



DARLINGTON

Borough Council

Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee Agenda

3.00 pm

Wednesday, 11 January 2023

Council Chamber, Town Hall, Darlington, DL1 5QT

Members of the Public are welcome to attend this Meeting.

1. Introduction/Attendance at Meeting
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Medium-Term Financial Plan –
Report of the Assistant Director Resources
(Pages 3 - 70)
4. Housing Revenue Account - MTFP 2023-24 to 2026-27 –
Report of the Assistant Director – Housing and Revenues
(Pages 71 - 90)

Luke Swinhoe
Assistant Director Law and Governance

Tuesday, 3 January 2023

**Town Hall
Darlington.**

Membership

Councillors Dr. Chou, Heslop, Layton, McEwan, Mills, Newall, Preston, Mrs H Scott, Sowerby and Wright

If you need this information in a different language or format or you have any other queries on this agenda please contact Hannah Miller, Democratic Officer, Operations Group, during normal office hours 8.30 a.m. to 4.45 p.m. Mondays to Thursdays and 8.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m. Fridays email: hannah.miller@darlington.gov.uk or telephone 01325 405801

**HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
11 JANUARY 2023**

MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2023/24 to 2026/27.

Summary

2. Attached at **Annex 1** is the MTFP report which has been approved by Cabinet as a basis for consultation.
3. Members received a briefing on this Plan by the Group Director of Operations on 14 December 2022.

Recommendation

4. (a) Members are requested to consider the MTFP 2023/24 to 2026/27 and forward any views, and in particular, those in relation to those services and finances which are specifically within the remit of this Scrutiny Committee.

(b) That the Chair, in consultation with the Lead Scrutiny Officers supporting this Scrutiny Committee, be given authority to agree the Minutes of this Scrutiny Committee, to enable the Minutes to be considered at a Special Meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee scheduled to be held on 19 January 2023.

**Brett Nielsen
Assistant Director Resources**

Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Brett Nielsen: Extension 5403

S17 Crime and Disorder	There are no specific crime and disorder implications in this report.
Health and Wellbeing	There are no issues relating to health and wellbeing which this report needs to address.
Carbon Impact and Climate Change	There are no specific carbon impact issues in this report.
Diversity	The report does not contain any proposals that impact on diversity issues.
Wards Affected	All wards are affected.
Groups Affected	No specific groups are particularly affected.
Budget and Policy Framework	This decision does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	The report does not require a key decision.
Urgent Decision	The report does not require an urgent decision.
Council Plan	The report contributes to the Council Plan in a number of ways through the involvement of Members in contributing to the delivery of the Plan.
Efficiency	The report contains updated information regarding efficiency savings contained in the MTFP.
Impact of Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

5. Cabinet at its meeting held on 13 December 2022, approved the attached Medium Term Financial Plan as a basis for consultation.
6. Each of the Council's Scrutiny Committee's will be meeting to discuss and consider the overall contents of the MTFP, however, Members are asked to particularly consider those services and finances within the plan which specifically relate to those areas within their remit and forward any views to the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration.
7. Once all the Scrutiny Committees have met, a further special meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee will be held on 19 January 2023, to agree a formal response to Cabinet on behalf of all the Scrutiny Committees as part of the consultation. The Chairs of the other Scrutiny Committees will be invited to attend this meeting to present their findings and answer any questions.
8. In view of the timescales involved in responding to the consultation, it is not possible for the individual Scrutiny Committees to formally approve their Minutes prior to the special Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 19 January 2023, and it is therefore being suggested that authority be given to the Chairs, in consultation with the Lead Scrutiny Officers, to agree the Minutes in advance of the next Ordinary meetings. The Minutes will still be an item on the agenda of the next meeting for formal approval as usual.

**SPECIAL CABINET
13 DECEMBER 2022**

**MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN
INVESTING IN AND DELIVERING SUCCESS FOR DARLINGTON**

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Jonathan Dulston
Leader and all Cabinet Members**

Responsible Directors – Chief Officers Executive

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To propose a Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2023/24 to 2026/27 for consultation, including setting a budget and Council Tax increase for 2023/24.

Summary

2. The financial pressures on the public sector as a whole and the Council more specifically have been significant over the last couple of years in the aftermath of Covid, and this was on the background of a decade of significant financial challenge following the economic downturn and the reductions in public sector spending.
3. Through good leadership, governance, and financial management, coupled with value for money service delivery the Council has weathered the storms well, and has risen to the challenge by continuing to provide vital core services to the residents of Darlington, and investing the resources available in growing our economy to deliver success for the benefit of all.
4. The current economic climate however presents new and significant financial challenges to the Council's budgets. Rising inflation and interest rates, energy costs, post Covid demand in social care and national living wage rises are putting significant pressure on affordability and unless additional government funding is forthcoming the Council will need to undertake a fundamental review over the course of 2023 to decide what and how services will be delivered in the coming years.
5. The Council's key ambition is to grow the Darlington economy and attract companies into the area to create more and better paid jobs to ensure all our residents will benefit. However, it takes time for the full potential of this ambition to be realised, particularly in the current economic climate. We have made a great start with a number of central government departments making Darlington their northern base and other companies wanting to relocate to the area on the back of this. Darlington is definitely a destination place for businesses and this economic growth will help Darlington to thrive and meet its ambitions.

6. Darlington has been successful in securing funding from the Towns Fund and the Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA) funded Indigenous Growth Fund and is transforming the landscape of our town centre, building on the good progress made since 2015. Furthermore, significant investment is continuing with new housing across the Borough, investment at Bank Top, the Head of Steam Museum, Crown Street library and the Town Centre more generally including the Victorian Market and the Yards. All these investments will help further our ambition of making Darlington an attractive place with opportunity where people can invest, live and prosper.
7. In October 2021, the spending review announced a three-year local government settlement, although there was only a one-year financial settlement which is not helpful for planning purposes. The Chancellors Autumn Statement delivered on 17 November 2022 has confirmed this spending review still stands on a cash flat basis, with inflation of 1% to follow from 2025/26. There were also announcements of additional grant funding for social care and changes to the Council tax referendum limits which have been increased to 3% for Council Tax and 2% for Social Care Precept.
8. The Local Government Finance Settlement is not anticipated until week commencing 19 December, the consequence of this is that the draft 2023/24 Budget and MTFP has an eye to future years but does not seek to presume what the future will look like. It aims to ensure that the Council can set a legal budget in 2023/24 and continue to provide our core offer level of services to the residents of Darlington.
9. The Council has performed well in responding to the financial challenges and has taken early action in order to ensure that it is ahead of the curve and not therefore pushed into short term decisions. The Council operates at a statutory service level with a small provision for discretionary services and this is the base level the new MTFP has been prepared on.
10. A healthy level of reserves had been maintained for medium term stability and this is now a crucial component of the budget strategy given the unprecedented pressures faced in the coming year. The reserves will be utilised to meet the 2023/24 funding gap and allow time for detailed work to be completed on savings options during 2023.
11. In summary, if the recommendations are agreed, the Council can deliver a 2023/24 budget which will allow net revenue investment in Darlington and its residents of £119m and capital investment of £111m. It also allows time to undertake a detailed review of all service provision during 2023/24 to deliver savings required in future years.

Recommendation

12. It is recommended that Cabinet approve for consultation the Revenue MTFP as set out in **Appendix 6** and the Capital programme as set out in **Appendix 7**, including the following:
 - (i) A Council Tax increase of 2.99% plus a 2% Adult Social Care Precept to help fund social care for 2023/24.
 - (ii) The Schedule of Charges as set out in **Appendix 3**.

Reasons

13. The recommendation is supported by the following reasons:

- (a) The Council must set a budget for the next financial year.
- (b) To enable the Council to continue to plan services and finances over the medium term.
- (c) To ensure decisions can be made in a timely manner.
- (d) To ensure investment in our assets is maintained.

Chief Officers Executive

Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Elizabeth Davison: Extension 5830

S17 Crime and Disorder	The report contains proposals to continue to allocate resources in support of the Council's Crime and Disorder responsibilities
Health and Well Being	The report contains proposals to continue to allocate resources in support of the Council's Health and Well Being responsibilities
Carbon Impact and Climate Change	The proposals in the report seek to continue to support the Council's responsibilities and ambitions to reduce carbon impact in the Council and the Borough.
Diversity	There are no specific proposals that impact on diversity issues.
Wards Affected	All wards are affected
Groups Affected	All groups are affected by the Council Tax increase.
Budget and Policy Framework	The MTFP, Budget and Council Tax must all be decided by full Council
Key Decision	The MTFP, Budget and Council Tax must all be decided by full Council
Urgent Decision	The MTFP, Budget and Council Tax must all be decided by full Council
Council Plan	Within the constraints of available resources, it is necessary for the Council to make decisions involving prioritisation. The proposals contained in this report are designed to support delivery of the Council Plan within those constraints.
Efficiency	Efficiency savings which do not affect service levels have been included in the MTFP.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	Children's social care continues to be resourced to provide good outcomes for Looked after Children or Care Leavers.

MAIN REPORT

Background and context

14. The Council has faced significant financial challenges over the last decade as the Government responded to the worldwide economic downturn by introducing public sector spending reductions. This has been exacerbated by the aftereffects of the pandemic, the Russia/ Ukraine conflict, inflation, rising interest rates and a growing demand for services, particularly in relation to social care, both Adults and Children's services.
15. The Council has to date performed well in responding to these challenges taking early decisions in order to ensure that it was ahead of the curve and was not pushed into short term decision making.
16. The Council's core offer budget which is based on statutory service provision along with a small discretionary provision is the starting position for the 2023/24 budget. The strategy to preserve reserves is now a crucial component of the budget strategy to allow time to see the impacts of the economic growth strategy come to fruition.
17. However, the recent economic events including rising interest rates and inflation have escalated the financial pressures faced to unprecedented levels and unless significant additional income, including funding from Government funding is forthcoming, the core offer moving forward will be unaffordable and need to be fully reviewed during 2023/24 to ensure the Council can maintain an affordable Medium Term Financial Plan.
18. Income and resource levels are discussed in detail later in the paper, however as the Local Government financial settlement won't be received until late December, along with the turbulent times we find ourselves in, it makes it challenging to predict expenditure and income levels moving forward. As a consequence, best estimates have been used and assumptions made on the impact of inflation and demand in 2022/23 going into 2023/24 and the income and resources we will receive in future years.

Financial Analysis

Projected Expenditure

19. As noted previously the core offer budget and futures fund is the level on which the MTFP is based upon. Estimates attached at **Appendix 1** have been prepared based on current service levels and include known pressures and efficiencies which are summarised below and detailed in **Appendix 2**. The most significant are discussed in the following paragraphs. The assumptions used when preparing the estimates are set out at **Appendix 4**.

Summary of Pressures	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m
Additional Savings offsetting pressures	(3.567)	(5.320)	(5.173)	(3.989)
Service Demand	2.509	2.671	1.838	2.037
Price Inflation	3.665	4.195	4.264	5.336
Reduced Income	0.493	1.009	1.170	1.231
Other	1.047	1.151	1.172	0.822
Energy	2.551	2.551	2.551	2.551
Pay award	3.870	3.946	4.026	4.106
	10.568	10.203	9.848	12.094

20. **Efficiencies/Savings** – there are significant anticipated savings over the life of the MTFP of £18.049m. Whilst there are immediate and continued demand pressures on Children’s Services, one particularly high-cost package is coming to an end saving £1.4m per annum during 2023/24. Furthermore, as the strengthening families programme comes into fruition there is an anticipated reduction in residential and independent fostering placements of £2.880m. The contribution for Concessionary fares has reduced saving £2.561m and the investment returns on our joint venture housing partnership have increased by £0.924m. The independent triannual review of the pension fund shows it is now fully funded and the contingency allocated for future increases can be released for the next three years saving £2.961m. Other efficiencies cut across all areas and include staff savings and a realignment of running costs achieved following the different ways of working throughout the pandemic.
21. **Increased Service demand** – the main area of increased demand is on children’s services which has seen the number of Looked After Children increase to 289 at the end of September 2022 from 273 in March 2022 and cases are becoming more complex with some of our children requiring significant support. Pressures in this area are being felt nationwide with some commentators noting the Covid pandemic has contributed to this increase. On the back of this demand there has also been more legal fees incurred. The ultimate aim of the strengthening families team is to improve outcomes for children, focus on prevention and reducing the number of children who need to come into care and ultimately reduce the budget pressure. This initiative and the work ongoing as a spend to save scheme, require funding for the next two years. Overall, the pressure on Children’s activities across the MTFP is £5.8m. Demand for school transport has increased due to increased operators’ costs, more routes and more children now accessing free transport due to a large increase in children qualifying for free school meals.
22. **Price Inflation** – is a significant strain on the budget at £17.460m over the MTFP and 67% of that strain is related to our adult social care contracts with a £11.6m pressure. The contracts are linked to various inflation factors including the Consumer Price Index which in September stood at 10.1%, the national living wage set at £10.42 per hour from 1 April 2023 – an increase of 9.7%, which automatically feeds through to the care providers. Also, the residential care contract contains an additional factor for utilities which has significantly increased for 2023/24, and impacts on the contract rate. Whilst this is a

significant pressure on the Council's finances the pressure on the care sector is recognised and these uplifts are required to ensure stability in a very fragile market.

23. **Energy Inflation** – given the enormity of the increases, the energy inflation has been stripped out of the normal inflation pressures. There is an anticipated £10.204m pressure across the MTFP which has arisen following the increases seen in electricity (215%) and gas (260%). This is in addition to the £966k added to the budgets this year. No one knows what the future holds for our energy prices, but the budget assumes no further increases in future years. This inflation needs no introduction, is being seen across the country and has a direct impact on our running costs, from the buildings we operate, the swimming pools we heat to the street lighting electricity usage. Our energy is purchased through the North East Procurement Organisation and the impact is not as high as it could have been as some of our fuel allocation has been pre-purchased. Energy efficiency measures are continually being looked at, for instance the LED street lighting programme, however the significant increase cannot be contained within existing budgets.
24. **Reduced Income** - The main areas of reduced income are the ending of specific grant funding received for Adult Social Care where the services need to continue. There is also an anticipated reduction in council tax income due to a slowdown in housing completions exacerbated by the Nutrient Neutrality ruling and interest rate rises.
25. **Other and Contingencies** – the main pressure against this heading is the increased finance costs on Council borrowing due to the interest rate rises. It is anticipated to be £2.221m across the MTFP. There is also ICT cost pressures for security and mobile data, staffing changes due to pension contributions and grade changes following job evaluation.
26. **Pay Award** – the 2022/23 pay award was settled at a flat rate of £1,925 per employee. The percentage increase was therefore different depending upon base salary; however, the average increase was 6.5%. The 2022/23 MTFP only budgeted for a 3% increase hence the pressure which is recurring each year. Given the high inflation rates a 5% award has been budgeted for in 2023/24 reverting back to 2% thereafter. Together this is a significant pressure of £15.948m over the life of the MTFP.

Previous budget provision

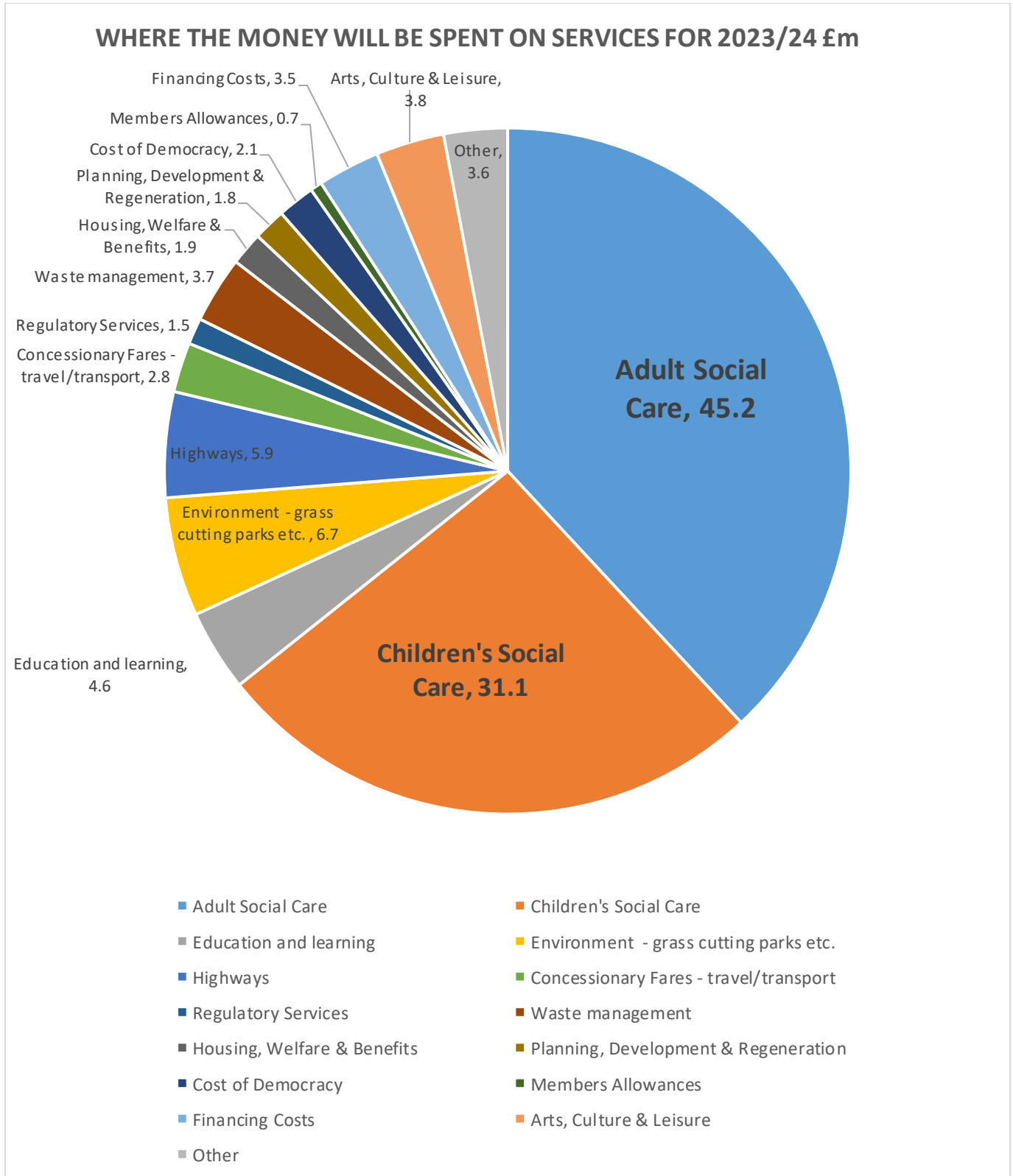
27. **Stronger Communities Fund** – the stronger communities fund was established to assist in grass roots projects and initiatives in each of the elected members wards. It was agreed in the 2021/22 and 2022/23 budget that £0.001m was made available to each member to utilise as they see fit in their communities and reviewed on an annual basis. At this point no provision has been made in the estimates but the utilisation will be reviewed over the next few months with a recommendation on the future of the fund included in the final draft for recommendation in February 2023.

Total Expenditure

28. Taking the above savings and pressures into account the summarised projected expenditure is shown in the table below:

	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m
People Services	74.176	76.320	77.966	80.432
Chief Executives Office & Economic Growth	1.535	1.571	1.664	1.716
Services	20.649	21.264	21.596	22.065
Operations	19.547	19.945	20.263	20.655
Financing costs	3.477	3.613	3.664	3.364
Investment Returns - Joint Venture	(1.816)	(1.718)	(1.130)	(1.130)
Council Wide Pressures/(savings)	1.259	1.283	1.309	1.335
Council Wide Contingencies	(0.237)	(0.246)	(0.255)	1.189
Total Expenditure	118.590	122.032	125.076	129.626

29. This proposed net investment in services of £119m in 2023/24 covers a wide range of areas from refuse collection to adult residential care, from street lighting to school crossing patrols and grass cutting to our Leisure and Culture provision. The chart below shows the split of investment and as can be seen Social Care, both Children's and Adults, are the most significant proportion of funding, accounting for nearly two thirds of the overall budget.



Projected Income

Spending Review and Local Government Finance Settlement

30. The Autumn budget and spending review was announced on 17th November, and whilst the specific detail in regard to Darlington's funding won't be known until the Local Government Finance Settlement, anticipated week beginning 19th December, the Chancellor's statement indicated what local government could expect.
31. Those assumptions have been included in the following paragraphs along with best estimates, given the most up to date information available at the time of writing, and will be updated in the MTFP proposals at the February 2023 Cabinet meeting. All assumptions are summarised in **Appendix 4** and detailed in the sections below, however the overriding principle is that we will receive cash equivalent grant funding for all government funding streams unless otherwise stated.

Core Grant funding to Local Government

32. **Revenue Support Grant (RSG)** has become a reducing element of the Council core funding over recent years; however, it has been assumed this will continue into future years with an annual inflationary increase of 2%. Furthermore, as the New Homes Bonus scheme is coming to an end, and the funding for NHB was top sliced from RSG, an assumption has been made this will be returned to Local Government and has therefore been included in the projections for future years.
33. **New Homes Bonus (NHB)** is included in core Government funding as it is top sliced from RSG. The scheme was due to end with only legacy payments made, however it was announced in the settlement that the scheme would be extended for a further year in 2022/23. There was no specific reference in the Autumn Statement, so we have assumed the scheme finishes but the legacy payment levels continue.
34. **Better Care fund and Adult Social Care Support Grant**- these funds were in recognition of the significant challenges faced in the Adult Social care sector and were initially time based. They have however been included as core funding for the last couple of years so it has been assumed this funding will continue into future years on a cash equivalent basis.
35. **Services Grant** – the review covered three years and included a £1.6bn package of support for Local Government (£0.1bn for Cyber security and Troubled families) with £1.5bn distributed directly. The Council received £1.579m un-ringfenced services grant, branded as one off for 2022/23 with a claim this would be reviewed during the year and future distribution considered and consulted upon, this hasn't happened so we are assuming this funding will still come along with top sliced NHB core scheme money which we are anticipating at £588k. There was also £1.162m of grant in the 2021 Spending Review, which again we have assumed continues on a cash flat basis.
36. **Autumn Statement 2022** - the Chancellor announced a funding package for core services beyond the 2021 spending review, £1bn of new grant for social care increasing to £1.7bn in 2024/25 – this will be split between allocations to the Better Care fund and direct support to Councils. We are anticipating the direct support will be £0.728m and £1.237m respectively. It is anticipated the funding to BCF will need to be utilised on additional

packages to allow speedier discharge from hospital. There was also £1.8bn further flexibility for Councils on Council Tax which will be discussed in the next section. The Chancellor also announced a delay to the adult social care charging reforms to give local authorities more time to prepare for rollout. The delay covers the implementation of the extended means test, the lifetime cap on personal care costs and the extension to enable self-funding residents to access local authority commissioning. It was announced that the one-off funding intended for implementation of the charging reforms would be retained by Local Authorities, however we have had no confirmation of how much this funding will be, the grant conditions attached or what the implications are for the 'Fair Cost of Care' exercise. At this point this additional funding has not been included, nor has the expenditure associated with the remaining reforms (e.g., Fair Cost of Care) this will be amended when the settlement figures are received.

Council Tax Income

37. Due to reduction and reliance on Government funding over the last ten years, Council Tax is now by far the largest single funding stream and will increase further as a percentage over the coming years representing 62% of projected resources anticipated by 2026/27. The ongoing increases reflect the Cabinet's view that income from Council Tax needs to increase to protect key service provision and enable investment in vital services. Members will recall that a 1% increase in Council Tax equates to an annual revenue of £0.589m.
38. In recognition of the significant pressures facing local authority budgets particularly in regard to social care with contract inflation, demographic demand and increased complexity of needs, the Chancellor announced in the Autumn Statement that further flexibilities would be given to Councils in both Council Tax and the Social Care Precept with the referendum limit set at 5%, 3% for council tax and 2% for the Social Care Precept, previously they had been 2% Council Tax and 1% precept.
39. This MTFP assumes a Council Tax increase of 2.99% for 2023/24 and across the rest of the MTFP. In addition, it is proposed an Adult Social Care precept of 2% is levied for the next four years. As can be seen in the chart in paragraph 29, Adult Social Care is by far our largest overall budget with a spend of £45.2m and faced pressure of £2.7m in 2023/24. The precept will raise £1.2m which is crucial to help partially meet the pressure faced in this service area.
40. The Council Tax base was affected by Covid-19 due to the increase in Local Council Tax support claimants (LCTS) however those levels have started to reduce. There is however an impact anticipated due to Nutrient Neutrality with planning permissions halted until the legislation is changed or mitigations schemes are found by developers. There is also an impact on housing demand due to rising interest rates and mortgage costs which are anticipated to affect housebuilding levels. Moving forward planning estimates anticipate growth levels to be an average of 428 Band D equivalent properties over the period of this plan which is a growth on the tax base of 1.21% per annum. These figures have been used to prepare the estimates; clearly should this be any different income levels will differ. The collection rate (of collectable debt) is anticipated to remain at 99% in 2023/24, but as mentioned previously other factors are impacting on the overall income levels.

National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)

41. The Council retains 49% of NNDR collected and can gain or lose depending on whether the net tax collected increases or decreases. The Government via the valuation office sets rateable values and the rate paid in the pound is increased each year in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The business tax-base is far more volatile than the Council Tax base and requires very close monitoring. In addition to the potential to “lose” income due to business closures, the Council also carries the risk of losing appeals by businesses against valuations.
42. Growing the economy is the key priority in the Council Plan and the Economic Strategy gives priority to increasing business within the borough and significant effort has been put into achieving growth. This has been rewarded with a positive net increase in NNDR collection. Sites such as Symmetry Park and Central Park are all contributing to the growth and the Darlington Economic campus will be located at Brunswick Street in 2026 housing His Majesty’s Treasury Department along with several other government departments including the Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities. This is providing a boost to the town with other employers looking to relocate to Darlington.
43. Notwithstanding these major developments, attracting businesses into the town by their very nature takes time and upfront investment and therefore is an area which needs continued prioritisation and pump prime funding so growth can continue. It needs to be remembered that net growth in NNDR collected relies on growth outstripping revaluations and reductions which can be very challenging in the current economy.
44. One area of uncertainty is the business rate reset. The business rates system changed in 2013 and Councils received 49% of the NNDR collected above the base level, this was to incentivise Councils to drive economic growth. The system was due to be reviewed in 2020, with the intention of resetting the baseline and a review of need across the board and a subsequent redistribution of funding. This was part of the Fair Funding Review which has been postponed for a number of years now and there is no indication if this will happen in 2023/24. As Darlington has seen a healthy increase in business rates any reset would likely reduce funding in this area. Given the review has been postponed and there would need to be consultation on any new formula system, it has been assumed this would not impact on Darlington until 2024/25.
45. The in-year collection rate target for NNDR is 98.0% and as at the end of October 2022 is 69.8% and on track to achieve the target.

Collection Fund

46. The Collection Fund account reflects the statutory requirements for the Council to maintain a separate fund in relation to the operation of Council Tax and the Business Rates Retention Scheme (BRRS). The Fund records all of the transactions for billing in respect of Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) and Council Tax, exemptions and discounts granted, provision for bad debts and appeals and payments made to the Council’s General Fund, the Police and Fire and Rescue precept authorities and Central Government. The collection fund has benefited from business growth over the past few years on the back of the economic growth strategy with a robust healthy position. It is therefore felt prudent to release £2m of the fund into general reserves to assist the MTFP position. Furthermore, a government

Covid grant of £1.415m received to support the collection fund in the light of increased LCTS claimants during the pandemic and the aftermath can also be released given the numbers of claimants are now reducing back to pre-covid levels.

Other Grants

47. Set out below are the estimated specific grants which as the title suggests are for specific areas of expenditure as dictated by the government and cannot be used for other areas; the main one being the Public Health ring-fenced grant. These grants are included in service estimates at Appendix 1.

	2023/24
	£m
Public Health Grant	8.831
PFI Grant	3.200
Youth Justice Board	0.223
Local Reform & Community Voices	0.057
Adult & Community Learning	1.062
Staying Put	0.055
Heritage Action Zone	0.047
Garden Village	0.100
Parks for People	0.014
Towns Fund	0.080
	13.669

Fees and charges

48. The proposed fees and charges of the Council are set out in **appendix 3** the increases proposed are based on the cost of providing the services and take account of inflation and market conditions. Overall, the proposed increases are anticipated to generate approximately £200,000 of income to help offset the cost-of-service provision.

Total Income

49. The table below summaries the Council’s estimated income for the period of this plan which thanks to the increase in spending announced in the Autumn Statement, continued economic growth and house building activity, and the subsequent increases in Council Tax and NNDR, confirms a much-needed increase in income given our expenditure pressures.

Resources - Projected and assumed	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m
Council Tax	61.877	65.556	69.791	74.375
Business rates retained locally	23.021	16.510	16.851	17.192
Top Up Grant	8.029	11.736	11.901	12.065
RSG	3.943	4.022	4.102	4.184
New Homes Bonus	0.354	0.354	0.354	0.354
Better Care Fund	4.488	4.488	4.488	4.488
Adult Social Care Support Grant	3.753	3.753	3.753	3.753
Spending Review 21 Government Funding	1.162	1.162	1.162	1.162
2022/23 Services Grant	2.167	2.167	2.167	2.167
Social Care Grant	0.728	1.237	0.000	0.000
Strengthening Families Grant	0.500	0.500	0.000	0.000
Lower Tier Services Grant	0.151	0.151	0.151	0.151
Total Resources	110.173	111.636	114.720	119.891

Projected MTFP

50. Set out in the table below are the projections based on the income and expenditure analysis discussed in the previous sections, as can be seen there is a significant funding gap in each financial year. We are anticipating having £23.2m reserves which can be utilised to support the plan which would cover the position until 2025/26 however it is clear significant expenditure reductions will be required in future years if additional government funding is not forthcoming.

	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m
Estimated Expenditure	108.022	111.829	115.228	117.532
Add Pressures / Additional savings	10.568	10.203	9.848	12.094
	118.590	122.032	125.076	129.626
Projected Total Resources	(110.173)	(111.636)	(114.720)	(119.891)
Projected budget deficit	8.417	10.396	10.356	9.735
Utilisation of balances	(8.417)	(10.396)	(10.356)	(9.735)
Total	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Revenue Balances

51. The projected revenue outturn for 2022/23 detailed at **Appendix 5**, has improved by £0.543m since quarter two from £22.662m to £23.205m however taking account of this and the Risk Reserve of £5.350m, as noted above our reserves will be fully utilised during the 2025/26 financial year. This is not a sustainable position, and a full review of service provision will need to be undertaken during 2023/24 to reduce expenditure and increase income unless further government funding is received.
52. In the light of the significant financial pressures the Council is facing work has begun on efficiency measures to reduce expenditure in areas which do not directly hit service provision

Revenue Balances	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m
Opening balance	23.205	17.203	7.807	(2.549)
Release of Earmarked Reserve - LCTS	1.415	0.000	0.000	0.000
Net contribution to GF from Collection Fund	1.000	1.000	0.000	0.000
Contribution to/(from) balances	(8.417)	(10.396)	(10.356)	(9.735)
Closing balance	17.203	7.807	(2.549)	(12.284)

Capital Expenditure

53. The Council has an extensive capital programme with significant resources invested to purchase, improve, protect, and maintain our assets, to enable the Council to deliver its priorities, for example purchasing land to enable road improvements or investing in modernising school buildings and housing. The Council continues to deliver a significant capital investment programme in the main funded from the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and grant or other external funding which is targeted at specific schemes and programmes such as Transport and Schools. Furthermore, investment from the Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA) along with European and other external funding sources are being used for economic growth initiatives.
54. The Council can also supplement these funding sources with its own resources such as capital receipts or prudential borrowing where there is a need, however as capital receipts are limited, and prudential borrowing comes with future revenue implications there must be a strong case for doing so.
55. In recent years there has been significant investment in Economic Growth either funded or pump primed by the Council; schemes such as Central Park including the National Biologics Centre and Business Central along with the Development of Feethams House which is now the temporary home for the Darlington Economic Campus, and recent Town Centre purchases funded from the Towns Fund and Indigenous Growth Fund are helping to make Darlington a more vibrant place to be. The Council's Investment Fund and Economic Growth Investment Fund are both being utilised to invest in these areas which ultimately increases business rates and the finances of the Council helping vital services to be funded.

56. The current capital programme stands at £308m as summarised in Table 1 below. The programme is monitored on a monthly basis and reported to Cabinet on a quarterly basis; the latest available monitoring report for the 2022/23 was presented to Cabinet on 8 November 2022 and noted there was a projected £0.132m underspend on the approved capital programme.

Table 1

	Construction				Non construction	Capital investment fund	Housing New Build not yet allocated	Total
	Live Schemes 75k & Over	Annualised Schemes	Completed Schemes awaiting review	Live Schemes under 75k				
Area	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Housing	65.824	0.667	0.562	0.160	1.205	0.000	29.023	97.441
Economic Growth	54.849	0.000	0.485	0.578	9.804	27.716	3.216	96.648
Highways/Transport	64.762	7.113	5.755	2.322	1.334	0.000	2.228	83.514
Leisure & Culture	22.351	0.000	0.072	0.175	0.000	0.000	0.000	22.598
Education	4.155	0.000	0.000	0.323	0.053	0.000	0.290	4.821
Adult Social Care	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.071	0.000	0.000	0.071
Other	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	2.655	0.000	0.000	2.655
Total	211.941	7.780	6.874	3.558	15.122	27.716	34.757	307.748

57. In addition to the current agreed programme the Council looks ahead to future capital requirements based on the principles of the capital strategy. A four-year timeframe has been adopted to fall in line with the revenue Medium Term Financial Plan. Attached at **Appendix 7** are the priority proposals for addition to the plan along with the funding methods. The majority of schemes are focused on 'Housing and Transport, funded via the HRA and government grants respectively; there are also a number of Council funded corporate schemes that have already been approved.

58. The following paragraphs describe the major elements of the capital programme priorities for approval. Specific scheme funding release will be subject to detailed reports to Cabinet.

Corporate Schemes – funding required

59. As noted previously the Council can supplement government capital funding, albeit options are limited in the current financial climate. Funding can come from prudential borrowing, repaid via revenue, which puts additional pressure on the revenue account or from capital receipts. Given the financial position of the Council only schemes that are a health and safety risk or that are self-funding have been considered while there is uncertainty over the overall funding envelope.

60. The risk assessed usable capital receipts over the next four years are in the region of £12m. Of this £1.110m has been allocated to the Eastbourne Sports Complex for the replacement running track and the new APG pitches and parking leaving just under £11m unallocated.

61. There will be many competing priorities against the available resources for both regeneration and refurbishment and these schemes will emerge over the coming year/s. At this stage Members are requested to make capital provision for three priority schemes with a total value of £1.374m, which will be subject to full reports to Cabinet in due course, these are:
- (a) **Whinfield School replacement roof - £1.124m** - £620k was approved in the 2022/23 capital programme for repairs on the roof however the costs have significantly increased and funding of £1.124m is required. The roof is in a very poor state of repair and needs to be completely renewed. The funding received for school condition works is insufficient to fund an undertaking of this magnitude. Over the last five years ongoing maintenance work has been carried out to keep the school watertight, however it is now at the point where unless this work is undertaken there will be further deterioration of the roof and a likely impact on delivery of education at the school.
 - (b) **Essential Works to Skerne Bridge - £0.050m** – is required for essential works to the Skerne bridge at the rear of the rugby club.
 - (c) **Essential play area equipment replacement - £0.200m** – is required to meet Health & Safety requirements and to ensure that the play equipment is fit for purpose.

Self-Financing Schemes

62. There are 3 schemes that are classified as self-financing whereby the costs will be covered by either grants or by the rental income generated.
63. Following the successful establishment of Darlington Economic Campus (DEC) in the Council owned Feethams House under a 5-year lease agreement and given the ongoing investment in the building by Government it is unlikely the building will be available for the general market once the DEC move to its proposed permanent location at Brunswick Street. This will mean the only Council owned grade A office building, will not be available to accommodate the ongoing business enquiries, many of which are related to the relocation of His Majesty's Treasury (HMT) and other Government departments.
64. Therefore, more than ever before, Darlington town centre must be competitive if it is to be vibrant, diverse and successful and to achieve this, it is considered vital that the Council assists in leading, facilitating and enabling the conditions for economic growth through direct intervention in economic development and regeneration in partnership with business and communities. The three items below are actions to achieve this aim and full business cases for these schemes will be presented to Cabinet at a future date with details on the funding arrangements.
- (a) Development of an office block at Priestgate - £10.0m
 - (b) Northern Echo Building refurbishment - £5.5m
 - (c) Skinnergate office/commercial space - £1.6m

Government Funding

65. Set out below are details of the levels of Government funding available for investment by the Council in 2023/24 and an outline of the proposed use of these funds.

	2023/24 £m
Children's Services	
School Condition Allocation	0.159
Transport	
Local Transport Plan	3.068
Other	
Disabled Facilities Grant	1.063
Total Capital Grant Available	4.290

School Condition Allocations

66. The Local Authority now only receives school condition funding for Community Maintained Schools. Maintenance funding for Academies is available through other routes. This funding received by the Local Authority will be spent in line with key priorities identified with each maintained school through the locally agreed asset management planning (LAMP) process, carried out each January. There are no strict spend deadlines for these small-scale condition related projects which are prioritised and completed as funding becomes available.

Transport and Highways

67. A new Local Transport Plan for the Tees Valley was endorsed by the Tees Valley Cabinet in 2021. This will help set the spending plans for the funding allocations from the Department for Transport and from the Devolution deal. The Integrated Transport Programme (ITP) of TVCAs Investment plan identifies £256.7m of investment over the next 10 years. There will be projects and initiatives delivered in Darlington from this fund.
68. The new Tees Valley Local Transport Plan has a number of accompanying documents that set the strategy and vision for different modes of transport. Each Local Authority is required to produce a Local Improvement Plan, which will effectively replace the local authority Local Transport Plan. These plans will cover local priorities and maintenance requirements. Prior to this year the Council received funding via TVCA that was based on needs formula. However, all of the funding has now been merged into the new City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS), which is a 5-year allocation of funding. The Tees Valley have been allocated £310m. The details of this allocation have been finalised and the Council has been awarded £15.340m over the 5 years to 2026/27. The annual amount of £3.068m is based on the following breakdown which includes £0.893m for the Integrated Block, £1.206m for the Highways Maintenance Block plus £0.969m for the Pothole action programme. The new CRSTS will provide the opportunity to deliver

larger improvement schemes in Darlington identified in the Tees Valley and Darlington transport plans and these will be dealt with on an individual project basis.

Disabled Facility Grants

69. These grants are available if you are disabled and need to make changes to your home with examples being:

- (a) Widen doors and install ramps,
- (b) Improve access to rooms and facilities – e.g., stair lifts or a downstairs bathroom,
- (c) Provide a heating system suitable for your needs, and
- (d) Adapt heating or lighting controls to make them easier to use.

Housing

70. All Housing Capital schemes are funded fully from the Housing Revenue Account. The priorities identified through the Housing Business Plan will be funded from the estimated capital resources for 2023/24. Further detail is given in the Housing Revenue Account financial plan but in summary includes:

- (a) Adaptations and lifts - £0.200m
- (b) Heating Replacement - £1.225m
- (c) Structural Works - £0.400m
- (d) Lifeline Services - £0.150m
- (e) Repairs before Painting - £0.060m
- (f) Roofing and Repointing work - £1.000m
- (g) Garages - £0.025m
- (h) External Works - £0.200m.
- (i) Pavements - £0.032m
- (j) Window & Door Replacement - £1.400m
- (k) Internal planned maintenance (IPM) - £2.760m
- (l) Communal Works - £0.150m
- (m) Energy Efficiency Improvements - £1.000m
- (n) New Build housing - £15.673m
- (o) Fees - £0.310m

Consultation

71. This report will be published for consultation from 5 December 2022 to 20 January 2022.

Conclusion

72. The Council has faced significant financial challenges over the last decade, with reductions in government funding followed by the financial instability during the pandemic, but to date has risen to these challenges well which has enabled a balanced MTFP.

73. 2022 has presented further challenge with the Russia/Ukraine crisis and subsequent soaring energy prices, high inflation levels and demand on services in particular social care at an unprecedented level.

74. The future of Local Government financing is still uncertain; however, it is clear from the Autumn Statement that public funding will not keep up with inflation. The Council can deliver a balanced position until 2024/25 utilising reserves as per our financial strategy, however there is an annual budget deficit which is not sustainable and will need to be addressed. Unless further funding is forthcoming the Council will need to both reduce expenditure and increase income to ensure we have a stable position moving forward.
75. Planning beyond the current year is extremely difficult, given the uncertainty around future funding and the review of the new Local Government Financial system, inflation and economic uncertainty, the conflict in Ukraine which is having significant pressure on our energy costs and the general cost of living crisis. Current planning suggests reserves will be depleted in 2025/26 and there will be a budget deficit of approximately £10m, however for the reasons above, this will almost certainly change. At this stage it is not possible to know whether this will be a positive or negative position.
76. In summary, the Council continues to face significant financial challenges, however, due to the healthy reserves position which now play a crucial role in the budget strategy, the Council can afford a 2023/24 budget and have reserves available to enabling time to achieve the savings required for future years. Making these savings will be challenging and there are risks given current economic uncertainty and estimated impacts of interest rates, inflation, demand, and energy costs have been factored in, if these change plans will need to be adjusted.
77. As the Council's Statutory Chief Financial Officer, the Group Director of Operations must advise the Council on the robustness of the budget and adequacy of reserves. The budget presented to Members in this report has been based on the most accurate information available at this point in time, therefore the Director is confident that they are an accurate reflection of the Council's financial position. Notwithstanding this there is a significant degree of uncertainty with regard to the future economic position and local government funding so this the position presented whilst as accurate as possible will change, however at this juncture I cannot be sure if that will be for the better or worse
78. General Fund Reserves are adequate for the coming financial year; however, the Council is carrying a significant financial risk over the lifetime of the plan with an unsustainable annual deficit which will need to be met from service reductions and/or increased income if no further government funding is realised. It is essential we maximise income where possible, ensure we are providing our services in the most efficient manner, and address the growing pressures in social care through transformation, as the Council needs to preserve reserves and allow as much time as possible to reduce the ongoing annual funding gap.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1	Detailed Estimates
Appendix 2	Budget Pressures / Savings
Appendix 3	Fees and Income Proposals
Appendix 4	Assumptions used to prepare estimates
Appendix 5	Projected Revenue Outturn 2021/22
Appendix 6	Proposed MTFP 2023 to 2027
Appendix 7	Capital programme

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REVENUE ESTIMATES 2023/24 - Summary

Appendix 1

	2022/23	2023/24			
	Net Budget	Gross Budget	Income	Grants	Net Budget
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
People Group	69,291	135,643	(17,992)	(43,475)	74,176
Services Group	21,098	63,876	(43,146)	(81)	20,649
Operations Group	18,605	44,961	(3,909)	(21,505)	19,547
Chief Executive Office & Economic Growth Group	1,647	3,953	(2,235)	(184)	1,535
Group Totals	110,641	248,434	(67,283)	(65,243)	115,907
Financing Costs	637	3,477	0	0	3,477
Investment Returns - Joint Ventures	(1,864)	(1,816)	0	0	(1,816)
Council Wide Pressures / Savings	8	1,259	0	0	1,259
Contingencies	525	(237)	0	0	(237)
Grand Total	109,947	251,117	(67,283)	(65,243)	118,590

PEOPLE GROUP - Revenue Estimates 2023/24

	2022/23	2023/24			
	Net Budget	Gross Budget	Income	Grants	Net Budget
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Group Director of People	738	765	(53)	0	712
<u>Children & Adult Services</u>					
Transformation & Performance	840	794	(46)	0	748
Business Support	1,484	1,580	(8)	0	1,572
<u>Children's Services</u>					
Children's Services Management & Other Services	619	691	0	(30)	661
Assessment Care Planning & LAC	4,165	4,227	0	0	4,227
First Response & Early Help	3,747	3,921	(1)	(127)	3,793
Adoption & Placements	14,061	15,901	0	(105)	15,796
Disabled Children	1,435	1,435	(205)	0	1,230
Youth Offending	322	684	(122)	(223)	339
Quality Assurance & Practice Improvement	145	264	(125)	0	139
<u>Development & Commissioning</u>					
Commissioning	2,587	3,060	(736)	0	2,324
Voluntary Sector	272	351	0	(57)	294
Workforce Development	154	296	(102)	0	194
<u>Education</u>					
Education	639	27,208	(2,092)	(24,665)	451
Schools	0	8,785	0	(8,785)	0
Transport Unit	2,497	3,401	(369)	0	3,032
<u>Public Health</u>					
Public Health	0	8,831	0	(8,831)	0
<u>Adult Social Care & Health</u>					
External Purchase of Care	28,984	44,299	(11,598)	(652)	32,049
Intake & Enablement	687	2,519	(1,842)	0	677
Older People Long Term Condition	1,600	1,779	(175)	0	1,604
Physical Disability Long Term Condition	5	42	(27)	0	15
Learning Disability Long Term Condition	1,967	2,065	(31)	0	2,034
Mental Health Long Term Condition	1,235	1,678	(461)	0	1,218
Service Development & Integration	1,109	1,068	0	0	1,068
Total People Group	69,291	135,643	(17,992)	(43,475)	74,176

SERVICES GROUP - Revenue Estimates 2023/24

	2022/23	2023/24			
	Net Budget	Gross Budget	Income	Grants	Net Budget
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Group Director of Services	162	174	0	0	174
<u>Transport & Capital Projects</u>					
AD Transport & Capital Projects	132	136	0	0	136
Building Design Services	39	569	(515)	0	54
Capital Projects	345	634	(283)	0	352
Car Parking R&M	549	583	0	0	583
Concessionary Fares	3,486	2,774	0	0	2,774
Flood & Water Act	186	89	0	0	89
Highways	4,002	5,791	(984)	0	4,807
Highways - DLO	(338)	9,733	(10,211)	0	(478)
Investment & Funding	553	197	(180)	0	17
Sustainable Transport	53	70	(28)	0	43
<u>Community Services</u>					
AD Community Services	144	150	0	0	150
Allotments	13	26	(10)	0	16
Building Cleaning - DLO	196	835	(628)	0	207
Cemeteries & Crematorium	(939)	933	(1,907)	0	(974)
Dolphin Centre	1,204	4,275	(3,299)	0	976
Eastbourne Complex	(1)	245	(221)	0	24
Emergency Planning	101	103	0	0	103
Head of Steam	278	355	(63)	0	291
Hippodrome	461	5,540	(5,319)	0	221
Indoor Bowling Centre	23	19	0	0	19
Libraries	864	922	(24)	0	898
Move More	44	99	(51)	0	48
Outdoor Events	498	528	(22)	0	507
Community Catering - DLO	108	318	(240)	0	78
Strategic Arts	123	119	0	0	119
Street Scene	6,048	7,939	(1,948)	(14)	5,977
Transport Unit - Fleet Management	9	224	(69)	0	155
Waste Management	3,452	3,606	0	0	3,606
Winter Maintenance	589	586	(2)	0	584
<u>Community Safety</u>					
CCTV	230	683	(419)	0	264
Community Safety	749	832	(32)	(67)	732
General Licensing	30	170	(163)	0	7
Parking	(2,150)	281	(1,953)	0	(1,672)
Parking Enforcement	9	185	(172)	0	13
Private Sector Housing	121	117	(10)	0	107
Stray Dogs	49	51	(1)	0	50
Taxi Licensing	53	225	(183)	0	42
Trading Standards	247	264	(6)	0	258
<u>Building Services</u>					
Construction - DLO	(471)	7,925	(8,383)	0	(458)
Maintenance - DLO	(465)	5,333	(5,818)	0	(486)
Other - DLO	82	0	0	0	0
<u>General Support Services</u>					
Works Property & Other	112	114	0	0	114
<u>Joint Levies & Boards</u>					
Environment Agency Levy	115	125	0	0	125
Total Services Group	21,098	63,876	(43,146)	(81)	20,649

OPERATIONS Group - Revenue Estimates 2023/24

	2022/23	2023/24			
	Net Budget	Gross Budget	Income	Grants	Net Budget
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Group Director of Operations	132	224	(94)	0	130
AD Resources					
AD Resources	148	120	0	0	120
Financial Services	1,615	1,959	(433)	0	1,526
Financial Assessments & Protection	299	358	(43)	(36)	279
Xentrall (D&S Partnership)	1,766	2,479	(649)	0	1,830
Human Resources	879	1,034	(352)	0	682
Health & Safety	175	232	(38)	0	193
Head of Strategy Performance & Communications					
Communications & Engagement	1,252	1,125	(138)	0	987
Systems	1,397	1,037	0	(30)	1,007
AD Law & Governance					
AD Law & Governance	129	131	0	0	131
Complaints & FOI	288	298	(1)	0	297
Democratic Services	1,278	1,335	(19)	0	1,316
Registrars	(25)	239	(262)	0	(23)
Administration	638	688	(93)	0	595
Legal	1,214	1,749	(180)	0	1,569
Procurement	176	296	(113)	0	183
Coroners	225	278	0	0	278
AD Xentrall Shared Services					
ICT	723	1,010	(200)	0	810
Corporate Landlord					
Corporate Landlord	4,801	6,312	(277)	0	6,035
AD Housing & Revenues					
Local Taxation	923	889	0	0	889
Rent Rebates / Rent Allowances / Council Tax	(517)	20,659	(416)	(20,776)	(533)
Housing Benefits Administration	270	1,076	0	(663)	413
Customer Services	321	549	(220)	0	329
Homelessness	334	528	(184)	0	344
Service, Strategy & Regulation and General Services	164	358	(197)	0	161
Total Operations Group	18,605	44,961	(3,909)	(21,505)	19,547

CHIEF EXECUTIVES OFFICE & ECONOMIC GROWTH - Revenue Estimates 2023/24

	2022/23	2023/24			
	Net Budget	Gross Budget	Income	Grants	Net Budget
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Chief Executive					
Chief Executive	203	209	0	0	209
Darlington Partnership	69	136	(62)	0	74
AD Economic Growth					
AD - Economic Growth	147	149	0	0	149
Building Control	196	373	(205)	0	168
Consolidated Budgets	148	146	0	0	146
Development Management	(0)	723	(700)	0	23
Economy	321	349	0	(80)	269
Environmental Health	324	359	(25)	0	334
Place Strategy	640	834	(85)	(104)	645
Property Management & Estates	(402)	676	(1,158)	0	(482)
Total Chief Executives Office & Economic Growth	1,647	3,953	(2,235)	(184)	1,535

Analysis of Pressures/Savings	Estimate 23/24 £m	Estimate 24/25 £m	Estimate 25/26 £m	Estimate 26/27 £m
Savings				
Housing Related Support - reduced demand	(0.072)	(0.065)	(0.059)	(0.059)
Children Placements - reduction in residential and independent fostering placements	(0.288)	(0.576)	(0.864)	(1.152)
Children Placements - ending of a complex residential package	(0.110)	(1.425)	(1.425)	(1.425)
Advocacy - reduction in usage	(0.058)	(0.058)	(0.058)	(0.058)
Adult Services - reduced running costs	(0.202)	(0.268)	(0.347)	(0.348)
Education Services - reduced running costs	(0.076)	(0.068)	(0.059)	(0.049)
Children's Services - reduced running costs	(0.056)	(0.059)	(0.042)	(0.036)
Concessionary Fares - reduction in contributions	(0.713)	(0.548)	(0.650)	(0.650)
Operations - reduced postage and telephone usage	(0.067)	(0.067)	(0.067)	(0.067)
Investment Returns - increased joint venture returns	(0.336)	(0.588)	0.000	0.0000
Contingency - release of pension fund contingency following actuary review	(0.987)	(0.987)	(0.987)	0.0000
Superannuation - reduced employer contributions following triennial valuation	(0.439)	(0.448)	(0.457)	0.0000
Waste Disposal - reduction in household waste	(0.118)	(0.118)	(0.118)	(0.118)
Services - reduced running costs	(0.015)	(0.015)	(0.015)	(0.015)
Housing - reduced running costs	(0.030)	(0.030)	(0.025)	(0.012)
	(3.567)	(5.320)	(5.173)	(3.989)
Increased Demand				
Adults Packages of Care - increased overall package costs	0.199	0.288	0.275	0.362
School Transport - increase/changes in routes	0.318	0.327	0.337	0.347
Children Placements - increased number and complexity of placements	0.936	0.941	0.932	0.974
Children's Services - increased numbers of families/children requiring support	0.106	0.000	0.000	0.000
Strengthening Families Team - increase in children needing support	0.684	0.836	0.000	0.000
Waste Disposal - increased growth with new builds	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.024
Waste Disposal - LASPV contract support	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.033
Coroners Service - additional contribution	0.048	0.056	0.065	0.066
Legal Services - increased caseload demand	0.108	0.113	0.119	0.121
Children's legal fees - increased demand and complexity of cases	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100
People Services - increase in ANEC support ADASS	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010
	2.509	2.671	1.838	2.037
Price Inflation				
Adults Packages of care - contractual inflation.	2.401	2.756	2.709	3.776
Fleet - increased costs of vehicle replacement	0.102	0.121	0.125	0.125
Children's Packages of care - contractual inflation.	0.392	0.524	0.612	0.591
School Transport - contractor inflation	0.168	0.173	0.178	0.183
Waste Disposal - contractor inflation	0.248	0.248	0.248	0.248
Highways - responsive Repairs inflation	0.202	0.206	0.210	0.214
Fleet - fuel inflation	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030
Environment Agency - levy inflation	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.009
Corporate Landlord - R&M inflation	0.115	0.130	0.145	0.160
	3.665	4.195	4.264	5.336
Reduced Income				
Workforce Development Team - reduced income	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025
Council Tax - reduction in house building due to Nutrient Neutrality	0.321	0.507	0.525	0.540
Adult Social Care - ending of grant funding	0.000	0.379	0.522	0.568
Library - reduced income during refurbishment	0.018	0.000	0.000	0.000
Car Parking - reduction in permits and contract parking	0.047	0.047	0.047	0.047
Taxi Licensing - reduction in private hire income	0.031	0.000	0.000	0.000
Legal Services - reduction in external legal income	0.051	0.051	0.051	0.051
	0.493	1.009	1.170	1.231
Other and Contingencies				
People - staffing changes, pensions	0.023	0.020	0.025	0.025
Enjoy Darlington campaign	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050
Hippodrome - website ticket platform costs	0.040	0.000	0.000	0.000
Outdoor Events - increased security and operational costs	0.033	0.033	0.033	0.033
Services - staffing changes	0.093	0.100	0.103	0.104
Operations - staffing changes	0.027	0.037	0.053	0.055
Information Systems - additional systems software	0.032	0.033	0.034	0.036
ICT - additional mobile data and spam filtering requirements	0.113	0.115	0.116	0.116
Financing Costs - impact of interest rates increases	0.556	0.680	0.672	0.313
Revenues & Benefits - staffing changes	0.070	0.072	0.076	0.080
Economic Growth - staffing changes	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010
	1.047	1.151	1.172	0.822
Utilities				
Utilities - Services	0.595	0.595	0.595	0.595
Utilities - Corporate Landlord	1.956	1.956	1.956	1.956
	2.551	2.551	2.551	2.551
Pay Award				
Pay Award 22/23	2.615	2.667	2.721	2.775
Additional Estimated Pay award 23/24	1.255	1.279	1.305	1.331
	3.870	3.946	4.026	4.106
Total Net Pressures	10.568	10.203	9.848	12.094

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SCHEDULE OF CHARGES 2023/24				
Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
LEARNING SKILLS - LEARNING FOR LIFE				
Fees Policy: August 2022 to July 2023 (Next Review July 2023)				
Full Fees (including enrolment and tuition fees) per hour	L	3.00	3.00	NIL
<p>Accredited Learning Full accreditation fee (if applicable) - if the course has a qualification there will be additional fees to pay for registration and certification.</p> <p>No fees will be charged for publicly subsidised courses where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Learners are aged 16-18 (on 31 August 2022) Learners are aged 19-24 (on 31 August 2022) with a learning difficulty and/or disability as evidenced through an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan Learners are aged 19 or older where the learning aim is up to and including level 2, and the learner is studying English or Maths Learners are aged 19-23 (on their first day of study) and are studying their first 'full' level 2 or first 'full' level 3, excludes English for speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Learners are aged 19 or older where the learning aim is up to and including level 2 (including ESOL), the skills training will help them into work, and the learner is classed as unemployed and one or more of the following apply: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> They receive Job Seeker's Allowance (JSA) - this includes those receiving National Insurance credits only, or They receive Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), or They receive Universal Credit and their earned income from employment (disregarding benefits) is less than £345 a month (learner is sole adult in their benefit claim) or £552 a month (learner has a joint benefit claim with their partner) They are released on temporary licence, studying outside a prison environment, and not funded by the Ministry of Justice Learners are aged 19 or older where the learning aim is up to and including level 2 (including ESOL), they are employed and eligible for co-funding but earn less than £18,525 gross salary, based on the assumption of a 37.5 hour contract with paid statutory holiday entitlement. <i>Evidence required: A wage slip within 3 months of the learning start date, or a current employment contract which states gross monthly / annual wages</i> Learners aged 19-24 who are unemployed and on a Traineeship <p>Courses with no public subsidy For learners aged 19 or above and where the learning aim is level 3 or above (except for exclusion above), learners will need to take out an Advanced Learning Loan, subject to funding availability. Further details can be found at: www.gov.uk/advanced-learning-loans</p> <p>Asylum Seekers – individuals will be assessed for eligibility in conjunction with ESFA guidance Special Fees – some courses have special fees, cost on application FE course – NVQ etc price on application</p> <p>The following courses are free: Family Learning, Functional Skills, Study Programmes and courses which are funded through external projects</p> <p>Additional Learning Support (ALS) is intended to enable disadvantaged learners to achieve their learning goal by providing funding, on top of programme funds, to help them overcome their barriers to learning. The funding is intended to be flexible and to help support learners who have a range of learning difficulties and/or disabilities</p>				

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS				
The following fees do not incur VAT				
Marriages				
Entering a Notice of Marriage or Civil Partnership	N			
For a Registrar to attend a Marriage at the Register Office	N			
Civil Partnership Registration	N			
Incumbents for every Entry Contained in Quarterly Certified	N			
Copies of Entries of Marriage	N			
Registrars fee for attending a marriage at a registered building or for the housebound or detained	N			
Superintendents Registrar fee for attesting a notice of marriage away from his office for housebound or detained	N			
Superintendents Registrar fee for attending the marriage of the housebound or detained	N	These charges set nationally by Statute and will be charged at the advised rate for 2022/23	These charges set nationally by Statute and will be charged at the advised rate for 2023/24	
Certification for Worship and Registration for Marriages				
Place of Meeting for Religious Worship	N			
Registration of Building for Solemnisation of Marriage	N			
Certificates issued from Local Offices				
Standard Certificate (SR)	N			
Standard Certificate (RBD) (at time of Registration)	N			
Standard Certificate (RBD) (after Registration)	N			
Short Certificate of Birth (SR)	N			
Short Certificate of Birth (RBD)	N			
Certificates of Civil Partnership (at time of Ceremony)	N			
Certificates of Civil Partnership (at later date)	N			
General Search fee	N			
Each Verification	N			
Civil Partnership Ceremony				
All Ceremonies – Approved Premises				
Application Fee for licence as an approved venue (valid for 3 years)	N	1,750.00	1,750.00	
Fee for Attendance - All days including Bank Holidays	L	555.00	580.00	
All Ceremonies – Town Hall				
The Council Chamber (Monday to Saturday)	L	295.00	310.00	
The Council Chamber Foyer (Monday to Saturday)	L	135.00	140.00	
REGISTER OF ELECTORS, OPEN REGISTER AND MONTHLY UPDATES - SALE				
The following fees do not incur VAT.				
Register – Printed Form	N	10.00	10.00	
Per 1,000 Names – Printed	N	5.00	5.00	
Register – Data Form	N	20.00	20.00	
Per 1,000 Names – Data	N	1.50	1.50	
LIST OF OVERSEAS ELECTORS – SALE				
The following fees do not incur VAT.				
List – Printed Form	N	10.00	10.00	
Per 1,000 Names – Printed	N	5.00	5.00	
List – Data Form	N	20.00	20.00	
Per 1,000 Names – Data	N	1.50	1.50	
MARKED COPY OF THE REGISTER OF ELECTORS AND MARKED ABSENT VOTERS LIST - SALE				
The following fees do not incur VAT				
Register – Printed Form	N	10.00	10.00	
Per 1,000 Names – Printed	N	2.00	2.00	
Register – Data Form	N	10.00	10.00	
Per 1,000 Names – Data	N	1.00	1.00	
				7,000

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
TOWN HALL				
Hire of Committee Rooms – all charges shown exclusive of VAT. Charges will be made plus the appropriate VAT rate. All rooms are to be charged by the hour, rather than by session				
Committee Rooms per hour	L	33.00	33.00	
				NIL
LAND CHARGES				
The following fees are inclusive of VAT				
Search Fees				
Standard Search - Residential Property (post or DX)	L	91.80	95.50	
Standard Search – Residential Property (electronic)	L	89.80	93.50	
Standard Search – Commercial Property (post or DX)	L	139.80	145.50	
Standard Search – Commercial Property (electronic)	L	137.80	143.50	
Con 29 Required				
Residential Property				
One Parcel of Land	L	76.80	80.00	
Several Parcels of Land – Each Additional Parcel	L	24.00	25.00	
Commercial Property				
One Parcel of Land	L	124.80	130.00	
Several Parcels of Land – Each Additional Parcel	L	24.00	25.00	
Con 29 Optional				
Each Printed Enquiry	L	6.00	6.00	
Own Questions	L	6.00	6.00	
Official Search – LLCI	L	15.00	15.00	
Official Search – NLIS (National Land Information Service) or email	L	13.00	13.00	
Expedited Search (Residential)	L	165.00	172.00	
Expedited search (Commercial)	L	225.00	234.00	
Personal Search	L	No charge	No charge	
				2,400

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
FINANCIAL PROTECTION SERVICES				
Category				
I. Work up to and including the date upon which the court makes an order appointing a deputy for property and affairs	N	745.00	745.00	
II. Annual management fee where the court appoints a local authority deputy for property and affairs, payable on the anniversary of the court order:	N	775.00	775.00	
- for the first year	N	650.00	650.00	
- for the second and subsequent years				
where the net assets are below £16,000, the local authority deputy for property and affairs will take an annual management fee not exceeding 3% of the net assets on the anniversary of the court order appointing the local authority as deputy				
Where the court appoints a local authority deputy for health and welfare, the local authority will take an annual management fee not exceeding 2.5% of the net assets on the anniversary of the court order appointing the local authority as deputy for health and welfare up to a maximum of £500.				
III. Annual property management fee to include work involved in preparing property for sale, instructing agents, conveyancers, etc or the ongoing maintenance of property including management and letting of a rental property	N	300.00	300.00	
IV. Preparation and lodgement of an annual report or account to the Public Guardian	N	216.00	216.00	
V. Conveyancing Costs				
Where a deputy or other person authorised by the court is selling or purchasing a property on behalf of P, the following fixed rates will apply except where the sale or purchase is by trustees in which case, the costs should be agreed with the trustees:	N	See Description	See Description	
A value element of 0.15% of the consideration with a minimum sum of £350 and a maximum sum of £1,500, plus disbursements				
Travel Rates are allowed at a fixed rate per hour for travel costs	N	40.00	40.00	
Please note that these rates are set by The Office of Public Guardian and are the rates as of 1st April 2017, these may be amended during 2023/24				
Administration Fee				
Administration fee for arranging the care and support needs for those with capital in excess of the upper capital limit or those who have chosen not to disclose their financial information.	L	108.00	119.00	
				Minimal
DEFERRED PAYMENT FEES				
Administration cost for setting up a Deferred Payment Agreement	L	331.00	365.00	
plus cost of valuation (this will be dependant on property type)	L	Actual cost of valuation	Actual cost of valuation	
				Minimal

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
LIBRARIES				
Fines On Overdue Items				
Adults – per day	L	No charge	No charge	
Maximum charge per book	L	No charge	No charge	
Senior Citizens – per day	L	No charge	No charge	
Children – per day	L	No charge	No charge	
Non-collected reservations				
Per item	L	0.50	0.50	
Reservation Fees for Books Obtained from Outside the Authority				
Single charge for all books obtained from other libraries	L	6.00	6.00	
Repeat Fee for Renewal of Books from Outside the Authority				
Single Charge for all books obtained from other local authorities	L	6.00	6.00	
Replacement Tickets				
Adults	L	1.50	1.50	
Senior Citizens	L	1.50	1.50	
Children/Unemployed	L	1.50	1.50	
Language Courses (per element)				
Subscription for whole course to be paid in advance	L	1.35	1.35	
Local History Research				
Look Up Service	L	5.00	5.00	
Photocopies				
A4 B&W	L	0.20	0.20	
A3 B&W	L	0.40	0.40	
Printing				
Text Printouts				
A4 B&W	L	0.20	0.20	
A3 B&W	L	0.40	0.40	
Test Printouts				
A4 colour	L	0.60	0.60	
Reproduction of Images from Stock				
Digital copies for Private/Study purposes – per photo	L	5.50	5.50	
Digital copies for small local commercial use – per photo	L	5.50 + 2 copies of publications	5.50 + 2 copies of publications	
Digital copies for local commercial use - per photo	L	10.50 + 2 copies of book	10.50 + 2 copies of book	
Digital copies for national/international commercial	L	110.00	110.00	
Scan and e-mail Service				
First sheet	L	1.00	1.00	
Each subsequent sheet	L	0.50	0.50	
Hire of Locker				
	L	0.50	0.50	
Internet Use				
Library members First 60 minutes FREE , Members & Non Members £1.00 per 30 minutes hereafter	L	1.00	1.00	
Lost & Damaged Items				
	L	Full current Replacement Cost (non- refundable)	Full current Replacement Cost (non- refundable)	
Room Hire				
Not for profit organisations per hour	L	15.00	15.00	
Commercial organisations per hour	L	20.00	20.00	
				NIL

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
PLANNING FEES				
Planning fees are set nationally				
PLANNING – PRE APPLICATION ADVICE				
All charges include VAT at 20%				
Large Major Development (200+) for a written response, including up to 2 meetings	L	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Small Major Development (10-199) for a written response, including up to 2 meetings	L	600.00	600.00	
Minor Development for a written response to include a meeting if necessary	L	400.00	400.00	
Other Developments				
Minerals Processing	L	Based on areas above	Based on areas above	
Change of use for a written response to include a meeting if necessary	L	50.00	50.00	
Householder developments	L	36.00	36.00	
Advertisements	L	25.00	25.00	
Listed Building consents (to alter/extend/demolish)	L	Free	Free	
Certificates of lawful development	L	Application advice not appropriate	Application advice not appropriate	
Telecommunications Notifications	L	126.00	126.00	
Other Charges				
Pre-Application meeting involving Planning Committee Members	L	1,000.00	1,000.00	
				NIL

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
LICENSING The following fees do not incur VAT				
Prosecution Costs				
Hourly rate for Preparation of Case Reports	L	48.00	50.00	
General Licensing				
Pavement Café Licence, per person				
1-20	L	No charge	200.00	
21-40	L	No charge	230.00	
41-60	L	No charge	260.00	
61-80	L	No charge	290.00	
81-99	L	No charge	320.00	
100 or over	L	No charge	350.00	
Duplicate licence fee	L	No charge	50.00	
Transfer of licence	L	No charge	50.00	
Change of detail	L	No charge	30.00	
Variation of Covers	L	No charge	100.00	
Goods on Highway Licence	L	155.00	155.00	
Sex Shop Grant of application	L	3,700.00	3,885.00	
Sex Shop Renewal	L	1,200.00	1,260.00	
Sex Shop transfer	L	1,200.00	1,260.00	
Cosmetics				
Premise Grant	L	280.00	294.00	
Personal Grant	L	65.00	68.00	
Variation	L	65.00	68.00	
Scrap Metal Dealers				
Collectors Licence (3 years) - grant	L	150.00	158.00	
Collectors Licence (3 years) – renewal	L	150.00	158.00	
Major Variation	L	50.00	53.00	
Minor Variation	L	15.00	16.00	
Site Licence (3 years) Grant	L	350.00	368.00	
Additional Sites (per site per year of licence)	L	195.00	205.00	
Site licence (3 years) – renewal	L	270.00	284.00	
Additional sites (per site per year of licence)	L	195.00	205.00	
Minor Variation Site	L	15.00	16.00	
Major Variation Site	L	50.00 + 65.00 per additional site per year	53.00 + 68.00 per additional site per year	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Caravan Sites				
New Application for a permanent residential site licence;	L			
1-5 pitches	L	200.00	210.00	
6-20 pitches	L	225.00	236.00	
21-50 pitches	L	240.00	252.00	
Greater than 50 pitches	L	260.00	273.00	
Annual Fees associated with administration and monitoring of site licences;				
1-5 pitches	L	No charge	No charge	
6-50 pitches	L	220.00	231.00	
Greater than 50 pitches	L	260.00	273.00	
Cost of Laying Site Rules	L	25.00	26.00	
Cost of Variation/Transfer	L	100.00	105.00	
Zoo Licensing Act				
New Application (4 years) or renewal (6 years) for a Zoo Licence (excluding the inspection costs of appointed inspector)	L	450.00	473.00	
Animal Welfare				
Breeding of Dogs - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	245.00	258.00	
2 Year Licence	L	290.00	305.00	
3 Year Licence	L	335.00	352.00	
Breeding of Dogs - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	215.00	226.00	
2 Year Licence	L	260.00	273.00	
3 Year Licence	L	305.00	320.00	
Pet Vending Commercial - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	252.00	265.00	
2 Year Licence	L	297.00	312.00	
3 Year Licence	L	342.00	359.00	
Pet Vending Commercial - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	222.00	233.00	
2 Year Licence	L	267.00	280.00	
3 Year Licence	L	312.00	327.00	
Pet Vending Home - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	245.00	258.00	
2 Year Licence	L	290.00	305.00	
3 Year Licence	L	335.00	352.00	
Pet Vending Home - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	215.00	226.00	
2 Year Licence	L	260.00	273.00	
3 Year Licence	L	305.00	320.00	
Keeping or Training Animals for Exhibition - Grant of Licence				
3 Year Licence	L	235.00	247.00	
Keeping or Training Animals for Exhibition - Renewal of Licence				
3 Year Licence	L	215.00	226.00	
Hiring Out of Horses - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	265.00	278.00	
2 Year Licence	L	310.00	325.00	
3 Year Licence	L	355.00	372.00	
Hiring Out of Horses - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	235.00	247.00	
2 Year Licence	L	280.00	294.00	
3 Year Licence	L	325.00	341.00	
Boarding of Dogs and Cats Commercial - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	305.00	321.00	
2 Year Licence	L	350.00	368.00	
3 Year Licence	L	395.00	415.00	
Boarding of Dogs and Cats Commercial - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	275.00	289.00	
2 Year Licence	L	320.00	336.00	
3 Year Licence	L	365.00	383.00	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Boarding of Dogs and Cats Home - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	245.00	258.00	
2 Year Licence	L	290.00	305.00	
3 Year Licence	L	335.00	352.00	
Boarding of Dogs and Cats Home - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	215.00	226.00	
2 Year Licence	L	260.00	273.00	
3 Year Licence	L	305.00	320.00	
Boarding of Dogs Day Care Up to 7 Dogs - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	245.00	258.00	
2 Year Licence	L	290.00	305.00	
3 Year Licence	L	335.00	352.00	
Boarding of Dogs Day Care Up to 7 Dogs - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	215.00	226.00	
2 Year Licence	L	260.00	273.00	
3 Year Licence	L	305.00	320.00	
Boarding of Dogs Day Care 8+ Dogs - Grant of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	305.00	320.00	
2 Year Licence	L	350.00	367.00	
3 Year Licence	L	395.00	414.00	
Boarding of Dogs Day Care 8+ Dogs - Renewal of Licence				
1 Year Licence	L	275.00	289.00	
2 Year Licence	L	320.00	336.00	
3 Year Licence	L	365.00	383.00	
Dog Boarding Franchise in Darlington - Grant of Licence	L	130.00 + 10.00 per host + 65.00 per host inspection fee + 45.00 annual enforcement fee per year	137.00 + 11.00 per host + 68.00 per host inspection fee + 47.00 annual enforcement fee per year	
Dog Boarding Franchise in Darlington - Renewal of Licence	L	100.00 + 10.00 per host + 60.00 per host inspection fee + 45.00 annual enforcement fee per year	105.00 + 11.00 per host + 68.00 per host inspection fee + 47.00 annual enforcement fee per year	
Dog Boarding Franchise out of Darlington - Grant of Licence	L	60.00 + 65.00 per host	63.00 + 63.00 per host	
Dog Boarding Franchise out of Darlington - Renewal of Licence	L	55.00 + 60.00 per host	58.00 + 63.00 per host	
Additional Fees				
Cost per additional licensable activity - Grant and Renewal (each)	L	65.00	68.00	
Mandatory mid licence inspection fee - Grant and Renewal (each)	L	30.00	32.00	
Variation of licence where no inspection is required (each)	L	35.00	37.00	
Variation of licence where inspection is required (each)	L	90.00	95.00	
Application for Re-Rating (each)	L	70.00	74.00	
Copy Licence	L	15.00	16.00	
Administration Fee	L	35.00	37.00	
Dangerous Wild Animals (not including vets fee)	L	120.00	126.00	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Street Trading				
November / December - Full Calendar Month	L	975.00	1,024.00	
- Week	L	385.00	404.00	
- Day (minimum of 4 days)	L	85.00	89.00	
January / October - Full Calendar Month	L	660.00	693.00	
- Week	L	270.00	284.00	
- Day (minimum of 4 days)	L	60.00	63.00	
Note- The above to apply to Itinerant traders. For regular all year round traders - fees as follows				
Annual Consent - Town Centre	L	7,000.00	7,350.00	
If Paying Monthly	L	620.00	651.00	
If Paying Weekly	L	170.00	179.00	
Buskers selling CD's – Half Day	L	25.00	25.00	
Full Day	L	45.00	45.00	
Mobile vehicles (moving or lay-by)	L	260.00	273.00	
New Vendor Permits	L	35.00	35.00	
Skips, Scaffolding and Hoardings				
Place a skip on the highway (less than 3 days notice)	L	30.00	40.00	
Place a skip on the highway (more than 3 days notice)	L	15.00	25.00	
Erection of scaffolding	L	50.00	60.00	
Hoardings	L	57.00	60.00	
Administration Charge (per hour or part thereof)	L	35.00	37.00	
Statutory Fees				
Petroleum Licences				
Less than 2,500 litres	L	44.00	45.00	
2,500 – 50,000 litres	L	60.00	61.00	
More than 50,000 litres	L	125.00	128.00	
Gambling Act				
Statutory Fees- The following gambling fees are set within statutory bands and will be revised as changed nationally.				
Adult Gaming Centres – Annual Fee	N	600.00	600.00	
New Application	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Variation	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Transfer	N	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Provisional Statement	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Licence Reinstatement	N	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Betting Shops - Annual Fee	N	550.00	550.00	
New Application	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Variation	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Transfer	N	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Provisional Statement	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Licence Reinstatement	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Bingo Halls - Annual Fee	N	600.00	600.00	
New Application	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Variation	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Transfer	N	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Provisional Statement	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Licence Reinstatement	N	1,200.00	1,200.00	
Family Entertainment Centres – Annual Fee	N	550.00	550.00	
New Application	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Variation	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Transfer	N	950.00	950.00	
Provisional Statement	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Licence Reinstatement	N	950.00	950.00	
Betting (tracks) – Annual Fee	N	550.00	550.00	
New Application	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Variation	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Transfer	N	950.00	950.00	
Provisional Statement	N	1,300.00	1,300.00	
Licence Reinstatement	N	950.00	950.00	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
<i>Permit Type – The following fees are set by statute and will be revised as changed nationally</i>				
Small Society Lottery Registration	N	40.00	40.00	
Small Society Annual Fee	N	20.00	20.00	
FEC gaming machine – Renewal fee	N	300.00	300.00	
FEC gaming machine – Change of name	N	25.00	25.00	
Prize gaming – Application fee	N	300.00	300.00	
Prize gaming – Renewal fee	N	300.00	300.00	
Prize gaming – Change of name	N	25.00	25.00	
Prize gaming – Copy permit	N	15.00	15.00	
Gaming machines (3 or more) - application Fee	N	100.00	100.00	
Gaming machines (3 or more) - variation Fee	N	100.00	100.00	
Gaming machines (3 or more) - transfer Fee	N	25.00	25.00	
Gaming machines (3 or more) - annual Fee	N	50.00	50.00	
Change of name	N	25.00	25.00	
Copy Permit	N	15.00	15.00	
Notice of intent 2 or less gaming machines available	N	50.00	50.00	
Club Premises cert (S 72f Licencing Act 2003) application fee	N	100.00	100.00	
Club Premises cert (S 72f Licencing Act 2003) renewal fee	N	100.00	100.00	
Other applicants - application fee	N	200.00	200.00	
Other applicants - renewal fee	N	200.00	200.00	
Variation fee	N	100.00	100.00	
Annual fee	N	50.00	50.00	
Copy permit	N	15.00	15.00	
Initial fee	N	40.00	40.00	
Annual fee	N	20.00	20.00	
Temporary use notice	N	500.00	500.00	
Copy/replacement/endorsed copy of notice	N	25.00	25.00	
Licensing Act Fees				
Statutory Fees- The following gambling fees are set within statutory bands and will be revised as changed nationally.				
Premises Licences				
Band A (RV £0 - £4,300) - Initial fee	N	100.00	100.00	
- Annual fee	N	70.00	70.00	
Band B (RV £4,301 - £33,000) - Initial fee	N	190.00	190.00	
- Annual fee	N	180.00	180.00	
Band C (RV £33,001 - £87,000) - Initial fee	N	315.00	315.00	
- Annual fee	N	295.00	295.00	
Band D (RV £87,001 - £125,000) - Initial fee	N	450.00	450.00	
- Annual fee	N	320.00	320.00	
Band E (RV > £125,001) - Initial fee	N	635.00	635.00	
- Annual fee	N	350.00	350.00	
Band D with Multiplier - Initial fee	N	900.00	900.00	
- Annual fee	N	640.00	640.00	
Band E with Multiplier - Initial fee	N	1,905.00	1,905.00	
- Annual fee	N	1,050.00	1,050.00	
Club Premises Certificates				
Band A (RV £0 - £4,300) - Initial fee	N	100.00	100.00	
- Annual fee	N	70.00	70.00	
Band B (RV £4,301 - £33,000) - Initial fee	N	190.00	190.00	
- Annual fee	N	180.00	180.00	
Band C (RV £33,001 - £87,000) - Initial fee	N	315.00	315.00	
- Annual fee	N	295.00	295.00	
Band D (RV £87,001 - £125,000) - Initial fee	N	450.00	450.00	
- Annual fee	N	320.00	320.00	
Band E (RV > £125,001) - Initial fee	N	635.00	635.00	
- Annual fee	N	350.00	350.00	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Large Scale Events				
5,000 to 9,999 - Initial fee	N	1,000.00	1,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	500.00	500.00	
10,000 to 14,999 - Initial fee	N	2,000.00	2,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	1,000.00	1,000.00	
15,000 to 19,999 - Initial fee	N	4,000.00	4,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	2,000.00	2,000.00	
20,000 to 29,999 - Initial fee	N	8,000.00	8,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	4,000.00	4,000.00	
30,000 to 39,999 - Initial fee	N	16,000.00	16,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	8,000.00	8,000.00	
40,000 to 49,999 - Initial fee	N	24,000.00	24,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	12,000.00	12,000.00	
50,000 to 59,999 - Initial fee	N	32,000.00	32,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	16,000.00	16,000.00	
60,000 to 69,999 - Initial fee	N	40,000.00	40,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	20,000.00	20,000.00	
70,000 to 79,999 - Initial fee	N	48,000.00	48,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	24,000.00	24,000.00	
80,000 to 89,999 - Initial fee	N	56,000.00	56,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	28,000.00	28,000.00	
> 90,000 - Initial fee	N	64,000.00	64,000.00	
- Annual fee	N	32,000.00	32,000.00	
Other Licensing Act 2003 Fees & Charges				
Minor Variations	N	89.00	89.00	
Personal Licence	N	37.00	37.00	
Provisional Statement	N	315.00	315.00	
Temporary Event Notice (TEN)	N	21.00	21.00	
Theft / Loss of Licence / Notice	N	10.50	10.50	
Variation of DPS	N	23.00	23.00	
Transfer of Premises Licence	N	23.00	23.00	
Change of Name / Address	N	10.50	10.50	
Notification of Interest	N	21.00	21.00	
Notification of Alteration of Club Rules	N	10.50	10.50	
Interim Authority Notice	N	23.00	23.00	
Explosives Act/Fireworks Annual Registration	N	52.00	52.00	
				Minimal

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
HACKNEY CARRIAGES				
Taxi Licencing				
Taxi licensing fees are agreed annually by licensing committee normally between January to March and will be published separately as part of this process. Existing licence holders will be notified accordingly.				
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH				
Pest Treatment Charges – All charges shown exclusive of VAT. Charges will be made plus the appropriate VAT rate				
Insects – per Treatment	L	58.50	58.50	
Rodents in Private Premises	L	8.33	8.33	
Re-rating Food Hygiene Inspections	L	150.00	150.00	
Prosecution Costs				
Hourly Rate for preparation of case reports and carrying out works in default of legal notices	L	48.00	50.00	
Environmental Searches				
Environmental search 1 or 2 report includes environmental information held by the Council on a site (additional charges apply for sites larger than 10,000m2 and distance buffer greater than 250m radius)	L	65.00	65.00	
Additional photocopying for example copies of site investigation reports;				
A4 B&W	L	0.10	0.10	
A3 B&W	L	0.20	0.20	
A4 Colour	L	1.00	1.00	
A3 Colour	L	2.00	2.00	
Scanned Copy	L	Free	Free	
LAPPC and LAIPPC Permits				
Charges are annually set by Defra in March and are subject to change. Current charges as known are;				
LAPPC Charges				
Application Fee;				
Standard process (includes solvent emission activities)	N	1,650.00	1,650.00	
Additional fee for operating without a permit	N	1,188.00	1,188.00	
PVRI, SWOBs and Dry Cleaners	N	155.00	155.00	
PVR I & II combined	N	257.00	257.00	
VRs and other Reduced Fee Activities	N	362.00	362.00	
Reduced fee activities: additional fee for operating without a permit	N	71.00	71.00	
Mobile plant**	N	1,650.00	1,650.00	
for the third to seventh applications	N	985.00	985.00	
for the eighth and subsequent applications	N	498.00	498.00	
Where an application for any of the above is for a combined Part B and waste application add an extra to the above amounts	N	310.00	310.00	
Annual Subsistence Charge;				
Standard process Low*	N	772.00 (+104.00)	772.00 (+104.00)	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Standard process Medium*	N	1,161.00 (+156.00)	1,161.00 (+156.00)	
Standard process High*	N	1,747.00 (+207.00)	1,747.00 (+207.00)	
*the additional amounts must be charged where a permit is for a combined Part B and waste installation				
PVRI, SWOBs and Dry Cleaners Low	N	79.00	79.00	
PVRI, SWOBs and Dry Cleaners Medium	N	158.00	158.00	
PVRI, SWOBs and Dry Cleaners High	N	237.00	237.00	
PVR I & II combined Low	N	113.00	113.00	
PVR I & II combined Medium	N	226.00	226.00	
PVR I & II combined High	N	341.00	341.00	
VRs and other Reduced Fees Low	N	228.00	228.00	
VRs and other Reduced Fees Medium	N	365.00	365.00	
VRs and other Reduced Fees High	N	548.00	548.00	
Mobile plant, for the first and second permits Low**	N	626.00	626.00	
for the third to seventh permits Low	N	385.00	385.00	
eighth and subsequent permits Low	N	198.00	198.00	
Mobile plant, for the first and second permits Medium**	N	1,034.00	1,034.00	
for the third to seventh permits Medium	N	617.00	617.00	
eighth and subsequent permits Medium	N	316.00	316.00	
Mobile plant, for the first and second permits High**	N	1,551.00	1,551.00	
for the third to seventh permits High	N	924.00	924.00	
eighth and subsequent permits High	N	473.00	473.00	
Late payment fee	N	52.00	52.00	
Where a Part B installation is subject to reporting under the E-PRTR Regulation add an extra to the above amounts	N	104.00	104.00	
Transfer and Surrender;				
Standard process transfer	N	169.00	169.00	
Standard process partial transfer	N	497.00	497.00	
New operator at low risk reduced fee activity	N	78.00	78.00	
Surrender: all Part b activities	N	0.00	0.00	
Reduced fee activities: transfer	N	0.00	0.00	
Reduced fee activities: partial transfer	N	47.00	47.00	
Temporary transfer for mobiles;				
First transfer	N	53.00	53.00	
Repeat following enforcement or warning	N	53.00	53.00	
Substantial change;				
Standard process	N	1,050.00	1,050.00	
Standard process where the substantial change results in a new PPC activity	N	1,650.00	1,650.00	
Reduced fee activities	N	102.00	102.00	
**Not using simplified permits				
LAPPC mobile plant charges (not using simplified permits)				
Number of permits 1 to 2;				
Application fee	N	1,650.00	1,650.00	
Subsistence fee Low	N	646.00	646.00	
Subsistence fee Medium	N	1,034.00	1,034.00	
Subsistence fee High	N	1,506.00	1,506.00	
Number of permits 3 to 7;				
Application fee	N	985.00	985.00	
Subsistence fee Low	N	385.00	385.00	
Subsistence fee Medium	N	617.00	617.00	
Subsistence fee High	N	924.00	924.00	
Number of permits 8 and over;				
Application fee	N	498.00	498.00	
Subsistence fee Low	N	198.00	198.00	
Subsistence fee Medium	N	316.00	316.00	
Subsistence fee High	N	473.00	473.00	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
LA-IPPC charges				
Every subsistence charge below includes the additional £104 charge to cover LA extra costs in dealing with reporting under the E-PRTR Regulation				
Application	N	3,363.00	3,363.00	
Additional fee for operating without a permit	N	1,188.00	1,188.00	
Annual Subsistence Low	N	1,447.00	1,447.00	
Annual Subsistence Medium	N	1,611.00	1,611.00	
Annual Subsistence High	N	2,334.00	2,334.00	
Late Payment Fee	N	52.00	52.00	
Variation	N	1,368.00	1,368.00	
Transfer	N	235.00	235.00	
Partial Transfer	N	698.00	698.00	
Surrender	N	698.00	698.00	
Subsistence charges can be paid in four equal quarterly instalments paid on 1st April, 1st July, 1st October and 1st January. Where paid quarterly the total amount payable to the local authority will be increased by £38.00				
Newspaper adverts may be required under EPR at the discretion of the LA as part of the consultation process when considering an application. This will be undertaken and paid for by the LA and the charging scheme contains a provision for the LA to recoup its costs				
				Minimal
TRADING STANDARDS				
Please note that VAT may be added to some charges. Check with the service before the work is agreed.				
Prosecution Costs				
Hourly rate for Preparation of Case Reports	L	48.00	50.00	
Measures				
Linear measures not exceeding 3m each scale	L	15.00	15.00	
Not exceeding 15kg	L	40.50	40.50	
Exceeding 15kg but not exceeding 100kg	L	70.50	70.50	
Exceeding 100kg but not exceeding 250kg	L	84.50	84.50	
Exceeding 250kg but not exceeding 1 tonne	L	147.00	147.00	
Exceeding 1 tonne but not exceeding 10 tonnes	L	235.50	235.50	
Exceeding 10 tonnes but not exceeding 30 tonnes	L	494.00	494.00	
Exceeding 30 tonnes but not exceeding 60 tonnes	L	734.00	734.00	
Charge to cover any additional costs involved in testing incorporating remote display or printing facilities based on the above fee plus a charge per hour (minimum charge of 2 hours)	L	65.00 per hour	70.00 per hour	
Measuring Instruments for Intoxicating Liquor				
Not exceeding 150ml	L	23.50	23.50	
Other	L	27.00	27.00	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Measuring Instruments for Liquid Fuels and Lubricants				
Container Type (un-subdivided)				
Multi-grade (with price computing device):	L	102.00	102.00	
Single Outlets	L	139.50	139.50	
Solely Price Adjustment	L	255.00	255.00	
Otherwise				
Other Types – Single Outlets				
Solely Price Adjustment	L	112.00	112.00	
Otherwise	L	152.00	152.00	
Other Types – Multi Outlets:				
1 Meter Tested	L	162.50	162.50	
2 Meters Tested	L	267.00	267.00	
3 Meters Tested	L	365.00	365.00	
4 Meters Tested	L	465.00	465.00	
5 Meters Tested	L	562.00	562.00	
6 Meters Tested	L	660.00	660.00	
7 Meters Tested	L	746.00	746.00	
8 Meters Tested	L	861.00	861.00	
Charge to cover any additional costs involved in testing ancillary equipment such as payment acceptors based on the above fee plus a charge per hour (minimum of 2 hours)	L	65.00 per hour	70.00 per hour	
Special Weighing and Measuring Equipment				
For all specialist work undertaken by the service which is not included above a charge per hour on site (minimum charge of 2 hours) plus cost of provision of testing equipment applies	L	65.00 per hour	70.00 per hour	
Discounts				
Fees from Measures to Certification Calibration will be discounted as follows :-				
a) Where more than a single item is submitted on one occasion the second and subsequent fees will be reduced by 20%				
b) Where tests are undertaken using appropriately certified weights and equipment not supplied by the Borough Council the fees will be reduced by 20%				
c) Special rates can be negotiated for multiple submissions or where assistance with equipment or labour is provided				
NB – Where different fees are involved the highest fee will be charged in full and any discounts calculated from the remaining lesser fees				
Licensing – VAT not applicable				
Explosives and Fireworks Licences (Statutory Fee)				
Licence for the storage of explosives	N	**See Note	**See Note	
Licence for the sale of fireworks all year round	N	**See Note	**See Note	
**These are statutory rates that are set centrally in April				
				Minimal

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
PARKING – all off-street charges are inclusive of VAT at 20%				
Car Parks (Short Stay) – per hour (Mon to Sun)				
Abbotts Yard	L	1.00	1.00	
Commercial Street East & West	L	1.00	1.00	
Feethams Multi Storey Car Park	L	1.00	1.00	
Winston Street North & South & West	L	1.00	1.00	
Town Hall	L	1.00	1.00	
Car Parks – Mixed Charges (Mon to Sat)				
Archer Street, Garden Street, Kendrew Street East & West, Hird Street, St Hilda's & Park Place East & West				
Per hour	L	1.00	1.00	
Per day	L	4.00	4.00	
Per week	L	16.00	16.00	
East Street				
Per hour	L	1.00	1.00	
Per day	L	2.00	2.00	
Sunday				
Archer Street, Garden Street, Kendrew Street East & West, Hird Street, St Hilda's & Park Place East & West & East Street				
L		1.00	1.00	
Car Parks – Long Stay (Mon to Sun)				
Chestnut Street				
Cars per hour	L	1.00	1.00	
Cars per day	L	2.00	2.00	
Cars per week	L	8.00	8.00	
HGV/coach per day	L	Free	Free	
HGV/coach per night (6pm-8am)	L	4.00	4.00	
Park Lane				
Per day	L	5.00	5.00	
Central House				
Saturday all day	L	4.00	4.00	
Bank Holiday all day	L	4.00	4.00	
On Street Parking Mon to Sun (up to 2 hours no return within 1 hour EXCEPT for Grange Road & Northumberland Street up to 3 hours no return within 1 hour and East Row 30 minutes maximum no return within 1 hour)				
Per 30 mins	L	0.50	0.50	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Car Parks – Contract Parking – all charges are inclusive of VAT at 20%				
Parking locations as determined by the Director of Services.				
Per year one space	L	950.00	950.00	
Per year two spaces	L	900.00	900.00	
Per year three spaces	L	860.00	860.00	
Per year four spaces	L	830.00	830.00	
Per year five to nine spaces	L	800.00	800.00	
Per year ten or more spaces	L	700.00	700.00	
Four Riggs				
Per calendar month	L	64.00	64.00	
Morton Palms				
Per year one space	L	300.00	300.00	
Silver Street				
Per year one space	L	600.00	600.00	
Car Parks – Staff & Members per year	L	173.04	173.04	
Residents Parking Permits (excluding Town Centre)				
3 month temporary permit	L	12.00	12.00	
6 month permit	L	24.00	24.00	
12 month permit	L	40.00	40.00	
Residents Parking Permits (Town Centre only)				
12 month permit	L	N/a	350.00	
Tradesmen Parking Permits				
Daily Waiver	L	5.00	5.00	
3 month permit	L	50.00	50.00	
6 month permit	L	90.00	90.00	
12 month permit	L	150.00	150.00	
				NIL

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
<p>BUILDING CONTROL Items inclusive of VAT at 20%</p> <p>Letter confirming exemption L Free Free</p> <p>Letter confirming enforcement action will not be taken L Free Free</p> <p>Decision/Approval Notice (Building Control)</p> <p>Responding to request for historical information from electronic databases (email response) L Free Free</p> <p>Responding to request for historical information from electronic databases (letter response) L 1.00 1.00</p> <p>Responding to request for historical information from manually recorded data (email response) L Free Free</p> <p>Personal searches (email response) L Free Free</p> <p>The Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 2010 Plus VAT at 20%</p> <p>Work charged on individual job basis L As agreed with client As agreed with client</p> <p style="text-align: right;">NIL</p>				

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
DOLPHIN CENTRE				
Pricing based on the introduction of a leisure card.				
Swimming				
Adult swim				
Card holder	L	4.10	4.40	
Non card holder	L	4.75	5.05	
Concession	L	3.15	3.30	
Junior Swim	L	2.75	2.80	
Family swim junior rate discount (up to 4 children accompanying 1 adult)				
Per card holder	L	1.95	2.00	
Per non card holder	L	2.35	2.45	
Under 12 months	L	Free	Free	
Lessons	L	47.50	50.00	
Fitness Areas				
The Gym				
Card holder	L	5.00	5.50	
Non card holder	L	5.45	5.95	
Concession	L	3.70	4.10	
Junior Gym	L	4.00	4.10	
Concession	L	3.10	3.20	
Health & Fitness Classes				
Health & Fitness Classes				
Card holder	L	4.35	4.55	
Non card holder	L	5.00	5.25	
Concession	L	3.30	3.45	
Half Main Hall				
Adult				
Card holder	L	43.50	44.50	
Non card holder	L	50.00	51.00	
Junior (1 hour courts only)	L	30.00	31.00	
Weekday lunchtime				
Card holder	L	38.00	39.00	
Non card holder	L	42.00	43.00	
Badminton				
Adult				
Card holder	L	8.65	8.85	
Non card holder	L	9.90	10.10	
Concession	L	6.50	6.70	
Junior (1 hour courts only)	L	4.80	5.00	
Concession (1 hour courts only)	L	3.65	3.85	
Equipment Hire				
Footballs	L	Free	Free	
Footballs – Deposit (FOC for card holders)	L	5.00	5.00	
Badminton	L	2.00	2.00	
Badminton – Deposit (FOC for card holders)	L	5.00	5.00	
Table Tennis Bats	L	1.40	1.40	
Table Tennis Bats – Deposit (FOC for card holders)	L	5.00	5.00	
Pram Lock	L	Free	Free	
Pram Lock – Deposit (FOC for card holders)	L	5.00	5.00	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Children's Activities				
Soft play admissions	L	4.75	5.25	
Sensory Room	L	4.75	5.25	
Parent/toddler (Soft play)	L	4.75	5.25	
Other Activities				
Showers				
Card holders	L	2.00	2.50	
Non card holders	L	2.35	2.85	
Fit 4 Life Packages				
12 month Full Membership	L	299.40	323.40	
12 month Seniors	L	228.00	252.00	
12 month Student	L	180.00	204.00	
6 Month Full	L	195.00	207.00	
12 Month Upfront	L	275.00	299.00	
Swimming Pools				
Main Pool - per hour	L	100.00	105.00	
Diving Pool - per hour	L	57.00	60.00	
Teaching Pool - per hour	L	57.00	60.00	
Gala - per hour				
Swimming Galas - whole complex				
Normal opening hours - per hour	L	320.00	335.00	
Outside normal opening hours - per hour	L	168.00	176.00	
Swimming Galas - Schools, Junior Clubs and Organisations				
Main Pool - Peak	L	224.00	235.00	
Main Pool - Off Peak	L	158.00	166.00	
Main Pool and Teaching Pool - Peak	L	187.00	196.00	
Main Pool and Teaching Pool - Off Peak	L	193.00	202.00	
Electronic Timing	L	94.00	99.00	
Ten Pin Bowling				
Adult Standard - 1 game				
Juniors (under 16) - 1 game	L	7.00	7.45	
Students & Seniors - Off Peak - 1 game	L	5.95	5.95	
Family Package - Peak - 1 game	L	5.95	5.95	
Family Package - Off Peak - 1 game	L	23.00	23.50	
Family Package - Off Peak - 1 game	L	21.00	21.50	
Adult, Students, Seniors - Peak - 2 game				
Adult, Student, Seniors - Off Peak - 2 game	L	14.00	14.90	
Juniors (under 16) - Peak - 2 game	L	10.50	10.50	
Juniors (under 16) - Peak - 2 game	L	11.90	11.90	
Juniors (under 16) - Off Peak - 2 game	L	10.50	10.50	
Disabled and carer - Off Peak - 1 game (per person)				
Disabled and carer - Off Peak - 2 game (per person)	L	4.95	4.95	
Disabled and carer - Off Peak - 2 game (per person)	L	9.90	9.90	
Dry Sports Hall				
Main Sports Hall - per hour	L	105.00	110.00	
Special Events - per hour Weekends	L	345.00	362.00	
Preparation - per hour Weekends	L	180.00	189.00	
Special Events - Schools - per hour off peak	L	49.00	49.00	
Meeting Room	L	36.00	36.00	
Seminar Room/Stephenson Suite	L	36.00	36.00	
Central Hall				
All Events (except commercial, exhibitions and local societies)	L	110.00	115.00	
Exhibitions - commercial - per hour	L	143.00	150.00	
Local Societies event - per hour	L	76.00	80.00	
				72,000

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
PARKS				
Football - Hire of Hundens Park Pitch Seniors' Match	L	25.00	25.00	
Juniors Match	L	15.00	15.00	
				NIL
EASTBOURNE SPORTS COMPLEX				
3G Pitch				
All charges shown exclusive of VAT. Charges will be made plus the appropriate VAT rate				
Non Charter Standard Pay and Play				
1/2 3G Pitch - Adult (1 hour)	L	46.00	50.00	
1/2 3G Pitch - Junior (1 hour)	L	35.00	40.00	
Full 3G pitch per hour – Adult	L	77.00	80.00	
Full 3G pitch per hour – Junior	L	50.00	55.00	
Charter Standard and Partner Clubs				
1/2 3G Pitch (1 hour)	L	25.00	25.00	
Full 3G pitch per hour	L	50.00	50.00	
Off Peak Summer Prices (May to August) Charter Standard and Partner Clubs				
1/2 3G Pitch (1 hour)	L	25.00	25.00	
Full 3G pitch per hour	L	50.00	50.00	
Off Peak Summer Prices (May to August) Non Charter Standard				
1/2 3G Pitch (1 hour)	L	35.00	40.00	
Full 3G pitch per hour	L	65.00	70.00	
All charges shown inclusive of VAT unless otherwise stated. Charges will be made plus the appropriate VAT rate				
Grass Pitch				
Adult per match	L	25.00	25.00	
Junior per match	L	15.00	15.00	
Athletics Track (following completion of refurbishment in 2023)				
Non club rate				
Adult	L	4.00	5.00	
Junior	L	3.60	4.00	
Full track per hour	L	35.00	120.00	
Club rate				
Adult	L	3.00	4.00	
Junior	L	3.00	4.00	
Full track per hour	L	35.00	90.00	
Other				
Shower	L	2.00	2.20	
Function room and pavilion hire per hour (exclusive of VAT)	L	21.00	22.00	
Multi Purpose Studio per hour (exclusive of VAT)	L	15.00	16.00	
				1,000

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
HIPPODROME & HULLABALOO				
Hire & Conferencing (all pricing exclusive of VAT)				
John Wade Group Lounge - max capacity 40 (theatre style) - per hour	L	36.75	38.75	
John Wade Group Lounge - max capacity 40 (theatre style) - day hire**	L	220.50	231.75	
Living Water Tower Room - max capacity 18 - per hour	L	31.50	33.25	
Living Water Tower Room - max capacity 18 - day hire**	L	189.00	198.50	
Hippo Lounge - max capacity 70 - per hour	L	44.00	46.25	
Hippo Lounge - max capacity 70 - day hire**	L	264.50	277.75	
Hippo Education Space - max capacity 40 (workshop of approx. 25) - per hour	L	36.75	38.75	
Hippo Education Space - max capacity 40 (workshop of approx. 25) - day hire**	L	220.50	231.75	
Hullabaloo Rehearsal Space - max capacity 35 - per hour	L	36.75	38.75	
Hullabaloo Rehearsal Space - max capacity 35 - day hire**	L	220.50	231.75	
Hullabaloo Café - max capacity 70 - per hour	L	44.00	46.25	
Hullabaloo Café - max capacity 70 - day hire**	L	264.50	277.75	
Hippodrome Theatre Hire - max capacity 1,000 - w/end full day	L	1,995.00	2,095.00	
Hippodrome Theatre Hire - max capacity 1,000 - w/end half day	L	997.50	1,047.50	
Hippodrome Theatre Hire - max capacity 1,000 - w/day full day	L	1,837.50	1,929.50	
Hippodrome Theatre Hire - max capacity 1,000 - w/day half day	L	918.75	965.00	
Hullabaloo Theatre Hire - max capacity 150 - per hour	L	65.00	68.50	
Hullabaloo Theatre Hire - max capacity 150 - day hire**	L	472.50	496.50	
**day hire - 9am to 6pm				
Community Rate may be applicable for charities, NHS, children's groups and local artists if qualifying criteria met. This equates to 30% reduction on the above charges.				
				1,000

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
HEAD OF STEAM (closed during 2023/24 for refurbishment)				
REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL				
Refuse sacks (per 25) (Exclusive of VAT)	L	107.50	118.50	
Garden Waste Sacks (Non VATable) (for collection of 10 bags)	L	11.60	12.80	
Bulky Household Collection up to 6 items	L	19.40	21.40	
Garden Waste Service	L	37.00	39.00	
Cost of replacement (inclusive of 20% VAT)				
360L Wheeled Bin	L	54.95	60.60	
240L Wheeled Bin	L	21.65	23.90	
Caddie	L	5.55	8.50	
Glass Box	L	3.55	6.00	
55L Box	L	3.55	6.00	
Lid for recycling box	L	1.50	2.50	
Lid for 240L bin	L	5.40	6.00	
				21,000

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
CEMETERIES				
Burial fees without exclusive right of burial (these fees will be tripled where the deceased is a non-resident of Darlington at time of death)				
Individual foetal remains	N	No Charge	No Charge	
Stillborn or child not exceeding 12 months	N	No Charge	No Charge	
Person over 12 months up to 18 years	N	No Charge	No Charge	
Person over 18 years	L	960.00	990.00	
Burial fees with exclusive right of burial (these fees will be doubled where the deceased is a non-resident of Darlington at time of death)				
Individual foetal remains	N	No Charge	No Charge	
Child not exceeding 12 months	N	No Charge	No Charge	
Person over 12 months up to 18 years	N	No Charge	No Charge	
Person over 18 years	L	960.00	990.00	
Cremated remains	L	210.00	220.00	
Exclusive rights of burial (these fees will be doubled if the purchaser is a non-resident of Darlington if not purchased at time of first interment).				
Exclusive burial rights (50 years)	L	980.00	1,010.00	
Exclusive burial rights for a bricked grave	L	1,960.00	2,020.00	
Other charges				
Scattering of cremated remains	L	50.00	50.00	
Indemnity form (to produce duplicate grant)	L	50.00	50.00	
Use of Cemetery Chapel	L	100.00	120.00	
After post mortem remains	L	210.00	220.00	
Exhumation of a body (excl. re-interment)	L	2,100.00	2,150.00	
Exhumation of cremated remains (excl. re-interment)	L	525.00	550.00	
Grave Maintenance (inclusive of 20% VAT)				
Initial payment	L	50.00	50.00	
Annual Maintenance	L	37.00	38.00	
Memorials (fees will be doubled where the deceased to whom the memorial/inscription refers was non-resident of Darlington at time of death)				
Memorial rights including first inscription (30 years)	L	220.00	220.00	
Provision of kerbs – traditional sites only)	L	100.00	100.00	
Vases not exceeding 300mm	L	80.00	80.00	
Additional inscription	L	80.00	80.00	
Total financial effect for Cemeteries				6,000

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
CREMATORIUM				
Crematorium fees (inclusive of certificate of cremation, use of organ and scattering of remains in Gardens of Remembrance at an unreserved time)				
Individual foetal remains	N	No charge	No charge	
Hospital arrangement – foetal remains	L	210.00	220.00	
Stillborn or child not exceeding 12 months	N	No charge	No charge	
Person over 12 months up to 18 years	N	No charge	No charge	
Person over 18 years	L	875.00	900.00	
Direct Cremation	L	675.00	700.00	
After post mortem remains	L	210.00	220.00	
Other charges				
Medical Referee Fee	N	22.00	22.00	
Environmental Surcharge	L	58.00	60.00	
Postal Carton	L	20.00	20.00	
Metal Urn	L	40.00	40.00	
Wooden Casket	L	50.00	50.00	
Baby Urn	L	10.00	10.00	
Crematorium Chapel	L	100.00	120.00	
Scattering of remains at reserved time	L	50.00	50.00	
Webcasts (inclusive of 20% VAT)				
Live Webcast	L	48.00	48.00	
Live Webcast and watch again	L	54.00	54.00	
Keepsake (DVD, Blu-ray, USB or audio CD)	L	60.00	60.00	
Extra copies of Keepsake	L	30.00	30.00	
Book of Remembrance (inclusive of 20% VAT)				
Single Entry (2 lines)	L	70.00	70.00	
Double Entry (3 or 4 lines)	L	110.00	110.00	
Additional lines	L	25.00	25.00	
Crest or floral emblem	L	115.00	115.00	
Memorial Cards (inclusive of 20% VAT)				
Single entry card (2 lines)	L	25.00	25.00	
Double entry card (3 or 4 lines)	L	30.00	30.00	
Additional lines	L	5.00	5.00	
Crest of floral emblem	L	70.00	70.00	
Personal photographs – set up	L	50.00	50.00	
Additional photographs – after set up	L	10.00	10.00	
Memorial Books (inclusive of 20% VAT)				
Single entry book (2 lines)	L	80.00	80.00	
Double entry card (3 or 4 lines)	L	85.00	85.00	
Additional lines	L	5.00	5.00	
Crest of floral emblem	L	70.00	70.00	
Personal photographs – set up	L	50.00	50.00	
Additional photographs – after set up	L	10.00	10.00	
Other Memorial Schemes				
Replacement kerb vase plaque	L	300.00	300.00	
Replacement flower holder	L	5.00	5.00	
Wall plaques	L	245.00	250.00	
Planter plaques	L	365.00	370.00	
Lease of space for memorial plaques (per annum)	L	25.00	26.00	
Total financial effect for Crematorium				32,000

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
ALLOTMENTS & STABLES				
Rent per year	L	185.60	195.00	
				Minimal
HIGHWAYS				
Private apparatus in the Highway (Section 50 Licence, new installations)	L	550.00	550.00	
Private Road Openings (repair existing)	L	225.00	225.00	
Vehicle Crossings – estimate fee (taken as part of payment if go ahead with the works)	L	25.00	25.00	
Vehicle Crossings (plus actual construction costs)	L	100.00	100.00	
Vehicle Crossings if planning permission required on a classified road (plus actual construction costs)	L	150.00	150.00	
Temporary Traffic Regulation Notices (road closures etc)	L	175.00	175.00	
Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (road closures etc) (plus advertising)	L	288.00	288.00	
Emergency Traffic Regulation Orders	L	136.00	136.00	
Application to Secretary of State for TTRO extension (plus advertising)	L	100.00	100.00	
Personal Search - Highways (by email) per question	L	6.00	6.00	
Street Naming Royal Mail Income (per address, Nationally agreed price LGIH)	L	1.00	1.00	
Street Naming & Numbering of Properties:				
- Per road name (developer suggests)	L	165.00	173.00	
- Per road name (council names)	L	200.00	210.00	
- Per plot	L	15.00	16.00	
Street Naming & Numbering of Properties:				
- Per plot or renaming of a property	L	35.00	37.00	
Rechargeable Works	L	Actual cost + 10%	Actual cost + 10%	
Temporary Traffic Light Applications	L	No Charge Individually priced based on requirements	No Charge Individually priced based on requirements	
Section 50 Licence associated bond costs	L	No charge	No charge	
Access protection markings	L	£75.00 + VAT	£75.00 + VAT	
Tourist Sign (plus actual cost of sign)	L	£75.00 + VAT	£75.00 + VAT	
Accident Data Requests	L	75.00	75.00	
Traffic Count Data	L	Individually priced based on charge out rate	Individually priced based on charge out rate	
Street Lighting Design Service	L	No charge	No charge	
Oversailing Licence	L	No charge	No charge	
Banner Licence	L	No charge	No charge	
Placing Goods on the Highway	L	155.00	155.00	
Deposits upon the Highway	L	No charge	No charge	
Temporary Development Signs – Admin Fee	L	200.00	200.00	
Temporary Development Signs – DBC undertake work on behalf of developer	L	Actual costs	Actual costs	
Switch off / on traffic signal / pelican crossings – per visit	L	150.00	150.00	
Unauthorised marks or affixing of signs to street furniture	L	No charge	No charge	

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Section 278 Highway works agreement	N	6% of works + legal if delivered by developer	6% of works + legal if delivered by developer	
Section 116 Stopping Up of the Highway	N	Actual Costs	Actual Costs	
Section 38 Road Adoption agreement	N	6% of works + legal if delivered by developer	6% of works + legal if delivered by developer	
NRSWA Defect Charges	N	Nationally set scale of charges	Nationally set scale of charges	
NRSWA Road Opening Inspection Charges (sample)	N	Nationally set scale of charges	Nationally set scale of charges	
Section 74 – charges for overstays	N	Nationally set scale of charges	Nationally set scale of charges	
				Minimal
PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY				
Public Path Orders (HA 80 S 118 and 119, TCPA 90 s247, 257)				
Actual cost based on charge out rate plus advertising and legal costs		2,200.00 (minimum)	3,000.00 (minimum)	
PROW Temporary Closures – as Highways fees and charges				
Landowner Rights of Way Statement and Declaration s31.6				
One parcel of land, includes 2 notices		L 250.00	250.00	
Additional parcel		L 50.00	50.00	
Additional notice		L 50.00	50.00	
Authorisation for installing a new gate or stile (HA 80 s147)		L 100.00	100.00	
Path Orders under Deregulation Act				
Actual cost based on charge out rate plus advertising and legal costs, to include but not restricted to pre-application advice, processing the application, resolving objections, making the order, confirmation of the order, and any subsequent Public Inquiry or Hearing				
				Minimal
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT				
Charges for Concessionary Travel (ENCTS);				
Replacement pass for lost/stolen without a CRN		L 10.00	10.00	
Learn to Ride per session (child)		L 3.00	3.00	
Production, placement and retrieval of notices when bus stops are temporarily per bus stop		L 60.00	60.00	
Production and placement of bus timetable information when bus services have to be re-registered due to road closures – up to 6 timetables		L 84.00	84.00	
				NIL

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
TRANSPORT SERVICES				
Charges for Taxi Licensing;				
Taxi Vehicle Test	L	50.00	53.00	
Taxi Vehicle Test and MOT	L	60.00	63.00	
Failure to attend (less than 48 hours' notice)	L	50.00	53.00	
Re-test	L	25.00	26.00	
Re-test including emissions	L	35.00	37.00	
Re-test emissions only	L	10.00	11.00	
Charges for General Public;				
MOT for Motorbike Class I & II	L	25.00	25.00	
MOT for Standard Car Class IV	L	35.00	35.00	
MOT for Class V Vehicles	L	40.00	40.00	
MOT for Class VII Vehicles	L	40.00	40.00	
				Minimal
PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING				
Works in default & statutory activities per hour	L	48.00	50.00	
Housing inspections & consultancy per hour (inclusive of VAT)	L	57.60	60.00	
Charge for the service relevant Housing Act 2004 legal notice	L	432.00	450.00	
Securing empty homes (addition of VAT by agreement)	L	288.00	300.00	
Houses in Multiple Occupation Activities;				
HMO licence fee per letting/let/tenancy	L	187.00	187.00	
Other relevant HMO activities per hour	L	47.00	50.00	
Variation of HMO licence	L	Free	50.00	
Housing Immigration Inspections;				
Within 10 working days (including VAT)	L	144.00	150.00	
Fast Track within 5 working days (including VAT)	L	192.00	200.00	
General Enforcement Activities:				
Hourly rate for preparation of case reports/prosecutions	L	48.00	50.00	
Additional copies of legal notices via post	L	10.00	10.00	
Additional copies of legal notices - Scanned copy by Email	L	Free	Free	
The Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (Amendment) Regulations 2022				
Fines for failing to provide a working smoke or carbon monoxide alarm. Offence by the same individual or organisation;				
First	N	500.00	500.00	
Second	N	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Third	N	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Fourth	N	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Fifth or more	N	5,000.00	5,000.00	
The Redress Schemes for Letting Agency Work and Property Management Work (England) Order 2014;				
Fines for failing to join an approved letting and management redress scheme;				
Businesses that have been served with a notice of intent and failed to join an approved scheme	N	5,000.00	5,000.00	
Businesses that have joined an approved scheme following the service of the notice of intent	N	4,000.00	4,000.00	
Businesses that have joined an approved scheme prior to enforcement action being taken, after the 1st October 2014	N	3,000.00	3,000.00	
**The Redress Scheme is currently undergoing a national review and may be replaced prior to April 2023 by a new civil penalty policy				

Description	Type*	Existing Charge £	New Charge £	Financial Effect £
*KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed				
Energy Efficiency (Private Rented Property) (England and Wales) Regulations 2015				
Penalty (less than 3 months in breach) renting a non-compliant property	N	Up to 2,000.00 and/or publication penalty	Up to 2,000.00 and/or publication penalty	
Penalty (3 months or more in breach) renting out a non-compliant property	N	Up to 4,000.00 and/or publication penalty	Up to 4,000.00 and/or publication penalty	
Providing false or misleading information on the PRS Exemptions Register	N	Up to 1,000.00 and/or publication penalty	Up to 1,000.00 and/or publication penalty	
Failing to comply with a compliance notice	N	Up to 2,000.00 and/or publication penalty	Up to 2,000.00 and/or publication penalty	
Housing and Planning Act 2016				
Failure to comply with an Improvement Notice (under section 30 of the Housing Act 2004)				
Failure to comply with a Prohibition Order (under section 32 of the Housing Act 2004)				
Breach of a banning order made under section 21 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016	N	Civil penalties of up to 30,000 per offence as an alternative to prosecution	Civil penalties of up to 30,000 per offence as an alternative to prosecution	
Using violence to secure entry to a property (under section 6 of the Criminal Law Act 1977)				
Illegal eviction or harassment of the occupiers of a property (under section 1 of the Protection from Eviction Act 1977)				
COST OF REVENUE COLLECTION				
Council Tax – All Charges do not incur VAT				
Issue of Summons for Liability Order	L	33.50	38.00	
Issue of Liability Order	L	44.00	47.00	
Issue of Summons for Committal Hearing	L	90.00	99.00	
Issue of Statutory Demand	L	157.50	173.00	
Business Rates (NNDR) – All Charges do not incur VAT				
Issue of Summons for Liability Order	L	33.50	38.00	
Issue of Liability Order	L	44.00	47.00	
Issue of Summons for Committal Hearing	L	90.00	99.00	
Issue of Statutory Demand	L	157.50	173.00	
				50,000

APPENDIX 4

**KEY ASSUMPTIONS USED IN PROJECTED
RESOURCES, EXPENDITURE AND INCOME 2023/24-2026/27**

Factor	Assumption
Resources	
Council Tax base	Variable depending on projected additional properties.
Council Tax	2.99% increase in 2023/24 to 2026/27
Adult Social Care Precept	2% increase in 2023/24 to 2026/27
Council Tax collection	99% collected
Government Grants	Government grants for 2023/24 as indicated in 2022 spending review and indicative figures for 2024/25 – 2026/27.
	Increase in Business Rates Scheme Top Up Grant of 10.1% in 2023/24 & 2.00% in 2024/25, 2025/26 & 2026/27 (projected CPI).
	Revenue Support Grant 2023/24 uplifted for 2% inflation to 2026/27.
	Continuation of Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) at 2022/23 rates.
	Continuation of 2022/23 Social Care Support Grant of £3.753m in total, flatlined and assumed to continue to 2026/27.
	Spending Review 21 Government Funding assumed to be continued at 22/23 rates until 2026/27
	2022/23 Services Grant assumed to continue until 2026/27 at same rate as 2022/23
	Social Care Grant of £0.728m in 2023/24 & £1.237m in 2024/25
	Lower Tier Services Grant assumed to continue until 2026/27 at same rate as 2022/23
	New Homes Bonus (NHB) legacy payments will continue but no new ones assumed after 2023/24.
Expenditure	
Pay inflation	2023-24 5% and thereafter 2% in line with national scheme.
Price inflation	Only contractual inflation on running costs
Local Government Pension Scheme	Contribution rate of 18.3% for 2023/24 until next triennial revaluation in 25/26.
Financing Costs	
Interest rates payable	Average rate on existing debt 2023/24 of 3.24%; 2024/25 of 3.22%, 2025/26 of 3.10% & 2026/27 of 3.15%.
Interest rates payable on new debt – 10 year rate	2023/24 of 4.20%; 2024/25 of 3.45%, 2025/26 of 3.13% & 2026/27 of 2.68%.
Interest rates receivable	4.60% in 2023/24, 3.20% in 2024/25, 2.80% in 2025/26 & 2.80% in 2026/27.
Income	
Inflationary increases	Various based on individual service considerations

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REVENUE BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2022/23

<u>Projected General Fund Reserve at 31st March 2023</u>		2022-26 MTFP (Feb 2022)
Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) :-		£000
MTFP Planned Opening Balance 01/04/2022		24,595
Approved net contribution from balances		(582)
Planned Closing Balance 31/03/2023		24,013
Increase in opening balance from 2021-22 results		384
Projected corporate underspends / (overspends) :-		
Council Wide		(1,426)
Additional income received		230
Projected General Fund Reserve (excluding Departmental) 31st March 2023	at	23,201
Planned Balance at 31st March 2023		24,013
Improvement/(Decline)		(812)

<u>Departmental projected year-end balances</u>		Improvement / (decline) compared with 2022-26 MTFP £000
People Group		(1,054)
Services Group		533
Operations Group		(78)
Chief Executive		60
TOTAL		(539)

<u>Summary Comparison with :-</u>		2022-26 MTFP £000
Corporate Resources - increase in opening balance from 21/22 results		384
Corporate Resources - additional in-year Improvement/(Decline)		(1,196)
Departmental - Improvement / (Decline)		(539)
Improvement / (Decline) compared with MTFP		(1,351)
Projected General Fund Reserve at 31st March 2023		22,662

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MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL TERM 2023 TO 2027

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	£m	£m	£m	£m
People Group	74.176	76.320	77.966	80.432
Chief Executives Office & Economic Growth	1.535	1.571	1.664	1.716
Services Group	20.649	21.264	21.596	22.065
Operations Group	19.547	19.945	20.263	20.655
Financing costs	3.477	3.613	3.664	3.364
Investment Returns - Joint Venture	(1.816)	(1.718)	(1.130)	(1.130)
Council Wide Pressures/(savings)	1.259	1.283	1.309	1.335
Council Wide Contingencies	(0.237)	(0.246)	(0.255)	1.189
Contribution to/(from) revenue balances	(8.417)	(10.396)	(10.356)	(9.735)
Total Net Expenditure	110.173	111.636	114.720	119.891
<u>Resources - Projected and assumed</u>				
Council Tax	61.877	65.556	69.791	74.375
Business rates retained locally	23.021	16.510	16.851	17.192
Top Up	8.029	11.736	11.901	12.065
RSG	3.943	4.022	4.102	4.184
NHB	0.354	0.354	0.354	0.354
BCF	4.488	4.488	4.488	4.488
Adult Social Care Support Grant	3.753	3.753	3.753	3.753
Spending Review 21 Government Funding	1.162	1.162	1.162	1.162
2022/23 Services Grant	2.167	2.167	2.167	2.167
Social Care Grant Autumn Statement 2022	0.728	1.237	0.000	0.000
Strengthening Families Grant	0.500	0.500	0.000	0.000
Lower Tier Services Grant	0.151	0.151	0.151	0.151
Total Resources	110.173	111.636	114.720	119.891
<u>Balances</u>				
Opening balance	23.205	17.203	7.807	(2.549)
Release of Earmarked Reserve - LCTS	1.415	0.000	0.000	0.000
Net contribution to GF from Collection Fund	1.000	1.000	0.000	0.000
Contribution to/(from) balances	(8.417)	(10.396)	(10.356)	(9.735)
Closing balance	17.203	7.807	(2.549)	(12.284)

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Capital Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 - 2026/27					Appendix 7
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Children, Families & Learning					
School Condition Allocations	<i>159</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>159</i>	636
	<i>159</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>159</i>	636
Housing					
Adaptations / Lifts	200	212	218	225	855
Heating replacement programme	1,225	1,295	1,334	1,374	5,227
Structural works	400	424	437	450	1,711
Lifeline Services	150	159	164	169	641
Repairs before painting	60	66	68	70	264
Roofing	1,000	1,100	683	703	3,485
Garages	25	27	52	53	156
External Works (footpaths, fencing, etc.)	200	210	221	232	862
Pavement Crossing	32	34	36	37	138
Window and Door Replacement Programme	1,400	1,484	1,558	1,605	6,047
IPM works	2,760	2,898	3,043	3,134	11,835
Energy Efficiency	1,000	1,060	1,092	1,125	4,276
Communal Works	150	159	164	169	641
New build (net of HE grant)/regeneration	15,673	11,546	11,138	-	38,357
Fees	310	326	333	340	1,309
	24,585	20,999	20,538	9,684	75,806
Transport					
Highway Maintenance	<i>1,206</i>	<i>1,206</i>	<i>1,206</i>	<i>1,206</i>	4,824
Integrated Transport	<i>893</i>	<i>893</i>	<i>893</i>	<i>893</i>	3,572
Pothole Funding	<i>969</i>	<i>969</i>	<i>969</i>	<i>969</i>	3,876
	3,068	3,068	3,068	3,068	12,272
Other Capital Programmes					
Disabled Facility Grants	1,063	1,063	1,063	1,063	4,252
	1,063	1,063	1,063	1,063	4,252
Council funded Schemes					
Whinfield School Roof Replacement	1,124	-	-	-	1,124
Essential Works to Skerne river bridge	50	-	-	-	50
Essential Play area equipment replacement	60	50	40	50	200
Total Council Funded Schemes	1,234	50	40	50	1,374
Self Financing schemes					
Development of Office Block at Priestgate	-	2,000	8,000	-	10,000
Northern Echo Building refurbishment	3,000	2,500	-	-	5,500
Skinnergate office/commercial space	1,000	600	-	-	1,600
Total Council Self Financing Schemes	4,000	5,100	8,000	-	17,100
Total Spending Plans	34,109	30,439	32,868	14,024	111,440
Funded by:					
Capital Grants	7,890	7,290	6,290	4,290	25,760
HRA Revenue Contributions	12,609	12,150	12,097	9,381	46,237
HRA Capital Receipts	303	303	303	303	1,212
Borrowing	11,673	8,546	8,138	-	28,357
Corporate Resources	1,234	50	40	50	1,374
Self Financing	400	2,100	6,000	-	8,500
Total Resources	34,109	30,439	32,868	14,024	111,440
Commitments - see above	34,109	30,439	32,868	14,024	111,440
Resources Available for Investment	0	(0)	(0)	0	0

Figures shown in italics are estimates, awaiting confirmation of funding streams.

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**HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
11 JANUARY 2023**

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT – MTFP 2023-24 TO 2026-27

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the Housing Revenue Account – MTFP for 2023-24 to 2026-27.

Summary

2. Attached at **Appendix 1** is the Housing Revenue Account - MTFP 2023-24 to 2026-27 report which has been approved by Cabinet as a basis for consultation.

Recommendation

3. Members are requested to consider the Housing Revenue Account – MTFP for 2023-24 to 2026-27 and make any recommendations to Cabinet, specifically in relation to the following recommendations:-
 - (a) To implement a weekly rent increase of 5% for 2023-24, giving an average social rent of £78.70 and affordable rent of £88.38.
 - (b) To increase Garage rents and service charges as shown in Appendix 1.
 - (c) To approve the revenue budget at Appendix 1.
 - (d) To agree the Housing Business Plan at Appendix 1.
 - (e) To approve the capital programme at Appendix 1.

Anthony Sandys
Assistant Director – Housing and Revenues

Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Anthony Sandys: Extension 6926

S17 Crime and Disorder	There are no specific crime and disorder implications in this report.
Health and Wellbeing	By ensuring our housing stock is in good condition we are making a positive contribution to the health and well-being of our tenants
Carbon Impact and Climate Change	There are a range of energy efficiency measures included in the business plan which will have a positive carbon impact
Diversity	The report does not contain any proposals that impact on diversity issues.
Wards Affected	This will have an effect on all Wards in the Borough with Council Housing
Groups Affected	All Council tenants and Lifeline service users
Budget and Policy Framework	The issues contained within this report require Council approval and the report will be presented to Council in February 2023
Key Decision	This is not a key decision
Urgent Decision	This is not an executive decision
Council Plan	This report contributes to the Council Plan by involving Members in the plans to build new Council houses and ensuring the existing Council housing stock is maintained to a high standard and is environmentally friendly by maximising rental and service charge income
Efficiency	As the HRA is a ring fenced budget every effort is made to maximise income and identify savings in order to maintain a high quality service
Impact of Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

4. Cabinet, at its meeting held on 6 December 2022, considered and approved the attached Housing Revenue Account as a basis for consultation.
5. Members are asked to consider the recommendations agreed by Cabinet in relation to the revenue budget, rent level and service charges for the Council's Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for the financial year 2023-24 in the context of the HRA Medium term Financial Plan to 2026-27 and the 30 year business plan.

Consultation

6. The Tenants Panel has been consulted about the proposals and a wider consultation with all Council tenants is currently taking place.

Outcome of Consultation

7. A consultation exercise was carried out with the Tenants Panel in December 2022 with the Panel fully supporting the proposed increase of 5% on the annual rent charge. They appreciated that the increase was less than the maximum rent cap allowance and commenting that it was an acceptable level to increase the rent by. The Panel supports the spending priorities and that energy efficiency work to help reduce tenant's energy bills. The Panel's comments included the following:
 - (a) "The rent increase is understandable; things have to go up and always will. DBC always explains why the prices are increasing and what the money will be spent on, but I particularly like that the money will be spent on warming people's home this year"
 - (b) "In general, I am happy with the percentage... It seems in line with everything and although it is more than previously, I have no issues with this"
 - (c) "I did think that the increase would be somewhere between 5 and 7% so this increase is acceptable. Darlington has a few services, so an increase needs to be factored in at some point."
 - (d) "Although the rent increase is larger than in previous years, it is still a lot smaller and more affordable than private renting. We all knew that it was going to go up but that is in line with cost of living, you are seeing it everywhere. It looks like next year is going to be a lot better... and it looks like the money is being spent wisely."

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**CABINET
6 DECEMBER 2022**

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT – MTFP 2023-24 TO 2025-27

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Kevin Nicholson,
Health and Housing Portfolio**

Responsible Director – Elizabeth Davison, Group Director of Operations

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider proposals for the revenue budget, capital programme, rent levels and service charges for the Council's Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for the financial year 2023-24 in the context of the HRA Medium Term Financial Plan to 2026-27 and the 30-year Business Plan.

Summary

2. Darlington Borough Council is the largest provider of social housing in the borough, providing 5,291 homes to local residents. Our homes offer a high standard of accommodation that meets the Decent Homes Standard and we provide a range of quality services to tenants, including a responsive repairs and maintenance service, lifeline services and emergency call out provision.
3. We are proud of our housing and want to continually improve so in addition to the day to day maintenance, significant investment is made in our housing stock each year to maintain and improve those standards, enhance the energy efficiency of our homes to reduce our carbon impact and help our tenants reduce their energy consumption and bills, whilst ensuring we have the financial capacity to continue with our ambitious programme of building new Council homes.
4. The great quality of our homes and the services provided mean they are in high demand, which is why we have an ambitious programme to build new Council homes in Darlington. Our new build Council housing programme is funded through capital receipts from right to buy sales, grant funding from Homes England and through estimated borrowing of £11.7m.
5. This report sets out the key decisions for the HRA for 2023-24, which includes:
 - (a) Proposed revenue expenditure of £26.557m, including
 - (i) £5.539m to fund our responsive repairs and maintenance service, and
 - (ii) £12.609m contribution to the capital programme.

- (b) A proposed capital programme of £24.585m, including
- (i) £1.225m for heating system replacements,
 - (ii) £1.800m for property adaptations, structural works, external works and roofing,
 - (iii) £1.400m for windows and door replacements,
 - (iv) £2.760m for kitchen and bathroom replacements,
 - (v) £1.000m to deliver energy efficiency measures to tackle climate change,
 - (vi) £15.673m to deliver our new build Council housing programme.
6. The key decision regarding the HRA each year is the balance between setting rent and service charge levels that are affordable to our tenants, whilst ensuring we have sufficient resources to invest in our housing stock, tackle climate change and maintain services.
7. Councils usually have the discretion to increase rents each year by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) plus 1%. CPI for September 2022 was 10.1%, which means for 2023-24 Members would usually be able to increase rents by up to 11.1%.
8. However, the Government consulted on proposals to place a cap on social housing rent increases for 2023-24, and a decision to cap rent increases at 7% has been made.
9. Members will recall that a 2% rent increase was decided in February 2022 for the current financial year, although rents could have been increased by 4.1%. This was in recognition of the economic pressures facing our residents in the aftermath of Covid.
10. The Council has also faced substantial financial pressures over the last 12 month particularly around inflation and the cost of materials and services to maintain our homes, the most significant increases being in roofing, door and window replacements, and general day to day repairs, with an average overall increase in cost of 8.4%. These costs are anticipated to increase by a further 6.1% in 2023/24, as detailed in the main report.
11. Member discounted the option of CPI plus 1+ at an early stage, acknowledging this would be unaffordable for our tenants. Given the government consultation options, a 5% increase a 3% increase and a 2% increase have been considered and taking into account the current economic pressures facing our tenants and balancing this with the increased costs of maintaining and improving our housing and the need to deliver our ambitious capital and energy efficiency programmes, an increase of 5% is recommended, or an average of £3.69 each week. This is lower than CPI and lower than the Government's rent increase cap. It is also recommended to increase service charges by an appropriate inflationary amount.

Recommendations

12. It is proposed that the following recommendations are agreed for wider consultation:-
- (a) An average weekly rent increase of 5% for 2023-24 be implemented giving an average social rent of £78.70 and affordable rent of £88.35.
 - (b) Garage rents and service charges are increased as shown in **Table 3**.
 - (c) The revenue budget at **Appendix 1** is approved.

(d) The Housing Business Plan at **Appendix 2** is agreed.

(e) The capital programme at **Appendix 3** is approved.

Reason

13. To enable the Council to deliver an appropriate level of services to tenants to meet housing need and to support the economic growth of the Borough through housing development.

Elizabeth Davison
Group Director of Operations

Background Papers

Regulator of Social Housing - Rent Standard

Anthony Sandys: Ext 6926

S17 Crime and Disorder	There are no issues
Health and Well Being	By ensuring our housing stock is in good condition we are making a positive contribution to the health and well-being of our tenants
Carbon Impact	There are a range of energy efficiency measures included in the business plan which will have a positive carbon impact
Diversity	There are no diversity issues
Wards Affected	This will have an effect on all Wards in the Borough with Council Housing
Groups Affected	All Council tenants and Lifeline service users
Budget and Policy Framework	The issues contained within this report require Council approval and the report will be presented to Council in February 2023
Key Decision	This is not a key decision
Urgent Decision	This is not an executive decision
Council Plan	This report contributes to the Council Plan by involving Members in the plans to build new Council houses and ensuring the existing Council housing stock is maintained to a high standard and is environmentally friendly by maximising rental and service charge income
Efficiency	As the HRA is a ring fenced budget every effort is made to maximise income and identify savings in order to maintain a high quality service
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	No impact

MAIN REPORT

Background

14. Darlington Borough Council is the largest provider of social housing in the borough, providing 5,291 homes to local residents. Our homes offer a high standard of accommodation that meets the Decent Homes Standard and provides a range of quality services to tenants including a responsive repairs and maintenance service, lifeline services and emergency call out provision.
15. In addition, significant investment is made in our housing stock each year to maintain and improve those standards. A comprehensive capital programme delivers a range of home improvements to tenants, improves the energy efficiency of our homes to reduce our carbon impact and reduce the bills of our residents, whilst ensuring we have the financial capacity to continue with our ambitious programme of building new Council homes. Over 50% of households in Council housing have one or more person with a disability and we are therefore committed to providing good quality homes with generous space standards and lifetime homes principles to support people to live independently and maintain a good quality of life.
16. The great quality of our homes and the services provided mean they are in high demand, which is why we have an ambitious programme to build new Council homes in Darlington.
17. The key decision regarding the HRA each year is the balance between setting rent and service charge levels that are affordable to our tenants, whilst ensuring we have sufficient resources to invest in our housing stock, tackle climate change and maintain services.

Setting the MTFP for the HRA

Projected HRA Expenditure for 2023-24

18. Detailed estimates have been prepared based on current service levels and the following expenditure amounts for the revenue account are proposed for 2023-24:

Area	£m	Description
Operational costs	4.441	This includes all the costs associated with the provision of our housing management, housing income, tenancy sustainment and tenancy enforcement services, central support services and other associated support costs such as ICT, buildings and insurance.
Service charges	3.654	This covers services charged to tenants such as grounds maintenance and Lifeline charges to a range of clients. All service charges are fully recoverable. It also includes recharges that will be recovered through additional income including court costs and recharges to the General Fund for grounds maintenance.
Responsive repairs and maintenance	5.539	This covers the on-going general repairs to our 5,291 Council properties, which is an average of £1,047 for each property in 2023-24. The continued investment in a good quality repairs and maintenance service is essential to maintaining the high

Area	£m	Description
		standards of our housing stock, whilst also ensuring we meet all the statutory requirements to provide for the health and safety of our tenants.
Capital financing	3.447	Historic and ongoing cost of paying for borrowing undertaken to fund capital expenditure.
Bad debt provision	0.250	Provision to cover rents that are deemed to be unrecoverable.
Revenue contribution to the capital programme	12.609	This represents the amount by which the HRA can fund major capital works. A breakdown of the proposed Capital Programme for 2023-24 is given below in 'Housing Business Plan'.

Housing Business Plan

19. All Housing Capital schemes are funded fully from the HRA and this section explains what future capital investment is planned. The priorities are identified through the Housing Business Plan, which is constantly reviewed to ensure investment is targeted in the area of most need. The funding proposals for 2023-24 are:

Area	£m	Description
Adaptations and lifts	0.200	This budget delivers adaptations to Council homes to enable tenants with a disability to remain in their own home and live independently. In addition, the budget also covers any unplanned works to passenger lifts within sheltered and extra care schemes.
Heating replacement	1.225	To fund new condensing boilers and central heating upgrades that are due for replacement and in addition, to any unplanned replacements required due to boiler failure before their due replacement date.
Structural works	0.400	This budget will be used to address structural issues identified within the year.
Lifeline services	0.150	This budget will to continue fund any upgrades required to Lifeline equipment.
Repairs before painting	0.060	This budget will be invested in joinery repair works in anticipation of the cyclical external painting programme.
Roofing and repointing work	1.000	This budget will fund the replacement of flat and pitched roofs and the replacement of fascia's, soffits and rainwater goods. In addition, it will also fund loft insulation work, where appropriate.

Area	£m	Description
Garages	0.025	This budget will be invested in improvements to the Council's garage blocks including demolition where they are beyond economical repair.
External works	0.200	Used to provide new rear dividing fences and new footpaths to Council properties based on their condition, in various locations across the borough.
Pavements	0.032	To fund any identified work to upgrade or adapt any pavements (including requirements for dropped kerbs for Council properties) across the Borough.
Window and door replacement	1.400	To fund the window and external door replacement programme, including replacement fire doors in communal areas. This budget will also fund any window and door replacements required as a result of a responsive repair.
Internal planned maintenance (IPM)	2.760	This budget will fund kitchen and bathroom replacements that are due. This budget will also fund any kitchen and bathroom renewal works for properties as required, including any void properties that require this work before letting.
Communal works	0.150	This budget will fund any work required to communal areas and will also be used to carry out upgrades to card entry systems.
Energy efficiency improvements	1.000	This budget will continue to fund energy efficiency improvements such insulation and heating systems. This will also include any match funding required for Government energy grant bids (see the 'Climate Change' section below).
New build	15.673	This budget will continue to fund the new build Council housing programme (see the 'New Build' section below).

20. The purpose of the Housing Business Plan is to ensure that Housing Services has a sustainable medium-term financial plan, which focuses investment towards our strategic priorities. The following proposals will outline our strategic priorities and how resources will be aligned against these priorities (subject to final decisions on rent levels).

New Build

21. Darlington Borough Council has set an ambitious programme to build additional new Council homes to meet increasing demand for social housing in the area. Since the programme began, 293 new Council properties have already been delivered at various locations around Darlington, providing exceptionally high quality homes to local residents. Demand for our properties continues to be high, with over 1,100 Darlington residents on the Housing Allocations register.

22. Since the abolition of the HRA borrowing cap, we have been able to prudentially borrow and have included additional borrowing of £11.7m in 2023-24 to build new affordable homes. Our new build council housing programme is funded through capital receipts from right to buy sales, grant funding from Homes England and prudential borrowing.
23. The Housing Business Plan is funded by the rents and service charges received from Council properties and the loss of income from ongoing right to buy sales would put the Business Plan at risk if these properties were not replaced.
24. The following new build work is planned to be delivered in 2023-24:
 - (a) Phase 2 of the Sherbourne Close site is due to commence, providing an additional 14 new homes. Phase one of this site has already delivered 18 new homes.
 - (b) Work on the Skinnergate site is due to commence, delivering 15 new homes and will initially require some demolition work of existing commercial buildings.
 - (c) Work on the Neasham Road site commenced in September 2022 and will deliver 150 new homes by 2026. The first new Council homes on the site are due to be completed in 2023-24.
25. As noted previously, the new build programme for 2023-24 will partly be funded through additional borrowing. In addition, grant funding bids to Homes England's Affordable Housing Programme will also provide around 25% of the overall costs. It is difficult to predict exact grant funding levels as decisions are made by Homes England on a site by site basis, therefore grant projections are based on previous successful bids. In order to reduce financing costs, unallocated balances will be used before borrowing, however this is purely for treasury management purposes, as all new build schemes are self-financing.
26. Several new build 'pipeline' sites have been identified and are currently being worked up in more detail to enable planning permission to be sought. Meanwhile, delegated powers are being requested for the Group Director of Operations to enable new build schemes to be progressed in a timely manner, subject to planning permission.

Housing for Vulnerable People

27. Each year, Housing Services complete a range of minor and major adaptations to individual Council properties where a need has been identified by an Occupational Therapist. Works range from the provision of lever taps and grab rails to semi-permanent ramps, stair lifts, hoists and ground floor extensions.
28. The HRA adaptations budget reflects the fundamental role adaptations play in supporting vulnerable people to continue to live independently, reducing the need for expensive care packages and prevent a premature move into residential or care accommodation. These high levels of need have also been considered in developing our new build housing programme and properties are built in accordance with Lifetime Homes standards.
29. Inexpensive features include flush door entrances at the front and rear for wheelchair access, and raised sockets, as well as low level windowsills and openings. Increased space standards allow for hallways wide enough for 360° wheelchair turning circles, wider doors, and ground floor toilets. Occupational Therapists and Housing Officers also work closely with individuals to meet their needs where appropriate, such as bespoke lowered kitchens

and specific bathing requirements before they move in, wherever possible.

Existing Stock Investment and Responsive Repairs

30. In accordance with good practice, our housing stock is surveyed by an independent specialist organisation every five years and detailed analysis of the data takes place to help inform our priorities. Overall, our properties have been assessed as being in good condition, reflecting our significant annual investment as part of a structured programme for both on-going capital improvements and responsive repairs and maintenance. A new stock condition survey is currently taking place and data from this will continue to shape our Business Plan and energy efficiency priorities.
31. All of our properties reached the basic Decent Homes Standard in 2006 and continue to do so. This can be largely attributed to a central heating programme providing A-rated combi-boilers and a planned maintenance programme which ensures properties benefit from cavity wall insulation and 300mm of loft insulation. Properties have also been targeted in recent years for a more comprehensive package of energy efficiency measures including double glazed UPVC windows, composite doors and loft insulation.
32. The Housing Business Plan identifies a capital works budget of around £76m over the next four years and £477m budget for capital works over the next 30 years, including the New Build Programme (see **Appendix 2**).
33. The Business Plan also anticipates the number of responsive repairs will remain at current levels, with an annual inflationary increase for costs and so allocates a budget of £24m for responsive repairs and maintenance over the next four years.

Climate Change

34. We are committed to improve the energy efficiency of our homes, reduce our carbon impact and help tackle climate change and reduce tenant's fuel bills. However, significant investment is required to achieve Government targets to ensure all of our homes:
 - (a) Achieve a minimum Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of C by 2030.
 - (b) Achieve a net zero carbon rating by 2050.
35. An independent consultant was commissioned earlier this year to produce a zero carbon study and our zero carbon plan, to retrofit our housing stock to meet Government targets over the next 30 years. The full cost of retrofitting all properties is difficult to determine at this stage, but estimates are in excess of £100m. The study recognised that the majority of this amount will need to come from Government funding.
36. The Council has already committed £1m of capital expenditure to tackle climate change in 2022-23 and this has been supplemented with Government funding from successful bids through the Local Authority Delivery (LAD) scheme and the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) to deliver improvements to Council homes as follows:
 - (a) The LAD(1b) scheme delivered loft insulation and double glazed windows to 709 Council homes using £1.26m of Government funding and £0.71m of capital expenditure.

- (b) The LAD(2) scheme delivered Air Source Heat Pumps, Smart heating controls, loft insulation and solar panels to 28 Council homes using £0.26m of Government funding and £0.07m of capital expenditure.
 - (c) The SHDF (wave 1) scheme is currently delivering external and cavity wall insulation, Air Source Heat Pumps, loft insulation and solar panels to 23 Council homes using £0.25m of Government funding and £0.25m of capital expenditure.
 - (d) The SHDF (wave 2) scheme (currently awaiting approval) is proposing to deliver external and cavity wall insulation, solar panels, loft insulation, double glazing and low energy lighting to 130 Council homes using £1.2m of Government funding and £1.2m of capital expenditure.
37. In addition, all single glazed windows in Council properties are currently being replaced with double glazing and this work will be completed in 2023. A further £1m investment is recommended for each year in the HRA MTFP, which will help to deliver the following improvements:
- (a) Replacing timber front and back doors with composite doors.
 - (b) Improvements to external wall insulation.
 - (c) Installation of solar panels and air source heat pumps.
 - (d) Loft insulation upgrades as part of our roofing and IPM programmes.
38. All Government funding bids require match funding from the Council. Our initial objective is to ensure the EPC rating for all our Council homes is at a minimum of C. Over 3,400 Council properties currently have an EPC rating of D or lower, although it is recognised that many of these properties just fall short of an EPC rating of C where minimal investment is required to achieve this. Our zero carbon plan currently being developed will identify what actions are required from 2023-24 onwards to deliver this.

Income

Rents

39. All registered providers of social housing (including Councils) must set rents in accordance with the Government's Rent Standard guidance. The guidance allows social housing providers to increase rents, usually by CPI plus 1%, which means for 2022/23, Councils would have the discretion to increase rents by up to 11.1%.
40. However, the Government consulted on proposals to place a cap on social housing rent increases for 2023-24, and a decision to cap rent increases at 7% has been made.
41. Members will recall that a 2% rent increase was decided in February 2022 for the current financial year, although rents could have been increased by 4.1%. This was in recognition of the economic pressures facing our residents in the aftermath of Covid.
42. The Council has faced substantial financial pressures over the last 12 month around inflation, energy and the rising cost of materials and services to maintain our homes, the most significant increases being in roofing, door and window replacements, and

responsive day to day repairs, with an average overall increase in costs of 8.4% (see **Table 1**). These costs are anticipated to increase by a further 6.1% in 2023/24, as shown in **Table 2** below.

Table 1: Cost increases 2022-23

Item	Average cost 21-22	Average cost 22-23	Estimated properties	Total cost 21-22	Total cost 22-23	Percentage increase
Roofing	£6,569	£8,000	100	£656,900	£800,000	21.8%
Kitchen / bathroom	£8,782	£9,329	220	£1,932,040	£2,052,380	6.2%
Heating	£3,387	£3,600	200	£677,400	£720,000	6.3%
External doors	£595	£737	230	£136,850	£169,510	23.9%
Windows	£2,700	£3,000	250	£675,000	£750,000	11.1%
Painting	£250	£255	1,000	£250,000	£255,000	2.0%
Responsive repairs and maintenance	£159	£170	25,000	£3,975,000	£4,250,000	6.9%
Total				£8,303,190	£8,996,890	8.4%

Table 2: Estimated cost increases 2023-24

Item	Total cost 22-23	Estimated total cost 23-24	Percentage increase
Roofing	£800,000	£880,000	10.0%
Kitchen / bathroom	£2,052,380	£2,169,389	5.7%
Heating	£720,000	£759,056	5.4%
External doors	£169,510	£181,351	7.1%
Windows	£750,000	£833,250	11.1%
Painting	£255,000	£280,245	9.9%
Responsive repairs and maintenance	£4,250,000	£4,440,512	4.5%
Total	£8,996,890	£9,543,803	6.1%

43. The option of CPI plus 1+ was discounted at an early stage acknowledging this would be a significant pressure on tenants. Given the government consultation, a number of options were considered including a 5% increase, a 3% increase and a 2% increase for 2023-24. The Council recognises that the last 18 months have been a difficult time for all our tenants and in the current economic climate the pressures on fuel and price inflation in general puts a strain on family finances. Conversely, rising prices also means the cost of repairs, maintenance, contractor and material costs to maintain and invest in our stock are also increasing. Without any rise there would be an impact on our ability to maintain and invest in our tenants' homes and the ability to implement the required energy efficiency measures to tackle climate change. It is worth noting that over 70% of our tenants will have their rent and most service charges covered by Universal Credit or Housing Benefit payments. This means that the full amount of any increase will be covered by those benefits.

44. Taking into account the current economic pressures facing our tenants, the recent increase in CPI and balancing this with the need to deliver our ambitious capital and energy efficiency programmes, an increase of 5% is recommended for 2023-24, an average of £3.69 each week. This is lower than CPI and lower than the Government's rent increase cap. It is also recommended to increase service charges by an appropriate inflationary amount. The proposed increases reflect the rising cost of wages, building materials and contracted services.
45. In addition to the income from rent and service charges, in 2023-24 we plan to borrow an additional £11.7m to help fund our new build programme. This will be supplemented with grants from Homes England, which usually cover around 25% of the new build costs. We also plan to continue to bid for Government funding through the SHDF to improve the energy efficiency of our homes and reduce our carbon impact.

Garage Rents and Service Charges

46. The proposed service charges shown at **Table 3** below and achieves full recovery of costs from those tenants who directly benefit from the services provided. In most cases, this means an inflationary increase is necessary that either matches or is below CPI but in some instances, a higher increase is needed to maintain current levels of service and these are detailed below:
- (a) Heating – The heating charge for sheltered and extra care schemes covers the cost of heating the individual apartments, as well as the communal areas of the schemes. The heating charge for blocks of apartments only covers the cost of heating the communal areas. The price of gas over the past 12 months for these buildings, has increased by 43% and is estimated by NEPO (North East Procurement Organisation) to increase by a further 263% in 2023-24. The service charges for 2023-24 have been adjusted to reflect these increases. However, if the actual heating costs are lower than these forecasts in 2023-24, the service charge will be amended to reflect this change.
- (b) Lifeline – The Lifeline service charges have been increased to take into account a re-grading of Lifeline staff following a job evaluation exercise, which has increased the cost of salaries to run the service. In addition, all Lifeline equipment (assistive technology and personal alarms) will need to be replaced over the next 3 years to ensure that it continues to operate under the national switch from analogue to digital telephony services by 2025. The Lifeline charge for sheltered and extra care schemes also includes the electricity costs relating to communal areas (lighting and other equipment). The price of electricity over the past 12 months for these buildings, has increased by 118% and is estimated by NEPO to increase by a further 142% in 2023-24. These costs and charges will be reviewed in 2023-24 (in line with the heating charges above).
47. Any additional costs will be covered by Housing Benefit or Universal Credit for the approximate 70% of tenants who are eligible. The HRA funds a Tenancy Sustainment Service and Income Management Team to address the financial challenges facing a significant number of Council tenants. Referrals are also made to CAB for independent financial advice as well as to food banks and furniture recycling schemes. Those tenants, particularly first-time tenants who require more sustained intensive support, will be referred to the Housing Plus Team.

Table 3: Garage Rents and Service Charges

Description	Current Weekly Charge (22-23)	Proposed Weekly Charge (23-24)	Percentage increase
	£	£	%
Garage Rents	8.33	8.74	5
Building Cleaning – Blocks of Flats	2.11	2.30	9
Building Cleaning – Sheltered and Extra Care Schemes	3.86	4.09	6
Building Cleaning – Extra Care Schemes	13.74	14.56	6
Grounds Maintenance – General Housing	1.80	2.06	14
Grounds Maintenance – Blocks of Apartments	1.80	2.06	14
Heating – Sheltered and Extra Care Schemes	12.86	42.88	233
Heating – Blocks of Apartments	1.70	6.21	266
Administration – Leaseholders	1.81	1.99	10
Furnishings and Fittings – Sheltered and Extra Care Schemes	2.30	2.42	5
Furnishings and Fittings – Good Neighbour Schemes	1.06	1.11	5
Lifeline Response	6.27	7.58	21
Lifeline – Sheltered and Extra Care Schemes	18.96	27.59	46
Pavement Crossings and Hard standings	4.50	4.72	5
Mid-day Meals – Extra Care Schemes (Residents only)	40.56	45.43	12
Mid-day Meals – Extra Care Schemes (Non-Residents only)	48.67	54.51	12
Guest Rooms in Sheltered Schemes	89.06	98.85	11
Door Entry Systems	0.82	0.86	5
TV Aerials	0.20	0.24	19
Housing Plus Service	19.78	20.62	4

Consultation

48. The Annual Review of the HRA Business Plan, together with the recommendation to increase rents and service charges is developed in consultation with Council tenants through our Tenants Panel and tenant surveys. The specific proposals included in this report have not yet been considered by the Tenants Panel but the outcome of consultation will be reported to Cabinet in the February 2023 report.

Financial Implications

49. The estimates included in this report represent a fair view of ongoing plans and commitments although Members will appreciate some budgets are subject to volatility and will continue to be monitored closely.
50. With the proposed increase in rents the expenditure plans presented are affordable and the level of revenue balances projected in this report represent an adequate level of risk.

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT – REVENUE BUDGET

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	£000	£000	£000	£000
<u>Income</u>				
Rents of Dwellings (Gross)	(21,964)	(23,328)	(24,342)	(24,967)
Sundry Rents (Including Garages and Shops)	(422)	(498)	(514)	(530)
Charges For Services and Facilities	(3,654)	(4,091)	(4,272)	(4,479)
Contribution towards expenditure	(928)	(966)	(980)	(994)
Interest Receivable	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)
Total Income	(26,974)	(28,889)	(30,114)	(30,976)
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Operational Costs	4,441	4,719	4,871	5,009
Service Charges	3,654	4,091	4,272	4,479
Capital Financing Costs	3,447	3,926	4,371	4,337
Bad Debt Provision	250	263	270	278
Responsive Repairs and Maintenance	5,539	5,818	5,992	6,335
Revenue Contribution to Capital (RCCO)	12,609	12,150	12,097	9,381
Contribution to/(from) balance	(2,966)	(2,077)	(1,760)	1,157
Total Expenditure	26,974	28,889	30,114	30,976
(Surplus) / Deficit	0	0	0	0
Opening balance	11,811	8,845	6,768	5,008
Contribution to/(from) balance	(2,966)	(2,077)	(1,760)	1,157
Closing balance	8,845	6,768	5,008	6,165
Estimated closing dwelling numbers	5,291	5,324	5,400	5,471
Closing balance for each dwelling	£1,671.76	£1,271.21	£927.41	£1,126.94

30 YEAR HOUSING BUSINESS PLAN 2023/24 - 2052/53

	Years 1-10 (£000)	Years 11-20 (£000)	Years 21-30 (£000)	Total Spend (£000)
Adaptations and Lifts	2,354	3,171	4,262	9,787
Communal Works	1,765	2,378	3,269	7,412
Decoration following IPM	408	862	1,170	2,440
External Works (footpaths, fencing, etc.)	2,405	3,264	4,453	10,122
Garages	509	748	983	2,240
Heating Replacements	14,379	19,368	26,618	60,365
Internal Planned Maintenance (IPM)	32,716	50,062	66,435	149,213
Repairs before painting	730	986	1,296	3,012
Roofing and Repointing Work	8,169	9,911	13,520	31,600
Structural Works	4,707	6,342	8,716	19,765
Lifeline Services	1,765	2,378	3,269	7,412
Energy Efficiency	28,509	38,484	51,937	118,929
Professional Fees	3,574	4,794	6,844	15,212
Pavements	383	517	711	1,611
New Build	38,357	0	0	38,357
Total expenditure	140,730	143,264	193,483	477,477

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT – CAPITAL PROGRAMME

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
<u>Scheme / Project</u>				
Adaptations and Lifts	200	212	218	225
Heating Replacement	1,225	1,295	1,334	1,374
Structural Works	400	424	437	450
Lifeline Services	150	159	164	169
Repairs before painting	60	66	68	70
Roofing	1,000	1,100	683	703
Garages	25	27	52	53
External Works	200	210	221	232
Pavements	32	34	36	37
Window and Door Replacement	1,400	1,484	1,558	1,605
Internal Planned maintenance	2,760	2,898	3,043	3,134
Energy Efficiency	1,000	1,060	1,092	1,125
Communal Works	150	159	164	169
New build (net of HE grant)	15,673	11,546	11,138	0
Fees	310	326	333	340
Total spend	24,585	20,999	20,538	9,684
<u>Resourced by:</u>				
Capital Receipts	303	303	303	303
RCCO	12,609	12,150	12,097	9,381
Additional Borrowing	11,673	8,546	8,138	0

APPENDIX 4

Examples of Weekly Rent Changes for 2023/24						
Area		Property Type	Approved Rent 2022/23	Proposed Rent 2023/24	Increase between 22/23 & 23/24 £	Increase between 22/23 & 23/24 %
Middleton St George						
	Mount Pleasant Close	1 Bedroom Bungalow	85.00	89.25	4.25	5.0%*
	Pounteys Close	2 Bedroom House	79.54	83.52	3.98	5.0%
	Thorn tree Gardens	3 Bedroom House	90.74	95.27	4.54	5.0%
Cockerton						
	Newton Court	1 Bedroom Flat	65.69	68.98	3.28	5.0%
	Elvet Place	2 Bedroom House	76.93	80.78	3.85	5.0%
	Minors Crescent	3 Bedroom House	82.88	87.03	4.14	5.0%
Haughton						
	Ted Fletcher Court	1 Bedroom Flat	66.24	69.56	3.31	5.0%
	Lyonette Road	2 Bedroom Flat	75.03	78.78	3.75	5.0%
	Nightingale Avenue	1 Bedroom Bungalow	79.72	83.71	3.99	5.0%*
	Rockwell Avenue	2 Bedroom House	78.94	82.89	3.95	5.0%
	Dunelm Walk	3 Bedroom House	88.25	92.67	4.41	5.0%
Branksome						
	Branksome Hall	1 Bedroom Flat	65.79	69.08	3.29	5.0%
	Whitby Way	1 Bedroom Bungalow	72.77	76.41	3.64	5.0%
	Malvern Crescent	2 Bedroom House	75.46	79.24	3.77	5.0%
	Rosedale Crescent	3 Bedroom House	85.79	90.08	4.29	5.0%
	Sherborne Close	2 Bedroom Flat	90.92	95.46	4.55	5.0%*
Lascalles						
	Coxwold House	1 Bedroom Flat	65.03	68.28	3.25	5.0%
	Gilling Crescent	2 Bedroom Flat	72.52	76.14	3.63	5.0%
	Aldbrough Walk	2 Bedroom House	85.38	89.65	4.27	5.0%*
	Caldwell Green	3 Bedroom House	82.39	86.51	4.12	5.0%
	Fenby Avenue	3 Bedroom House	102.78	107.92	5.14	5.0%*
Bank Top						
	Graham Court	1 Bedroom Flat	66.21	69.52	3.31	5.0%
	Graham Court	3 Bedroom House	94.27	98.99	4.71	5.0%*
Redhall						
	Bramall House	1 Bedroom Flat	79.08	83.03	3.95	5.0%*
	Aviemoore Court	2 Bedroom Flat	69.85	73.35	3.49	5.0%
	Murrayfield Way	1 Bedroom Bungalow	67.35	70.72	3.37	5.0%
	Aintree Court	2 Bedroom House	71.40	74.97	3.57	5.0%
	Aintree Court	3 Bedroom House	93.80	98.49	4.69	5.0%*
Eastbourne						
	West Moor Road	1 Bedroom Flat	62.40	65.52	3.12	5.0%
	Tansley Gardens	2 Bedroom Flat	69.49	72.97	3.47	5.0%
	Firthmoor Crescent	2 Bedroom House	72.37	75.99	3.62	5.0%
	Brignall Moor Crescent	3 Bedroom House	78.34	82.25	3.92	5.0%
Skerne Park						
	Trent Place	2 Bed House	73.18	76.84	3.66	5.0%
	Humber Place	3 Bed House	79.08	83.03	3.95	5.0%
Parkside						
	Wordsworth Road	1 Bedroom Flat	66.30	69.61	3.31	5.0%
	Shakespeare Road	2 Bedroom House	82.94	87.08	4.15	5.0%*
	Ruskin Road	3 Bedroom House	86.61	90.94	4.33	5.0%
* Affordable rent properties - these rents include applicable service charges.						