised for issue by the Director of Finance on 30th September 2011. Events taking place after this date are not reflected in the financial statements or notes. Where events taking place before this date provided information about conditions existing at 31 March 2011, the figures in the financial statements and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this situation.

Transforming Community Services

The Council and NHS Bath and North East Somerset are committed to working in partnership to integrate community health and social care services. The annual value of the Council element of these services is approximately £16m.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In November 2010, the Council agreed to a direction of travel that envisaged a transfer of these services to a social enterprise subject to a sustainable business plan. In February 2011 the Council and NHS B&NES agreed to proceed with the social enterprise in the form of a Community Interest Company limited by guarantee.

It is currently envisaged that the transfer of services and related staff will take place on 1st October 2011.

Academy Schools

These accounts reflect the appropriate transfer of assets and liabilities in respect of those schools which became Academies during the 2010/11 financial year. Subsequent to the financial year end a number of schools have or are seeking to move to Academy status as set out below:

- Trinity Primary School w.e.f. 1 June 2011
- Hayesfield Secondary School anticipated w.e.f. 1 August 2011
- Fosseyway Special School anticipated w.e.f. 1 September 2011

In addition, Wellsway, Broadlands and Writhlington Secondary Schools have all made applications to the Department for Education seeking approval for Academy status. Subject to approval, we would expect these schools to transfer during the current year 2011/12 financial year.

7 ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN ACCOUNTING BASIS AND FUNDING BASIS UNDER REGULATIONS

2010/11	Usable Reserves			Movement in Unusable Reserves
	General Fund Balance	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	
	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account:				
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement:				
Charges for depreciation and Impairment of Non-Current Assets	54,054			(54,054)
Revaluation gains on Property Plant & Equipment	-			-
Movements in the Market Value of Investment Properties	(1,901)			1,901
Amortisation of Intangible Assets	675			(675)
Capital Grants & contributions applied	(11,085)			11,085
Revenue expenditure funded from Capital under Statute	17,152			(17,152)
Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	20,262			(20,262)
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement:				
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment expenditure charged against the General Fund	(2,146)			2,146
Principal repayment of Avon Loan	(685)			685
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account:				
Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	(11,005)		11,005	
Application of grants to capital financing transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account			(14,833)	14,833
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:				
Transfer of cash sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(1,475)	1,475		
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure		(2,384)		2,384
Capital expenditure financed from revenue	1,769			(1,769)
Contributions from the capital receipts reserve to finance payments to the Government capital receipts pool	7	(7)		
Transfer from Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash		15		(15)
Adjustments primarily involving the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve:				
Transfer of deferred sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	174			(174)

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve:

Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	(8,670)	8,670
Employer's pensions contribution and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(15,812)	15,812

Adjustments primarily involving the Collection Fund

Adjustment Account:

Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	130	(130)
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Adjustments primarily involving the Accumulated Absences

Account:

Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	172	(172)
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Other movements	(5,539)	5,590
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Total Adjustments	36,077	(901)	(3,828)	(31,297)
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2009/10

Usable Reserves

General Fund Balance	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Movement in Unusable Reserves
£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's

Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment

Account:

Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement:

Charges for depreciation and Impairment of Non-Current Assets	32,341	(32,341)
Revaluation gains on Property Plant & Equipment	-	-
Movements in the Market Value of Investment Properties	2,140	(2,140)
Amortisation of Intangible Assets	593	(593)
Capital Grants & Contributions Applied	(44,070)	44,070
Revenue expenditure funded from Capital under Statute	46,628	(46,628)
Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	(2,364)	2,364

Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement:

Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment expenditure charged against the General Fund	(1,986)	1,986
Principal repayment of Avon Loan	(713)	713

Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied

Account:

Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	(17,161)	17,161	
Application of grants to capital financing transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account	(19,925)		19,925

Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:

Transfer of cash sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(5,552)	5,552	
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure		(4,657)	4,657
Contributions from the capital receipts reserve to finance payments to the Government capital receipts pool	12	(12)	
Transfer from Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash		20	(20)

Adjustments primarily involving the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve:

Transfer of deferred sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	-	-
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NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve:

Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	20,946	(20,946)
Employer's pensions contribution and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(15,589)	15,589

Adjustments primarily involving the Collection Fund

Adjustment Account:

Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	1,298	(1,298)
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Adjustments primarily involving the Accumulated Absences

Account:

Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	111			(111)
Other movements	(5,534)			6,186
Total Adjustments	11,100	903	(2,764)	(8,587)

8 GENERAL FUND BALANCES AND RESERVES

This note sets out the amounts set-a-side from the general Fund in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund expenditure in 2010/11.

Unearmarked Reserves	31 March 2009 £'000	31 March 2010 £'000	transfers to £'000	transfers from £'000	31 March 2011 £'000
General Fund Balances unearmarked	23,144	14,638	8,623	(9,992)	13,269
Earmarked Reserves	31 March 2009 £'000	31 March 2010 £'000	transfers to £'000	transfers from £'000	31 March 2011 £'000
LMS Schools Balances	3,736	3,084	163	(733)	2,514
Corporate Earmarked Reserves	4,760	15,791	19,787	(10,751)	24,827
Service Specific Reserves	784	777	163	(116)	824
General Service Earmarked Reserves	1,386	1,403	958	(100)	2,261
	10,666	21,055	21,071	(11,700)	30,426
Total General Fund Balances and Reserves	33,810	35,693	29,694	(21,692)	43,695

LMS Schools balances will be used by individual schools

	31 March 2009 £'000	31 March 2010 £'000	transfers to £'000	transfers from £'000	31 March 2011 £'000
Corporate Earmarked Reserves					
Insurance Fund	1,431	1,324	6	(249)	1,081
Service Supported Borrowing	469	668	199	-	867
Revenue Funding of capital	121	-	2,072	(1,768)	304
Exceptional Risk Reserve	2,743	188	35	(35)	188
Affordable Housing & Capital Development	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
Revenue Budget Contingency Reserve	-	1,045	3,054	(3,054)	1,045
Medium Term Financial Challenge Reserve	-	3,607	2,538	(303)	5,842
Restructuring Reserve	-	2,000	3,598	-	5,598
Pensions Increase Reserve	-	1,000	2,082	(3,082)	-
Other	(4)	2,959	6,202	(2,259)	6,902
	4,760	15,791	19,786	(10,750)	24,827

The Insurance Fund exists in order to meet the cost of claims which fall below the policy excesses.

The Service Supported Borrowing reserve is used to match capital financing costs arising in the future.

The Revenue Funding of capital reserve is used to finance specific capital spend items.

The Exceptional Risk reserve is used to fund specific costs in respect of poor economic conditions.

The Affordable Housing & Capital Development reserve will be used to fund affordable housing and capital development.

The Revenue Budget Contingency reserve is used to fund unforeseen revenue costs not containable within the annual revenue budget and related risks.

The Medium Term Financial Challenge reserve is used to support the Council's change programme including the development and implementation of specific transformation business cases.

The Restructuring reserve is used to fund severance related costs related to the Council's downsizing programme.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	31 March 2009 £'000	31 March 2010 £'000	transfers to £'000	transfers from £'000	31 March 2011 £'000
General Service Earmarked Reserves					
Replacement PC's Reserve	331	423	59		482
Desktop Licences Reserve	653	503	16		519
Resources Systems Reserve	287	147		(79)	68
Ward Councillors Initiatives Reserve	-	24	-	(21)	3
Finance VAT Advice Reserve	-	100	100	-	200
Youth Services	-		75		75
Adult Services RE-Enablement	-		708		708
Heritage Services Reserve	115	206	-	-	206
	1,386	1,403	958	(100)	2,261

9 OTHER OPERATING EXPENDITURE

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Gain/Loss on disposal of non-current assets	19,321	(2,364)	23,294
Parish Precepts	1,985	1,927	1,876
Levy payments to joint bodies	221	218	214
Contribution to Housing Pooled Receipts	7	12	11
	21,534	(207)	25,395

10 FINANCING AND INVESTMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Interest Payable	4,624	4,457	4,236
Interest & Investment Income	(789)	(1,261)	(700)
Net Deficit/(Surplus) on Trading Services	(159)	(337)	(59)
Income & expenditure in relation to Investment properties and changes in fair value	(14,225)	(8,769)	(2,988)
Pensions Interest Cost & Expected Return on Pension Assets	7,851	12,201	8,043
	(2,698)	6,291	8,532

11 TAXATION AND NON-SPECIFIC GRANT INCOME

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Council Tax Income	(78,632)	(76,504)	(73,798)
Non domestic rates	(36,289)	(32,493)	(33,796)
Non ring fenced government grants	(15,571)	(14,993)	(12,181)
Capital grants and contributions	(11,005)	(17,161)	-
	(141,497)	(141,151)	(119,775)

12 PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Movement in 2010/11

	Other Land & Buildings £'000	Community Assets £'000	Infrastructure Assets £'000	Veh'cls, Plant & Equipment £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Surplus Assets £'000	Total Property Plant & Equipment £'000
Cost or valuation as at 1 April 2010	303,594	3,742	53,397	12,117	19,086	19,011	410,947
Additions	12,990	183	7,600	5,204	6,936	628	33,541
Revaluations increases/decreases recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	45,144	111				799	46,054
Revaluations increases/decreases recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on Provision of Services	(49,428)	(85)				(33)	(49,546)
De-recognition - Disposals	(22,013)	-	-	(68)	-		(22,081)
Assets reclassified to/from Held for sale	(110)				-	(1,200)	(1,310)
Reclassifications - other					-		-
Valuation as at 31 March 2011	290,177	3,951	60,997	17,253	26,022	19,205	417,605

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment

Accumulated depreciation as at 1 April 2010	(23,411)	(559)	(10,909)	(6,904)	-	-	(41,783)
Depreciation charge in year	(8,391)	(265)	(4,791)	(1,669)	-	-	(15,116)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	5,091						5,091
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on Provision of Services	10,969					(3)	10,966
Impairment losses/(reversals) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve							-
Impairment losses/(reversals) recognised in the Surplus/deficit on Provision of Services	(358)						(358)
De-recognition - disposals	2,476			36		3	2,515
Other Movements in Depreciation & Impairment	180						180
Accumulated depreciation at 31 March 2011	(13,444)	(824)	(15,700)	(8,537)	-	-	(38,505)
Balance sheet amount 31 March 2011	276,733	3,127	45,297	8,716	26,022	19,205	379,100
Balance sheet amount 1 April 2010	280,189	3,182	42,488	5,213	19,086	19,011	369,169
Balance sheet amount 1 April 2009	284,499	3,164	40,349	6,484	11,828	17,228	363,552

Depreciation

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

Other Land and Buildings	30 - 50 years
Vehicles, Plant and Equipment	3 - 10 years
Infrastructure	10 years

Capital Commitments

At 31 March 2011 the Authority has entered into a number of contracts for the construction or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment in 2011/12 and future years budgeted to cost £14.4m.

The major commitments are:

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Resources (Property) Schemes	1,313	-	48
Housing - General Fund	1,453	1,640	2,334
Education & Children's Services	3,857	4,812	14,048
Combe Down Stone Mines (costs will be met by English Partnerships)	-	746	12,015
Public Realm	401	397	-
BWR (Infrastructure & Affordable Housing)	6,101		-
Highways & Bridge Strengthening	526	2,230	2,225
Waste Services	791		-
Adult Social Services	-	-	-
	14,442	9,825	30,670

Revaluations

The Authority carries out a rolling programme that ensures all Property, Plant and Equipment required to be measured at fair value is re-valued at least every five years. All valuations were carried out internally. Valuations of land and buildings were carried out in accordance with the methodologies and bases for estimation set out in the professional standards of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Valuations of vehicles, plant, furniture and equipment are based on current prices where there is an active second-hand market or latest list prices adjusted for the condition of the asset.

	Other Land & Buildings £'000	Veh'cls, Plant & Equipment £'000	Surplus Assets £'000	Total £'000
Valued at fair value as at:				
31 March 2011	276,732	8,715	19,185	304,632
31 March 2010	280,189	5,213	19,015	304,417
31 March 2009	280,995	7,317	15,530	303,842

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

13 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

The following items of income and expense have been accounted for in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

	2010/11	2009/10	2008/09
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Rental Income from Investment Property	15,085	14,000	14,053
Direct operating expenses arising from Investment Property	(2,623)	(1,965)	(2,171)
Net gain/(loss)	12,462	12,035	11,882

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

The following table summarises the movement in the fair value of investment properties over the year.

	2010/11	2009/10	2008/09
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Balance at start of year	217,434	218,496	214,179
Adjustment to opening balance		454	(4,720)
Additions of expenditure	90	204	320
Disposals	(136)	(214)	(187)
Net gains/losses from fair value adjustments	1,901	(2,139)	8,904
Transfer to/from Property, Plant & Equipment	-	633	
Balance at end of the year	219,289	217,434	218,496

14 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

The Authority accounts for its software as intangible assets, to the extent that the software is not an integral part of a particular IT system and accounted for as part of the hardware item of property, Plant and Equipment. All software is given a finite useful life based on assessments of the period that the software is expected to be of use to the Authority.

The carrying amount of intangible assets is amortised on a straight-line basis over a 3 year period.

	2010/11	2009/10	2008/09
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost or valuation as at 1 April 2010	1,526	953	287
Purchases	738	573	666
Cost or valuation as at 31 March 2011	2,264	1,526	953
Accumulated depreciation as at 1 April 2010	741	148	9
Depreciation for the period	675	593	139
Accumulated depreciation at 31 March 2011	1,416	741	148
Net Carrying amount at 31 March 2011	848	785	805

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

15 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Balances: The borrowings and investments disclosed in the Balance Sheet are made up of the following categories of financial instruments.

	Long-Term			Current		
	31 March 2009 £'000	31 March 2010 £'000	31 March 2011 £'000	31 March 2009 £'000	31 March 2010 £'000	31 March 2011 £'000
Financial liabilities at amortised cost - loans	80,497	80,493	90,490	-	-	-
Accrued Interest (1)				1,321	1,321	1,377
Financial liabilities at amortised cost trade creditors				57,781	41,631	33,730
Total borrowings	80,497	80,493	90,490	59,102	42,952	35,107

The Council does not have any Financial Liabilities at fair value through profit and loss.

	31 March 2009 £'000	31 March 2010 £'000	31 March 2011 £'000	31 March 2009 £'000	31 March 2010 £'000	31 March 2011 £'000
Loans & receivables (cash on deposit)	-	-	-	81,400	69,300	64,000
Accrued Interest (1)				775	294	356
Loans & receivables - trade debtors				4,216	5,468	11,170
Total Investments	-	-	-	86,391	75,062	75,526

(1) Accrued interest reflects interest on financial liabilities/loans & receivables which is payable within 12 months of the balance sheet date.

The Council does not have any Available for Sale Assets or Unquoted Equity Instruments at Cost.

The Council has not granted any financial guarantees or soft loans.

Financial Instruments Gains & Losses

	Financial Liabilities			Financial Assets			
	31 March 2009	31 March 2010	31 March 2011	31 March 2009	31 March 2010	31 March 2011	
	Total	Liabilities measured at amortised cost	Loans & Receivables	Total	Liabilities measured at amortised cost	Loans & Receivables	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Interest Expense *	(3,427)	(3,426)	-	(3,426)	(3,828)	-	(3,828)
Interest payable & similar charges	(3,427)	(3,426)	-	(3,426)	(3,828)	-	(3,828)
Interest Income		-	1,248	1,248	-	760	760
Interest & investment Income	2,911	-	1,248	1,248	-	760	760
Net gain/(loss) for the Year	(516)	(3,427)	1,248	(2,178)	(3,828)	760	(3,068)

*The Council also paid £1.48m (of which £0.68m related to principle), in respect of its share of debt relating to the former Avon County Council which is managed by Bristol City Council.

The fall in interest income achieved in 2010/11 compared to 2009/10 reflects the reduction in the average interest rate achieved on investments.

Fair value of assets and liabilities carried at amortised cost

Financial liabilities and financial assets represented by loans and receivables are carried in the Balance Sheet at amortised cost. Their fair value can be assessed by calculating the present value of the cash flows that will take place over the remaining term of the instruments, using the following assumptions.

+ cash flows arising from Public Works Loan Board loans have been discounted at the premature repayment rates published by the Board, so that the fair value equals the amount at which the authority could repay its loans on balance sheet date.

+ cash flows arising from "lender's option borrower's option" (LOBO) loans have been discounted using a rate of 0.65% below comparative PWLB repayment rates reflecting the value of 6 monthly options to the lender.

+ For investments, rates were obtained from the market on 31st March by our Treasury advisors,

taking into account the credit rating of the counterparty.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

+ cash flows arising from investments have been discounted at money market rates available for investments of similar remaining maturities on the balance sheet date.

+ the fair value of trade receivables and payables is taken to be the invoiced amount.

+ The purpose of the fair value disclosure is primarily to provide a comparison with the carrying value in the Balance Sheet. Since this will include accrued interest as at the balance sheet date we have also included accrued interest in the fair value calculation.

The fair values calculated are as follows:

	31 March 2009		31 March 2010		31 March 2011	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Financial Liabilities - PWLB Loans	60,914	61,732	60,914	59,705	70,970	72,523
Financial Liabilities - Market Loans	20,905	18,417	20,901	24,295	20,897	25,134
Financial Liabilities - trade creditors	57,781	57,781	41,631	41,631	33,730	33,730
	139,600	137,930	123,446	125,631	125,597	131,387

The fair value as at 31st March 2010 on PWLB and market loans is more than the carrying amount because the Council's portfolio of loans includes a number of fixed rate loans where the interest rate payable is higher than the premature repayment rates available for similar loans at the Balance Sheet date. This commitment to pay interest above market exit prices increases the amount that the Council would have to pay if it requested early repayment of the loan.

	31 March 2009		31 March 2010		31 March 2011	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Loans & Receivables - investments	82,175	82,593	69,594	69,687	64,356	64,399
Loans & Receivables - trade debtors	4,216	4,216	5,468	5,468	11,170	11,170

The fair value of loans and receivables is slightly higher than the carrying amount as at 31st March 2011 due to fixed interest investments being held by the authority where the interest rate is higher than the prevailing rate estimated to be available on the balance sheet date.

Disclosure of nature and extent of risks arising from financial instruments

The authority'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 authority

* liquidity and refinancing risk - the possibility that the authority might not have funds available, or that it may have to borrow funds at a high rate of interest, to meet its financial obligations.

* market risk - the possibility that changes in market variables such as interest rates and asset prices may place an unexpected burden on the authority's finances.

The authority's overall risk management programme focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the resources available to fund services. Risk management is carried out by the 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 credit risk interest rate risk and investment of surplus cash.

Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions, as well as credit exposures to the authority's customers. The Council's approved Treasury Management Strategy for 2010/11 set the minimum credit ratings for the banks and financial institutions with which deposits can be made. The minimum credit ratings were Short-term rating F1 or equivalent, Long-term rating A or equivalent, and Support rating 3 or equivalent. The Council also set additional criteria in relation to the time limit and amount of monies which will be invested with financial institutions based on the level of their credit rating with a maximum lending limit £20m restricted to specified UK banks, on the basis that they either had already or were likely to receive support from the UK Government should they experience financial difficulties. Investments in UK Building Societies that did not meet the minimum credit criteria but had been issued an eligibility certificate under the UK Government Credit Guarantee Scheme were permitted subject to the Society having a minimum asset size of £4bn.

Investments in foreign countries will be limited to those that hold a AAA or AA+ sovereign credit rating from all three major credit rating agencies, and to a maximum of £15 million per country. Banks that are domiciled in one country but are owned in another country will need to meet the rating criteria of and will count against the limit for both

countries. There is no limit on investments in the UK.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Customers are assessed, taking into account their financial position, past experience and other factors, with individual credit limits being set in accordance with internal ratings in accordance with parameters set by the council.

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

	Amount at 31 March 2011	Historical Experience of default	Historical experience adjusted for market conditions at 31 March 2011	Estimated maximum exposure to default & uncollectibility
	£'000	%	%	£'000
Deposits with banks & financial institutions				
(grouped by LT credit rating):				
Banks with Fitch rating AA/AA-	20,140	0.03	0.03	6
Banks with Fitch rating of A	44,216	0.08	0.08	34
Total deposits with Banks & Financial Institutions	64,356	-	-	40
		2011	2010	2,009
Trade Debtors		11,170	5,468	4,216
Total debtors at 31st March including trade debtors		23,714	31,854	37,168

The historical experience of default for deposits is based on credit rating agencies records since 1981 adjusted for current market conditions.

No credit limits were exceeded during the reporting period and the Council does not expect any losses from non performance by any of its counterparties in relation to deposits due to its tight investment policy.

The authority does not generally allow credit for customers, such that the balance of £11.1m outstanding at 31st March 2011 is all past its due date for payment.

The past due amount can be analysed by age as follows:

	2010/11 £'000's	2009/10 £'000's	2008/09 £'000's
Less than three months	9,259	4,003	2,701
Three to six months	471	332	278
Six months to one year	557	336	418
More than one year	883	797	819
	11,170	5,468	4,216

The following table provides analysis of investment balances (including accrued interest) as at 31st March by the country of the counterparty. If the financial institution is part of a group, the country is assessed by the parent financial institution.

	Amount at 31 March 2009 £'000's	%	Amount at 31 March 2010 £'000's	%	Amount at 31 March 2011 £'000's	%
Loans & Receivables (Cash on Deposit) by Country Analysis						
UK Debt Management Office	12,502	15.2%	8,300	11.9%	-	0.0%
UK - Other Financial Institutions	55,770	67.9%	41,169	59.2%	49,324	76.6%
Australia	4,503	5.5%	5,000	7.2%	5,003	7.8%
Singapore	-	0.0%	5,008	7.2%	5,000	7.8%
Spain	9,400	11.4%	5,071	7.3%	-	0.0%
Sweden	-	0.0%	5,046	7.3%	5,028	7.8%
Total	82,175	100.0%	69,594	100%	64,356	100%

Liquidity and Refinancing Risk

As the authority has ready access to borrowings from the Public Works Loan Board, there is no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments. Instead, the risk is that the authority will be bound to replenish a significant proportion of its borrowings at a time of unfavourable interest rates. Following the recent transition from being debt free, with long term borrowing only starting in 2004/05, the Council's debt maturity profile is mainly in the 40+ year range, with the earliest maturity in 2034/35. As the borrowing portfolio develops in the future the maturity profile will be structured to ensure an even spread.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The maturity analysis of borrowing is as follows:

	31 March 2009 £'000	31 March 2010 £'000	31 March 2011 £'000
Borrowing due for repayment:			
Between 20 and 25 years	10,000	10,000	15,000
Between 40 and 45 years	10,000	50,227	60,490
Between 45 and 50 years	60,497	20,266	15,000
	80,497	80,493	90,490

Trade creditors and interest on borrowing are not included in the above table. They fall due to be paid in less than one year.

The Council does hold £20m of borrowing through loans called LOBOs (Lenders Option Borrowers Option) where after an initial fixed interest period, the lender has six monthly options to increase the coupon rate of the loan. If the lender decided to increase the coupon rate the Council would have the option to either agree the increased rate or to repay the loan. In the event that the Council decided to repay the loan and long term rates were unfavourable, it is likely that short term borrowing would be undertaken until long term rates return to target levels. The fixed interest period has expired on all LOBO loans and the lender has options to change the rate of interest in April and October of each year for as long as the loan continues.

All trade and other payables are due to be paid in less than one year.

Market Risk

Interest Rate Risk

The authority 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 impact:

- * borrowings at variable rates - the interest expense charged to the Income and Expenditure Account will rise
- * borrowings at fixed rates - the fair value of the liabilities borrowings will fall
- * investments at variable rates - the interest income credited to the Income and Expenditure Account will rise
- * investments at fixed rates - the fair value of the assets will fall.

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

To manage the interest rate risk, a maximum limit for net borrowing at variable interest rates is set at £20m.

The effect of interest rates is monitored throughout the year and the impacts are reflected in budget monitoring reports which identify performance against the budget. This allows any adverse changes to be accommodated.

For indication purposes, at 31st March 2011, if interest rates had been 1% higher with all other variables held constant, the financial effect would be:

	£'000
Increase in interest payable on variable rate borrowings	-
Increase in interest receivable on variable rate investments	(243)
Impact on Income and Expenditure Account	(243)
Decrease in fair value of fixed rate investment assets (no impact on I & E)	84
Decrease in fair value of fixed rate borrowing liabilities (no impact on I & E)	16,274

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

Price Risk

The authority does not invest in equity shares and doesn't have shareholdings in any joint ventures and is therefore not exposed to losses arising from movements in the prices of shares. Changes in the price of fixed interest investments are managed as part of the authority's interest rate risk management strategy.

Foreign Exchange Risk

The authority has no financial assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies and it makes few purchases or sales in foreign currencies. It therefore has no material exposure to loss arising from movement in exchange rates.

There are no balances or transactions on these accounts.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

17 INVENTORIES

	Balance 2008/09	Balance 2009/10	Purchases	Recognised as expense in year	Written off Balances	Balance 2010/11
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Consumable Stores	135	370	29	(8)	(8)	383
Maintenance Materials		-				-
Client Services Work in Progress	150	230	50	(120)		160
Total Inventories	285	600	79	(128)	(8)	543

18 DEBTORS

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Amounts falling due in one year:			
Central Government bodies	6,095	3,578	3,327
Other local authorities	855		
NHS bodies	208		
Public corporations and trading funds	-		
Other entities and individuals	12,319	21,355	30,896
Prepayments	4,237	3,968	4,039
Total - Current Assets	23,714	28,902	38,262

19 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The balance of cash and cash equivalents is made up of the following elements:

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Cash held by the authority	93	97	96
Bank current accounts	10,599	11,228	10,388
Short-term deposits	29,065	20,121	13,903
Total cash and cash equivalents	39,757	31,446	24,387

20 ASSETS HELD FOR SALE

	Current			Non-Current		
	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Balance outstanding at start of year	1,145	1,698	-			
Assets newly classified as held for sale:			1,698			
Property, Plant & Equipment	1,310	1,145		-	-	
Revaluation gains/(losses)	(16)					
Assets declassified as held for sale:						
Assets sold	(560)	(1,698)				
Balance outstanding at year end	1,879	1,145	1,698	-	-	-

21 CREDITORS

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Central government bodies	6,363	3,602	4,512
Other local authorities	3,804	3,490	
NHS bodies	1,333		
Public corporations and trading funds	2		
Other entities and individuals	32,552	37,541	40,791
Income Received in Advance	10,758	7,945	10,006
Pensions Fund	1,679	10,179	29,632
	56,491	62,757	84,941

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

22 PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES

	31 March 2009 £'000	31 March 2010 £'000	New Provisions £'000	Utilised in Year £'000	Written Back £'000	31 March 2011 £'000
Provisions comprise:						
Social Services	56	56		(56)		-
Spa Right of Lights Provision	40	38				38
Provision for Back Pay	586	-				-
Provision for Child Care Costs		444		(114)		330
Chew Valley Bus Partnership	32	32				32
Children's Services Provision		-	32			32
Landfill Provision		-	6			6
Land Charge Fee Provision		-	34			34
Planning Provision		-	250			250
	714	570	322	(170)	-	722

- * The Social Services provision was for a compensation claim.
- * The Spa right of lights provision is in relation to a possible claim arising from the Spa project.
- * The provision for child care costs is to provide for fees and charges in relation to a recent court case, the amount of which is unknown.
- * Chew Valley Bus Partnership is a provision for repayment of grant funding not spent.
- * The Children's Services Provision is for an employee claim.
- * The Land Charges Fee Provision is for search fee claims.
- * The Planning Provision is for a compensation claim.

The amounts payable and the timing of the outflow of economic benefits is unknown.

23 UNUSABLE RESERVES

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Revaluation Reserve	62,653	11,283	6,876
Capital Adjustment Account	409,424	466,574	465,915
Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve	498	339	359
Accumulated Absences Account	(1,590)	(1,762)	(1,873)
Pensions Reserve	(154,304)	(193,563)	(141,136)
Collection Fund Adjustment Account	843	973	1,258
Total Unusable Reserves	317,524	283,844	331,399

Revaluation Reserve

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Authority arising from increases in the value of its property, plant and equipment. The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains are:

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

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

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Balance at 1 April	11,283	6,876	6,132
Upwards revaluation of assets	52,323	4,954	1,939
Downwards revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(1,251)	(279)	(763)
Transfer of depreciation on re-valued assets	(216)	(265)	(299)
Transfer of revaluation reserve balance on asset disposal	514	-	(81)
Impairment of fixed assets - consumption of economic benefits		-	(52)
Depreciation written out	-		
Impairment of fixed assets - transfer		(3)	
Balance at 31 March	62,653	11,283	6,876

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Capital Adjustment Account

The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions. The account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The account is credited with the amounts set aside by the Authority as finance for the cost of acquisition, construction and enhancement.

The account contains accumulated gains and losses on Investment Properties.

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

Note 8 provides details of the source of all the transactions posted to the account, apart from those involving the Revaluation Reserve.

	2010/11 £'000	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Balance at 1 April		466,569	483,744
Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement:			
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	(15,117)		(16,353)
Revaluation losses on Property, Plant & Equipment	(38,938)		(15,672)
Amortisation of intangible assets	(675)		(593)
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(17,152)		(46,628)
Grant funding of revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	11,085		44,070
		(60,797)	(35,176)
Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve			307
Transfer of depreciation on re-valued assets		216	265
Transfer of revaluation reserve balance on asset disposal		(514)	-
Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year		(61,095)	(34,604)
Capital financing applied in the year:			
Use of capital receipts reserve to finance new capital expenditure	2,384		4,657
Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement that have been applied to capital financing	14,833		
Capital expenditure financed from revenue	1,769		598
Minimum Revenue Provision	2,146		1,986
		21,132	7,241
Movements in the market value of investment properties debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement		1,901	9,482
Deferred liability - Repayment of Avon Loan Debt		685	713
Carrying value of fixed assets disposed of		(20,262)	(1,784)
Other movements		494	1,777
Balance at 31 March		409,424	466,569

Pensions Reserve

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

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Balance at 1 April	(193,563)	(141,136)	(154,340)
Actuarial gains or losses on pensions assets and liabilities	14,777	(47,070)	18,619
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	8,670	(20,946)	(19,962)
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	15,812	15,589	14,547
Balance at 31 March	(154,304)	(193,563)	(141,136)

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve

The Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve holds the gains recognised on the disposal of non-current assets but for which cash settlement has yet to take place. Under statutory arrangements, the Authority 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 Capital Receipts Reserve.

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Balance at 1 April	339	359	89
Transfer of deferred sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	174	-	288
Transfer to the Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash	(15)	(20)	(18)
Balance at 31 March	498	339	359

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

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

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Balance at 1 April	973	1,255	-
Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(130)	(282)	1,255
Balance at 31 March	843	973	1,255

Accumulated Absences Account

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

	2010/11 £'000	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Balance at 1 April		(1,762)	(1,873)
Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	1,762		1,873
Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	(1,590)		(1,762)
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		172	(1,762)
Balance at 31 March		(1,590)	(1,762)

24 CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Note A to the cashflow statement

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Net Surplus or (Deficit) on the Provision of Services	(28,024)	(9,823)
<u>Adjust net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non cash movements</u>		
Depreciation	15,117	16,353
Impairment and downward valuations	39,886	15,180
Amortisation	675	593
Adjustments for effective interest rates	52	(3)
Increase/Decrease in Interest Creditors	(1)	(1)
Increase/Decrease in Creditors	(14,385)	(22,892)
Increase/Decrease in Interest and Dividend Debtors	1,007	1,032
Increase/Decrease in Debtors	4,429	6,768
Increase/Decrease in Inventories	57	(315)
Pension Liability	(7,851)	6,536
Pension Fund Gains on Past Service Costs	(31,603)	
Contributions to/(from) Provisions	152	(144)
Carrying amount of non-current assets sold [property plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets]	20,262	1,784
Carrying amount of short and long term investments sold	14,182	18,799
Movement in investment property values	(1,901)	
Other movements	374	(6,046)
	40,452	37,644

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note A to the cashflow statement continued

Adjust for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing or financing activities

Capital Grants credited to surplus or deficit on the provision of services	(11,005)	(59,885)
Proceeds from the sale of property plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(1,476)	(4,650)
	(12,481)	(64,535)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(53)	(36,714)

Note B to the Cash Flow Statement - Operating Activities (Interest)

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Operating activities within the cashflow statement include the following cash flows relating to interest		
Ordinary interest received	789	1,261
Opening Debtor	294	738
Closing Debtor	(713)	(294)
Interest Received	1,796	2,293
Interest charge for year	(4,624)	(4,457)
Adjustment for difference between effective interest rates and actual interest payable	52	(3)
Opening Creditor	(1)	-
Closing Creditor		1
Interest Paid	(4,573)	(4,459)

Note C to the Cash Flow Statement - Cash Flows from Investing Activities

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Property, Plant and Equipment Purchased	(34,370)	(27,278)
Opening Capital Creditors	(3,151)	(4,043)
Closing Capital Creditors	7,760	3,151
Movement on other capital creditors	(1)	
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(29,762)	(28,170)
Long term loans granted	(314)	
Proceeds from the sale of property plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	722	4,667
Other capital cash receipts	549	347
Capital Grants Received	22,542	63,528
Other Receipts from Investing Activities	23,091	63,875
Total Cash Flows from Investing Activities	(6,264)	40,372

Note D to the Cash Flow Statement - Cash Flows from Financing Activities

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Cash receipts of long term borrowing	10,000	
Billing Authorities - Council Tax and NNDR adjustments	4,176	(2,114)
Precepting Authorities Only - Appropriation to/from Collection Fund Adjustment Account	288	(1,298)
Repayment of Short-Term and Long-Term Borrowing	(684)	(744)
Payments for the reduction of a finance lease liability	-	(49)
Total Cash Flows from Financing Activities	13,780	(4,205)

Note E - Makeup of Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2010 £'000	2009 £'000
Cash and Bank Balances	10,692	11,325
Cash Investments - regarded as cash equivalents	29,065	20,121
Bank Overdraft	(14,790)	(13,943)
	24,967	17,503

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

25 AMOUNTS REPORTED FOR RESOURCE ALLOCATION DECISIONS

The analysis of income and expenditure by service on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is that specified by the Best Value Accounting Code of Practice. However, decisions about resource allocation are taken by the Authority's Cabinet on the basis of budget reports analysed across portfolios. These reports are prepared on a different basis from the accounting policies used in the financial statements. In particular:

- * no charges are made in relation to capital expenditure (whereas depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses in excess of the balance on the Revaluation Reserve and amortisations are charged to services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement)
- * the cost of retirement benefits is based on cash flows (payment of employer's pensions contributions) rather than current service cost of benefits accrued in the year
- * expenditure on some support services is budgeted for centrally and not charged to portfolios

Portfolio Income & Expenditure 2010/11	Service Delivery	Children's Services	Adult Social & Housing Services	Resources	Development & Major Projects	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fees, charges & other income	(47,010)	(22,176)	(35,568)	(50,388)	(1,260)	(156,402)
Government grants	(2,793)	(133,249)	(4,539)	(58,099)	(294)	(198,974)
Total Income	(49,803)	(155,425)	(40,107)	(108,487)	(1,554)	(355,376)
Employee expenses	28,870	109,381	18,259	23,815	1,917	182,242
Other service expenses	43,537	60,971	68,999	92,117	1,457	267,081
Support service recharges	9,094	9,371	3,919	10,256	249	32,889
Total Expenditure	81,501	179,723	91,177	126,188	3,623	482,212
Net Expenditure	31,698	24,298	51,070	17,701	2,069	126,836

Portfolio Income & Expenditure 2009/10	Service Delivery	Children's Services	Adult Social & Housing Services	Resources	Development & Major Projects	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fees, charges & other income	(44,929)	(21,710)	(34,916)	(49,084)	(1,331)	(151,970)
Government grants	(1,557)	(125,998)	(6,480)	(53,119)	(30)	(187,184)
Total Income	(46,486)	(147,708)	(41,396)	(102,203)	(1,361)	(339,154)
Employee expenses	29,558	112,117	18,590	23,638	1,871	185,774
Other service expenses	41,780	52,282	65,839	81,035	5,496	246,432
Support service recharges	7,330	8,576	3,779	9,387	152	29,224
Total Expenditure	78,668	172,975	88,208	114,060	7,519	461,430
Net Expenditure	32,182	25,267	46,812	11,857	6,158	122,276

Reconciliation of Portfolio Income & Expenditure to Cost of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

This reconciliation shows how the figures in the analysis of portfolio income and expenditure relate to the amounts included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

	2010/11	2009/10
	£'000	£'000
Net expenditure in the portfolio analysis	126,836	122,276
Net expenditure of services and support services not included in the analysis	-	(6,880)
Amounts in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement not reported to management in the analysis	22,484	27,264
Amounts included in the analysis not included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	1,365	8,276
Cost of Services in Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	150,685	150,936

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Reconciliation to Subjective Analysis

This reconciliation shows how the figures in the analysis of portfolio income and expenditure relate to a subjective analysis of the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

2010/11	Portfolio Analysis	Services & Support Services not in Analysis	Amounts not reported to management for decision making	Amounts not included in I & E	Allocation of recharges	Cost of Services	Corporate Amounts	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fees, charges & other service income	(156,402)			(5,077)		(161,479)	-	(161,479)
Interest & Investment income				789		789	(789)	-
Income from council Tax			-	12,324		12,324	(14,225)	(1,901)
Government grants & contributions	(198,974)					(198,974)	(141,497)	(340,471)
Total Income	(355,376)	-	-	8,036	-	(347,340)	(156,511)	(503,851)
Employee expenses	182,242		(33,320)	-		148,922	7,851	156,773
Other service expenses	267,081	-	1,075	(2,047)		266,109	2,047	268,156
Support service recharges	32,889					32,889		32,889
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment			15,791			15,791		15,791
			38,938			38,938		38,938
Interest payments				(4,624)		(4,624)	4,624	-
Precepts & levies		-		-		-		-
Payments to housing						-		-
Capital Receipts Pool						-	7	7
Gain or loss on disposal of Fixed Assets						-	19,321	19,321
Total Expenditure	482,212	-	22,484	(6,671)	-	498,025	33,850	531,875
Surplus or deficit on the provision of services	126,836	-	22,484	1,365	-	150,685	(122,661)	28,024

2009/10	Portfolio Analysis	Services & Support Services not in Analysis	Amounts not reported to management for decision making	Amounts not included in I & E	Allocation of recharges	Cost of Services	Corporate Amounts	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fees, charges & other service income	(151,970)					(151,970)		(151,970)
Interest & Investment income		-		1,261		1,261	(1,261)	-
Income from council Tax				11,472		11,472	(11,472)	-
Government grants & contributions	(187,184)		-			(187,184)	(141,151)	(328,335)
Total Income	(339,154)	-	-	12,733	-	(326,421)	(153,884)	(480,305)
Employee expenses	185,774		(5,354)			180,420	12,201	192,621
Other service expenses	246,432	(6,880)				239,552	2,380	241,932
Support service recharges	29,224					29,224		29,224
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment		-	32,618			32,618		32,618
Interest payments		-		(4,457)		(4,457)	4,457	-
Precepts & levies						-		-
Payments to housing						-		-
Capital Receipts Pool		-	-			-	12	12
Gain or loss on disposal of Fixed Assets		-	-			-	(2,364)	(2,364)
Total Expenditure	461,430	(6,880)	27,264	(4,457)	-	477,357	18,817	496,174
Surplus or deficit on the provision of services	122,276	(6,880)	27,264	8,276	-	150,936	(135,067)	15,869

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

26 TRADING OPERATIONS

The Council has the following Trading Services which are required to operate in a commercial environment and balance their budget by generating income from providing services to the public and other organisations, or as support functions to other frontline Council Departments.

	2010/11 Income £'000	2010/11 Expend £'000	Deficit/ (Surplus) £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
School and Other Catering	(3,031)	3,239	208	239	89
Cleaning Services	(928)	797	(131)	(141)	(131)
Fleet Management	(1,882)	2,007	125	(41)	21
Passenger Transport Services	(5,335)	5,550	214	(58)	(7)
Trade Refuse Collection	(554)	258	(296)	(259)	(121)
Grounds Maintenance	(3)	28	25	79	123
Building Maintenance	(995)	973	(22)	(1)	116
Print Services	(555)	594	39	35	20
Bath Museum Shops	(2,048)	1,727	(321)	(181)	(169)
Surplus for Year	(15,331)	15,172	(159)	(328)	(59)

Trading operations are incorporated into the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Some are an integral part of one of the Authority's services to the public whilst others are support services to the Authority's services to the public. The expenditure of these operations is allocated or recharged to headings in the Net Operating Expenditure of Continuing Operations. Only a residual amount of the net surplus on trading operations is charged as Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure.

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Net surplus on trading operations	(159)	(328)	(59)
Services to the public included in Expenditure of Continuing Operations	(400)	(420)	(58)
Support services recharged to Expenditure of Continuing Operations	241	92	(1)
Net Surplus credited to Other Operating Expenditure	(159)	(328)	(59)

27 POOLED FUNDING

The Council established a partnership agreement with Bath and North East Somerset Primary Care Trust (PCT), the Probation Service and Avon and Somerset Police using powers under Section 31 of the Health Act 1999 to pool funds and create a single budget. The budget is used to commission Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services for Adults and Substance Misuse Services for Young People.

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Balance Brought Forward from previous year	43	49	38
Gross Funding			
Bath & North East Somerset Council	541	522	763
Bath & North East Somerset Council Community Safety	20	27	
Bath & North East Somerset Council Area Based Grant	57	56	
Bath & North East Somerset Council LAA Funding		15	
Bath & North East Somerset Primary Care Trust	881	779	752
South Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust	4	4	4
Bristol & Bristol South West Primary Care Trust	10	10	10
North Somerset Primary Care Trust	3	3	3
Probation Service (Avon & Somerset)	19	19	19
Home Office	137	136	137
Youth Justice Board		-	25
National Agency Treatment Plan (Dept of Health)	1,208	1,078	1,037
Interest on External Funding Balances	3	5	24
Total Funding	2,926	2,703	2,812

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Expenditure

Spend on drug and alcohol services for Adults	2,773	2,593	2,510
Spend on drug and alcohol services for Young People	67	67	254
Total Expenditure	2,840	2,660	2,764
Net Underspend to be carried forward	86	43	48

The Council established a partnership agreement with Bath and North East Somerset Primary Care Trust (PCT) , using powers under Section 31 of the Health Act 1999 to pool funds and create a single budget to provide services to adults with learning difficulties.

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Balance Brought Forward from previous year	-	-	-
Gross Funding			
Bath & North East Somerset Council	12,065	10,895	13,570
Bath & North East Somerset Primary Care Trust	8,715	10,190	6,100
Bath & North East Somerset Council Area Based Grant	113	112	
Department of Health Campus Closure Grant	51	43	17
Interest on External Funding Balances	41	61	156
Other Income	13	13	13
Total Funding	20,998	21,314	19,856
Total Expenditure	20,998	21,314	19,856
Net Underspend /over spend	-	-	-

The Council established a partnership agreement with Bath and North East Somerset Primary Care Trust (PCT) , using powers under Section 31 of the Health Act 1999 to pool funds and create a single budget to provide equipment for the community.

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
	Equipment	Rails	
	Total	Total	Total
Gross Funding			
Bath & North East Somerset Council	319	278	280
Bath & North East Somerset Primary Care Trust	247	215	214
Interest on External Funding Balances	1	1	3
Total Funding	567	494	497
Spend on community equipment services	476	413	412
Spend on rail contract	91	81	85
Total Expenditure	567	494	497
Net Underspend / overspend	-	-	-

The Council established a partnership agreement with Bath and North East Somerset Primary Care Trust (PCT) , using powers under Section 31 of the Health Act 1999 to pool funds and create a single budget to provide services to children with multiple and complex needs.

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Gross Funding			
Bath & North East Somerset Council	2,484	2,487	2,406
Bath & North East Somerset Primary Care Trust	131	127	125
Total Funding	2,615	2,614	2,531
Total Expenditure	2,289	2,516	2,523
Net Underspend	326	98	8

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

28 MEMBERS ALLOWANCES

The total cost of Members Allowances for 2010/11 including employers national insurance, pensions contributions and expenses was £888,623 (£900,977 in 2009/10).

Payments to Members listed below do not include the cost of employers national insurance or pensions contributions.

		Basic & Special Allowance	Expenses	Total
		£	£	£
ALLEN	S	5,196	-	5,196
APPLEYARD	R	8,325	-	8,325
BALL	S	7,732	-	7,732
BALL	TM	15,730	-	15,730
BARRETT	CV	8,975	321	9,296
BATT	GM	11,287	326	11,613
BEATH	CE	8,007	98	8,105
BELLOTTI	DF	11,287	2,289	13,576
BEVAN	SF	15,834	2,726	18,560
BRINKHURST	L	7,882	60	7,942
BULL	JA	9,807	93	9,900
BUTTERS	TN	7,732	-	7,732
CHALKER	BA	8,783	-	8,783
CLARKE	AK	7,732	-	7,732
CLARKE	VJ	11,287	-	11,287
COOMBES	NJ	7,732	-	7,732
CRAY	C	12,590	-	12,590
CROSSLEY	PN	18,522	249	18,771
CURRAN	GF	7,732	-	7,732
DARRACOTT	C	7,757	-	7,757
DAVIS	S	16,619	-	16,619
DEACON	DE	7,732	164	7,896
DEWEY	IC	7,732	-	7,732
DIXON	D	16,619	-	16,619
EDWARDS	A	7,732	-	7,732
EDWARDS	PM	9,718	365	10,083
FURSE	AJ	8,232	45	8,277
GAZZARD	TA	32,614	-	32,614
GERRISH	CD	32,614	515	33,129
GILCHRIST	IA	8,032	25	8,057
HAEBERLING	F	37,945	-	37,945
HALE	AD	7,732	-	7,732
HANNEY	MC	32,614	2,663	35,277
HARTLEY	N	8,032	298	8,330
HAWKINS	DJ	10,327	-	10,327
HEDGES	LM	7,732	-	7,732
HEDGES	SP	7,732	-	7,732
INKER	AW	16,619	831	17,450
JACKSON	EM	8,325	306	8,631
KEW	LJ	16,619	1,915	18,534
LEES	MJH	7,732	-	7,732
LONGSTAFF	M	7,732	-	7,732
MACRAE	BJ	7,732	-	7,732
MAYBURY	AR	5,259	5	5,264
MCGALL	SA	8,032	34	8,066
MCNEIR	M	7,732	113	7,845
ORGAN	BS	7,732	-	7,732
PARADISE	CA	11,287	376	11,663

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

		Basic & Special Allowance	Expenses	Total
		£	£	£
PRITCHARD	VL	32,614	3,123	35,737
ROBERTS	CM	16,619	31	16,650
ROBERTS	N	7,732	-	7,732
ROMERO	UM	7,732	-	7,732
SANDRY	WA	7,882	-	7,882
SIMMONS	B	9,466	352	9,819
SPEIRS	DJ	8,325	12	8,337
STEEL	SJ	7,732	529	8,261
SYMONDS	RA	8,032	492	8,524
VEAL	M	16,619	347	16,966
WARREN	T	12,175	585	12,760
WATT	C	32,614	1,929	34,543
WHELAN	B	7,732	-	7,732
WHITTOCK	MJ	7,732	346	8,078
WILLCOX	SJ	7,732	232	7,964
WOOD	GJ	12,175	-	12,175
Total		767,406	21,792	789,199

29 OFFICER REMUNERATION

Senior Officers emoluments-salary of £150,000 or more for the year ending 31 March 2011

Post Holder	Salary	Expenses	Benefits in Kind e.g. Car Allowance	Employer Pension Contrib'ns	Total Remuneration
	£	£	£	£	£
Chief Executive - John Everitt	178,338	1,676	963	31,209	212,186

Senior Officers emoluments-salary between £50,000 and £150,000 per year

Post Holder	Salary	Expenses	Benefits in Kind e.g. Car Allowance	Employer Pension Contrib'ns	Total Remuneration
	£	£	£	£	£
Strategic Director Children's Services	129,699	2,167	963	22,697	155,526
Strategic Director Support Services	113,490	390	300	19,861	134,041
Strategic Director Service Delivery	112,589	1,747	1,201	19,861	135,398
Council Solicitor	97,275		963	17,023	115,261
Divisional Director Improvement & Performance	86,469		963	15,132	102,564
Divisional Director - Finance	97,049		4,375	16,984	118,408

The Strategic Director for Development & Major Projects is not an employee of the council.

The Benefits In Kind for the Divisional Director - Finance includes one-off relocation allowance.

Senior Officers emoluments-salary of £150,000 or more for the year ending 31 March 2010

Post Holder	Salary	Expenses	Benefits in Kind e.g. Car Allowance	Employer Pension Contrib'ns	Total Remuneration
	£	£	£	£	£
Chief Executive - John Everitt	178,338	1,406	906	31,209	211,859

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Senior Officers emoluments-salary between £50,000 and £150,000 per year

Post Holder	Salary	Expenses	Benefits in	Employer	Total
			Kind e.g. Car Allowance	Pension Contrib'n's	Remuneration
	£	£	£	£	£
Strategic Director Children's Services	129,699	1,800	906	22,697	155,102
Strategic Director Adult Services *	46,339	407	151	3,310	50,207
Strategic Director Support Services	113,490	391	763	19,861	134,505
Strategic Director Services Delivery	108,081	1,912	7,470	18,915	136,378
Council Solicitor	97,275	-	906	17,023	115,204
Divisional Director Improvement & Performance	86,469	-	906	15,123	102,498
Divisional Director - Finance **	39,142	35	2,814	6,850	48,841

- * The Strategic Director for Adult Services was only employed for four months of the year.
A redundancy payment in accordance with normal Council policy of £115,868 was paid to the Strategic Director Adult Services for loss of office following the Council's partnership arrangement with the Primary Care Trust.
The Strategic Director for Adult Services is now employed by the Primary Care Trust. The role was subsequently performed by the Chief Executive of the PCT in a dual capacity.
- ** The Divisional Director Finance has only been in post for five months. The previous post holder resigned in August 2009. The annualised salary was £94,572.
The Strategic Director for Development & Major Projects is not an employee of the council.

30 EMPLOYEES EMOLUMENTS

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

Remuneration band	2010/11	2010/11	2010/11	2009/10	2009/10	2009/10
	Teachers	Others	Total	Teachers	Others	Total
£50,000 - £54,999	37	30	67	30	30	60
£55,000 - £59,999	20	11	31	27	6	33
£60,000 - £64,999	16	6	22	14	4	18
£65,000 - £69,999	3	3	6	1	2	3
£70,000 - £74,999	2	7	9	3	6	9
£75,000 - £79,999	-	8	8	4	6	10
£80,000 - £84,999	6	1	7	4	-	4
£85,000 - £89,999	1	7	8	1	8	9
£90,000 - £94,999	1	1	2	-	1	1
£95,000 - £99,999	-	7	7	-	4	4
£100,000 - £104,999	-	-	-	1	-	1
£105,000 - £109,999	-	-	-	-	1	1
£110,000 - £114,999	-	2	2	-	1	1
£115,000 - £119,999	-	-	-	-	-	-
£120,000 - £124,999	-	-	-	-	-	-
£125,000 - £129,999	-	-	-	-	-	-
£130,000 - £134,999	-	2	2	-	1	1
£135,000 - £139,999	-	-	-	-	-	-
£140,000 - £144,999	-	-	-	-	-	-
£145,000 - £149,999	-	-	-	-	-	-
£150,000 - £154,999	-	-	-	-	-	-
£155,000 - £159,999	-	-	-	-	-	-
£160,000 - £164,999	-	-	-	-	1	1
£165,000 - £169,999	-	-	-	-	-	-
£170,000 - £174,999	-	-	-	-	-	-
£175,000 - £179,999	-	1	1	-	1	1
	86	86	172	85	72	157

The above totals include 14 staff who would not have been included in the note if it were not for one-off severance payments. This included 1 in the Teacher category and 13 in the Others category.
The list above includes Senior Officers listed separately in note 29.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 AUDIT & INSPECTION FEES

The Council has incurred the following fees payable to its auditors, the Audit Commission

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Fees payable with regard to external audit services	277	160	297
Fees payable for statutory inspection	-	144	127
Fees payable for the certification of grant claims and returns	53	52	54
Fees payable for objections to previous years accounts	3	17	-
Additional fees for 2008/09 statutory inspection		22	
Spa Litigation work		5	
National Fraud Initiative	4	2	2
	337	402	480

32 DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT

The Council's expenditure on schools is funded primarily by grant monies provided by the Department for Children, Schools and Families, the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). DSG is ring-fenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools Budget, as defined in the School Finance (England) Regulations 2008. The Schools Budget includes elements for a range of educational services provided on an authority-wide basis and for the Individual Schools Budget, which is divided into a budget share for each maintained school.

Details of the deployment of DSG receivable for 2010/11 are as follows:

	2010/11 Central Expenditure £'000	2010/11 Individual Schools Budget £'000	2010/11 Total £'000	2009/10 Total £'000	2008/09 Total £'000
Final DSG for 2010/11			99,112	95,332	92,611
Brought forward from 2009/10	668	290	958	349	247
Agreed budgeted distribution in 2010/11	9,215	90,855	100,070	95,681	92,858
Actual central expenditure	7,014		7,014	11,246	11,363
Actual ISG deployed to schools	-	91,009	91,009	83,477	81,146
Carry forward to 2011/12	2,201	(154)	2,047	958	349

33 GRANT INCOME

The Authority credited the following grants, contributions and donations to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in 2010/11:

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income		
Council Tax Income	78,632	76,504
Area based grant	10,301	7,493
Revenue Support grant	5,270	7,500
Contribution from the Non-Domestic Rate Pool	36,289	32,493
Dept for Children & Families	5,031	5,358
DCLG	59	1,178
Home Office	-	52
Department of Transport	2,181	4,704
DEFRA	120	325
Department of Health	144	235
HCA	744	
Other	1,898	4,720
Third party contributions	828	589
	141,497	141,151

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Credited to Services

Education Standards Fund	5,458	8,532
Schools Standard Grant	5,251	5,140
Learning & skills council	9,540	9,843
Early years grant	4,379	3,422
Concessionary fares grant	1,205	703
Mandatory rent allowances	45,714	39,867
Council tax benefit	10,616	9,913
English Partnerships	3,025	22,013
Department of Transport	367	
DCLG	1,056	
Dept for Children & Families	5,829	22,057
Other	490	589
Third party contributions	318	
	93,248	122,079

Bath & North East Somerset Council is accountable body for the Growth Points Fund on behalf of the West of England Partnership. In 2010/11 capital grant of £4.2m was received from DCLG and distributed to individual Unitary Authorities to fund specific projects.

34 RELATED PARTIES

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

Central Government

Central Government has effective control over the general operations of the Authority - it is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Authority operates, provides the majority of its funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Authority has with other parties (e.g. council tax bills, housing benefits). Grants received from government departments are set out in the subjective analysis in note 25 on reporting for resources allocation decisions.

Pension Fund

Details of Contributions to the Avon Pension Fund are shown in note 39. As administering body to the Fund, the Council charges the fund for the direct costs - £1,251,683 (£1,192,938 09/10) and support services - £423,236 (£409,535 09/10) provided. Five B&NES Councillors are voting members on the Pensions Committee.

Members & Officers

Three Members of the Council are members of the Avon Fire Authority. One Member is a member of the Avon & Somerset Police Authority. Three Members are members of the Bath Recreation Ground Trust.

The Director of Children's Services is a Director on the Connexions Company, also one Member of the Council is a non-executive director (see note 44 Controlled Companies).

The Council made payments of £243,481 during 2010/11 (£258,196 in 2009/10) to Hammond Project Management Services Limited for the services of the Strategic Director of Development and Major Projects. John Betty is the sole Director and sole employee of Hammond Management Project Services Limited. This arrangement was provided under a tendered contractual agreement entered into on 3rd January 2005 for the provision of management services to oversee the Council's major projects at Directorship level for a period of 5 years. The contract has now been extended for a further 3 years which expires in January 2013.

The Council made payments of £883,001 (£835,615 09/10) to voluntary bodies and organisations where members have an interest (either due to a Council nomination or in an independent capacity).

The Council is in joint partnership with the Primary Care Trust (PCT) to provide social and community healthcare. A The Chief Executive of the Primary Care Trust is also on the Council management team. The Director of Children's Services commissions child health care services. The chair of the PCT is also Resources Portfolio holder at the Council. (please see note 27 Pooled Budgets)

Norton Radstock Regeneration Ltd.

The Council is a partner in a major project to re-develop land in Midsomer Norton - Radstock under the Government's Single Regeneration Budget (SRB) scheme. During 2000-01, a not for profit company, Norton Radstock Regeneration Ltd. was set up to develop the scheme.

The Council is a 'related party' of the regeneration company. However since less than 10% of the company's directors are Council nominees, the company is not an 'influenced' one under capital control regulations.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

35 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND CAPITAL FINANCING

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

Capital expenditure on fixed assets was as follows:

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Adult Social Services Facilities	268	132	3,606
School Improvements	11,170	7,629	5,668
Highways/Road Safety & Bridge Strengthening	9,663	11,290	7,781
Capitalised Buildings Maintenance	1,289	1,321	1,397
Western Riverside Project	744	543	515
Other	11,240	6,363	3,585
	34,374	27,278	22,552

Capital Expenditure was categorised as follows:

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Property, plant and equipment	33,542	26,500	21,566
Investment properties	90	204	320
Intangible assets	742	574	666
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	17,152	46,628	54,101

Total expenditure

51,526	73,906	76,653
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Sources of finance:

Capital Receipts	2,383	4,657	3,179
Grants	25,214	62,060	59,336
Supported Borrowing	4,464	6,003	6,491
Unsupported Borrowing	16,729	-	2,013
3rd Party Contributions	704	589	4,734
Revenue	1,768	597	900
S.106 contributions	264		

Total financing

51,526	73,906	76,653
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Capital Financing Requirement

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000	2008/09 £'000
Opening Capital Financing Requirement	93,612	89,595	82,869
Capital Investment	51,526	73,906	76,653
Sources of Finance:			
Capital Receipts	(2,383)	(4,657)	(3,179)
Government grants & other contributions	(26,182)	(63,246)	(64,963)
Sums set aside from revenue (including MRP)	(3,914)	(1,986)	(1,785)
Closing Capital Financing Requirement	112,659	93,612	89,595
Increase in underlying need to borrow supported by Government financial assistance	4,464	6,003	6,491
Increase in underlying need to borrow unsupported by Government financial assistance	16,729	-	2,013
Less minimum revenue provision repayment	(2,146)	(1,986)	(1,785)

19,047	4,017	6,719
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NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

36 LEASES

Authority as Lessee

Finance Leases

The Authority has acquired a number of buildings and vehicles, plant and equipment under finance leases.

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

	2010/11	2009/10
	£'000	£'000
Other Land & Buildings	3,077	3,196
Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	338	519
	<u>3,415</u>	<u>3,715</u>

No deferred liability is disclosed in the Council's Balance Sheet for Other Land & Buildings as these properties are subject to peppercorn rents only. The deferred liability for Vehicles, Plant and Equipment is not material.

Operating Leases

The Council uses vehicles, computers and other equipment financed under the terms of various operating leases. The lease rentals paid in 2010/11 were £1,741,354 (£1,742,794 in 2009/10).

The future payments required under these leases are £2,239,965 comprising the following elements:

	2010/11	2009/10
	£'000	£'000
Not later than one year	452	1,209
Later than one year and not later than five years	1,601	2,874
Later than five years	187	459
	<u>2,240</u>	<u>4,542</u>

The Council holds property leases which are operating leases. The amount paid in rent for 2010/11 was £1,134,779 (2009/10 was £1,268,660).

The future commitments required under these leases are £2,229,967 comprising the following elements:

	2010/11	2009/10
	£'000	£'000
Not later than one year	752	201
Later than one year and not later than five years	1,478	271
Later than five years	-	685
	<u>2,230</u>	<u>1,157</u>

In practice, although some leases are due for renewal, the Council expects to continue using many of its leased buildings beyond the renewal dates.

Authority as Lessor

Finance Leases

The authority has leased out a number of commercial properties on finance leases.

Operating Leases

The Authority leases out a large number of investment properties.

Rental income receivable from operating property leases totalled £13,207,181 (£12,953,570 in 2009/10).

The net book value of these properties is £219,233,419 (£221,608,868 in 09/10).

The future rental income receivable under non-cancellable operating leases in the aggregate and for each of the following periods:

	2010/11	2009/10
	£'000	£'000
Not later than one year	1,658	170
Later than one year and not later than five years	4,871	4,913
Later than five years	6,986	7,579
	<u>13,515</u>	<u>12,662</u>

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

37 IMPAIRMENT LOSSES

There were no losses due to impairment of assets.

38 PENSIONS SCHEMES ACCOUNTED FOR AS DEFINED CONTRIBUTIONS SCHEMES

Teachers employed by the Authority are members of the Teachers' Pension Scheme, administered by the Department for Education. The scheme provides teachers with specified benefits upon their retirement, and the Authority contributes towards the costs by making contributions based on a percentage of members' pensionable salaries.

The scheme is technically a defined benefit scheme. However, the scheme is unfunded and the Department for Education uses a notional fund as the basis for calculating the employers' contribution rate paid by local authorities. The Authority is not able to identify its share of underlying financial position and performance of the scheme with sufficient reliability for accounting purposes.

In 2010/11 the council paid £7.378m to Teachers' Pensions in respect of teachers' retirement benefits, representing 14.1% of pensionable pay. The figures for 2009/10 were £7.589m and 14.1%. There were no contributions remaining payable at the year end.

The Authority is responsible for the costs of any additional benefits awarded upon early retirement outside of the terms of the teachers' scheme. These costs are accounted for on a defined benefit basis and detailed in Note 39.

39 PARTICIPATION IN PENSIONS SCHEMES

The Council offers retirement benefits as part of the terms and conditions of employment. Whilst these benefits are not payable until employees retire, the authority has a commitment to make the payments that needs to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

The Council participates in two pension schemes:

- The Local Government Pension Scheme via the Avon Pension Fund. This is a funded defined benefit final salary scheme, meaning that the authority and employees pay contributions into the fund which are calculated at a level intended to balance the pension 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 pensions liabilities, and cash has to be generated to meet actual pensions payments as they eventually fall due.

Transactions relating to retirement benefits

We recognise the cost of retirement benefits in the reported cost of services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge we are required to make against council tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post employment/retirement benefits is reversed out of the General Fund via the Movement in Reserves Statement. The following transactions have been made in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the General Fund Balance via the Movement in Reserves Statement during the year.

	Local Government Pension Scheme		Unfunded Liabilities Discretionary Benefits	
	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement				
Cost of Services:				
Current Service Costs	12,640	7,904		
Past Service Cost	(30,316)	-	(1,287)	143
Settlement and Curtailment	1,373	698	197	
Financing and Investment Income & Expenditure				
Interest cost	28,223	25,942	1,290	1,397
Expected return on scheme assets	(21,662)	(15,138)		
Total Post Employment Benefit Charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	(9,742)	19,406	200	1,540
Other Post Employment Benefit Charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services				
Actuarial gains and losses	(13,968)	43,303	(809)	3,767
Total Post Employment Benefit Charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(23,710)	62,709	(609)	5,307
Movement in Reserves Statement				
Reversal of net charges made to the Surplus or Deficit for the Provision of Services for post employment benefits in accordance with the Code	(9,742)	19,406	200	1,540
Actual amount charged against General Fund Balance for pensions in the year:	14,277			
Employers' contributions payable to scheme	(1,717)	(7,153)	197	143
Retirement benefits payable to pensioners			22,079	24,223

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Assets and Liabilities in Relation to Retirement Benefits

Reconciliation of present value of the scheme liabilities:

	Funded Liabilities		Unfunded Liabilities	
	Local Government Pension Scheme		Discretionary Benefits	
	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening Balance at 1 April 2010	503,953	366,836	24,223	20,448
Current service cost	12,640	7,904		
Interest cost	28,223	25,942	1,290	1,397
Contributions by scheme participants	4,706	4,682	(1,535)	(1,532)
Actuarial gains and losses	(13,968)	113,396	(809)	3,767
Benefits paid	(17,271)	(15,505)		
Past service costs	1,373	698	197	143
Past service gain	(30,316)		(1,287)	
Closing Balance at 31 March 2011	489,340	503,953	22,079	24,223

Reconciliation of fair value of the scheme assets:

	Local Government Pension Scheme	
	2010/11	2009/10
	£'000	£'000
Opening Balance at 1 April 2010	334,613	246,148
Expected rate of return	21,662	15,138
Actuarial gains and losses	(872)	70,093
Employer contributions	14,277	14,057
Contributions by scheme participants	4,706	4,682
Benefits paid	(17,271)	(15,505)
Closing Balance at 31 March 2011	357,115	334,613

The expected return on scheme assets is determined by considering the expected returns available on the assets underlying the current investment policy. Expected yields on fixed interest investments are based on gross redemption yields as at the balance sheet date. Expected returns on equity investments reflect long-term real rates of return experienced in the respective markets.

The actual return on scheme assets in the year was - £25,429 (2009/10 -£85,231).

Scheme History

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
	*	*				
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Present value of liabilities:						
Local Government Pension Scheme	(398,052)	(428,393)	(428,051)	(366,836)	(503,953)	(489,340)
Discretionary Benefits		(21,172)	(23,748)	(20,448)	(24,223)	(22,079)
Fair value of assets in the Local Government Pension Scheme	289,781	309,053	297,164	246,148	334,613	357,115
Surplus/(deficit) in the scheme:						
Local Government Pension Scheme	(108,271)	(119,340)	(130,887)	(120,688)	(169,340)	(132,225)
Discretionary Benefits		(21,172)	(23,748)	(20,448)	(24,223)	(22,079)
Total	(108,271)	(140,512)	(154,635)	(141,136)	(193,563)	(154,304)

* the authority has elected not to restate fair value of scheme assets for 2005/06 and 2006/07

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The liabilities show the underlying commitments that the Council has in the long-run to pay retirement benefits. The total liability of £154m has a substantial impact on the net worth of the Council as recorded in the balance sheet. However, statutory arrangements for funding the deficit mean that the financial position of the authority remains healthy:

- > the deficit on the local government scheme will be made good by increased contributions over the remaining working life of employees, as assessed by the scheme actuary
- > finance is only required to be raised to cover teachers' pensions when the pensions are actually paid.

Employer contributions to the Pension Fund in 2011/12 are estimated to be £14.3m. Estimated contributions to the Discretionary Benefits scheme are £1.7m

Basis for estimating assets and liabilities

Liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels etc. Both scheme liabilities have been assessed by an independent firm of actuaries Mercer Human Resource Consulting Ltd, estimates for the Local Government Pension Scheme being based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 31 March 2010.

The principal assumptions used by the actuary have been:

	Avon Pension Fund		Discretionary Benefits Scheme	
	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10
Long term expected rate of return on assets in the scheme:				
Equity investments	7.5%	7.5%		
Government Bonds	4.4%	4.5%		
Other Bonds	5.1%	5.2%		
Other	14.5%	14.5%		
Mortality assumptions :				
Longevity at 65 for current pensioners:				
Men	22.7	21.2	22.1	21.2
Women	25.6	24.1	24.7	24
Longevity at 65 for future pensioners:				
Men	25	22.2		
Women	28	25		
Rate of inflation	3.4%	3.3%	3.3%	3.2%
Rate of increase in salaries	4.4%	4.55%		
Rate of increase in pensions	2.9%	3.3%	2.8%	3.2%
Proportion of employees opting to take a commuted lump sum	50%	50%		
Rate for discounting scheme liabilities	5.5%	5.6%	5.4%	5.5%

Constitution of the fair value of scheme assets

The Discretionary Benefits Scheme has no assets to cover its liabilities. The Local Government Pension Scheme's assets consist of the following categories, by proportion of the total assets held:

Assets Held :	Assets at 31 March 2011		Assets at 31 March 2010	
	£'000	%	£'000	%
Equity investments	223,554	62.6%	217,498	65.0%
Government Bonds	46,425	13.0%	34,465	10.3%
Other Bonds	28,212	7.9%	32,123	9.6%
Other	58,924	16.5%	50,527	15.1%
Total	357,115	100%	334,613	100.0%

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

History of experience gains and losses

Actuarial losses identified as movements on the Pensions Reserve in 2010/11 can be analysed into the following categories, measured as a percentage of assets or liabilities at 31 March 2011.

	2010/11	2009/10	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06
Difference between the expected and actual return on scheme assets:						
amount (£,000)	(872)	(70,093)	(73,037)	(26,760)	(1,013)	40,721
percentage	0	20.9	29.7	9	0.3	14.1
Experience gains and losses on liabilities						
amount (£,000)	16,835	113,936	88,712	43,234	(26,200)	(4,508)
percentage	3	22.5	24.2	10.1	6.1	1.1
	15,963	43,843	15,675	16,474	(27,213)	36,213

40 AVON COUNTY COUNCIL DEBT

Following Local Government Reorganisation in 1996, Avon County Council's residual debt is administered by Bristol City Council. All successor Unitary Authorities make an annual contribution to principal and interest repayment. The amount of residual debt outstanding at 31 March 2011 apportioned to this Council is £16.43m (£17.10m in 2009/10). The debt has now been included in the Council's Balance Sheet as a deferred liability which will reduce each year due to principle repayments.

	31 March 2010	Principal Repaid	31 March 2011
	£000	£000	£000
Ex- Avon loan debt principal repayment	17,114	(684)	16,430

41 MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION (MRP)

Minimum Revenue Provision - Provision for Repayment of External Debt

The net amount charged to revenue in compliance with the statutory requirement to set aside a Minimum Revenue Provision for the repayment of external debt is £2.146m calculated as follows:

	2010/11 £000	2009/10 £000	2008/09 £000
4% of Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)	3,663	3,503	3,322
Adjustment allowed under Capital Finance Regulations	(1,551)	(1,551)	(1,537)
Provision based on estimated useful life of new assets since 2008	34	34	
Statutory Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)	2,146	1,986	1,785

The excess of depreciation, impairment and the effect of deferred charges and intangible assets charged to Net Operating Expenditure over the Minimum Revenue Provision is reversed through the Statement of Movement on the the General Fund Balance by an adjustment with the Capital Adjustment Account.

New regulations regarding Minimum Revenue Provision introduced (effective from 31st March 2008), allow local authorities to choose from three calculation methods.

The Council MRP Policy is:

Bath and North East Somerset has elected to make a prudent minimum revenue provision for all new unsupported borrowing from 1st April 2008, based on the estimated useful life of the asset or equal to depreciation as calculated in line with the Statement of Recommended Practice.

For all Government supported borrowing:

- For existing schemes the Council will determine that its MRP is equal to the amount determined in accordance with the former regulations.
- For all new schemes after 1st April 2008 it will calculate MRP based on the estimated useful life of the asset.

When borrowing to construct an asset, the authority will treat the asset life as commencing in the year in which the asset becomes operational.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

42 LANDFILL ALLOWANCE TRADING SCHEME (LATS)

The Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) has been accounted for in 2010/11 in accordance with the guidance provided in the LAAP Bulletin 64, February 2006. Accordingly the LATS allowances have been recognised on the Balance Sheet as a current asset, offset by the current liability to DEFRA for landfill usage. The LATS grant income has been credited to the Consolidated Revenue Account and the value of spare allowances moved to provisions. These will be utilised in future years on recycling initiatives once the value of the spare allowances have been realised through trading. Each allowance has been valued at £10.60 as at 31st March 2011.

43 TRUST FUNDS

The Council is the trustee of a small number of Trusts which were inherited from the predecessor authorities. These include bequests, schools prize and scholarship funds and grave maintenance.

The only Trusts with material assets are:

	2010/11 Income £	2010/11 Assets £
Alice Park Trust	(711)	142,102 *
Sydney Garden Fund	(155)	25,066
Bath Recreation Ground Trust	(208)	not separately valued

* Includes external investments valued at £12,052.

The purpose of these funds is to provide for the maintenance of specific parks or recreation grounds in Bath.

Bath Recreation Ground Trust

The Council has included the leisure centre in its balance sheet even though it is built on land owned by the charity. The financial regulations determine that as the Council is bearing the risks and rewards of ownership, in accordance with FRS5 it should stay on the Council's balance sheet. The Charity Commission has agreed to a lease being signed to allow the council to remain on the recreation ground land for the period of the life of the building but the lease has not been signed yet.

Other Trust Funds of which B&NES is the sole trustee, relate to assets held:

	£'s
Educational Funds	49,480
Graves/memorial maintenance	14,777
Parks & Gardens maintenance	7,377
Client accounts	187,917
Twinning Fund	26,130
Bequests	42,917
Total	328,598

44 CONTROLLED COMPANIES

Bath Tourism Plus Ltd

During 2003/04 the Council set up the above as a company to provide tourism information and marketing services, in partnership with the private sector. The company is limited by guarantee. The Council and Initiative have equal rights to appoint directors. The directors have day to day control over the management of the company.

There were no acquisition or merger costs arising.

The Company's un-audited accounts show a turnover of £2,106,662, a net profit of £79,010 and net current assets of £145,301 (turnover of £1,873,439, a net profit of £74,590 and net current assets of £79,678 in 2009/10). The turnover and assets held by this company are not considered significant enough to produce Group Accounts.

A copy of the accounts can be obtained from Bath Tourism Plus at Abbey Chambers, Abbey Churchyard, Bath.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Connexions West of England

On 1 September 2007 responsibility for Connexions West of England was transferred jointly to Bath & North East Somerset Council, Bristol City Council, South Gloucestershire Council and North Somerset Council. The company provides services to 13 to 19 year olds, including career education and guidance, supporting post 16 transition for young people with learning disabilities and encouraging participation in education and training.

The company is limited by guarantee. The Council does not profit from the company's activities and has no rights to its' assets. The turnover and assets of this company are not considered material and therefore group accounts have not been prepared.

Future Bath Plus - City Centre Management Company

Futures Bath Plus is a company set up by the council in partnership with the private sector to promote the cultural interests of Bath, including arts and leisure.

The company is limited by guarantee. The Council and Initiative have equal rights to appoint directors. The directors have day to day control over the management of the company.

The turnover and assets of this company are not considered material and therefore group accounts have not been prepared.

45 West of England Partnership

The West of England Partnership was established in 2004 comprising the 4 unitary authorities, Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire. The partnership is not a partnership in law, or a formal decision making body and does not have the power to bind the four unitaries.

The partnership board contains a range of social, economic and environmental partners and is advised by a range of specialist, advisory and programme groups. The authority acts as the lead authority for the partnership.

WEP aims to facilitate inward investment into the area bounded by the four councils, with funding for projects being sought from Government via the Government office South West (GOSW), from the private sector and from other funding bodies.

Priorities are:-

- Transport;
- Planning;
- Waste;
- Housing;
- Economic competitiveness and inclusion
- Culture, leisure and tourism.

A key driver for the formation of the WEP is to facilitate large complex cross boundary projects to achieve better service outcomes than would be likely by the Councils acting individually.

West of England Pooled Budget

	Planning		Joint Waste		Sub-total
	Planning	Plan	Housing	Phase 2	Inward
	£'000	£'000	Co-Ord'tor	£'000	Investm't
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Expenditure	220	113	34	4	102
Funding					
Grant	9				9
Contributions	(139)	1	(16)	1	(70)
Internal Recharges	6				6
Recoveries	-				-
BANES	86	28			43
Bristol	86	28	50		43
North Somerset	86	28			43
South Gloucestershire	86	28		3	43
Total funding	220	113	34	4	102

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Transport		Employment and Skills			TOTAL £'000
	Transport	Framew'rk	LSC/EDF	RDA	Workless	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Expenditure	332	6	122	276	35	1,244
Funding						
Grant						9
Contributions	(12)		122	276	35	198
Internal Recharges						6
Recoveries		3				3
BANES	86					243
Bristol	86	3				296
North Somerset	86					243
South Gloucestershire	86					246
Total funding	332	6	122	276	35	1,244

Only the authority's share of partnership income and expenditure are included in authority's accounts.

Bath & North East Somerset Council is accountable body for the Growth Points Fund on behalf of the West of England Partnership. In 2010/11 capital grant of £4.2m was received from DCLG which was approved and distributed to individual Unitary Authorities to fund specific projects

46 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

A report to the Council's Strategic Directors Group identified the potential significant liabilities arising from appeals or objections to the Council's actions. There are a small number of such cases. The most significant are:

Transfer of Housing Stock - in transferring the Council's housing stock to Somer Community Housing Trust, the Council made a number of warranties relating to the properties and land transferred. To date there is no known breach of the warranties made, therefore the Council expects there will be no transfer of economic benefits.

Leisure Trust - the Council has transferred its Leisure functions to an external company. As is usual with this type of Private/Public agreement, the Council would be liable for costs should it breach it's obligations or warranties. There is no known breach of these warranties.

Bath Recreation Ground Trust - This is a charitable trust where Bath & North East Somerset Council is the Trustee. The Council as Trustee is ultimately responsible for any liabilities or deficits incurred by the Trust. The Trust is developing a strategy to manage its finances going forward.

Section 117 Aftercare Services - In 1999 the High Court decided that people receiving section 117 aftercare services under the Mental Health Act should not be charged for Community Care. As a result of the High Court ruling the Council has received claims for reimbursement of charges in the region of £205,000. The Council's best estimate of total claims is £393,000 with a balance of £188,000 set aside.

Social Care for Children - The outcome of a recent social care court case could result in additional legal fees for the Council. The outcome of the case has been decided but the extent of fees and charges is still to be determined.

There are three companies which are limited by guarantee by the Council. The amounts are not material and there is no expectation that any liability will arise.

47 CONTINGENT ASSETS

There are no contingent assets.

NOTES TO MAIN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

48 EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS

Combe Down Stone Mines Project

Previous years spend on this project has been substantial and therefore has been shown separately in the Cost of Services line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The project is now coming to an end and although although the spend in 2010/11 is not considered substantial the expenditure has continued to be shown separately from other costs.

Gain/Loss on Disposal of Non-Current Assets

The loss on disposal of £19.32m as shown in Note 9 Other Operating Expenditure, is mainly due to the transfer at Nil value of schools to Academy status.

Unfunded Pensions Costs

The pension fund gain on past service costs as shown in Unfunded Pensions Costs is due to the change in the way pensions benefits are now linked to the Consumer Price Index rather than the Retail Price Index as announced by the Government in 2010. This has reduced the pension fund liability.

COLLECTION FUND 2010/11

The Collection Fund is an agents 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.

	Notes	£'000	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
INCOME				
Council Tax	2	(83,780)		(81,909)
Council Tax Benefit	2	(10,536)		(9,901)
Non-Domestic Rates	3	(53,308)		(48,924)
			(147,624)	(140,734)
EXPENDITURE				
Precepts and demands				
Bath & North East Somerset		79,608		77,802
Avon & Somerset Police	1	10,847		10,431
Avon Fire	1	3,898		3,792
			94,353	92,025
Non Domestic Rates				
Payment to National Pool		52,995		48,619
Interest on repayments		52		45
Cost of Collection Allowance		261		260
			53,308	48,924
Provision for uncollectible amounts			113	119
			147,774	141,068
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year			(150)	(334)
Surplus/(Deficit) Brought Forward as at 1 April			1,149	1,483
Surplus as at 31 March	5		999	1,149
Less surplus to be refunded to Police & Fire Authorities			(156)	(176)
Bath & North East Somerset Surplus			843	973

NOTES TO THE COLLECTION FUND

1 The Collection Fund

The Collection Fund Account is a statutory fund for the collection and distribution of amounts due in respect of Council Tax and National Non- Domestic Rates (NNDR). The year end surplus on the Fund is due to the Council as 'billing authority' and the major precepting authorities, Avon & Somerset Police Authority and Avon Fire Authority.

	Precept	Surplus	Precept	Surplus
	2010/11	2010/11	2009/10	2009/10
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
The Avon & Somerset Police Authority	10,734	113	10,296	135
The Avon Fire Authority	3,857	41	3,743	49

2 Council Tax

Council Tax income derives from charges raised according to the value of residential properties, which have been classified into 8 valuation bands estimating 1 April 1991 values for this specific purpose. Individual charges are calculated by estimating the amount of income required to be taken from the Collection Fund by Bath & North East Somerset Council, the Police Authority and the Fire Authority for the forthcoming year and dividing this by the Council Tax base adjusted for discounts (63,882.4 for 2010/11). This amount of Council Tax for a Band D property £1,461.33 (£1,422.62 - 2009/10) is multiplied by the proportion specified for the particular band to give an individual amount due.

Council Tax bills were based on the following proportions from Bands A to H:

	Discounted	Ratio to	Band D
	Properties	Band D	Equivalents
Band A - Disabled Relief	12.75	5/9	7.1
Band A	5,742.25	6/9	3,828.2
Band B	15,152.50	7/9	11,785.3
Band C	16,085.75	8/9	14,298.4
Band D	11,561.50	9/9	11,561.5
Band E	7,922.25	11/9	9,682.8
Band F	4,587.00	13/9	6,625.7
Band G	4,094.50	15/9	6,824.2
Band H	313.75	18/9	627.5
Contributions in Lieu			15.4
			65,256.1
Allowance for Doubtful Debts & Appeals			-1,373.7
Tax Base			63,882.4

The income for 2010/11 is receivable from the following sources:-

	2010/11	2009/10
	£'000	£'000
Billed to Council Tax payers	(83,780)	(81,908)
Council Tax benefits	(10,536)	(9,901)
	(94,316)	(91,809)

NOTES TO THE COLLECTION FUND

3 National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)

NNDR is organised on a national basis. The Government specifies a national 'rate' of 40.7 pence in 2010/11 for properties that qualify for Small Business Rate Relief, and 41.4 pence for all others, subject to transitional arrangements. Local businesses pay rates calculated by multiplying their rateable value by that amount.

The Council is responsible for collecting rates due from the ratepayers in its area but pays the proceeds into an NNDR pool administered by the Government. The Government redistributes the sums paid into the Pool back to local authorities' General Funds on the basis of a fixed amount per head of population.

The NNDR income after reliefs and provisions of £53.308 million for 2010/11 (£48.924 million in 2009/10) resulted from a total rateable value at 31 March 2011 of £165.324 million.

4 Write Offs

During the year, the following Collection Fund debts were written off :

	£'000
Council Tax	255
NNDR	376

These write offs were made against bad debt provisions set up in previous years.

	£'000
The remaining provisions are :	
Council Tax	514
NNDR	477
	<u>991</u>

5 Balance of Fund & Distribution

As at 31 March 2011, the balance on the Collection Fund stood at a surplus of £998,713

This credit balance due to the Council, Police and Fire Authority is as follows:

	£'000
Bath & North East Somerset	843
Avon & Somerset Police	115
Avon Fire	41
	<u>999</u>

Statement of Accounts

Introduction

- 1.1 The following comprises the Statement of Accounts for the Avon Pension Fund (The Fund). The accounts cover the financial year from 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011.
- 1.2 These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting ('Code of Practice') in the United Kingdom 2010 based on International Financial Reporting Standards as published by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy. The accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis, except for certain transfer values as described at 'Statement of Accounting Policies' – item 2.5. They do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits in the future.
- 1.3 This is the first year in which the accounts have been prepared following International Financial Reporting Standards as required by the Code of Practice. There is no material difference in the Net Assets as at 1 April 2009 that would effect the 2009/10 accounts shown for comparison with the 2010/11 accounts.
- 1.4 The accounts are set out in the following order:

Statement of Accounting Policies which explains the basis of the figures in the accounts.

Fund Account which discloses the size and nature of financial additions to and withdrawals from the Fund during the accounting period and reconciles the movements in the net assets to the Fund Account.

Net Assets Statement which discloses the size and disposition of the net assets of the Fund at the end of the accounting period.

Notes to the Accounts which give supporting details and analysis concerning the contents of the accounts, together with information on the establishment of the Fund, its membership and actuarial position.

1.5 Actuarial Valuations

As required by the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2008 an actuarial valuation of the Fund was carried out as at 31 March 2010. The market value of the Fund's assets at the valuation date was £2,459 million. The actuary has estimated that the value of the Fund was sufficient to meet 82% of its expected future liabilities (of £3,011m) in respect of service completed to 31 March 2010.

- 1.6 The deficit recovery period for the Fund overall is 23 years.

The 2010 actuarial valuation was carried out using the projected unit actuarial method. The main actuarial assumptions, on

- 1.7 the basis of which the employer's contributions are set, are set out below:

	Past Service	Future Service
Rate of Discount	6.85% per annum (pre retirement) 5.7% per annum (post retirement)	6.75% per annum
Rate of pensionable pay inflation	4.5% per annum	4.5% per annum
Rate of price inflation	3.0% per annum	3.0% per annum

- 1.8 The 2010 valuation set the employer contribution rates effective from 1 April 2011. In previous years the employer contribution rate has been expressed as a percentage of pay. For the 2010 valuation, due to declining payrolls, the deficit recovery payment has been expressed as a monetary amount payable annually, whereas the future service rate is still expressed as a percentage of pay.
- 1.9 The Actuary has estimated that the funding level as at 31 March 2011 has marginally increased to 83% from 82% at 31 March 2010.

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

- 1.10 The Fund's Funding Strategy Statement, can be found on the Fund's website (www.avonpensionfund.org.uk) or supplied on request from Liz Feinstein, Investments Manager.

Statement of Investment Principles

- 1.11 The Fund's Statement of Investment Principles as required by the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2009 can be found on the Fund's website (www.avonpensionfund.org.uk) or supplied on request from Liz Feinstein, Investments Manager.

Statement of Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

- 2.1 Except where otherwise stated, the accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis, i.e. income and expenditure is recognised as it is earned or incurred, not as it is received or paid. The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Investments

- 2.2 Investments are shown in the accounts at market value, which has been determined as follows:
- i) Quoted Securities have been valued at 31 March 2011 by the Fund's custodian using internationally recognized pricing sources (bid-price or 'last trade') where a quotation was available on a recognised stock exchange or the unlisted securities market. Unquoted securities are included at fair value based on the Fund Manager's valuation.
 - ii) Fixed interest securities exclude interest earned but not paid over at the year end, which is included separately within investment debtors.
 - iii) Pooled investments are stated at the bid price or at the Net Asset Value quoted by their respective managers at 31 March 2011.
 - iv) Foreign currency transactions are recorded at the prevailing rate at the date of transaction. Investments held in foreign currencies are shown at market value translated into sterling at the exchange rates ruling as at 31 March 2011.
 - v) Open futures contracts are included in the net asset statement at their fair market value, which is the unrealised profit or loss at the current bid or offer market quoted price of the contract. The amounts included in the change in market value are the realised gains or losses on closed futures contracts and the unrealised gains or losses on open futures contracts.
 - vi) Forward foreign exchange contracts outstanding at the year end are stated at fair value which is determined as the gain or loss that would arise if the outstanding contract was matched at the year end with an equal and opposite contract.
 - vii) Acquisition costs of investments (e.g. stamp duty and commissions) are treated as part of the investment cost.
 - viii) Investment debtors and creditors at the year end are included in investment assets in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting.
 - ix) The Fund's surplus cash is treated as an investment asset. Prior to 1 April 2010 the Fund's surplus cash was managed together with the surplus cash of B&NES Council, consequently this balance was shown as a debtor in the Fund's accounts. Since 1 April 2010 the Fund's surplus cash has been managed separately and consequently is now treated as an investment asset.

Contributions

- 2.3 Contributions represent those amounts receivable from the employing bodies in respect of their own and their pensionable employees' contributions. Employers' contributions are determined by the Actuary on the basis of triennial valuations of the Fund's assets and liabilities and take into account the Funding Strategy statement set by the administering authority. Employees' contributions have been included at the rates prescribed by the Local Government Pension Scheme (Benefits, Membership and Contributions) Regulations 2007.

Benefits, Refunds of Contributions and Cash Transfer Values

- 2.4 Benefits payable and refunds of contributions have been brought into the accounts as they fall due.
- 2.5 Cash Transfer Values are those sums paid to or received from other pension schemes and relate to previous periods of pensionable employment. Cash Transfer Values have been included in the accounts on the basis of the cheque payment date or "Bath & North East Somerset Council cash office received" date. Accruals are only made when it is certain that a transfer is to take place.
- 2.6 Charges for splitting pensions on divorce are either invoiced to members or, on request, paid out of future benefits. In the case of payment from future benefits the charge against benefits and income to the Fund are both made in the current year.

Statement of Accounting Policies (cont'd)

Investment Income

- 2.7 Dividends and interest have been accounted for on an accruals basis. Income on pooled investments is accumulated and reflected in the valuation of the units.

Investment Management & Administration

- 2.8 The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2009 permit Bath & North East Somerset Council to charge administration costs to the Fund. A proportion of relevant Council costs has been charged to the Fund on the basis of actual time spent on Pension Fund business.
- 2.9 The fees of the Fund's external investment managers reflect their differing mandates. Fees are linked to the market value of the Fund's investments and therefore may increase or reduce as the value of the investment changes. Management fees are recognised in the year in which the management services are provided. Fees are also payable to the Fund's global custodian and other advisors.

Taxation

- 2.10 The Fund is an exempt approved fund under the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 and is therefore not liable to certain UK income tax on investment income or to capital gains tax. As Bath & North East Somerset Council is the administering authority for the Fund, VAT input tax is recoverable on all Fund activities including expenditure on investment expenses. For taxation of overseas investment income please see note 3 iv. in the Notes to Accounts.

Use of Accounting Estimates

- 2.11 Estimates are used in the valuation of unquoted investments (see 2.2i) and in the actuarial valuation for the purposes of IAS 26 (note 16) in which the actuarial calculation of the liability is subject to the professional judgement of the actuary.

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

Fund Account

For the Year Ended 31 March 2011

	Notes	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Contributions and Benefits			
Contributions Receivable	4	139,519	134,681
Transfers In		9,571	14,934
Other Income	5	273	361
		149,363	149,976
Benefits Payable	6	121,745	115,101
Payments to and on account of Leavers	7	9,094	14,618
Administrative Expenses	8	2,379	2,340
		133,218	132,059
Net Additions from dealings with members		16,145	17,917
Returns on Investments			
Investment Income	10	22,663	16,014
Profit & losses on disposal of investments & change in value of investments	11	177,861	612,435
Investment Management Expenses	9	(7,194)	(6,860)
Net Returns on Investments		193,330	621,589
Net Increase in the net assets available for benefits during the year		209,475	639,506
Net Assets of the Fund			
At 1 April		2,458,588	1,819,082
At 31 March		2,668,063	2,458,588

Net Assets Statement at 31 March 2011

	Notes	31 March 2011 £'000		31 March 2010 £'000	
			%		%
INVESTMENT ASSETS					
Fixed interest securities : Public Sector		154,494	5.8	134,999	5.5
Equities		246,996	9.3	241,265	9.8
Index Linked securities : Public Sector		157,378	5.9	147,483	6.0
Pooled Investment vehicles:					
- Property : Unit Trusts		69,935	2.6	43,608	1.8
: Unitised Insurance Policies		49,875	1.9	33,034	1.3
: Other Managed Funds		52,242	2.0	26,071	1.1
Property Pooled Investment vehicles		172,052		102,713	
- Non Property : Unitised Insurance Policies		844,190	31.6	873,040	35.5
: Other Managed Funds		1,028,962	38.6	873,533	35.5
Non Property Pooled Investment Vehicles		1,873,152		1,746,573	
Derivative Contracts: FTSE Futures		543	-	152	-
Cash Deposits		50,515	1.9	63,042	2.5
Other Investment balances		4,749	0.2	4,150	0.2
INVESTMENT LIABILITIES					
Derivative contracts (Foreign Exchange hedge)		(59)	-	-	-
Other Investment balances		(1,869)	(0.1)	(738)	-
TOTAL INVESTMENT ASSETS	12	2,657,951		2,439,639	
Net Current Assets					
Current Assets	14	11,548	0.4	21,149	0.9
Current Liabilities	14	(1,436)	(0.1)	(2,200)	(0.1)
Net assets of the scheme available to fund benefits at the period end		2,668,063	100.0	2,458,588	100.0

The Fund's financial statements do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits after 31 March 2011.

Notes to Accounts - Year Ended 31 March 2011

1 GENERAL

The Fund is administered by Bath & North East Somerset Council under arrangements made following the abolition of the former Avon County Council on 31 March 1996.

The Fund is governed by the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2008 (as amended). Membership of the Fund is open to pensionable employees of scheduled bodies in the former Avon County area, together with employees of eligible designating admission bodies. A list of employers with contributing scheme members can be found in note 24.

Employers' contributions are payable at the rate specified for each employing authority by the Fund's actuary. The employees' contribution rate is payable in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme (Benefits, Membership and Contributions) Regulations 2007.

2 MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Fund at the year-end was as follows:-

	31 March 2011	31 March 2010
Employed Members	33,810	34,800
Pensioners	22,541	21,313
Members entitled to Deferred Benefits	26,868	24,544
TOTAL	<u>83,219</u>	<u>80,657</u>

3 TAXATION

(i) Value Added Tax

The Fund's administering authority Bath & North East Somerset Council is reimbursed VAT by H. M. Revenue and Customs and the accounts are shown exclusive of VAT.

(ii) Income Tax

The Fund is a wholly exempt fund and some UK income tax is recoverable from the HM Revenue and Customs. Where tax can be reclaimed, investment income in the accounts is shown gross of UK tax.

(iii) Capital Gains Tax

No capital gains tax is chargeable.

(iv) Taxation of Overseas Investment Income

The Fund receives interest on its overseas government bond portfolio gross, but a variety of arrangements apply to the taxation of interest on corporate bonds and dividends on overseas equities.

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

4 CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVABLE

Contributions receivable are analysed below:-

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Employers' normal contributions		
Scheduled Bodies	75,120	72,746
Administering Authority	11,560	11,648
Admission Bodies	7,587	7,564
	<u>94,267</u>	<u>91,958</u>
Employers' contributions - Augmentation		
Scheduled Bodies	4,226	3,042
Administering Authority	825	506
Admission Bodies	552	814
	<u>5,603</u>	<u>4,362</u>
Employers' deficit Funding		
Administering Authority	35	
Admission Bodies	1,963	241
	<u>1,998</u>	<u>241</u>
Members' normal contributions		
Scheduled Bodies	29,060	29,306
Administering Authority	4,292	4,276
Admission Bodies	3,568	3,595
	<u>36,920</u>	<u>37,177</u>
Members' contributions toward additional benefits		
Scheduled Bodies	570	784
Administering Authority	126	117
Admission Bodies	35	42
	<u>731</u>	<u>943</u>
Total	<u><u>139,519</u></u>	<u><u>134,681</u></u>

The Members' contributions towards additional benefits above represent members' purchase of added years or additional benefits under the Scheme. Augmentation contributions are paid by employers to meet the cost of early retirements. Deficit funding contributions have been paid by some employers in respect of the recovery of their deficit relating to past service.

A further facility is provided whereby members can make Additional Voluntary Contributions, on a money purchase basis, which are invested in insurance policies with The Equitable Life Assurance Society or Friends Life on behalf of the individual members concerned. These contributions are not part of the Pension Fund and are not therefore reflected in the Fund's accounts. A statement of the value of these investments is given in Note 19.

5 OTHER INCOME

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Recoveries for services provided	262	356
Cost recoveries	11	5
	<u>273</u>	<u>361</u>

'Recoveries for services provided' refers to administrative and accounting services provided to employing bodies. Cost recoveries are the recovery of the cost of calculating Pension Sharing on divorce.

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

6 BENEFITS PAYABLE

Analysis of Gross Benefits Payable by Type:-

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Retirement Pensions	90,317	86,016
Commutation of Pensions and Lump Sum Retirement Grants	28,734	26,536
Lump Sum Death Grants	2,694	2,549
	121,745	115,101

Analysis of Gross Benefits Payable by Employing Body:-

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Scheduled & Designating Bodies	102,705	97,682
Administering Authority	11,412	9,418
Admission Bodies	7,628	8,001
	121,745	115,101

7 PAYMENTS TO AND ON ACCOUNT OF LEAVERS

Leavers	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Refunds to members leaving service	22	77
Individual Cash Transfer Values to other schemes	9,072	14,541
Bulk Cash Transfers	-	-
	9,094	14,618

There have been no bulk transfers during the year.

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

8 ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES

Costs incurred in the management and administration of the Fund are set out below.

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Administration and processing	1,638	1,680
Actuarial fees	271	178
Audit fees	47	71
Legal and professional fees	-	1
Central recharges from Administrating Body	423	410
	2,379	2,340

9 INVESTMENT EXPENSES

Expenses incurred in the management of the Fund are set out below.

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Portfolio management	6,840	6,469
Global custody	78	74
Investment advisors	174	171
Performance measurement	32	33
Investment accounting	15	22
Investment Administration	55	91
	7,194	6,860

10 INVESTMENT INCOME

	2010/11 £'000	2009/10 £'000
Interest from fixed interest securities	6,350	4,135
Dividends from equities	7,051	6,275
Income from Index Linked securities	6,187	3,840
Income from pooled investment vehicles	2,917	1,574
Interest on cash deposits	146	172
Other - stock lending	12	18
TOTAL	22,663	16,014

Dividends from equities in the year to 31 March 2011 includes tax reclaims from former managers of £275,598 received in the year ending 31 March 2009 but not previously recognised as income in the accounts.

The Fund has an arrangement with its custodian (BNY Mellon) to lend eligible securities from its portfolio to third parties in return for which the third parties pay fees to the fund. The third parties provide collateral to the Fund which is held during the period of the loan. This stock lending programme was introduced with effect from July 2004. The fund may terminate any loan of securities by giving notice of not less than the standard settlement time for those securities.

The value of the stock on loan as at 31 March 2011 was £43.67 million (31 March 2010 £9.42m), comprising of £5.56m equities and £38.11m sovereign debt. This was secured by collateral worth £45.21 million comprising OECD sovereign and supra national debt and equity index baskets from the FTSE 350 index. The Fund does not sell collateral unless there is a default by the owner of the collateral.

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

11 CHANGE IN TOTAL NET ASSETS

	Value at 01/04/10 £'000	Purchases at Cost £'000	Sales Proceeds £'000	Change in Market Value £'000	Value at 31/03/11 £'000
Fixed Interest Securities	134,999	36,541	(20,446)	3,400	154,494
Equities	241,265	117,633	(128,049)	16,147	246,996
Index Linked Securities	147,483	30,450	(24,322)	3,767	157,378
Pooled Investments-					
- Property	102,713	85,169	(27,383)	11,553	172,052
- Non Property	1,746,573	97,871	(108,188)	136,896	1,873,152
Derivatives	152	1,922	(3,415)	1,824	483
	2,373,185	369,586	(311,803)	173,587	2,604,555
Cash Deposits	63,042	232,606	(244,154)	(979)	50,515
Net Purchases & sales		602,192	(555,957)	46,235	

Change in Creditors, Debtors & Revenue

Investment Debtors & Creditors	3,412	(531)	2,881
Total Investment Assets	2,439,639		2,657,951
Adjustments for Revenue Debtors & Creditors	18,949	(8,837)	10,112
Less Net Revenue of Fund		(31,614)	
Total Net Assets	2,458,588	177,861	2,668,063

The **Change in Market Value** of investments comprises all gains and losses on Fund investments during the year, whether realised or unrealised.

The **Change in Market Value** for cash deposits represents net losses on foreign currency deposits and foreign exchange transactions during the year.

Derivatives. The purchases and sales of derivatives are shown at the values of the realised profits and losses of the net derivatives transactions.

Investment Transaction Costs

The following transactions costs are included in the above:

	Purchases £'000	Sales £'000	Other £'000	Total £'000
Fees and Taxes	606	1	-	607
Commission	159	152	3	314
Total	765	153	3	921

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

12 INVESTMENT ASSETS

Further analysis of the market value of investments as set out in the Net Assets Statement is given below:-

	31 March 2011 £'000	31 March 2010 £'000
UK Equities		
Quoted	209,686	191,718
Pooled Investments	415,651	456,708
FTSE Futures	543	625,880
Overseas Equities		
Quoted	37,310	49,546
Pooled Investments	987,796	1,025,106
UK Fixed Interest Gilts		
Quoted	154,494	134,999
Pooled Investments	35,247	189,741
UK Index Linked Gilts		
Quoted	157,378	157,378
Sterling Bonds (excluding Gilts)		
Pooled Investments	138,079	138,079
Non-Sterling Bonds		
Pooled Investments	74,000	74,000
Hedge Funds		
Pooled Investments	222,379	222,379
Property		
Pooled Investments	172,052	172,052
Cash Deposits		
Sterling	49,672	52,627
Foreign Currencies	843	50,515
Investment Debtors/Creditors		
Investment Income	3,264	3,231
Sales of Investments	1,485	919
Foreign Exchange Hedge	(59)	-
Purchases of Investments	(1,869)	2,821
TOTAL INVESTMENT ASSETS	2,657,951	2,439,639

DERIVATIVES ANALYSIS

	31 March 2011 £'000
"Over the Counter"	
Forward Foreign Exchange Hedge: Receivable in Sterling	3,774
Forward Foreign Exchange Hedge: Payable in Euros	(3,786)
Forward Foreign Exchange Hedge: Payable in Sterling	(132)
Forward Foreign Exchange Hedge: Receivable in Euros	133
	(11)
Forward Foreign Exchange Hedge: Receivable in Sterling	9,523
Forward Foreign Exchange Hedge: Payable in U.S. Dollars	(9,571)
	(48)
	(59)

There were no "Over the Counter" derivatives held as at 31 March 2010

Exchange Traded Derivatives held at 31 March 2011:-

Contract Type	Expiration	Book Cost £'000	Unrealised Gain £'000
FTSE equity futures	June 2011	15,228	543

Exchange Traded Derivatives held at 31 March 2010:-

FTSE equity futures	June 2010	20,887	152
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A derivative is a financial contract between two parties, the value of which is determined by the underlying asset. Investment in derivatives may only be made if they contribute to a reduction of risks and facilitate efficient portfolio management.

The UK Equity futures contracts are held to facilitate efficient portfolio management for a short term passively managed investment where the costs of investing directly in UK equities would be significant.

Forward "over the counter" foreign exchange contracts are held by two of the investment managers to reduce the impact of fluctuations in the exchange rate between sterling and the other currency. Other foreign exchange contracts are held by the fund to hedge the US dollar denominated share class of the Lyster Watson fund.

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

The proportion of the market value of investment assets managed by each external manager and in house Treasury Management at the end of the financial year was:-

	31 March 2011 £'000	%	31 March 2010 £'000	%
Blackrock	1,469,327	55.3	1,402,836	57.5
Residual values held by former managers	24	-	79	-
Jupiter Asset Management	109,295	4.1	94,451	3.9
Genesis Investment Management	147,200	5.5	130,211	5.3
Invesco Perpetual	169,742	6.4	158,223	6.5
State Street Global Advisors	91,176	3.4	85,675	3.5
Partners Group	53,129	2.0	26,100	1.1
Royal London Asset Management	131,992	5.0	122,185	5.0
TT International	132,073	5.0	124,756	5.1
Man Investments	100,418	3.8	95,047	3.9
Gottex Asset Management	53,490	2.0	51,280	2.1
Stenham Asset Management	11,665	0.4	11,544	0.5
Signet Capital Management	47,225	1.8	45,279	1.9
Lyster Watson Management	10,228	0.4	9,823	0.4
Schroder Investment Management	120,511	4.5	76,798	3.1
Bank of New York Mellon	1,882	0.1	5,352	0.2
Treasury Management	8,574	0.3		
TOTAL INVESTMENT ASSETS	2,657,951	100.0	2,439,639	100.0

Residual values held by former Managers Capital International, Threadneedle Pensions and Wellington Management International relate to reclaimable tax.

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

13 SINGLE INVESTMENTS OVER 5% OF ASSET CLASS

The following investment holdings amounted to 5% or more of their asset class excluding pooled funds. If pooled funds were included the only holding to exceed 5% of its asset class would be the Index linked 2.5% July 2016 which would be 5.01% of its class. Therefore the percentage of asset class only relates to the assets held on a segregated basis.

Fixed Interest Securities	Value	% of Asset Class
UK Government 4.250% 07-JUN-2032	13,819,909	8.9%
UK Government 4.750% 07-DEC-2038	13,801,303	8.9%
UK Government 4.250% 07-DEC-2027	13,788,096	8.9%
UK Government 4.750% 07-DEC-2030	13,288,963	8.6%
UK Government 4.250% 07-DEC-2055	12,279,623	7.9%
UK Government 4.250% 07-MAR-2036	12,048,891	7.8%
UK Government 6.000% 07-DEC-2028	11,851,040	7.7%
UK Government 4.250% 07-DEC-2046	10,883,067	7.0%
UK Government 4.500% 07-DEC-2042	10,637,834	6.9%
UK Government 4.250% 07-DEC-2049	9,992,587	6.5%
UK Government 4.500% 09/07/2034	9,434,179	6.1%
UK Government 4.250% 09/09/2039	8,736,240	5.7%
UK Government 4.250% 12/07/2040	8,048,473	5.2%

Index Linked Securities	Value	% of Asset Class
UK Government 2.500% 26-JUL-2016	17,391,647	11.1%
UK Government 2.500% 16-APR-2020	14,602,053	9.3%
UK Government VAR RT 17-JUL-2024	13,276,979	8.4%
UK Government 1.250% 22-NOV-2027	12,612,039	8.0%
UK Government 1.875% 22-NOV-2022	11,698,426	7.4%
UK Government 2.000% 26-JAN-2035	11,103,557	7.1%
UK Government 1.250% 22-NOV-2055	10,751,199	6.8%
UK Government 1.250% 22-NOV-2017	10,534,918	6.7%
UK Government 1.250% 22-NOV-2032	10,288,052	6.5%
UK Government 4.125% 22-JUL-2030	9,633,243	6.1%
UK Government 1.125% 22-NOV-2037	9,242,996	5.9%

UK Equities	Value	% of Asset Class
Vodafone Group	13,799,031	6.6%
HSBC Hldgs ORD USD0.50 (UK)	10,854,552	5.2%

Overseas Equities	Value	% of Asset Class
Royal Dutch Shell 'A'	5,734,441	15.4%
Xstrata Com STK	5,532,311	14.8%
Bayer AG ORD NPV	3,071,731	8.2%
WPP Plc ORD	2,082,094	5.6%

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

14 CURRENT ASSETS AND CURRENT LIABILITIES

Provision has been made in the accounts for debtors and creditors known to be outstanding at 31 March 2011.

Debtors and creditors included in the accounts are analysed below:-

	31 March 2011 £'000	31 March 2010 £'000
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bath & North East Somerset Council	-	10,027
Contributions Receivable		
- Employers	7,466	7,267
- Members	2,963	2,985
Discretionary Early Retirement Costs	409	498
Other Debtors	710	372
	11,548	21,149
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Management Fees	(728)	(393)
Lump Sum Retirement Benefits	(380)	(1,712)
Other Creditors	(328)	(95)
	(1,436)	(2,200)
	10,112	18,949

The 31 March 2010 debtor with Bath & North East Somerset Council represents monies held by the Administering Authority on which a commercial rate of interest was paid. From 1 April 2010 the Fund has managed its surplus cash separately from the Council, consequently this debtor no longer occurs. Surplus cash is now included within the Total Investment Assets.

The Lump Sum Retirement benefits creditor was lower at 31 March 2011 because longer notice was given to the Fund of the number of members taking early retirement following redundancy, than was given at 31 March 2010.

Analysis of Debtors and Creditors by Public Sector Bodies:-

	31 March 2011	31 March 2010
	£'000 £'000	£'000 £'000
CURRENT ASSETS		
Local Authorities	9,068	18,961
NHS Bodies	11	10
Other Public Bodies	1,580	1,674
Non Public Sector	889	504
	11,548	21,149
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Non Public Sector	(1,436)	(2,200)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	10,112	18,949

There were no debtors or creditors of Central Government or public corporations and traded funds.

15 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There were no contingent liabilities as at 31 March 2011. (March 2010 – NIL)

16 ACTUARIAL PRESENT VALUE OF PROMISED RETIREMENT BENEFITS FOR THE PURPOSE OF IAS 26

In compliance with IAS 26 the following statement has been prepared by the Fund's actuary:

IAS 26 requires the present value of the Fund's promised retirement benefits to be disclosed, and for this purpose the actuarial assumptions and methodology used should be based on IAS 19 rather than the assumptions and methodology used for funding purposes.

In order to assess the value of the benefits on this basis, we have used the same actuarial assumptions as those used for funding purposes, other than the discount rate where we have used a rate of 5.6% p.a. both before and after retirement rather than the rates as outlined in section 1.7. We have also used valuation methodology in connection with ill-health and death benefits which is consistent with IAS 19. On this basis the value of the promised retirement benefits as at 31 March 2010 is £3,318 million.

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

We have also carried out similar calculations as at the previous actuarial valuation date of 31 March 2007, using the same actuarial assumptions as those used for funding purposes at that date, other than the discount rate where we have used a rate of 5.4% p.a. both before and after retirement. On this basis the value of the IAS 26 purposes of the Fund's promised retirement benefits at that date was £2,962 million.

The Net Assets available to meet this liability are currently £2,668 million. The triennial valuation of the fund by the actuary sets contribution rates at the level required to recover the deficit. The assumptions required for the purposes of IAS 26 and those required for the triennial valuation are different, consequently the value of the liability in each case is not the same.

17 TRANSFERS IN

Transfers in during the year were all in relation to individuals. There were no group transfers into the fund during the year ending 31 March 2011.

18 BENEFITS RECHARGED TO EMPLOYERS

The Fund makes payments with regard to added years benefits awarded by the employer to LGPS members, including related pensions increases, and pension increases in respect of certain bodies with no pensionable employees in the Fund. The Fund also pays a small number of other pension supplements. These are not funded by the Fund and are recharged in full. They are not included in the Fund Accounts or related notes.

	31 March 2011	31 March 2010
	£'000	£'000
Benefits Paid and Recharged	6,025	6,131

19 ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS (AVC's)

Scheme members may make Additional Voluntary Contributions that are invested in insurance policies with The Equitable Life Assurance Society or Friends Life, the Fund's nominated AVC providers. Additional Voluntary Contributions received from employees and paid to The Equitable Life Assurance Society during 2010/11 were £4,128 (2009/10 - £7,319). Additional Voluntary Contributions received from employees and paid to Friends Life during 2010/11 were £516,160 (2009/10 - £527,655).

The total value of the assets invested, on a money purchase basis, with these AVC providers was:-

	31 March 2011 £'000	31 March 2010 £'000
<u>Equitable Life</u>		
With Profits Retirement Benefits	784	917
Unit Linked Retirement Benefits	443	449
Building Society Benefits	319	327
	1,546	1,693
Death in Service Benefit	199	296
<u>Friends Life</u>		
With Profits Retirement Benefits	173	263
Unit Linked Retirement Benefits	2,307	3,227
Cash Fund	277	482
	2,757	3,972

AVC investments are not included in the Fund's financial statements.

20 RELATED PARTIES

Committee Member Related:-

In 2010/11, £39,245 was charged to the Fund in respect of Allowances paid to the voting Members of the Avon Pension Fund Committee (£36,893 in 2009/10). Four voting members and three non-voting members of the Avon Pension Fund Committee (including three B&NES councillor members) were members of the Local Government Pension Scheme during the financial year 2010/11. (Five voting members and three non-voting members in 2009/10, including three B&NES councillor members).

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

Independent Member Related:-

Two Independent Members were paid allowances of £6,380 and £12,379 respectively during the year for their work in relation to the Pension Fund Committee and the Investment Panel. They were also entitled to claim reasonable expenses. The independent members are not eligible to join the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Employer Related:-

During the year 2010/11 the Fund paid B&NES Council £246,209 for its administrative services (£239,878 in 2009/10) and B&NES Council paid the Fund £6,091 for administrative services (£1,528 in 2009/10). Various employers requiring IAS 19 disclosures and other actuarial work paid the Fund a total of £3,266 (£1,665 in 2009/10) for their services in compiling data for submission to the actuary.

Officer and Manager related:-

The officers and managers administering the Avon Pension Fund are eligible to be members of the Avon Pension Fund.

There are no other related party transactions except as already disclosed elsewhere.

21 OUTSTANDING COMMITMENTS

As at the 31 March 2011 the Fund had outstanding commitments relating to investments in property that will be drawn down in tranches by the Investment Managers totalling £86,867,061.

22 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The net assets of the Fund are made up of the following categories of Financial Instruments:

	31/03/2011	31/03/2010
Financial Assets		
Loans & Receivables	62,063	84,191
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	2,609,364	2,377,335
Total Financial Assets	2,671,427	2,461,526
Financial Liabilities		
Payables	(3,305)	(2,938)
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	(59)	-
Total Financial Liabilities	(3,364)	(2,938)

All investments are disclosed at fair value. Carrying value and fair value are therefore the same. The gains and losses recognised in the Fund Account in relation to financial instruments are made up as follows.

Income, Expense, Gains and Losses

	Loans & Receivables	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	Loans & Receivables	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	2010/11		2009/10	
Interest expense	-	-	-	-
Losses on derecognition	-	(2,321)	-	(1,463)
Reductions in fair value	-	(4,788)	-	(11,549)
Fee expense	-	(921)	-	(831)
Total expense in Fund Account	-	(8,030)	-	(13,843)
Interest and dividend income	146	22,517	172	15,842
Gains on derecognition	-	31,730	-	33,951
Increases in fair value	-	148,966	-	585,624
Total income in Fund Account	146	203,213	172	635,417
Net gain/(loss) for the year	146	195,183	172	621,574

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

23 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT DISCLOSURE

As an investment fund, the Avon Pension Fund's objective is to generate positive investment returns for a given level of risk. Therefore the Fund holds financial instruments such as securities (equities, bonds), collective investment schemes (pooled funds) and cash equivalents. In addition debtors and creditors arise as a result of its operations. The value of these financial instruments is reflected in the financial statements at their fair value.

The main risks from the Fund's holding of financial instruments are market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. Market risk includes price risk, interest rate risk and currency risk.

The Fund's investments are managed on behalf of the Fund by the appointed Investment Managers. Each investment manager is required to invest the assets managed by them in accordance with the terms of their investment guidelines or pooled fund prospectus. The Avon Fund Committee ("committee") has determined that the investment management structure is appropriate and is in accordance with its investment strategy. The Committee regularly monitors each investment manager and its Investment Consultant advises on the nature of the investments made and associated risks.

The Fund's investments are held by BNY Mellon Asset Servicing, who act as custodian on behalf of the Fund.

Because the Fund adopts a long term investment strategy, the high level risks described below will not alter significantly during any one year unless there are significant strategic or tactical changes in the portfolio.

(a) Market Risk

Market risk represents the risk that fair value of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices, interest rates or currencies. The Fund is exposed through its investments in equities, bonds and investment funds, to all these market risks. The aim of the investment strategy is to manage and control market risk within acceptable parameters, while optimising the return from the investment portfolio.

In general market risk is managed through the diversification of the investments held by asset class, investment mandate guidelines and Investment Managers. The risk arising from exposure to specific markets is limited by the strategic asset allocation, which is regularly monitored by the Committee.

(a) (i) Market Price Risk

Market price risk represents the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate caused by factors other than interest rate or foreign currency movements, whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual instrument, its issuer or factors affecting the market in general.

Market price risk arises from uncertainty about the future value of the financial instruments that the Fund holds. All investments present a risk of loss of capital, the maximum risk being determined by the fair value of the financial instruments. The Investment Managers mitigate this risk through diversification in line with their own investment strategies and mandate guidelines.

(a) (ii) Market Price Risk - Sensitivity Analysis

The sensitivity of the Fund's investments to changes in market prices has been analysed using the volatility of return experienced by each investment portfolio during the year to 31 March 2011. The volatility data has been provided by JLT Benefit Solutions and is broadly consistent with a one-standard deviation movement in the value of the assets. The analysis assumes that all other variables including interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates have a similar experience to that experienced for the year to 31 March 2011.

Movements in market prices could have increased or decreased the net assets valued at 31 March 2011 by the amounts shown below. It should be noted that the likelihood of this risk materialising in normal circumstances is low by virtue of the diversification within the fund.

As at 31 March 2011	Value £'000	Volatility of return	Increase £'000	Decrease £'000
Blackrock	1,389,499	14%	195,919	(195,919)
Blackrock No. 2 Fund	79,828	7%	5,827	(5,827)
Jupiter UK Equities	109,295	12%	13,225	(13,225)
TT UK Equities	132,073	17%	22,452	(22,452)
Invesco Global ex-UK Equities	169,742	15%	24,782	(24,782)
State Street Europe Equities	32,846	20%	6,504	(6,504)
State Street Pacific Rim Equities	58,330	13%	7,583	(7,583)
Genesis Emerging Market Equities	147,200	15%	21,344	(21,344)
RLAM Corporate Bonds	131,992	5%	7,128	(7,128)
MAN Fund of Hedge Funds	100,418	6%	5,925	(5,925)
Gottex Fund of Hedge Funds	53,490	2%	1,337	(1,337)
Signet Fund of Hedge Funds	47,225	3%	1,417	(1,417)
Stenham Fund of Hedge Funds	11,665	4%	443	(443)
Lyster Watson Fund of Hedge Funds	10,228	9%	941	(941)
Schroder UK Property	120,511	2%	2,049	(2,049)
Partners Overseas Property	53,129	4%	2,125	(2,125)
Internal Cash	10,456	0%	21	(21)
Deferred Assets (previous managers)		0%	-	-

Total	2,657,951	12%	319,022	(319,022)
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PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

(a) (iii) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates which will affect the value of fixed interest and index linked securities. The amount of income receivable from cash balances or interest payable on overdrafts will be affected by fluctuations in interest rates.

The Fund's exposure to interest rate movements on these investments at 31 March 2011 are provided below. Cash includes the cash deposits held against futures contracts.

	31/03/2011 £'000
Cash and Cash Equivalents	50,515
Fixed Interest Assets	559,197
Loans	-
Total	609,712

(a) (iv) Interest Rate Risk - Sensitivity Analysis

The sensitivity of the Fund's investments to changes in interest rates has been analysed by showing the affect on fair value of the fixed income securities as at 31 March 2011 of a 1% change in interest rates. The analysis assumes that all other variables including foreign currency exchange rates have a similar experience to that experienced for the year to 31 March 2011.

An increase or decrease of 1% in interest rates at the reporting date would have increased or decreased the net assets by the amount shown below.

As at 31 March 2011	Value £'000	Change in net assets +100 BPS	-100 BPS
Cash and Cash Equivalents	50,515	-	-
Fixed Interest Assets	559,197	(69,620)	69,620
Loans	-	-	-
Total	609,712	(69,620)	69,620

A 1% rise in interest rates will reduce the fair value of the relevant net assets and vice versa. Changes in interest rates do not impact the fair value of cash balances but they will affect the interest income received.

(a) (v) Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency risk represents the risk that the fair value of financial instruments when expressed in Sterling, the Fund's base currency, will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Fund is exposed to currency risk on investments denominated in a currency other than Sterling. For a Sterling based investor, when Sterling weakens, the Sterling value of foreign currency denominated investments rises. As Sterling strengthens, the Sterling value of foreign currency denominated investments falls.

The Fund's current policy is not to hedge its foreign currency exposure arising to mitigate the impact of movements in foreign exchange rates, except for the Fund of Hedge Funds. The Fund invests in the Fund of Hedge Fund's Sterling share classes. This effectively eliminates currency gains and losses from the investment gains and losses. The Fund implements the US Dollar Sterling hedge for the Lyster Watson Fund of Hedge Funds. It should be noted that the Fund will implement active currency hedging over the currency exposure arising from its overseas equity portfolios from 2011/12.

Where an investment manager chooses to hedge against foreign currency movements forward foreign exchange contracts are used.

The following tables summarise the Fund's exposure at 31 March 2011 to the US Dollar, Japanese Yen and Euro (expressed in sterling values) which are the main currency exposures within the portfolio. The fair value of each exposure is based on the "look through" exposure of the pooled funds and is based on information provided by the investment managers, except for the global property funds where the share class of the funds held has been used. The fund of hedge funds are not included in this analysis given the share classes held are hedged back to Sterling.

As at 31 March 2011	US Dollar	Euro	Yen
Assets held at Fair Value (£'000s)	371,103	220,131	126,700
FX Contracts (£'000s)	(9,571)	(3,653)	-
Net Currency Exposure	361,532	216,478	126,700

(a) (vi) Currency Risk - Sensitivity Analysis

The sensitivity of the Fund's investments to changes in foreign currency exchange rates has been analysed using the volatility experienced by each currency against Sterling during the year to 31 March 2011. The volatility data has been provided by JLT Benefit Solutions and is broadly consistent with a one-standard deviation movement in the currency. The analysis assumes that all other variables including interest rates have a similar experience to that experienced for the year to 31 March 2011.

A strengthening of Sterling against the various currencies by one standard deviation (expressed as a percentage) at 31 March 2011 would have decreased the net assets by the amount shown below and vice versa.

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

As at 31 March 2011	% Change	Assets held at Fair Value £'000	Change in net assets	
			+1	-1
			Standard Deviation £'000	Standard Deviation £'000
US Dollar	12%	361,532	(43,745)	43,745
Euro	9%	216,478	(20,349)	20,349
Yen	17%	126,700	(21,412)	21,412
Total			(85,506)	85,506

(b) Credit Risk

Credit risk represents the risk that the counterparty to a financial instrument will fail to meet an obligation and cause the Fund to incur a financial loss. This is often referred to as counterparty risk.

The Fund is exposed to credit risk through its underlying investments (including cash balances) and the transactions it undertakes to manage its investments. The careful selection of and monitoring of counterparties including brokers, custodian and investment managers minimises credit risk that may occur through the failure to settle transactions in a timely manner. The Fund's contractual exposure to credit risk is represented by the net payment or receipt that remains outstanding, and the cost of replacing the position in the event of a counterparty default. Bankruptcy or insolvency of the custodian may affect the Fund's access to its assets. However, all assets held by the custodian are ring-fenced as "client assets" and therefore can not be claimed by creditors of the custodian. The Fund manages its risk by monitoring the credit quality and financial position of the custodian. The investment managers' research process for selecting and monitoring securities or funds for investment mitigates the risk of fraud.

The Fund's bond portfolios have significant credit risk through their underlying investments. This risk is managed through diversification across sovereign and corporate entities, credit quality and maturity of bonds. The market prices of bonds incorporate an assessment of credit quality in their valuation which reflects the probability of default (the yield of a bond will include a premium that will compensate for the risk of default). However it should be noted from historical data that the probability of default of investment grade bonds is 6.7% over a twenty year period (source: Moody's 1920-2010). This means that in a portfolio of a hundred investment grade bonds held for twenty years, seven would have defaulted by the end of the period.

Another source of credit risk is the cash balances held to meet operational requirements or by the managers at their discretion. Internally held cash is managed on the Fund's behalf by the Council's Treasury management team in line with the Fund's Treasury Management Policy which sets out the permitted counterparties and limits. The Fund and managers invest surplus cash held with the custodian in diversification money market funds.

Through its securities lending activities, the Fund is exposed to the counterparty risk of the collateral provided by borrowers against the securities lent. This risk is managed by restricting the collateral permitted to high grade sovereign debt and baskets of liquid equities. Cash collateral is not permitted.

Foreign exchange contracts are subject to credit risk in relation to the counterparties of the contracts which are primarily banks. The maximum credit exposure on foreign currency contracts is the full amount of the contractual settlement should the counterparty fail to meet its obligations to the Fund when it falls due.

The fair market value of the financial assets represents the Fund's exposure to credit risk in relation to those assets and is set out below. For derivative positions the credit risk is equal to the net market value of positive (asset) derivative positions.

	31/03/2011 £'000
Equities	1,650,443
Fixed Interest - Quoted	154,494
Fixed Interest - Pooled	247,326
Index Linked - Quoted	157,378
Fund of Hedge Funds	222,379
Property	172,052
Cash assets	50,515
Derivatives FTSE Futures	543
Forward Foreign Exchange Hedge	(59)
Investment Debtors/Creditors	2,880
	2,657,951

The credit risk within the bond portfolios can be analysed using standard industry credit ratings and the analysis as at 31 March 2011 is set out below.

Credit Analysis 31/03/2011	AAA £'000	AA £'000	A £'000	BBB £'000	BB £'000	Unrated £'000
UK Gilts	189,741	-	-	-	-	-
UK Index Linked	157,378	-	-	-	-	-
Overseas Government Bonds	39,886	33,966	-	-	-	-
Corporate Bonds	16,228	13,511	49,556	36,724	5,436	16,895
	403,233	47,477	49,556	36,724	5,436	16,895

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

Through the UK Gilt and Index linked portfolios the Fund has significant credit exposure to the UK Government. Unrated bonds are bonds that are not rated by any of the rating agencies; traditionally, unrated bonds benefit from security over the assets of the issuer.

(c) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk represents the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. A substantial portion of the Fund's investments consist of readily realisable securities, in particular equities and fixed income investments, even though a significant proportion is held in pooled funds. However, the main liability of the Fund is the benefits payable which fall due over a long period and the investment strategy reflects the long term nature of these liabilities. Therefore the Fund is able to manage the liquidity risk that arises from its investments in less liquid asset classes such as property and fund of hedge funds which are subject to longer redemption periods and can not be considered as liquid as other investments. The Fund maintains a cash balance to meet working requirements.

The following table analyses the Fund's financial liabilities, grouped into relevant maturity dates.

	Carrying Amount	Less than 12 months	Greater than 12 months
31/03/2011	£'000	£'000	£'000
Accounts payable	3,305	3,305	-
Benefits payable	380	380	-
Vested benefits	3,318,000	3,318,000	-
<u>Derivative financial liabilities settled gross</u>			
Inflows	29,200	29,200	-
Outflows	(28,717)	(28,717)	-
	483	483	-

Vested benefits are categorised as due within 12 months because any individual benefit could become due in that time. In reality these benefits will become due over the life times of the members.

(d) Fair Value Hierarchy

The Fund is required to classify its investments using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the subjectivity of the inputs used in making an assessment of fair value. Fair value is the value at which the investments could be realised within a reasonable timeframe. This hierarchy is not a measure of investment risk but a reflection of the ability to value the investments at fair value. The fair value hierarchy has the following levels:

- * Level 1 - easy to price securities; there is a liquid market for these securities.
- * Level 2 - moderately difficult to price; limited visible market parameters to use in the valuation e.g. use inputs derived from observable market data.
- * Level 3 - difficult to price; difficult to verify the parameters used in valuation e.g. use information not available in the market.

The level in the fair value hierarchy will be determined by the lowest level of input that is appropriate for the investment. This is particularly relevant for pooled funds where, for this exercise, the fund is classified as a single investment.

The classification of financial instruments in the fair value hierarchy is subjective but the Fund has applied the same criteria consistently across its investments. The financial instruments reported at fair value are classified in accordance with the following levels:

Level 1 inputs - Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active, liquid markets for an identical instrument. These include active listed equities, exchange traded derivatives, government bonds. A financial instrument is regarded as quoted in an active market if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, pricing service or regulatory agency and those prices represent regularly occurring market transactions.

Therefore in the analysis below, Level 1 includes quoted equities and government bonds, which are liquid and readily realisable but excludes pooled funds that invest in these securities.

Level 2 inputs - Valuation techniques used to price securities are based on observable inputs. This includes instruments valued using quoted market prices for similar instruments, quoted prices for similar instruments in markets that are less active, or other valuation techniques where all significant inputs are observable from market data.

Therefore in the analysis below, Level 2 includes pooled funds where the net asset value of the pooled fund is derived from observable prices of the underlying securities. The Fund's holding in these pooled funds can be realised at net asset value.

Level 3 inputs - valuation techniques using significant unobservable inputs for the valuation of financial instruments and where there is little market activity. These inputs require management judgement or estimation and include financial instruments that are valued based on unobservable adjustments or assumptions to reflect differences between instruments for which there is no active market.

Therefore in the analysis below, Level 3 includes pooled funds such as property funds and Fund of Hedge Funds where the net asset value is derived from unobservable inputs. In addition, the Fund's holding in these pooled funds is not immediately realisable at the net asset value.

PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS 2010/11

The following sets out the Fund's financial assets and liabilities (by class) measured at fair value according to the fair value hierarchy at 31 March 2011.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Uk Equities - Quoted	247,539			247,539
Fixed Interest - Quoted	311,872			311,872
Pooled Investment Vehicles		1,650,773		1,650,773
Fund of Hedge Funds			222,379	222,379
Property			172,052	172,052
Cash	50,515			50,515
Investment Debtors/Creditors	2,821			2,821
	612,747	1,650,773	394,431	2,657,951

24 EMPLOYING BODIES

As at 31 March 2011 the following employing bodies had contributing scheme members in the Avon Pension Fund:

Scheduled Bodies

Principal Councils and Service Providers

Avon Fire Brigade
Bath & North East Somerset Council
Bristol City Council
North Somerset Council
South Gloucestershire Council

Designating Bodies

Bath Tourism Plus
Backwell Parish Council
Bradley Stoke Town Council
Charter Trustees of the City of Bath
Clevedon Town Council
Destination Bristol
Dodington Parish Council
Downend & Bromley Heath Parish Council
Easton in Gordano Parish Council
Filton Town Council
Frampton Cotterell Parish Council
Hanham Parish Council
Hanham Abbots Parish Council
Keynsham Town Council
Long Ashton Parish Council
Mangotsfield Parish Council
Nailsea Town Council
Norton Radstock Town Council
Oldland Parish Council
Patchway Town Council
Paulton Parish Council
Peasedown St John Parish Council
Portishead & North Weston Town Council
Saltford Parish Council
Stoke Gifford Parish Council
Thornbury Town Council
Westerleigh Parish Council
Weston Super Mare Town Council
Whitchurch Parish Council
Winterbourne Parish Council
Yatton parish Council
Yate Town Council

Admitted Bodies

Active Community Engagement Ltd
Agilisys
Agincare Ltd *
Aquaterra Leisure Ltd. *
Aramark Ltd *
Ashley House Hostel
BAM Construct UK Ltd (for Henbury School)
Bath & North East Somerset Racial Equality Council
Bespoke Cleaning *
The Care Quality Commission
Centre For Deaf People

Admitted Bodies - continued

Churchill Contract Services
Churchill Team Clean
Clifton Suspension Bridge Trust
Eden Food Services *
English Landscapes*
Holburne Museum of Art
ISS Mediclean Bristol*
ISS Mediclean Cabot Learning Federation
Keir Facilities Services
Liberata UK Limited
Learning Partnership West Ltd
Merlin Housing Society (SG)
Merlin Housing Society Ltd
Mouchel *
Mouchel Business Services*
Mouchel Business Services Ltd (Nailsea IT)*
North Somerset Housing
Northgate Colston Girls School IT
Northgate Information Solutions *
Off The Record Bath & North East Somerset
Prospect Services Ltd *
Quadron Services
RM Data Solutions
Shaw Healthcare (North Somerset) Ltd. *
SITA Holdings UK Ltd. *
Skanska (Cabot Learning Foundation)*
Skanska Rashleigh Westerfoil *
SLM Community Leisure *
SLM Fitness and Health *
Sodexo Ltd
Somer Community Housing Trust
Somer Housing Group Ltd.
South Gloucestershire Leisure Trust*
Southern Brooks Community partnership
Southwest Grid for Learning Trust
The Brandon Trust *
University of Bath
West of England Sports Trust
Woodspring Association for Blind People
Yes Dining Ltd *

Education Establishments

Bath Spa University College
Bristol Cathedral Choir School
Cabot Learning Federation
City Academy Bristol
City of Bath College
City of Bristol College
Colston Girl's School Academy
Filton College
Merchant's Academy
Oasis Academy Brightstowe

Education Establishments - continued

Oasis Academy Bristol
Oldfield School Academy Trust
Midsomer Norton School Partnersh
Norton Radstock College
St. Brendan's College
The Ridings Federation Winterbourne
The Ridings Federation Yate
University of the West of England
Weston College

* Transferee Admission Body: A body that provides, by means of contract, a service in connection with the exercise of a function of a scheme employer.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE ACCOUNTS

The Council is required to:

- * Make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. The Council has made the Divisional Director of Finance responsible for financial administration.
- * Manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets.
- * Approve the statement of accounts for the year.

Divisional Director of Finance responsibilities:

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

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Divisional Director of Finance has:

- * Selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently
- * Made judgements which were reasonable and prudent
- * Complied with the local authority Code of Practice

The Divisional Director of Finance has also:

- * Kept proper and up to date accounting records.
- * Taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities

Statement of the Divisional Director of Finance

I hereby certify that this statement of accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council at the accounting date and the income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2011.

SIGNED:



Divisional Director Finance (s.151 officer)
DATE

Tim Richens



Chairperson, Corporate Audit Committee
DATE

Councillor Andy Furse

The Statement of Accounts were Authorised for Issue on 30 June 2011.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Accounting Policies

Rules and practices adopted by the Council that dictate how transactions and events are shown or costed.

Accruals

Income and expenditure are recognised as they are earned or incurred not as money is received or paid.

Actuary

An independent professional who advises on the position on the Pension Fund.

Actuarial Valuation

The Actuary reviews the assets and liabilities of the pension fund every three years.

Appropriation

The assignment of revenue for a specific purpose.

Balance Sheet

Statement of recorded assets and liabilities and other balances at the end of the accounting period.

Capital Charges

A charge made to service revenue accounts, for depreciation to reflect the cost of fixed assets used in the provision of services.

Capital Expenditure

Expenditure on new fixed assets such as land and buildings or on enhancement of existing assets so as to significantly prolong their useful life or increase their market value.

Capital Receipts

Income received from the disposal of land, buildings and other capital assets.

Collection Fund

A fund operated by the billing authority into which all receipts of Council tax and National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) are paid.

Contingent Liabilities

A possible obligation that arises from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the organisation's control, or a present obligation that arises from past events but is not recognised because it is not probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation, or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

Council Tax

A tax on domestic properties introduced 1st April 1993 to replace the community charge.

Creditors

Amounts owed by the Council for goods and services received on or before 31st March.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Debtors

Amounts owed to the Council for goods and services provided on or before 31st March.

Deferred Charges

Items for which expenditure is charged to capital, but there is no tangible asset.

Depreciation

The loss in value of an asset due to age, wear and tear, deterioration and obsolescence.

Earmarked Reserves

Amounts set aside for a specific purpose or a particular service or type of expenditure.

Fixed Assets

Tangible assets that result in benefits to the local authority and the services it provides for more than a year.

Fixed Asset Restatement Account

Balance of surpluses or deficits arising on periodic revaluation of fixed assets.

General Fund

The account that summarises the revenue costs of providing services that are met by the Council's demand on the Collection Fund, specific government grants and other income.

Gross Expenditure

Total expenditure before deducting income.

Infrastructure Assets

Fixed assets that cannot be easily disposed of, expenditure on which is only recovered by continued use of assets.

Minimum Revenue Provision

The minimum amount the Council must charge to its revenue account to provide for repayment of debt.

National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)

A flat rate in the pound set by government and levied on businesses in the Council area.

Net Expenditure

Gross expenditure less income.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Operating Lease

A lease under which the asset is not the property of the lessee.

Outturn

Actual income and expenditure for the financial year.

Precept

The charge made by one authority to another to finance its net expenditure.

Private Finance Initiative (PFI)

Government initiative under which councils buy the services of the private sector to design, build, finance and operate a public facility.

Provision

Amounts set aside for any liability or loss that is likely to be incurred, but where the exact amount and date is uncertain.

Rateable Value

The value of a property for rating purposes set by the inland revenue. Business rates payable are calculated by multiplying the rateable value of the property by the rate in the pound set by government.

Reserves

The amount held in balances and funds that are free from specific liabilities or commitments.

Revenue Expenditure

The regular day-to-day running costs incurred in providing services.

Revenue Support Grant (RSG)

The main grant paid by central government to a local authority towards the cost of all its services.

Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)

Recommendations on accounting practices issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) with which the Council must comply.

Support Services

Activities of a professional, technical and administrative nature, which are not local authority services in their own right, but support the front line service.

Trading Accounts

The profit and loss account of any trading organisation that needs to be disclosed separately in the Council's account.

Bath & North East Somerset Council		
MEETING:	Corporate Audit Committee	
MEETING DATE:	29th SEPTEMBER 2011	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
TITLE:	ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REPORT FOR THE COUNCIL 2010/11	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1 – Annual Governance Report for the Council		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The Annual Governance Report for the Council summarise the results of the Audit Commission's audit of the 2010/11 accounts. It includes the issues arising from the audit of the financial statements and those issues which they are formally required to report to you under the Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice and International Standard of Auditing (UK & Ireland) (ISA (UK&I) 260) – "Communication of audit matters with those charged with governance".
- 1.2 The report highlights some technical and presentational changes which have been made to the accounts.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Corporate Audit Committee is asked to note the issues raised in the Governance report, specifically –
- a) To take note of the adjustments to the financial statements which are set out on page 18 of Appendix 2.
 - b) To approve the letter of representation on behalf of the Council which is set out on page 23 of Appendix 4.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The adjustments to the Accounts are laid out in the report; they do not affect the Council's bottom line or its financial position.

4 REPORT

- 4.1 The Governance Report sets out the findings from the 2010/11 audit of the financial statements and the results of the auditors work in assessing our arrangements to secure value for money over our resources.
- 4.3 There have been some presentational and technical changes to the accounts, but there has been no change to General Fund Balances and Reserves.
- 4.4 Subject to satisfactory clearance of outstanding matters, the external auditor plans to issue an audit report including an unqualified opinion on the financial statements and that we have effective arrangements in place to ensure value for money in our use of resources.
- 4.5 Aside from the changes detailed in the report the Auditor is satisfied that the financial statements have been prepared for the first time under IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standards) in line with the Code of Audit Practice.
- 4.6 A verbal update will be given at the Committee meeting on any outstanding issues and recommendations contained within the report.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 A proportionate risk assessment has been carried out in relation to the Councils risk management guidance. Management of the Council's finances remain a key risk although the work in relation to this years audit has not identified any new corporate risks or significant changes.

6 EQUALITIES

- 6.1 A proportionate equalities impact assessment has been carried out and there are no significant issues to report.

7 RATIONALE

- 7.1 Approval of the Statement of Accounts for 2010/11 is required by statute as is the receipt of the Governance report at this time.

8 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 None as this report is a statutory requirement.

9 CONSULTATION

9.1 Consultation has been carried out with the Section 151 Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer.

10 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

10.1 No decision as this is a statutory requirement.

11 ADVICE SOUGHT

11.1 The Council's Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

Contact person	Irene Draper/Tim Richens/Jeff Wring (01225) 477325;
Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	

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Annual governance report

Bath and North East Somerset Council

Audit 2010/11

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Key messages

This report summarises the findings from the 2010/11 audit which is substantially complete. It includes the messages arising from my audit of your financial statements and the results of the work I have undertaken to assess your arrangements to secure value for money in your use of resources.

	Our findings
Unqualified audit opinion	●
Proper arrangements to secure value for money	●

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Value for money

I intend to issue an unqualified conclusion that the Council has satisfactory arrangements to ensure value for money in its use of resources.

Audit opinion and financial statements

I intend to issue an unqualified opinion on the financial statements of Bath and North East Somerset Council for the year ended 31 March 2011 by my deadline of 30 September.

Before I complete my audit

I confirm to you

My report includes only matters of governance interest that have come to my attention in performing my audit. My audit is not designed to identify all matters that might be relevant to you.

Independence

I can confirm that I have complied with the Auditing Practices Board's ethical standards for auditors, including ES 1 (revised) - Integrity, Objectivity and Independence. I can also confirm there were no relationships resulting in a threat to independence, objectivity and integrity.

The Audit Commission's Audit Practice has not undertaken any non-audit work for the Council during 2010/11.

I ask you to confirm to me

I ask the audit committee to:

- take note of the adjustments to the financial statements which are set out in this report (Appendix 2); and
- approve the letter of representation, provided alongside this report, on behalf of the Council before I issue my opinion and conclusion..

Financial statements

Opinion on the financial statements

Subject to satisfactory clearance of outstanding matters, I plan to issue an audit report including an unqualified opinion on the financial statements. Appendix 1 contains a copy of my draft report. The outstanding matters include:

- agreement of the letter of representation;
- agreeing the disclosures in the note to the accounts summarising officer remuneration; and
- completion of transaction testing of the comprehensive income and expenditure account.

Misstatements in the financial statements

I report all misstatements and uncertainties during the audit that are above a trivial threshold. For this audit I set the threshold at £107,000.

The Code of Practice setting out the accounting requirements for local authorities changed this year to incorporate the requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The format of the statements is different this year and includes new terminology. Last year's statements have been adjusted to provide prior period comparative information. To support this process I carried out early audit work on the prior year restated accounts in December 2010. This helped to resolve IFRS related accounting issues ahead of the financial year-end.

I agreed a large number of amendments to the new movement in reserves statement (MIRS) to ensure it met the requirements of the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2010/11 (the Code). The values reported in the MIRS have changed by material amounts. These are presentational adjustments. The revised entries do not affect the underlying financial position of the Council. The adjustments agreed are detailed in Appendix 2. Uncorrected misstatements are referred to in Appendix 3

Financial statements

The Council’s financial statements and annual governance statement are important means by which the Council accounts for its stewardship of public funds. As Council members you have final responsibility for these statements. It is important that you consider my findings before you adopt the financial statements and the annual governance statement.

In planning my audit I identified specific risks and areas of judgement that I have considered as part of my audit.

Key audit risk and our findings

Key audit risk	Findings
International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Officers will prepare the accounts for the first time under IFRS. Thus the accounts will include added and changed disclosures including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Showing prior year information for most of the entries in the accounts;■ A comprehensive income and expenditure account combining the previous income and expenditure account and statement of total recognised gains and losses;■ Recognising arrangements that contain a lease;■ Changes in accounting for leases for land;■ Reporting capital grants differently;■ Accounting for the different components of fixed assets. For example charging the annual cost for consumption of assets such as central heating or lifts differently from the main building;	<p>My review of the restated 2009/10 accounts identified some required presentational changes. For example the collection fund balance and deferred capital receipts balance was moved from 'Usable' to 'unusable' reserves to meet the accounts code requirements. Comparative prior year information was added for a number of notes. I reviewed the Council's analysis of leases in the context of the new accounting requirements and they were materially correct.</p> <p>Capital grants were incorrectly included in other long term liabilities. To comply with the new accounts code the balance was moved to grants received in advance where the conditions of the grant have yet to be met or the capital grants unapplied account where the conditions of the grant have been met.</p> <p>Details of my findings are included in appendix 2 and 3.</p> <p>I am satisfied the financial statements have been prepared under IFRS in line with the Code.</p>

Key audit risk	Findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Reporting movements in the value of investment properties differently; and Presenting the cash flow statement differently.	
<p>Capital Accounts</p> <p>My previous audits have identified inconsistencies in the amounts reported between fixed assets and capital reserves. This links to difficulties running reports from the fixed asset register. I also note six schools are transferring during 2010/11 to Academy status which could impact on the capital accounts.</p>	<p>The note analysing property plant and equipment discloses cumulative costs and depreciation (the estimated charge for the consumption of the asset). The note did not agree to the fixed asset register. The issue reflects difficulties obtaining prints from the fixed asset register system. Officers say they are now on top of the issue. The accounts have been amended. The overall balance has not changed.</p> <p>The accounting for the transfer of Academy schools was materially correct.</p> <p>I am satisfied that property, plant and equipment is not materially misstated.</p>

Financial statements

Significant weaknesses in internal control

These weaknesses are only those I identified during the course of the audit that are relevant to preparing the financial statements. I am not expressing an opinion on the overall effectiveness of internal control.

Internal control issues and our findings

Description of weakness	Potential effect	Management action
Authorisation of journals Journals are manual adjustments to the general ledger. I reported to you in June that evidence for the authorisation of journals is not always recorded and where it is recorded this is not always done promptly.	This increases the risk of incorrect adjustments being done to the accounts.	Management has completed a retrospective review of journals to confirm they are correct. As part of my audit I tested a sample of material journals. I am satisfied that only appropriate material journals have been posted to the ledger at the year-end.

Financial statements

Quality of your financial statements

I consider aspects of your accounting practices, accounting policies, accounting estimates and financial statements disclosures.

These are the issues I want to raise with you.

Accounting practices, policies, estimates and financial closures

Issue	Findings and recommendations
Accounting policies The accounting policies set out the basis on which the financial statements have been prepared, including the judgements made, estimation techniques applied, and standards adopted.	The accounting policies contained references to terms no longer relevant under the Code and omitted reference to a number of items. A material judgement not to include certain special care elderly person's homes in the accounts was not included in the notes. More information was required to be added to explain the change in the way capital grants are accounted for. Additional information was required in respect of borrowing costs. The accounting policies note was up-dated.

Financial statement disclosure

Notes to the financial statements need to reflect the current requirements of the Code and provide further explanation of the main statements.

Additional information was required to be added in respect of finance leases and in respect of accounting estimates. The latter did not include any financial data. A number of changes were made to ensure consistency between the different accounting notes and to remove typographical errors. For instance the split of assets in the pensions note between different categories of investments was not up-dated from 2009/10. A number of descriptions of items in the capital adjustment account were changed to ensure consistency with the other parts of the statements.

Explanatory Foreword

This summarises key issues affecting the financial

A number of adjustments were made to ensure consistency with the rest of the financial statements.

Issue	Findings and recommendations
position of the Council and explains the different elements of the financial statements.	

Financial statements

Letter of representation

Before I issue my opinion, auditing standards require me to ask you and management for written representations about your financial statements and governance arrangements. A copy is enclose in appendix four.

Value for money

I am required to conclude whether the Council put in place proper corporate arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. This is known as the value for money conclusion.

I assess your arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources against two criteria specified by the Audit Commission. My conclusion on each of the two areas is set out below.

I intend to issue an unqualified conclusion stating that the Council had proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources.

Value for money criteria and our findings

Criterion	Findings
1. Financial resilience The organisation has proper arrangements in place to secure financial resilience. Focus for 2010/11: The organisation has robust systems and processes to manage effectively financial risks and opportunities, and to secure a stable financial position that enables it to continue to operate for the foreseeable future.	<p>My focus was on whether the Council is managing its financial risks to secure a stable financial position for the foreseeable future. I considered the Council's financial planning, financial governance and financial control arrangements. I concluded that the Council's arrangements were effective. That is, I concluded the Council has effective arrangements to establish its strategic financial position and to develop it budgets. It also has appropriate systems of monitoring its finances and the governance arrangements to manage the in-year position.</p> <p>In relation to the delivery of the budget and savings targets I was satisfied that the Council had achieved these for 2010/11.</p>
2. Securing economy efficiency and effectiveness The organisation has proper arrangements for challenging how it secures economy, efficiency and effectiveness.	<p>I concluded that the Council has proper arrangements for challenging how it secures economy, efficiency and effectiveness. This involved an assessment of how the Council manages its funds including how resources are prioritised and also arrangements to ensure resources are used to their maximum benefit.</p>

Criterion	Findings
<p>Focus for 2010/11:</p> <p>The organisation is prioritising its resources within tighter budgets, for example by achieving cost reductions and by improving efficiency and productivity.</p>	<p>I did not identify any issues that adversely impact on my VFM conclusion. I intend to issue an unqualified conclusion stating that the Council had proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.</p> <p>My VFM conclusion was informed by further work on specific risk areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The transfer of social care services to a social enterprise. My high level review of the governance arrangements found the Council established suitable governance arrangements to support the decision making process. Consultants were engaged to advise the Council on the development of the detailed business plans. The Governance arrangements included consideration of the advice received from the consultants. ■ The organisational change programme. I maintained a watching brief in this area. Arrangements for managing the programme were developing during the year and I did not identify any issues that would adversely impact my conclusion.
Audit Commission	Annual governance report 13

Appendix 1 – Draft audit report

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL

Opinion on the Authority accounting statements

I have audited the accounting statements of Bath and North East Somerset Council for the year ended 31 March 2011 under the Audit Commission Act 1998. The accounting statements comprise the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and Collection Fund and the related notes. These accounting statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

This report is made solely to the members of Bath and North East Somerset Council in accordance with Part II of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 48 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by the Audit Commission in March 2010.

Respective responsibilities of the Divisional Director Finance and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities for the Accounts the Divisional Director 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. My responsibility is to audit the accounting statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require me to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the accounting statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the accounting statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Authority's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Authority; and the overall presentation of the accounting statements. I read all the information in the explanatory foreword to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

Opinion on accounting statements

In my opinion the accounting statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of Bath and North East Somerset Council's affairs as at 31 March 2011 and of its income and expenditure 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.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion, the information given in the explanatory foreword for the financial year for which the accounting statements are prepared is consistent with the accounting statements.

Matters on which I report by exception

I have nothing to report in respect of the governance statement on which I report to you if, in my opinion the governance statement does not reflect compliance with 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: a Framework' published by CIPFA/SOLACE in June 2007.

Opinion on the pension fund accounting statements

I have audited the pension fund accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2011 under the Audit Commission Act 1998. The pension fund accounting statements comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and the related notes. These accounting statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

This report is made solely to the members of Bath and North East Somerset Council in accordance with Part II of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 48 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by the Audit Commission in March 2010.

Respective responsibilities of the Divisional Director Finance and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities for the Accounts, the Divisional Director Finance is responsible for the preparation of the pension fund'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. My responsibility is to audit the accounting statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require me to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the accounting statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the accounting statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the fund's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the fund; and the overall presentation of the accounting statements. I read all the information in the explanatory foreword and the annual report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited accounting statements. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

Opinion on accounting statements

In my opinion the pension fund's accounting statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the pension fund during the year ended 31 March 2011 and the amount and disposition of the fund's assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2011; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion, the information given in the explanatory foreword and the content of the Annual Report for the financial year for which the accounting statements are prepared is consistent with the accounting statements.

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

Authority's responsibilities

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

Auditor's responsibilities

I am required under Section 5 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 to satisfy myself that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. The Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission requires me to report to you my conclusion relating to proper arrangements, having regard to relevant criteria specified by the Audit Commission.

I report if significant matters have come to my attention which prevent me from concluding that the Authority has put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. I am not required to consider, nor have I considered, whether all aspects of the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

Basis of conclusion

I have undertaken my audit in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance on the specified criteria, published by the Audit Commission in October 2010, as to whether the Authority has proper arrangements for:

- securing financial resilience; and
- challenging how it secures economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

The Audit Commission has determined these two criteria as those necessary for me to consider under the Code of Audit Practice in satisfying myself whether the Authority put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2011.

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

Conclusion

On the basis of my work, having regard to the guidance on the specified criteria published by the Audit Commission in October 2010, I am satisfied that, in all significant respects, *Bath and North East Somerset Council* put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ending 31 March 2011.

Certificate

I certify that I have completed the audit of the accounts of Bath and North East Somerset Council and Avon Pension Fund in accordance with the requirements of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission.

Wayne Rickard
Officer of the Audit Commission

Audit Commission
3-4 Blenheim Court
Matford Business Park
Lustleigh Close
Exeter, EX2 8PW

30 September 2011

Appendix 2 – Amendments to the draft financial statements

I identified the following misstatements during my audit and management have adjusted the financial statements. I bring them to your attention to aid you in fulfilling your governance responsibilities.

Summary of Adjustments				
Adjustments to main statements				
Adjusted misstatement	Nature of adjustment	Comprehensive income and expenditure statement		Balance sheet
		Dr £000s	Cr £000s	Dr £000s Cr £000s
Financing and investment income	Movements in the value of investment properties were included on the wrong line in the comprehensive income and expenditure account. The amount was moved to the financing and investment income line from cost of services.	2,039	2,039	
Taxation and non specific grant income	A small element of council tax income had incorrectly been netted off against expenditure in the net cost of services section of the comprehensive income and	1,004	1,004	

Summary of Adjustments

	expenditure account. The amount has now been shown gross.
Movement in reserves statement	<p>This statement reconciles the entries required by the Code with those required by statute to be funded from council tax, fees and charges and grants.</p> <p>It was amended to ensure consistency with other notes in the financial statements and compliance with the Code. The amendments removed duplicated amounts (including revaluation gains of £51m and actuarial gains of £14.7m). The amendments did not affect the financial position of the council.</p>

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Adjustment to Notes		Impact on notes
Note analysing the difference between the accounting entries under funding and those under accounting requirements.	The note was amended to ensure consistency with other notes in the financial statements and compliance with the Code.	The amendments linked to the movement on reserves statement.
Property plant and equipment	Accumulated depreciation and accumulated costs were adjusted to agree to the underlying fixed asset register.	Opening balance of cost of assets was increased by £11.1million and the opening balance of depreciation was adjusted by the same amount.
Other operating expenditure	Disclosure note 9 did not include the proceeds arising on the disposal of assets.	Proceeds of £803,000 were added to the note.
Operating leases	The disclosure note was amended to reflect total liabilities under lease agreements. Initially it only included 2011/12 commitments.	Property leases disclosed in the note increased by £1.5million.

Summary of Adjustments

Dedicated schools grant	The amount disclosed in the note to the statements referred to the initial allocation of grant to B&NES, it should have been the final allocation.	Final DSG allocation recorded in the notes was increased by £244,000
Amounts reported for resource allocation	Amounts were misstated and amended to ensure consistency with other notes.	The pension gain arising from the move to CPI from RPI was added to the note.
Capital expenditure and capital financing	An amount was misstated between two lines in the capital financing note.	An amount of £1,768,000 was moved from the government grants line to sums set aside from revenue line.

Appendix 3 – Unadjusted misstatements to the financial statements

I identified the following misstatements during my audit where management has not adjusted the financial statements. I bring them to your attention to help you in fulfilling your governance responsibilities and ask you to correct these misstatements.

If you decide not to amend, please tell me why in the representation letter. If you believe the effect of the uncorrected errors, individually and collectively, is immaterial, please reflect this in the representation letter. Please attach a schedule of the uncorrected errors to the representation letter.

Unadjusted misstatement/uncertainty	Nature of required adjustment	Comprehensive income and expenditure statement		Balance sheet	
		Dr £000s	Cr £000s	Dr £000s	Cr £000s
2010/11 issues Capital grants and contributions applied	The Council receives a large number of education capital grants to fund spending. Grants worth £3.5m have been incorrectly matched to fund expenditure on other education capital schemes. The grants should be written back and held as unapplied and the expenditure	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500

	Comprehensive income and expenditure statement	Balance sheet
	<p>funded by borrowing. This is a timing issue. Cost of services in the comprehensive income & expenditure would be debited and income credited. There would be a transfer from unusable to usable reserves.</p>	
Overstatement of property plant and equipment	<p>Changes in the Code required a one off adjustment to bring elderly care homes in to the statements. Due to a system error the fixed asset register double counted the land value. To correct this, a charge would be made to the comprehensive income and expenditure account and property plant and equipment would be reduced.</p>	563

Appendix 4 Letter of Representation

To: Wayne Rickard

District Auditor

Audit Commission

3-4 Benheim Court

Matford Business Park

Lustleigh Close

Exeter EX2 8PW

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Bath and North East Somerset Council - Audit for the year ended 31 March 2011

I confirm to the best of my knowledge and belief, having made appropriate enquiries of other officers of Bath and North East Somerset Council, the following representations given to you in connection with your audit of the Council's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011. All representations cover the Council's accounts and Pension Fund accounts included within the financial statements.

Compliance with the statutory authorities

I have fulfilled my responsibility under the relevant statutory authorities for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the Code of Practice for Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom which give a true and fair view of the financial position and financial performance of the Council, for the completeness of the information provided to you, and for making accurate representations to you.

Uncorrected misstatements

The effects of uncorrected financial statements misstatements summarised in the attached schedule are not material to the financial statements, either individually or in aggregate.

Supporting records

All relevant information and access to persons within the entity has been made available to you for the purpose of your audit, and all the transactions undertaken by the Council have been properly reflected and recorded in the financial statements.

Internal control

I have communicated to you all deficiencies in internal control of which I am aware. With regard to inherent risks such as the incorrect initiation of creditors, I am satisfied sufficient controls exist.

Irregularities

I acknowledge my responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud or error. I also confirm that I have disclosed:

- my knowledge of fraud, or suspected fraud, involving either management, employees who have significant roles in internal control or others where fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements;
- my knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the entity's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others; and
- the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.

Law, regulations, contractual arrangements and codes of practice

I have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance, or suspected non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.

Transactions and events have been carried out in accordance with law, regulation or other authority. The Council has complied with all aspects of contractual arrangements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance.

All known actual or possible litigation and claims, whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements, have been disclosed to the auditor and accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.

I have considered the need for provisions and all required provisions have been included in the accounts.

Accounting estimates including fair values

I confirm the reasonableness of the significant assumptions used in making the accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value. The Authority has considered the need to impair non current assets and recognised impairments as appropriate in the accounts.

Related party transactions

I confirm that I have disclosed the identity of Bath and North East Somerset Council's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which I am aware. I have appropriately accounted for and disclosed such relationships and transactions in accordance with the requirement of the framework.

Subsequent events

All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements, which would require additional adjustment or disclosure in the financial statements, have been adjusted or disclosed.

Signed on behalf of Bath and North East Somerset Council

I confirm that this letter has been discussed and agreed by the Corporate Audit Committee on September 29 2011.

Signed

Name

Position

Date

Appendix 5 – Glossary

Annual governance statement

A statement of internal control prepared by an audited body and published with the financial statements.

Audit closure certificate

A certificate that I have completed the audit following statutory requirements. This marks the point when I have completed my responsibilities for the audit of the period covered by the financial statements.

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Audit opinion

On completion of the audit of the financial statements, I must give my opinion on the financial statements, including:

- whether they give a true and fair view of the financial position of the audited body and its spending and income for the year in question; and
- whether they have been prepared properly, following the relevant accounting rules.

Opinion

If I agree that the financial statements give a true and fair view, I issue an unqualified opinion. I issue a qualified opinion if:

- I find the statements do not give a true and fair view; or
- I cannot confirm that the statements give a true and fair view.

Materiality and significance

The Auditing Practices Board (APB) defines this concept as ‘an expression of the relative significance or importance of a particular matter for the financial statements as a whole. A matter is material if its omission would reasonably influence users of the financial statements, such as the addressees of the auditor’s report; also a misstatement is material if it would have a similar influence. Materiality may also be considered for any individual primary statement within the financial statements or of individual items included in them. We cannot define materiality mathematically, as it has both numerical and non-numerical aspects’.

The term ‘materiality’ applies only to the financial statements. Auditors appointed by the Commission have responsibilities and duties under statute, as well as their responsibility to give an opinion on the financial statements, which do not necessarily affect their opinion on the financial statements.

‘Significance’ applies to these wider responsibilities and auditors adopt a level of significance that may differ from the materiality level applied to their audit in relation to the financial statements. Significance has both qualitative and quantitative aspects.

Weaknesses in internal control

A weakness in internal control exists when:

- a control is designed, set up or used in such a way that it is unable to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements in the financial statements quickly; or
- a control necessary to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements in the financial statements quickly is missing.

An important weakness in internal control is a weakness, or a combination of weaknesses that, in my professional judgement, are important enough that I should report them to you.

Value for money conclusion

The auditor’s conclusion on whether the audited body has put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources based on criteria specified by the Audit Commission.

The Code of Audit Practice defines proper arrangements as corporate performance management and financial management arrangements that form a key part of the system of internal control. These comprise the arrangements for:

- planning finances effectively to deliver strategic priorities and secure sound financial health;
- having a sound understanding of costs and performance and achieving efficiencies in activities;
- reliable and timely financial reporting that meets the needs of internal users, stakeholders and local people;
- commissioning and buying quality services and supplies that are tailored to local needs and deliver sustainable outcomes and value for money;
- producing relevant and reliable data and information to support decision making and manage performance;
- promoting and displaying the principles and values of good governance;

- managing risks and maintaining a sound system of internal control;
- making effective use of natural resources;
- managing assets effectively to help deliver strategic priorities and service needs; and
- planning, organising and developing the workforce effectively to support the achievement of strategic priorities.

If I find that the audited body had adequate arrangements, I issue an unqualified conclusion. If I find that it did not, I issue a qualified conclusion.

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0844 798 7070

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The Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies issued by the Audit Commission explains the respective responsibilities of auditors and of the audited body. Reports prepared by appointed auditors are addressed to non-executive directors, members or officers. They are prepared for the sole use of the audited body. Auditors accept no responsibility to:

- any director/member or officer in their individual capacity; or
- any third party.



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Bath & North East Somerset Council		
MEETING:	Corporate Audit Committee	
MEETING DATE:	29th SEPTEMBER 2011	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
TITLE:	ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REPORT FOR THE AVON PENSION FUND 2010/11	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1 – Annual Governance Report for the Avon Pension Fund		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The Annual Governance Report for the Avon Pension Fund summarise the results of the Audit Commission's audit of the 2010/11 accounts. It includes the issues arising from the audit of the financial statements and those issues which they are formally required to report to you under the Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice and International Standard of Auditing (UK & Ireland) (ISA (UK&I) 260) – "Communication of audit matters with those charged with governance".

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Corporate Audit Committee is asked to note the issues raised in the Governance report, specifically –
- a) To take note of the adjustment to the financial statements which is set out on page 18 of Appendix 2.
 - b) To approve the letter of representation on behalf of the Avon Pension Fund which is set out on page 9.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The adjustments to the Accounts are laid out in the report; they do not affect the Avon Pension Funds bottom line or its financial position.

4 REPORT

- 4.1 The Governance Report sets out the findings from the 2010/11 audit of the financial statements.
- 4.2 There have been some presentational and technical changes to the accounts and one small error related to a deferred charge which has been corrected.
- 4.3 Therefore subject to satisfactory clearance of outstanding matters, the external auditor plans to issue an audit report including an unqualified opinion on the financial statements.
- 4.4 The report will be taken to the Pension Fund Committee on the 23rd of September for information and any relevant update will be given at the Audit Committee's meeting.
- 4.5 A verbal update will be given at the Committee meeting on any outstanding issues and recommendations contained within the report.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 A proportionate risk assessment has been carried out in relation to the Councils risk management guidance. Management of the Avon Pension fund finances remain a key risk although the work in relation to this years audit has not identified any new corporate risks or significant changes.

6 EQUALITIES

- 6.1 A proportionate equalities impact assessment has been carried out and there are no significant issues to report.

7 RATIONALE

- 7.1 Approval of the Statement of Accounts for 2010/11 is required by statute as is the receipt of the Governance report at this time.

8 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 None as this report is a statutory requirement.

9 CONSULTATION

9.1 Consultation has been carried out with the Section 151 Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer.

10 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

10.1 No decision as this is a statutory requirement.

11 ADVICE SOUGHT

11.1 The Council's Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

Contact person	Irene Draper/Tim Richens/Jeff Wring (01225) 477325;
Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	

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Annual governance report

Avon Pension Fund

Audit 2010/11




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Traffic light explanation

Red  Amber  Green 

Key messages

This report summarises the findings from the 2010/11 audit of the pension fund accounts which is substantially complete.

Our findings

Unqualified audit opinion



Audit opinion and financial statements

I intend to issue an unqualified opinion on the Avon pension fund accounts included in the financial statements of Bath and North East Somerset Council for the year ending 31 March 2011.

Before I complete my audit

I confirm to you

My report includes only matters of governance interest that have come to my attention in performing my audit. My audit is not designed to identify all matters that might be relevant to you.

Independence

I can confirm that I have complied with the Auditing Practices Board's ethical standards for auditors, including ES 1 (revised) - Integrity, Objectivity and Independence. I can also confirm there were no relationships resulting in a threat to independence, objectivity and integrity.

The Audit Commission's Audit Practice has not undertaken any non-audit work for the Council during 2010/11.

I ask you to confirm to me

I ask the corporate audit committee to:

- take note of the adjustment to the financial statements which is set out in this report (Appendix 2); and
- approve the letter of representation, provided alongside this report, on behalf of the Council before I issue my opinion and conclusion.

Financial statements

Opinion on the financial statements

Subject to satisfactory clearance of outstanding matters, I plan to issue an audit report including an unqualified opinion on the financial statements ahead of my deadline of September 30. Appendix 1 contains a copy of my draft audit report. I identified one small error relating to the inclusion of a deferred charge. The entry was designed to spread the Actuarial cost of valuing the pension fund over three financial years. This particular entry is contrary to the requirements of the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2010/11 (the accounts Code) and has been removed. The cost of the actuarial valuation £134,000 has been charged to 2010/11. The accounting adjustment is set out in Appendix 2.

Financial statements

The Council’s financial statements and annual governance statement are important means by which the Council accounts for its stewardship of public funds. As Council members you have final responsibility for these statements. It is important that you consider my findings before you adopt the financial statements and the annual governance statement.

In planning my audit I identified specific risks and areas of judgement that I have considered as part of my audit.

Key audit risk and our findings

Key audit risk	Finding
Avon pension fund has £2bn of units in unquoted pooled investment securities. There is no direct market to independently check the valuation of these units, although we understand the underlying securities are quoted.	I agreed the value of all material investment balances to fund manager’s reports and custodian reports. I reviewed and placed reliance on AAF01 reports from the auditors of the fund managers. AAF01 reports are industry standard reports on the effectiveness of internal control arrangements at fund managers.
Actuarial Valuation	The disclosures on the actuarial valuation as at 31 March 2010 agreed to supporting evidence from the Actuary.
Changes to the accounts code present risks the accounts will not meet the requirements.	A note analysing the financial risks faced by the pension fund is required this year for the first time. A note was included in the draft accounts covering the required headings of market risks, credit risks and liquidity risks.

Financial statements

Significant weaknesses in internal control

My audit includes consideration of your financial controls. I did not identify any significant weaknesses in your internal control. I am not expressing an opinion on the overall effectiveness of internal control.

Quality of your financial statements

I consider aspects of your accounting practices, accounting policies, accounting estimates and financial statements disclosures. These are the issues I want to raise with you.

Accounting practices, policies, estimates and financial disclosures	
Issue	Findings and recommendations
Financial Instrument disclosures Notes analysing the assets and liabilities of the pension fund into the different categories of financial instruments are required to be included for the first time this year in the statement of accounts.	Notes had not been included. Additional information analysing financial instruments was added to comply with the accounting code.
Notes to the accounts These need to reflect the current requirements of the accounts code and provide further explanation of the main statements.	Additional information was added to the notes to the accounts to analyse contributions receivable and benefits payable by administering authority, scheduled bodies and admission bodies. A number of minor changes were made to the wording of a number of notes to the accounts. For example to provide more explanation of the derivative contracts entered in to.
Accounting policies Recommended accounting policies are set out in the	I agreed that additional information be added to the accounting policies note. For example to explain further the estimation techniques used in the preparation of the accounts.

Issue	Findings and recommendations
accounts code. Officers tailor them to reflect local circumstances.	

Financial statements

Letter of representation

Before I issue my opinion, auditing standards require me to ask you and management for written representations about your financial statements and governance arrangements. There will be one letter of representation covering the Council's accounts including the pension fund accounts. The final letter may include additional requirements as necessary relating to the Council. The draft letter is included below.

To: Wayne Rickard

District Auditor

Audit Commission

3-4 Benheim Court

Matford Business Park

Lustleigh Close

Exeter EX2 8PW

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Bath and North East Somerset Council - Audit for the year ended 31 March 2011

I confirm to the best of my knowledge and belief, having made appropriate enquiries of other officers of Bath and North East Somerset Council, the following representations given to you in connection with your audit of the Council's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011. All representations cover the Council's accounts and Pension Fund accounts included within the financial statements.

Compliance with the statutory authorities

I have fulfilled my responsibility under the relevant statutory authorities for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the Code of Practice for Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom which give a true and fair view of the financial position and financial performance of the Council, for the completeness of the information provided to you, and for making accurate representations to you.

Uncorrected misstatements

The effects of uncorrected financial statements misstatements summarised in the attached schedules are not material to the financial statements, either individually or in aggregate.

Supporting records

All relevant information and access to persons within the entity has been made available to you for the purpose of your audit, and all the transactions undertaken by the Council have been properly reflected and recorded in the financial statements.

Internal control

I have communicated to you all deficiencies in internal control of which I am aware.

Irregularities

I acknowledge my responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud or error.

I also confirm that I have disclosed:

- my knowledge of fraud, or suspected fraud, involving either management, employees who have significant roles in internal control or others where fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements;
- my knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the entity's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others; and
- the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.

Law, regulations, contractual arrangements and codes of practice

I have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance, or suspected non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.

Transactions and events have been carried out in accordance with law, regulation or other authority. The Council has complied with all aspects of contractual arrangements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance.

All known actual or possible litigation and claims, whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements, have been disclosed to the auditor and accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.

Accounting estimates including fair values

I confirm the reasonableness of the significant assumptions used in making the accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value.

Related party transactions

I confirm that I have disclosed the identity of Bath and North East Somerset Council's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which I am aware. I have appropriately accounted for and disclosed such relationships and transactions in accordance with the requirement of the framework.

Subsequent events

All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements, which would require additional adjustment or disclosure in the financial statements, have been adjusted or disclosed.

Signed on behalf of Bath and North East Somerset Council

I confirm that this letter has been discussed and agreed by the Corporate Audit Committee on September 29 2011.

Signed

Name

Position

Date

Appendix 1 – Draft audit report

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL

Opinion on the Authority accounting statements

I have audited the accounting statements of Bath and North East Somerset Council for the year ended 31 March 2011 under the Audit Commission Act 1998. The accounting statements comprise the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and Collection Fund and the related notes. These accounting statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

This report is made solely to the members of Bath and North East Somerset Council in accordance with Part II of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 48 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by the Audit Commission in March 2010.

Respective responsibilities of the Divisional Director Finance and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities for the Accounts the Divisional Director Finance is responsible for the preparation of the Authority's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom. My responsibility is to audit the accounting statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require me to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the accounting statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the accounting statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Authority's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Authority; and the overall presentation of the accounting statements. I read all the information in the explanatory foreword to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

Opinion on accounting statements

In my opinion the accounting statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of Bath and North East Somerset Council's affairs as at 31 March 2011 and of its income and expenditure 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.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion, the information given in the explanatory foreword for the financial year for which the accounting statements are prepared is consistent with the accounting statements.

Matters on which I report by exception

I have nothing to report in respect of the governance statement on which I report to you if, in my opinion the governance statement does not reflect compliance with 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: a Framework' published by CIPFA/SOLACE in June 2007.

Opinion on the pension fund accounting statements

I have audited the pension fund accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2011 under the Audit Commission Act 1998. The pension fund accounting statements comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and the related notes. These accounting statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

This report is made solely to the members of Bath and North East Somerset Council in accordance with Part II of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 48 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by the Audit Commission in March 2010.

Respective responsibilities of the Divisional Director Finance and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities for the Accounts, the Divisional Director Finance is responsible for the preparation of the pension fund'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. My responsibility is to audit the accounting statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require me to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the accounting statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the accounting statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the fund's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant

accounting estimates made by the fund; and the overall presentation of the accounting statements. I read all the information in the explanatory foreword and the annual report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited accounting statements. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

Opinion on accounting statements

In my opinion the pension fund's accounting statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the pension fund during the year ended 31 March 2011 and the amount and disposition of the fund's assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2011; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion, the information given in the explanatory foreword and the content of the Annual Report for the financial year for which the accounting statements are prepared is consistent with the accounting statements.

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

Authority's responsibilities

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

Auditor's responsibilities

I am required under Section 5 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 to satisfy myself that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. The Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission requires me to report to you my conclusion relating to proper arrangements, having regard to relevant criteria specified by the Audit Commission.

I report if significant matters have come to my attention which prevent me from concluding that the Authority has put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. I am not required to consider, nor have I considered, whether all aspects of the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

Basis of conclusion

I have undertaken my audit in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance on the specified criteria, published by the Audit Commission in October 2010, as to whether the Authority has proper arrangements for:

- securing financial resilience; and
- challenging how it secures economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

The Audit Commission has determined these two criteria as those necessary for me to consider under the Code of Audit Practice in satisfying myself whether the Authority put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2011.

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

Conclusion

On the basis of my work, having regard to the guidance on the specified criteria published by the Audit Commission in October 2010, I am satisfied that, in all significant respects, *Bath and North East Somerset Council* put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ending 31 March 2011.

Certificate

I certify that I have completed the audit of the accounts of Bath and North East Somerset Council and Avon Pension Fund in accordance with the requirements of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission.

Wayne Rickard
District Auditor

Audit Commission
3-4 Blenheim Court
Matford Business Park
Lustleigh Close
Exeter, EX2 8PW

30 September 2011

Audit Report to go with the Pension Fund Annual Report

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL

Opinion on the pension fund accounting statements

I have audited the pension fund accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2011 under the Audit Commission Act 1998. The pension fund accounting statements comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and the related notes. These accounting statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

This report is made solely to the members of Bath and North East Somerset Council in accordance with Part II of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 48 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and of Audited Bodies published by the Audit Commission in March 2010.

Respective responsibilities of the Divisional Director of Finance and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities for the Accounts, the Divisional Director Finance is responsible for the preparation of the pension fund'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. My responsibility is to audit the accounting statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require me to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the accounting statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the accounting statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the fund's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the fund; and the overall presentation of the accounting statements. I read all the information in the annual report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited accounting statements. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

Opinion on accounting statements

In my opinion the pension fund's accounting statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the pension fund during the year ended 31 March 2011 and the amount and disposition of the fund's assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2011; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion, the information given in the annual report for the financial year for which the accounting statements are prepared is consistent with the accounting statements.

Matters on which I report by exception

I have nothing to report in respect of the governance statement on which I report to you if, in my opinion the governance statement does not reflect compliance with the Local Government Pension Scheme (Administration) Regulations 2008 and related guidance.

Wayne Rickard
District Auditor

Audit Commission
3-4 Blenheim Court
Matford Business Park
Lustleigh Close
Exeter, EX2 8PW

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30 September 2011

Appendix 2 – Amendments to the draft financial statements

I identified the following misstatements during my audit and management have adjusted the financial statements. I bring them to your attention to aid you in fulfilling your governance responsibilities.

Adjusted misstatement		Nature of adjustment	Fund Account		Net Assets Statement	
			Dr £000s	Cr £000s	Dr £000s	Cr £000s
A 'deferred charge' had been created in the accounts. Effectively the cost of the triennial valuation was being charged to future years accounts.		The accounts code requires this to be written off in the year it is incurred.	134			134

Appendix 3 – Unadjusted misstatements to the financial statements

There are no uncorrected misstatements arising from the 2010/11 audit. Auditing standards require that I report uncorrected misstatements from prior periods and their effect on this year's statements. The effect on 2010/11 is not material.

Unadjusted misstatement	Nature of required adjustment	Fund account		Net asset statement	
		Dr £000s	Cr £000s	Dr £000s	Cr £000s
'Strain on the fund' costs not invoiced in 2009/10	Debtors were understated and contributions receivable were understated by the same amount in 2009/10. Additional contributions will have been disclosed in the 2010/11 accounts.		1,074		1,074
Error on amount due from B&NES Council	Debtors were understated and the fund account understated. The amounts were disclosed in 2010/11.		152		152

Appendix 4 – Glossary

Annual governance statement

A statement of internal control prepared by an audited body and published with the financial statements.

Audit closure certificate

A certificate that I have completed the audit following statutory requirements. This marks the point when I have completed my responsibilities for the audit of the period covered by the financial statements.

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Audit opinion

On completion of the audit of the financial statements, I must give my opinion on the financial statements, including:

- whether they give a true and fair view of the financial position of the audited body and its spending and income for the year in question; and
- whether they have been prepared properly, following the relevant accounting rules.

Opinion

If I agree that the financial statements give a true and fair view, I issue an unqualified opinion. I issue a qualified opinion if:

- I find the statements do not give a true and fair view; or
- I cannot confirm that the statements give a true and fair view.

Materiality and significance

The Auditing Practices Board (APB) defines this concept as ‘an expression of the relative significance or importance of a particular matter for the financial statements as a whole. A matter is material if its omission would reasonably influence users of the financial statements, such as the addressees of the auditor’s report; also a misstatement is material if it would have a similar influence. Materiality may also be considered for any individual primary statement within the financial statements or of individual items included in them. We cannot define materiality mathematically, as it has both numerical and non-numerical aspects’.

The term ‘materiality’ applies only to the financial statements. Auditors appointed by the Commission have responsibilities and duties under statute, as well as their responsibility to give an opinion on the financial statements, which do not necessarily affect their opinion on the financial statements.

‘Significance’ applies to these wider responsibilities and auditors adopt a level of significance that may differ from the materiality level applied to their audit in relation to the financial statements. Significance has both qualitative and quantitative aspects.

Weaknesses in internal control

A weakness in internal control exists when:

- a control is designed, set up or used in such a way that it is unable to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements in the financial statements quickly; or
- a control necessary to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements in the financial statements quickly is missing.

An important weakness in internal control is a weakness, or a combination of weaknesses that, in my professional judgement, are important enough that I should report them to you.

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0844 798 7070

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The Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies issued by the Audit Commission explains the respective responsibilities of auditors and of the audited body. Reports prepared by appointed auditors are addressed to non-executive directors, members or officers. They are prepared for the sole use of the audited body. Auditors accept no responsibility to:

- any director/member or officer in their individual capacity; or
- any third party.



Bath & North East Somerset Council			
MEETING:	Corporate Audit Committee		
MEETING DATE:	29 th September 2011	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER	
TITLE:	Bribery Act 2010		
WARD:	ALL		
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM			
List of attachments to this report:			

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 The Bribery Act 2010 became effective on 1st July 2011. The purpose of the report is to update the Committee on its implications as it is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Anti-Fraud & Corruption Policy and Fraud Response Plan. A wider review of Anti-Fraud & Corruption arrangements will be presented at the December Committee meeting.

2 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The Corporate Audit Committee is asked to:

Note the report and acknowledge the new legislation together with the Council's current response to this.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no direct financial implications relevant to this report.

4 THE REPORT

4.1 The Bribery Act 2010

4.1 The Bribery Act 2010 became effective on 1st July 2011. The aims of the Act are to reduce the levels of corruption across the UK without being burdensome to business.

4.2 The Act generally defines bribery as giving someone a financial or other advantage to encourage that person to perform their functions or activities improperly or to reward that person for having already done so.

4.3 Genuine hospitality or similar business expenditure that is reasonable and proportionate is allowable and not covered by the Act. However, facilitation payments are considered bribes (payments to induce officials to perform routine functions they are otherwise obligated to perform).

4.4 There are four key offences under the Act:

General Offences:

- bribery of another person (section 1)
- accepting a bribe (section 2)

Commercial Offences:

- bribing a foreign public official (section 6)
- failure of a commercial organisation to prevent bribery (section 7)

4.5 All of the offences (save for the section 7 offence) may be dealt with in either the Magistrates' Court or the Crown Court. An individual convicted of an offence in the Magistrates' Court may be liable to a prison sentence of up to 12 months or a fine of £5,000, or both. However, in the Crown Court the maximum sentence significantly increases to a sentence of imprisonment of up to 10 years or an unlimited fine, or both. In respect of any other person (e.g. organisations) the maximum fine in the Magistrates' Court is £5,000 but in the Crown Court the fine is unlimited.

4.6 The section 7 offence of failure of a commercial organisation to prevent bribery is indictable only and must therefore be dealt with in the Crown Court where the maximum penalty is an unlimited fine.

4.7 Senior officers may also be convicted of an offence if they are deemed to have given their consent/connivance to giving/receiving a bribe or bribing a foreign official.

4.8 Implications for B&NES

4.9 The Act supports the principle of free and fair competition in contracting and procurement. However, section 7 of the Act introduces an offence by 'commercial organisations' if they fail to prevent bribery. Commercial organisations are defined as a body or partnership incorporated or formed which carries on a business, or part of a business in the UK. So long as the organisation in question is incorporated (by whatever means) or is a partnership, it does not matter if it pursues primarily charitable or educational aims or purely public functions, it will be caught if it engages in commercial activities.

4.10 The Courts will be the final arbiter as to whether an organisation "carries on a business" taking into account the particular facts in individual cases. However, the Council is clearly capable of falling within the definition of commercial organisation and therefore it could be liable if:

- A very senior person in the organisation commits a bribery offence. This person's activities could be attributed to the Council.
- A person associated with it, e.g. an employee or someone acting on behalf of the Council bribes another person (under section 1 or section 6) to gain a business advantage for the Council.

4.11 Section 7 of the Act does provide a defence for commercial organisations against prosecution if there are adequate procedures in place to prevent bribery. The Secretary of State has published Statutory Guidance about procedures that relevant commercial organisations can put into place to prevent persons associated with them from bribing.

4.12 Council officers and Members are clearly caught by the offences of bribery of another person and accepting a bribe contained in sections 1 and 2 of the Act respectively. This is because these offences are concerned with "performance of a relevant function or activity" which include any function of a public nature, any activity connected with a business, any activity performed in the course of employment and any activity performed by or on behalf of a body of persons (whether corporate or unincorporated).

4.13 The extent to which there is a need for such procedures depends on the level of risk of bribery being committed on behalf of the Council. The following paragraphs consider the bribery risks for the Council overall and conclude that the highest risk is that of our staff accepting bribes in exchange for preferential treatment for service users or contract awarding.

4.14 Initial Bribery Risk Assessment

4.15 A full bribery risk assessment has yet to be completed and agreed by the Council. However, an initial assessment of the risks is outlined below to determine the extent to which procedures additional to those already in place may be required and make an early assessment of these.

4.16 The Council is a large organisation with huge numbers of staff, contractors and service users. Some areas of business in which the Council works bring with them higher bribery risks than others. However, the Council does not do any real business outside of the UK and not with high risk countries in terms of bribery.

4.17 A relatively small amount of commercial work is undertaken by the Council and only very limited amounts are spent on providing hospitality to those outside of the Council.

4.18 The Council does work with others in sectors particularly susceptible to bribery – e.g. the building trade generally is traditionally a high risk sector. Additionally, the Council does undertake some transactions in relation to which officers are more at risk of being offered inducements:

- procurement and awarding of contracts
- awarding of licences and permits
- planning applications and building regulations
- allocation of educational places
- assessment of entitlement to grants, benefits and other entitlements
- partnership and commissioning of services

4.19 The Council has received and continues to receive allegations of possible bribery and corruption involving our staff and Internal Audit always investigate such cases. The levels of such cases referred indicate that the section 2 risk of our staff being bribed is the highest risk of the bribery offences. Unfortunately, bribery cases are very difficult to prove to a level where a criminal prosecution can take place.

4.20 In summary, an initial risk assessment would suggest that there is limited bribery risk across the Council. The most likely offence is that of our staff being bribed. As such, the risk of the Council being prosecuted for failing to prevent our staff/agents bribing others on behalf of the organisation is low.

4.21 Procedural Arrangements to Mitigate the Risk of Bribery

4.22 The procedures in place to mitigate the risk of bribery should reflect the level of risk. The initial risk assessment suggests the main risk is that of our staff being bribed. This offence, if proven, would result in prosecution of the individual rather than the Council. The Council itself is unlikely to face prosecution for not preventing bribery and have a legal need to rely on a defence of 'adequate procedures'. However, the guidance to the Act relating to 'adequate procedures' is soundly based for all bribery risks and in many respects the Council already has such procedures in place. The guidance suggests six principles of good procedures:

- **Risk Assessment** - the initial risk assessment is set out above but further risk assessment will be completed and agreed with the S151 Officer to ensure the above assessment accurately reflect the bribery risks faced by the Council.
- **Top Level Commitment** - those at the top of the organisation are in the best position to foster a culture of integrity in which any type of bribery is unacceptable. This commitment needs to be reflected and communicated in appropriate policies. The Council already has an Anti-Fraud Policy and a Whistle-blowing Policy and these will be reviewed to ensure they contain the correct messages regarding the Council's zero tolerance towards bribery and the consequences to staff, members and others associated with the Council. At this stage it is not felt a separate policy on Bribery is necessary.
- **Proportionate Procedures** - the Council should have procedures proportionate to the bribery risks it faces.

Preventing Bribery of Others: (low risk)

- Financial Regulations are in place to control spending and provide for only authorised expenditure. They include provision that individuals and organisations who deal with the Council, internally and externally, will act with integrity and without thoughts or actions of fraud or corruption.
- Recruitment procedures include vetting of staff before they are offered positions with the Council.
- The Council publishes all transactions over £500 in value to promote transparency of its spending activities.

Preventing Bribery of Our staff or Associates: (higher risk)

- The Council has a Code of Conduct for both Members and staff that prohibits acceptance of financial inducements and details the rules regarding acceptance of Gifts and Hospitality. The staff code requires identification of high risk employees and requirement of them to declare interests, gifts and hospitality more frequently than lower risk staff.
 - Financial Regulations make it clear that accepting inducements is not acceptable.
 - Procurement Regulations are in place to ensure fair competition in awarding of contracts. The regulations and standard documentation used for issuing tenders and awarding of contracts makes it clear that bribery of Council staff is not acceptable and that contracts will be terminated if there is evidence of this.
 - The Council has well defined decision making arrangements which aim to ensure that decisions are made by those free of any conflict of interest including a requirement for Members to declare interests during meetings.
 - The Council's Whistle-blowing Policy provides for anyone who suspects bribery to report it.
- **Due Diligence** - in respect of the person(s) who will/do perform services for or on behalf of the Council. This area will be reviewed again during 2011/12 to ensure it is sufficiently robust in light of the bribery risks faced by the Council.
 - **Communication** - the Council already has procedures in place to ensure fraud and corruption policies and procedures are communicated and understood by its staff. These include the regular publication of a fraud bulletin highlighting cases and learning lessons. Additionally, messages in pay slips are routinely posted to maintain an

awareness of fraud initiatives. The need for targeted release of information to high risk staff (those in a position to be bribed) regarding the provisions of the Bribery Act and a clear message that such activity will not be tolerated is currently being considered. Contract documentation is clear that attempting to bribe Council officials will not be tolerated.

- **Monitoring and Review** - of the procedures in place to prevent bribery by persons associated with it and making improvements where necessary. It is intended to compare the above approach with that of other local authorities to ensure our risk assessment and approach is in line with other councils' arrangements. Additionally, Internal Audit review compliance with policies and procedures to ensure adherence.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 5.1. The bribery risks faced by the Council are identified and assessed in paragraph 3 above. Actions in place or to manage these risks currently or areas for potential improvement are identified in paragraph 4. In summary, the main bribery risk affecting the council is that of Council Members or staff being bribed.

6 EQUALITIES

- 6.1 A proportionate equalities impact assessment has been carried out in relation to this report. There are no significant issues to report to the Committee.

7 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The report was distributed to the S151 Officer and Monitoring Office for consultation.

Contact person	Jeff Wring (01225 477323)
Background papers	The Bribery Act 2010 Ministry of Justice Guidance
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	