

Prudential Indicators 2025/26 Quarter 3 (30 November 2025)

	Prudential Indicator		2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	
1	Capital Expenditure To allow the authority to plan for capital financing as a result of the capital programme and enable the monitoring of capital budgets. <i>Estimate for year-end outturn positions.</i>		GF HRA Other LT Total	£99.0m £39.9m £0.5m £139.4m	£84.7m £27.5m £0.5m £112.7m	£52.8m £30.1m £0.5m £83.4m	£43.9m £29.4m £0.5m £73.8m	£58.4m £13.9m £0.5m £72.8m
2	CFR Indicates the Council's underlying need to borrow money for capital purposes. The majority of the capital programme is funded through government support, government grant or the use of capital receipts. The use of borrowing increases the CFR. <i>Estimate for year-end outturn positions.</i>		GF HRA Other LT Total	£371.1m £133.5m £45.4m £550.0m	£404.0m £130.2m £44.1m £578.3m	£418.5m £133.2m £42.8m £594.5m	£429.9m £144.2m £41.6m £615.7m	£439.8m £145.1m £40.2m £625.1m
3	Liability Benchmark The Liability Benchmark is based on current capital plans and cash flow assumptions, therefore giving the Council an indication of how much it needs to borrow, when it is likely to need to borrow, and where to match maturities to its planned borrowing needs. The liability benchmark makes no assumption about the level of future prudential borrowing in unknown capital budgets.			Liability Benchmark				
				<p>The chart displays the Liability Benchmark (Gross Loans Requirement) in £'000 over a 70-year period. The y-axis ranges from £0 to £700,000. The x-axis shows years from 2025 to 2095. The chart features several data series represented by stacked bars and a line: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PWLB Loans (dark blue): Starts at approximately £320,000 in 2025 and decreases steadily to about £150,000 by 2055, then remains flat. LOBO Loans (medium blue): A small segment of the bars, starting at approximately £20,000 in 2025 and decreasing to about £10,000 by 2055, then remaining flat. Variable rate loans (light blue): A very small segment of the bars, starting at approximately £10,000 in 2025 and decreasing to about £5,000 by 2055, then remaining flat. Market Loans (excl LOBO loans) (orange line): A line series that follows the general trend of the PWLB Loans but is slightly lower, peaking around £450,000 in 2031. Short Term inc LA Temporary Borrowing (<1 year) (light orange line): A line series that remains very low, near zero, throughout the period. Net Loans Requirement (forecast net loan debt) (red line): A line series that follows the total requirement, peaking around £450,000 in 2031 and then declining to a plateau of approximately £20,000 by 2055. Liability Benchmark (Gross Loans Requirement) (red dashed line): A line series that represents the total requirement, peaking around £450,000 in 2031 and then declining to a plateau of approximately £20,000 by 2055. </p>				

Annex A

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4	Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream An estimate of the cost of borrowing in relation to the net cost of Council services to be met from government grant and council taxpayers. In the case of the HRA the net revenue stream is the income from rents. Note that financing costs include debt and other long-term liabilities such as PFI and Leases. <i>Estimate for year-end outturn positions.</i>		GF HRA Total	13.80% 12.31% 13.51%	17.88% 11.74% 16.62%	18.95% 11.46% 17.45%	19.76% 11.18% 18.07%	20.09% 10.91% 18.31%
5	External Debt To ensure that borrowing levels are prudent over the medium term the Council's external borrowing, net of investments, must only be for a capital purpose and so not exceed the CFR. <i>Estimate for year-end outturn positions.</i>	Gross Debt Invest Net Debt	£435.1m £5.0m £430.1m	£475.9m £5.0m £470.9m	£503.7m £5.0m £498.7m	£538.4m £5.0m £533.4m	£562.0m £5.0m £557.0m	

Annex A

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6 a	Authorised Limit for External Debt The authorised limit is a level set above the operational boundary in acceptance that the operational boundary may well be breached because of cash flows. It represents an absolute maximum level of debt that could be sustained for only a short period of time. The council sets an operational boundary for its total external debt, gross of investments, separately identifying borrowing from other long-term liabilities. <i>Estimate for year-end outturn positions, unless stated as an actual.</i>	Borrowing CFR / Other long-term liabilities	£580.5m £30.0m <hr/> £610.5m (£610.5m actual set at 2025/26 Strategy)	£588.3m £30.0m <hr/> £618.3m (Estimate based on current CFR projection)	£604.5m £30.0m <hr/> £634.5m (Estimate based on current CFR projection)	£625.7m £30.0m <hr/> £655.7m (Estimate based on current CFR projection)	£635.1m £30.0m <hr/> £665.1m (Estimate based on current CFR projection)	
6 b	Operational Boundary for External Debt The operational boundary is a measure of the most likely, prudent, level of debt. It takes account of risk management and analysis to arrive at the maximum level of debt projected as part of this prudent assessment. It is a means by which the authority manages its external debt to ensure that it remains within the self-imposed authority limit. It is a direct link between the Council's plans for capital expenditure; our estimates of the capital financing requirement; and estimated operational cash flow for the year. <i>Estimate for year-end outturn positions, unless stated as an actual.</i>	Borrowing CFR / Short Term Liquidity Requirement	£550.0m £30.5m <hr/> £580.5m (£580.5m actual set at 2025/26 Strategy)	£578.3m £10.0m <hr/> £588.3m (Estimate based on current CFR projection)	£594.5m £10.0m <hr/> £604.5m (Estimate based on current CFR projection)	£615.7m £10.0m <hr/> £625.7m (Estimate based on current CFR projection)	£625.1m £10.0m <hr/> £635.1m (Estimate based on current CFR projection)	

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7	<p>Maturity Structure of Borrowing To minimise the impact of debt maturity on the cash flow of the Council. Over exposure to debt maturity in any one year could mean that the Council has insufficient liquidity to meet its repayment liabilities, and as a result could be exposed to risk of interest rate fluctuations in the future where loans are maturing. The Council therefore sets limits whereby long-term loans mature in different periods thus spreading the risk. These approved limits are set each year in the Treasury Strategy.</p>	<p>Maturity profile of debt against approved limits</p>	<p>Maturity Profile</p>	<p>Debt (£)</p>	<p>Debt (%)</p>	<p>Approved Minimum Limit</p>	<p>Approved Maximum Limit</p>	
			<p>Less than 1 yr</p> <p>1 to 2 yrs</p> <p>2 to 5 yrs</p> <p>5 to 10 yrs</p> <p>10 yrs and above</p> <p>Total</p>	<p>£62.3m</p> <p>£21.0m</p> <p>£52.3m</p> <p>£66.1m</p> <p>£130.8m</p> <p>£332.5m</p>	<p>19%</p> <p>6%</p> <p>16%</p> <p>20%</p> <p>39%</p> <p>100%</p>	<p>0%</p> <p>0%</p> <p>0%</p> <p>0%</p> <p>30%</p> <p>-</p>	<p>30%</p> <p>30%</p> <p>40%</p> <p>40%</p> <p>90%</p> <p>-</p>	<p>This is the current actual level of debt against the approved limits set at the 2025/26 Strategy.</p>

7	<p>Upper Limit for Total Principal Sums Invested for Over 364 Days The Council sets an upper limit for each forward financial year period for the level of investments that mature in over 364 days. These limits reduce the liquidity and interest rate risk associated with investing for more than one year. This upper limit is set each year in the Treasury Strategy.</p>	<p>Limit / (Current investments over 364 days maturing in each year)</p>	<p>£15.0m (£0.0m)</p>				
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