



DARLINGTON

Borough Council

Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee Agenda

10.00 am

Wednesday, 8 January 2025

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 2025/26 - 2028/29 –
Report of the Assistant Director - Resources
(Pages 3 - 70)
4. Climate Change –
Report of the Cabinet Member with Portfolio for Economy
(Pages 71 - 76)

Luke Swinhoe
Assistant Director Law and Governance

Monday, 30 December 2024

**Town Hall
Darlington.**

Membership

Councillors Baker, Beckett, Crudass, Holroyd, Johnson, Layton, Mahmud, Pease, Mrs Scott and Vacancy

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, Resources and Governance 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
8 JANUARY 2025**

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2025/26 – 2028/29

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2025/26 to 2028/29.

Summary

2. Attached at **Appendix 1** is the MTFP report which has been approved by Cabinet as a basis for consultation at their meeting on 3 December 2024.
3. Members received a briefing on the MTFP by the Assistant Director Resources, on 11 December 2024.

Recommendations

4. It is recommended that:
 - (a) Members are requested to consider the MTFP 2025/26 to 2028/29 and forward any views and comments, in particular those in relation to the services and finances within the remit of this Scrutiny Committee, to a Special meeting of the Economy and Resources 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 20 January 2025.

**Brett Nielsen
Assistant Director Resources**

Background Papers

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

Brett Nielsen: Extension 5403

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| Council Plan | The Council's MTFP contributes to all priorities in the Council Plan. Consultation with Members in the MTFP contributes to the delivery of the Plan. |
| Addressing Inequalities | The report does not contain any proposals that impact on equality issues. |
| Tackling Climate Change | There are no specific climate change impact issues in this report. |
| Efficiency & Resources | This report contains updated information regarding efficiency savings and use of resources contained in the MTFP. |
| Health and Wellbeing | There are no specific issues relating to health and wellbeing in this report. |
| S17 Crime and Disorder | This report has no implications for crime and disorder. |
| Wards Affected | This report has no specific impact on individual wards. |
| Groups Affected | This report has no specific impact on individual groups. |
| Budget and Policy Framework | This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework. |
| Key Decision | This report does not require a key decision. |
| Urgent Decision | This report does not require an urgent decision. |
| 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 3 December 2024, approved the attached Medium Term Financial Plan as a basis for consultation.
6. As part of consultation process, the MTFP will be presented to each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees to discuss and consider the overall contents of the MTFP, particularly those contents in relation to the services and finances falling within the remit of that Scrutiny Committee.
7. Members are asked to forward any views and comments from this Committee to a Special Meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration.
8. Once all the Scrutiny Committees have met, a Special Meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee will be held on 20 January 2025, to agree a formal response to Cabinet on behalf of all the Scrutiny Committees as part of the consultation process. The Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees will be invited to attend this meeting to present their findings and answer any questions.

9. 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 Meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 20 January 2025, 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.

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**CABINET
3 DECEMBER 2024**

**MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (MTFP)
FOR CONSULTATION**

**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Stephen Harker
Leader and all Cabinet Members**

Responsible Director - Chief Officers Executive

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To propose a Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2025/26 to 2028/29 for consultation, including setting a budget and Council Tax increase for 2025/26.

Summary

2. The Council continues to face significant and unparalleled financial challenges stemming from reductions in public spending between 2010 and 2019 where the Council's budget was reduced by £46m in real terms, a 36% reduction in budget. This financial position was further compounded in the aftermath of covid as demand for services rose along with an unstable economic climate, where the country saw the cost of living increasing, high inflation, income deprivation and poverty rising. It is a challenge for everyone including the Council with a spiralling increase in cost and demand for services in particular adult and children's social care and homeless with numbers of people in temporary accommodation rising significantly over the last couple of years, all of which have a direct impact on the Council's contracted expenditure.
3. The Council has previously met the challenges faced head on through value for money service delivery, shared services, economic growth, and strong financial management and has utilised built up reserves to continue to provide vital services for the residents of Darlington. However, the significant additional demand for services is putting an unprecedented pressure on affordability and despite additional savings achieved our reserves will be fully depleted by the end of 2026/27.
4. The new Government administration has recognised the significant pressure in public services and additional funding for core services was announced in the budget along with a promise of fundamental reform of how local government is funded. However, this is not a panacea, we do not yet know what this will look like or the specific impact for Darlington and given the overall government finances is unlikely to fully fill the sustainability gap we are anticipating.

5. Over two thirds of our expenditure is on Adult and Children's social care, caring for our most vulnerable residents and children. Inflation, the national living wage and interest rate levels directly impact on our adult care contracts which increased by 7.93% over the last year, in addition, since the pandemic there has been a continual rise in the demand for children's care services. We are seeing more vulnerable children with increasingly complex needs requiring help and support, there has been a 50% increase in contacts from partner agencies and people concerned for a child's welfare, a 45% increase in referrals and an 11% increase in children in our care since pre pandemic levels. These are our largest budgets, and we have a statutory requirement to provide these services, this consequently impacts on the funding available for all other Council services in particular discretionary areas which keep our town clean, vibrant and safe.
6. Darlington currently has the second lowest Council Tax in the North East and as such we cannot raise sufficient income from Council Tax charges to fund the spending pressures we face, every 1% increase in Council Tax increases revenue by approximately £0.67m. Darlington has a low tax base with 44% of our properties in Band A and 79% Band A - C, this along with the Council Tax level means we generate significantly less Council Tax than some other more affluent areas. If Darlington had the average England Band D Council Tax level, we would generate an additional £8.7m per year. This highlights the disparity in how local government is funded.
7. To protect services as far as possible and push back the impending cliff edge, a significant review and challenge of all our services has been undertaken with savings of £3.649m achieved in 2025/26, totalling £21.494m across the MTFP through back office efficiencies, restructuring, and income generation which do not affect front line service delivery in 2025/26. The savings include a transformation programme to review Business Support to improve systems and processes, and to reduce the subsidy on our Leisure and Cultural offer and facilities, which will involve spend to save initiatives, service review and increased use of technology. In addition, a Council Tax increase of 2.99%, and a 2% social care precept to help fund adult social care, has been proposed which would generate £2.003m and £1.340m respectively to help continue to provide vital services.
8. The Council Plan vision is for Darlington to be one of the best places to live, learn, work and invest in the UK, with a strong and sustainable economy, healthy and thriving communities and opportunities for all. There are three core principles running through everything we do, addressing inequalities, tackling climate change and the efficient and effective use of resources. The Council's priorities are
 - (a) Economy – a strong and stable economy and highly skilled workforce with opportunities for all.
 - (b) Homes – affordable and secure homes that meet the current and future needs of residents.
 - (c) Living Well – a healthier and better quality of life for longer, supporting those who need it most.
 - (d) Children and Young People – the best start in life, realising the potential and raising aspirations.
 - (e) Communities – safer, healthier and more engaged communities.
 - (f) Local Environment – a well connected, clean and sustainable borough.

9. This MTFP is shaped to help meet these priorities despite the financial challenges faced, by directing the resources available to the area's where most impact can be made.
Darlington has some significant inequalities across the borough from a financial as well as a health perspective. The best thing you can do to improve health is to have a good home, a good job, and a good friend. The Council is determined to address inequalities, and to have the best possible chance of doing this we need to continue to grow the Darlington economy, attract businesses and companies to the area helping to create more better paid jobs and to provide a good mix and range of homes for our residents to benefit from.
10. However, this ambition is not an overnight fix, inclusive economic growth takes time, particularly in this economic climate. We have made a great start over the last 10 years, the structural landscape of Darlington has changed, new businesses and government departments have relocated to the town bringing high quality jobs, and 315 new Council houses have been built providing good quality affordable housing. There is significant investment going into Darlington station paving the way for improved rail services for the town and wider area as well as a significant development occurring across the borough all of which boosts regeneration, job opportunities and revenue. But more needs to be done and we will allocate the resources we do have into realising this ambition.
11. This report has necessarily been prepared before the 2025/26 Local Government Finance Settlement (LGFS), however on the 30 October 2024, the Chancellors budget announced additional funding for local government including.
 - (a) Core spending power increasing by 3.2% in real terms.
 - (b) £1.3bn in additional grant including £0.600m for social care.
 - (c) A targeted approach to allocating the additional funding in 2025-26 anticipated to be towards deprivation and low Council Tax raising powers.
 - (d) Extended Producer Responsibility payments guaranteed for 2025-26 on central estimates.
 - (e) An additional £0.233m in 2025-26 to prevent homelessness.
 - (f) £1bn uplift in SEND funding and alternative provision.
12. The Local Government Finance Settlement is not anticipated until late December, consequently several assumptions have been made in this draft 2025/26 Budget, and the 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 2025/26 and continue to provide our core offer level of services to the residents of Darlington.
13. The Council has performed well in responding to the financial challenges over the years, taking early action to ensure that it is ahead of the curve and not therefore pushed into short term decision making. However, the overwhelming demand for services, increased contract costs linked to inflation and living wage increases is making future budgets untenable without the funding reform promised.
14. Darlington is not alone in facing these pressures, Council's across the country are struggling with the same issues which have been widely reported in the media over the last year with a significant percentage indicating the inability to balance their books. Darlington's financial pressures have been raised with the Local Government Association and the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) directly.

15. The Council operates a core offer which is 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. Reserves have been maintained for medium term stability and this is now a crucial component of the budget strategy given the pressures faced in the coming year. The reserves will be utilised to meet the 2025/26 funding gap allowing time to understand what the review of Local Government finances will bring. This is a prudent position to ensure our statutory services are maintained along with a small proportion of discretionary which are important to the vitality of the town and residents in the borough and continue some preventative services which stop the need for more costly service provision in the future. At this juncture it would be unwise to reduce much needed discretionary and preventative services which are key to enabling our Council Plan priorities before funding levels are clarified.
16. In summary, if the recommendations are agreed, the Council can deliver a 2025/26 budget which will allow net revenue investment in Darlington and its residents of £136m and new capital investment of £97m to add to the current capital programme of £332m. It also allows time for clarification of the Government's intentions for Local Government funding reform and the impact on Darlington.

Recommendations

17. 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:
 - (a) A Council Tax increase of 2.99% plus a 2% Adult Social Care Precept to help fund social care for 2025/26.
 - (b) The Schedule of Charges as set out in **Appendix 3**.
 - (c) The efficiency savings, transformation and services reviewed proposed.

Reasons

18. 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 reduce the pressures on the MTFP in the medium term.
 - (e) 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

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|--|---|
| Council Plan | The MTFP proposals direct resources to the priorities of the Council Plan. |
| Addressing inequalities | The MTFP proposals direct resources to assist in reducing inequalities. |
| Tackling Climate Change | The MTFP proposals seek to continue to support the Council's responsibilities and ambitions to reduce carbon impact in the Council and the Borough. |
| Efficient and effective use of resources | The MTFP proposals include savings to ensure the efficiency and effective use of resources. |
| Health and Wellbeing | The report contains proposals to continue to allocate resources in support of the Council's Health and Well Being responsibilities |
| S17 Crime and Disorder | The report contains proposals to continue to allocate resources in support of the Council's Crime and Disorder responsibilities |
| 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 |
| 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

19. The Council continues to face significant and unparalleled financial challenges stemming from reductions in public spending between 2010 and 2019 where the Council's budget was reduced by £46m in real terms, a 36% reduction in budget. This financial position was further compounded in the aftermath of covid as demand for services rose along with an unstable economic climate, where the country saw the cost of living is increasing, and income deprivation and poverty rising. It is a challenge for everyone including the Council with a spiralling increase in demand for services in particular adult and children's social care and homeless with numbers of people in temporary accommodation rising significantly over the last couple of years, all of which have a direct impact on the Council's contracted expenditure.
20. The Council has previously met the challenges faced head on through value for money service delivery, shared services, economic growth, and strong financial management and has utilised built up reserves to continue to provide vital services for the residents of Darlington. However, the significant additional demand for services is putting an unprecedented pressure on affordability and despite further savings being achieved our reserves will be fully depleted by the end of 2026/27.
21. Over two thirds of our expenditure is spent on adult and children's social care, caring for our most vulnerable residents and children. Inflation, the national living wage and interest rate levels directly impact on our adult care contracts which increased by 7.93% over the last year, in addition, since the pandemic there has been a continual rise in the demand for children's care services. We are seeing more vulnerable children with increasingly complex needs requiring help and support, there has been a 50% increase in contacts from partner agencies and people concerned for a child's welfare, a 45% increase in referrals which must statutorily be responded to and an 11% increase in children in our care since pre pandemic levels. These are our largest budgets, and we have a statutory requirement to provide the services, this consequently impacts on the funding available for all other Council services in particular discretionary areas which keep our town clean, vibrant and safe.
22. Darlington is not alone in facing these pressures, Council's across the country are struggling with the same issues which have been widely reported in the media over the last couple of years with several Councils indicating the inability to balance the books and either requesting exceptional financial support or issuing a Section 114 notice.
23. A fundamental review of how local government is financed (the Fair Funding Review) was announced by government back in 2019 but it has continually been postponed. The new Government administration has recognised the significant pressure in public services and additional funding for core services was announced in the budget along with the promise of fundamental reform of how local government is funded with a redistribution and multiyear settlements from 2026-27.
24. 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 2025/26 budget. Back in 2014 it was recognised that strong economic growth was needed to help the Council's overall

financial position but that it takes time to realise so we needed to maintain reserves as far as possible. This strategy to preserve reserves has worked well to date allowing time for the financial impact of the economic growth strategy to come to fruition, however, the additional demands and increased costs have escalated the financial pressures faced to unprecedented levels and whilst further significant savings have been achieved our reserves will be fully depleted by the end of 2026/27. Fundamental funding reform is therefore vital to ensure the ambitions we all have for Darlington come to fruition.

25. Income and resource levels are discussed in detail later in this paper, however as the Local Government financial settlement will not be received until late December it makes it challenging to predict expenditure and income levels moving forward. Consequently, best estimates have been used and assumptions made on the impact of inflation and demand in 2024/25 going into 2025/26 and the income and resources we will receive in future years.

Financial Analysis

Projected Expenditure

26. As noted previously the core offer budget is the level of service provision the MTFP is based upon. Estimates attached at **Appendix 1** have been prepared based on current service levels and include known pressures and the savings proposed 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**.

| <u>Summary of Pressures</u> | 2025/26 £m | 2026/27 £m | 2027/28 £m | 2028/29 £m |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Service Demand | 4.469 | 3.917 | 3.599 | 3.544 |
| Price Inflation | 0.038 | 0.569 | 0.843 | 2.413 |
| Reduced Income | 0.582 | 0.345 | 0.376 | 0.801 |
| Pay award | 0.761 | 0.782 | 0.811 | 0.828 |
| Other | 0.512 | 0.612 | 0.521 | 0.547 |
| Total | 6.362 | 6.225 | 6.150 | 8.133 |

Pressures

27. There are some significant pressures emerging which fall into one of five categories being increased demand, reduced income, pay award, price inflation and other.
28. **Service demand** – the largest pressure area regarding increased demand in 2025/26 is Adult Services, accounting for £1.557m of the pressure, and £3.972m across the MTFP. This is a continuation of the pressure we are seeing in the 2024/25 budget in particular the growth in mental health and older people where the cases are more complex and expensive.

29. The second largest pressure is in the homelessness budget due to a substantial increase in demand and the lack of move on accommodation in Darlington. There has been a significant increase in the nights spent in emergency and temporary accommodation and consequently our contracted temporary provision is fully utilised, with the need to place people in alternative hotels and bed and breakfast provision. The shortfall in housing benefit subsidy and rent allowance is anticipated at £1.326m and £5.304m over the MTFP.
30. The Council is not alone in facing this challenge with homelessness widespread across the country. The Council is looking to build more Council housing and the recent announcements by government to remove discounts on right to buy housing will help retain Council stock. We are also looking to purchase and lease additional property to both help the financial position and give residents more stability. This however is a long term approach and will take time to implement.
31. A further demand pressure is concessionary fares which has increased by £0.373m in 2025/26 and £1.537m over the MTFP. This is an area the council has no control over.
32. **Price Inflation** – whilst the price inflation pressure in 2025/26 appears low this masks the significant increase built into last year's MTFP. In addition inflation increases significantly in future years with the largest element being mainly around ICT costs where software upgrades and the move to cloud based services for our major systems have increased substantially.
33. **Reduced Income** - the main area of reduced income in Financing Costs is due to a change in reporting requirements for the Minimum Revenue Provision and interest rates remaining relatively high. In addition there is a reduction in grant income in Local Taxation as residents move on to the universal credit system and a one off reduction in income at the Dolphin centre whilst the phase three mechanical and electrical works are completed. There has also been a reduction in cemetery and crematorium income due to market conditions and the rise of direct cremations.
34. **Pay Award** – the 2024/25 pay award was settled at a flat rate of £1,290 per full time employee (to spinal point 43 with all other employees at 2.5%). The percentage increase was therefore different depending upon base salary; however, the average increase was approximately 4.1%. The 2024/25 MTFP budgeted for a 3% increase in 2024/25 and 2% thereafter hence the pressure which is recurring each year. In addition, a provision of 3% has been included in 2025/26 given the recent above inflation increases in the National Living wage which impact on are lower pay scales.
35. **Other** – this includes several pressures across all service areas, including security which unfortunately is needed across a few of our premises to keep our staff and members of the public safe, including Customer Services, the Dolphin Centre, Crown Street Library and Hopetown due to the increase in violent presentations. There is a significant increase in external audit costs following the failure in the system and the need to rebuild the external audit function. In addition, there are the holding costs of the Wilko and former Northern Echo buildings whilst regeneration takes place.

Savings

| Summary MTFP savings by Type | 2025/26 £m | 2026/27 £m | 2027/28 £m | 2028/29 £m |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Back office efficiencies and process review keeping | -0.993 | -0.861 | -0.848 | -0.854 |
| Energy savings | -0.375 | -0.375 | -0.375 | -0.375 |
| Increased income | -1.617 | -1.985 | -2.023 | -1.803 |
| Other | -0.000 | -1.453 | -1.462 | -1.462 |
| Pressure offset | -0.133 | -0.240 | -0.240 | -0.240 |
| Transformation and service review | -0.531 | -0.962 | -1.071 | -1.216 |
| Net Summary by Type | -3.649 | -5.876 | -6.019 | -5.950 |

36. To protect front line services to our residents as far as possible we continually work to maximise savings and efficiencies across the Council. In total £3.649m has been identified in 2025/26 totalling, £21.5m across the MTFP of which only a small proportion will impact on service provision.
37. **Back Office** - by reducing costs in management, back office, general housekeeping and process review, £0.993m has been identified in 2025/26, and £3.556m over the life of the MTFP. These savings come from staffing vacancies through redesign of service provision, removal of historic underspends and reduction in running costs due to partial closure of buildings and alternative ways of working.
38. **Energy** - usage has been closely monitored over the year given the substantial increase over the last few years and £1.500m in savings over the MTFP are anticipated following reduced rates and usage savings.
39. **Income** - income streams have been reviewed and anticipated an additional £1.617m in 2025/26, £7.428m over the MTFP. This includes additional grant income, fees and charges, appropriate overhead recovery, additional traded and SLA income, more efficient debt collection and rental income.
40. Included in the additional income is an increase to car parking tariffs. Given the significant financial pressure the Council faces, the difficult decision to increase car parking charges is being proposed. The proposal is to increase the rates as per the schedule in **Appendix 3**, including £1.20 per hour in short stay car parks up to a cap of £5.00 then reverting to a £1 tariff thereafter and £5 per day in long stay up to a £20 weekly ticket. This along with the additional patronage we have seen in the past year would generate an additional £0.500m per annum if introduced. This proposal is not taken lightly but will support ongoing provision of car parking services, highway maintenance works and highway schemes across the borough and is preferable to cutting discretionary services such as grass cutting, street cleaning, community safety and leisure provision.
41. **Other** – A provision for future increases in pension contributions has been released following a recent update from Durham Pension fund which indicated a healthy position with a rise in contribution rates unlikely following the forthcoming tri annual valuation.

42. **Transformation and service review** – our leisure and cultural offer and facilities are well used and loved by our residents. Our facilities have all enjoyed significant capital investment over the past few years and help Darlington be the vibrant and inclusive town it is. However, these facilities, being the Dolphin Centre, Eastbourne Sports Complex, Crown Street Library and the Hippodrome all run with a financial subsidy. A programme of transformation is looking at how this subsidy can be reduced, this will be a mixture of income generation, reducing the cost of the premises through spend to save initiatives and along with back office and process review.
43. Our successful Town Centre events programme is included in this transformation review with the aim being to maintain a full events programme by reviewing the whole budget area to see what can be done more efficiently and what adds value for money for the Town Centre and Darlington residents
44. In addition, a significant review of Business Support is currently ongoing looking to improve systems and processes through technology and automating where possible. This project is already bringing benefits to how we work and will deliver more savings over the MTFP period. Vacant posts are being held in the interim to avoid where possible redundancies. Work is ongoing on all the transformation areas and savings are profiled to increase across the MTFP period anticipated to be £0.531m in 2025/26 increasing to £1.216m in 2028/29.

Previous budget provision

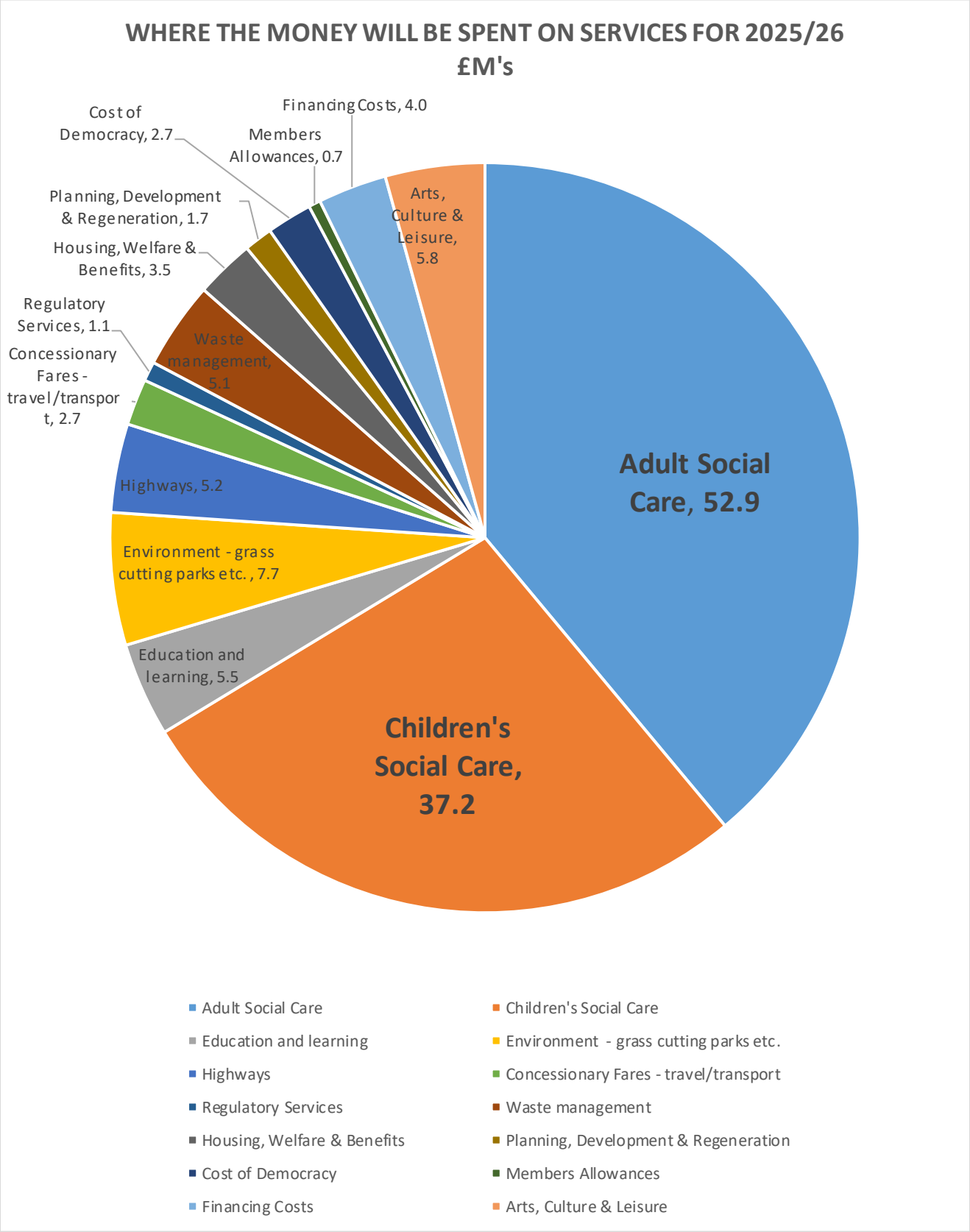
45. **Stronger Communities Fund** – the stronger communities fund was established in 2021/22 to assist in grass roots projects and initiatives in each of the elected members wards with £0.001m made available to each member to utilise as they see fit in their communities and reviewed on an annual basis. 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 2025.

Total Expenditure

46. Taking the above savings, pressures and children's sufficiency proposal into account the summarised projected expenditure is shown in the table below:

| Service | 2025/26 £m | 2026/27 £m | 2027/28 £m | 2028/29 £m |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| People Services | 89.070 | 91.748 | 94.301 | 97.510 |
| Chief Executives Office & Economic Growth | 1.770 | 1.714 | 1.669 | 1.749 |
| Services | 26.240 | 26.270 | 26.886 | 27.437 |
| Resources & Governance | 15.703 | 16.278 | 16.902 | 17.337 |
| Financing costs | 4.028 | 3.706 | 3.632 | 3.925 |
| Investment Returns - Joint Venture | (1.977) | (2.006) | (1.753) | (1.524) |
| Council Wide Pressures | 0.663 | 0.677 | 0.693 | 0.706 |
| Council Wide Contingencies | 0.272 | 0.278 | 0.202 | 0.202 |
| Total Expenditure | 135.769 | 138.665 | 142.532 | 147.342 |

47. This proposed net investment in services of £136m in 2025/26 covers a wide range of areas from adult residential care to refuse collection, from Children’s Services to street lighting 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 two thirds of the overall budget.



Projected Income

Spending Review and Local Government Finance Settlement

48. This report has been prepared before the 2025/26 Local Government Finance Settlement (LGFS) which is likely to be received late December 2024, however on the 30 October 2024, the Chancellors announced additional funding for local government in the Budget including.
- (a) Core spending power increasing by 3.2% in real terms.
 - (b) £1.3bn in additional grant including £0.600m for social care.
 - (c) A targeted approach to allocating the additional funding in 2025-26 anticipated to be towards deprivation and low Council Tax raising powers.
 - (d) Extended Producer Responsibility payments guaranteed for 2025-26 on central estimates.
 - (e) An additional £0.233m in 2025-26 to prevent homelessness.
 - (f) £1bn uplift in SEND funding and alternative provision.
49. There was also a mention of a policy statement to follow in November, at the time of writing this policy statement has not been received. Consequently, several assumptions have needed to be made in this draft 2025/26 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 2025/26 and continue to provide our core offer level of services to the residents of Darlington.
50. The draft 2025/26 – 2028/29 MTFP has therefore been based on the 2024/25 finance settlement along with assumptions made on the additional funding announced in the budget given it is the most up to date information available at the time of writing. The position will be updated for the final MTFP proposals in February. 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

51. **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 a Consumer Price Index (CPI) linked rise in 2025/26 of 2%.
52. **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.
53. **Services Grant** – was announced in 2021 as an un-ringfenced package of support for Local Government, the Council received £1.579m in 2022/23 reduced to £0.926m in 2023/24 and to £0.166m in 2024/25. It has been assumed this level will continue into future years on a cash flat basis.

54. **Social Care Grant** - this funding was announced in two tranches in the 2021 and 2022 spending reviews and can be spent on children's and adult social care. Whilst the 2022 grant was repurposed monies from delaying the charging reforms in 2023/24 and 2024/25 it is anticipated this funding will continue into future years given the significant pressures on the system.
55. **Additional budget funding** - £1.3bn of additional funding was announced in the budget which included £0.600m for social care. Based on the usual funding mechanisms Darlington's proportion of this would be £2.340m. There was also £0.233m for the prevention of homelessness for 2025/26 only of which on usual formula we would receive £0.140m.

Council Tax Income

56. Due to the reduction and reliance on Government funding over the last decade, Council Tax is now by far the largest single funding stream and will increase further as a percentage over the coming years representing 57% of projected resources anticipated by 2028/29. 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 circa. £0.67m.
57. There was no announcement in the budget on either the council tax referendum limits or the social care precept however subsequently there has been a clear indication from civil servants and the government that the 3% and 2% for Council Tax and precept respectively will be maintained.
58. This MTFP assumes a Council Tax increase of 2.99% for 2025/26 reducing to 1.99% thereafter and an Adult Social Care precept of 2% for 2025/26 reverting to 1% thereafter. As can be seen in the chart in paragraph 47, Adult Social Care is by far our largest overall budget with a spend of £53m. The precept will raise circa. £1.3m which is crucial to meet the overall costs and pressure faced in this service area.
59. Darlington has the second lowest Council Tax in the North East, to put this in perspective if Darlington had the average North East Band D level the Council would generate an additional £3.3m per annum, and if we had the average England band D level, we would generate an additional £8.7m per annum.
60. Darlington has a low Council Tax Base with 44% of our properties in Band A and 79% of our homes in Band A – C, which means significantly less Council Tax is generated for each 1% raised than in some other more affluent areas and highlights the disparity in how local government is funded.
61. Despite some turbulent years in house building due to Covid, Nutrient Neutrality and high interest rates Darlington's house building remained stable, planning estimates anticipate growth levels to be an average of 514 Band D equivalent properties over the period of this plan which is a growth on the tax base of 1.4% per annum. This growth is helping to address the national housing shortage and the increasing demand for homes in Darlington. 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 2025/26.

National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)

62. 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.
63. Growing the economy is a key priority for the Council 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 planning permission for the new Darlington Economic campus has been granted at Brunswick Street which will house His Majesty’s Treasury Department along with several other government departments including the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government. This is providing a boost to the town with other employers looking to relocate to Darlington.
64. 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 economic climate.
65. 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 several years now.
66. The new Government have committed to a fundamental reform of local government funding system stating they will update and improve the approach to funding allocations within the Local Government finance settlement by redistributing funding to ensure that it reflects an up-to-date assessment of need and local resources. This will be a long-term programme of recovery and reform which will start with a deprivation-based approach in 2025-26 with additional funding targeted to the places that need it most. Broader redistribution of funding will follow through a multi-year settlement from 2026-27. It is anticipated these reforms will encompass business rates retention given they are a fundamental part of local government finance.
67. The in-year collection rate target for NNDR is 98.0% and as at the end of October 2024 is 68% and on track to achieve the target.

Collection Fund

68. 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 the transactions for billing in respect of National 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.

Other Grants

69. 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 areas being the Dedicated Schools Grant which funds Darlington's maintained schools, special educational needs and early years provision and Public Health Grant, both which are ring-fenced. These grants are included in service estimates at Appendix 1.

| Description | 2025/26 £m |
|--|---------------|
| Housing Benefits | 0.421 |
| Public Health Grant | 9.523 |
| PFI Grant | 3.200 |
| Market Sustainability & Improvement Fund | 2.193 |
| Youth Justice Board | 0.285 |
| Local Reform & Community Voices | 0.057 |
| Adult & Community Learning | 1.370 |
| Staying Put | 0.056 |
| Delayed Discharge | 1.049 |
| Garden Village | 0.091 |
| Pupil Premium | 1.104 |
| Dedicated Schools Grant | 31.751 |
| Virtual Headteacher | 0.130 |
| Heritage Lottery Fund | 0.125 |
| Domestic Abuse | 0.051 |
| Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children | 1.358 |
| Homeless | 0.564 |
| Safer Streets | 0.065 |
| Towns Fund | 0.092 |
| DFE Phonics | 0.004 |
| Bikeability | 0.039 |
| | 53.528 |

Fees and charges

70. 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 £0.818m of income to help offset the cost of service provision.

Total Income

71. The table below summarises the Council's estimated income for the period of this plan which thanks to 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 | 2025/26 £m | 2026/27 £m | 2027/28 £m | 2028/29 £m |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Council Tax | 70.226 | 73.482 | 76.761 | 80.171 |
| Business Rates retained/Top Up Grant | 35.725 | 36.185 | 36.929 | 36.929 |
| RSG | 4.663 | 4.738 | 4.814 | 4.814 |
| Better Care Fund | 4.488 | 4.488 | 4.488 | 4.488 |
| Adult Social Care Support Grant | 3.753 | 3.753 | 3.753 | 3.753 |
| Social Care Grant | 7.153 | 7.153 | 7.153 | 7.153 |
| Services Grant | 0.166 | 0.166 | 0.166 | 0.166 |
| Additional Resources In budget | 2.340 | 2.340 | 2.340 | 2.340 |
| Additional Homeless Grant | 0.140 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| National Insurance Offset | 1.476 | 1.522 | 1.498 | 1.515 |
| Total Resources | 130.130 | 133.827 | 137.902 | 141.329 |
| | | | | |

Projected MTFP

72. 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 £11m reserves which can be utilised to support the plan which would cover the position until 2026/27, however it is clear the financial position is unsustainable in future years if local government funding reform does not bear fruit.

| | 2025/26 £m | 2026/27 £m | 2027/28 £m | 2028/29 £m |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Projected Total Expenditure | 135.769 | 138.665 | 142.532 | 147.342 |
| Projected Total Resources | (130.130) | (133.827) | (137.902) | (141.329) |
| Projected budget deficit | 5.639 | 4.838 | 4.630 | 6.013 |

Revenue Balances

73. The projected revenue outturn for 2025/26 detailed at **Appendix 5**, after taking into account the Risk Reserve of £6.0m, it is anticipated we will have £11.0m of reserves which will be fully utilised at the end of 2026/27 and as previously mentioned not a sustainable position if funding is not forthcoming. Significant savings and efficiencies have been found £3.7m for 2025/26 as noted above, through service redesign, back office efficiencies, economic and income growth and a review of fees and charges, however without cutting all our discretionary and preventative services, those which help to keep our borough clean, safe, healthy and vibrant and which are a key tool in economic growth and prevent escalation of future costs we are unlikely to meet our funding gap in 2027/28.
74. The Council has reviewed its earmarked reserves, and £0.220m held as a contingency in Direct Payments for redundancies, which has not been called upon for many years, can be released.

| Revenue Balances | 2025/26 £m | 2026/27 £m | 2027/28 £m | 2028/29 £m |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Opening balance | 10.979 | 4.910 | 0.072 | (4.558) |
| Increase in Risk Reserve | (0.650) | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Release of Earmarked Reserves | 0.220 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Contribution to/(from) balances | (5.639) | (4.838) | (4.630) | (6.013) |
| Closing balance | 4.910 | 0.072 | (4.558) | (10.571) |

Capital Expenditure

75. 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 other external funding sources are being used for economic growth initiatives.
76. 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.
77. In recent years there has been acceleration of economic investment some of which is funded or has been pump primed by the Council; examples of such schemes include key road infrastructure that facilitated developments at Symmetry Park, and Central Park that now houses the College, two University buildings, the National Biologics Centre and two

Business Incubator buildings. The Council owned and funded Feethams House in the Town Centre has been the catalyst in attracting the Darlington Economic Campus, and recent Town Centre investment funded from the Towns Fund and Indigenous Growth Fund are both reinvigorating key parts of the Town Centre and importantly enabling the Council to be well positioned for the future and to reshape the Town through its next phase of private sector redevelopment. The Council's Investment Fund and Economic Growth Investment Fund are vital in helping to stimulate more private sector economic investment across the town that ultimately increases business rates and contributes to the finances of the Council thereby helping to fund vital services

78. The current capital programme stands at £332m as summarised in Table 1 below. The programme is monitored monthly and reported to Cabinet on a quarterly basis; the latest available monitoring report for 2024/25 was presented to Cabinet on 5 November 2024 and noted there was a projected £0.485m 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 | 43.842 | 35.633 | 0.000 | 0.033 | 1.705 | 0.000 | 11.840 | 93.053 |
| Economic Growth | 49.491 | 0.080 | 0.440 | 1.034 | 7.010 | 49.223 | 3.476 | 110.754 |
| Highways/Transport | 65.912 | 13.501 | 10.081 | 1.347 | 1.741 | 1.877 | 1.512 | 95.971 |
| Leisure & Culture | 25.040 | 0.125 | 2.545 | 0.297 | 0.000 | 0.550 | 0.000 | 28.557 |
| Education | 0.000 | 0.225 | 0.000 | 0.307 | 0.079 | 1.124 | 0.290 | 2.025 |
| 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 | 1.771 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 1.771 |
| Total | 184.285 | 49.564 | 13.066 | 3.018 | 12.377 | 52.774 | 17.118 | 332.202 |

79. 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. Most 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.
80. 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.

81. 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.

82. The risk assessed usable capital receipts over the next four years are in the region of £13m although they are not guaranteed so caution needs to be taken when allocating.
83. There are likely to be many competing priorities against the available resources for both regeneration and refurbishment these schemes will emerge over the coming year/s. At this stage Members are requested to make capital provision for one scheme with a total value of £0.250m, which will be subject to a full report to Cabinet in due course, this is:
- (a) **Capitalised repairs - £0.250m** – £0.250m is required for repairs on the Council building stock in 2028/29 to ensure it is fit for purpose. This is a rolling programme, and funding has already been agreed for 2025/26 – 2027/28. Details on specific areas of spend will be brought to Cabinet for consideration.

Government Funding

84. Set out below are details of the levels of Government funding available for investment by the Council in 2025/26 and an outline of the proposed use of these funds.

| | 2025/26 £m |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Children's Services | |
| School Condition Allocation | 0.067 |
| | |
| Transport | |
| Local Transport Plan | 3.068 |
| | |
| Other | |
| Disabled Facilities Grant | 1.160 |
| | |
| Total Capital Grant Available | 4.295 |

School Condition Allocations

85. The Local Authority now only receives school condition funding for Maintained Schools. Maintenance funding for Academies is available through other routes. The 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

86. 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.
87. 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 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. In the Budget 2024 a further £500m was pledged nationally for Road Maintenance, the detail of the allocation to Darlington is yet to be announced.

Disabled Facility Grants

88. 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

89. 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 2025/26. Further detail is given in the Housing Revenue Account financial plan but in summary includes:

- (b) Adaptations and lifts - £0.150m
- (c) Heating Replacement - £1.325m
- (d) Structural Works - £0.400m
- (e) Lifeline Services - £0.310m
- (f) Repairs before Painting - £0.068m
- (g) Roofing and Repointing work - £1.000m
- (h) Garages - £0.050m
- (i) External Works - £0.210m.
- (j) Pavements - £0.028m
- (k) Window & Door Replacement - £1.495m
- (l) Internal planned maintenance (IPM) - £3.600m
- (m) Communal Works - £0.200m
- (n) Energy Efficiency Improvements - £4.020m
- (o) New Build housing - £4.090m
- (p) Fees - £0.312m

Consultation

90. This report will be available for public viewing from the 25 November with official consultation running from 3 December 2024 to 19 January 2025.

Conclusion

91. The Council has faced significant financial challenges over the last decade, with significant reductions in government funding followed by the financial instability during the pandemic, but to date has risen to these challenges well which has previously enabled a balanced MTFP.
92. 2024 has presented further challenge with increased demand for services particularly in social care where complexity and costs are rising significantly and homelessness which has seen an unprecedented demand with nights spend in temporary accommodation rising by 137% year on year.
93. The future of Local Government financing is still uncertain; there have been several Councils issuing a Section 114 notice and even more requesting Exceptional financial support with evidence of more to come if funding isn't fundamentally reviewed and a reset undertaken to match need with resource. The Government have committed to do this during 2025/26 with a multi year settlement promised in 2026/27.
94. The Council can deliver a balanced position until 2026/27 utilising reserves as per our financial strategy, however there is a significant annual budget deficit which is not sustainable. Unless additional government funding is forthcoming the Council will need to make some very hard decisions on the future of our discretionary services which residents value and preventative services which could lead to the escalation of costs in statutory service provision, and decisions on how and what will be delivered in the coming years.
95. Planning beyond the current year is extremely difficult, given the uncertainty around future funding and the review of the new Local Government financial system. Current planning suggests reserves will be depleted in 2026/27 and there will be a budget deficit of £4.6m the year after, however for the reasons above, this will certainly change. At this

stage it is not possible to know whether this will be a positive or negative position.

96. In summary, the Council continues to face significant financial challenges. The savings identified in this MTFP and the estimated additional funding from the Budget announcement have reduced the ongoing annual sustainability gap. Due to the previous actions to protect reserves where possible, the Council can afford a 2025/26 budget and have reserves available to meet the funding requirement while the Government's review of local government finance takes place. If no funding is forthcoming making savings to meet the gap will be extremely challenging, there are no easy options without significantly reducing our discretionary services and preventative services which as previously highlighted assist towards making our Town, clean, safe, vibrant and a place where people want to live and work, and businesses want to relocate to.
97. As the Council's Statutory Chief Financial Officer, the Executive Director of Resources and Governance must advise the Council on the robustness of the budget and adequacy of reserves. In assessing the robustness of the estimates, the Chief Finance Officer has considered the general financial standing of the Council; the underlying budget assumptions in the financial strategy; the adequacy of budget monitoring and financial reporting in place; the assumptions made on budget pressures and savings proposals; the adequacy of the council's internal control systems relying on the assurance statements provided in the Annual Governance Statement for the 2023/24 Statement of Accounts; and the level of reserves to cover any potential financial risks faced by the Council.
98. The budget presented to Members in this report has been based on the most accurate information available at the time of writing and the assumptions made based on the interpretation of the Budget 2024 announcement, on that basis 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 about the future economic position and Local Government funding so 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.
99. 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 changes in service provision 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 Revenue Estimates 2025/26 |
| Appendix 2 | Budget Pressures/Savings |
| Appendix 3 | Fees and Charges Proposals 2025/26 |
| Appendix 4 | Assumptions used to prepare estimates |
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| Appendix 6 | Proposed MTFP 2025/26 to 2028/29 |
| Appendix 7 | Capital Medium Term Financial Plan 2025/26 – 2028/29 |

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REVENUE ESTIMATES 2025/26 -SUMMARY

Appendix 1

| | 2024/25 Net Budget | 2025/26 | | | |
|--|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | | Gross Budget | Income | Grants | Net Budget |
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| People Group | 85,498 | 158,154 | (16,993) | (52,091) | 89,070 |
| Services Group | 26,965 | 64,590 | (38,121) | (229) | 26,240 |
| Resources & Governance Group | 14,355 | 48,369 | (31,641) | (1,025) | 15,703 |
| Chief Executive Office & Economic Growth Group | 1,980 | 4,259 | (2,306) | (183) | 1,770 |
| Group Totals | 128,798 | 275,372 | (89,061) | (53,528) | 132,783 |
| Financing Costs | 3,547 | 4,028 | 0 | 0 | 4,028 |
| Investment Returns - Joint Ventures | (1,517) | (1,977) | 0 | 0 | (1,977) |
| Council Wide | 871 | 663 | 0 | 0 | 663 |
| Contingencies | 202 | 272 | 0 | 0 | 272 |
| Grand Total | 131,901 | 278,358 | (89,061) | (53,528) | 135,769 |

PEOPLE GROUP - Revenue Estimates 2025/26

| | 2024/25 Net Budget | 2025/26 | | | |
|---|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | | Gross Budget | Income | Grants | Net Budget |
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| Executive Director of People | 611 | 636 | 0 | 0 | 636 |
| <u>Children & Adult Services</u> | | | | | |
| Transformation & Performance | 920 | 865 | (55) | | 810 |
| Business Support | 1,722 | 1,758 | (12) | | 1,746 |
| <u>Children's Services</u> | | | | | |
| Children's Services Management & Other Services | 659 | 672 | 0 | 0 | 672 |
| Assessment Care Planning & LAC | 4,548 | 5,007 | 0 | (389) | 4,618 |
| First Response & Early Help | 3,452 | 3,623 | (31) | 0 | 3,592 |
| Adoption & Placements | 21,186 | 21,968 | 0 | (1,025) | 20,943 |
| Disabled Children | 1,484 | 1,858 | (239) | 0 | 1,619 |
| Youth Offending | 294 | 737 | (132) | (285) | 320 |
| Quality Assurance & Practice Improvement | 138 | 240 | (101) | 0 | 139 |
| <u>Development & Commissioning</u> | | | | | |
| Commissioning | 2,447 | 2,412 | (215) | (94) | 2,103 |
| Voluntary Sector | 293 | 349 | 0 | (57) | 292 |
| <u>Education</u> | | | | | |
| Education | 772 | 36,501 | (2,228) | (33,404) | 869 |
| Schools | 0 | 4,155 | 0 | (4,155) | 0 |
| Transport Unit | 3,111 | 3,413 | (52) | 0 | 3,361 |
| <u>Public Health</u> | | | | | |
| Public Health | 0 | 9,523 | 0 | (9,523) | 0 |
| <u>Adult Social Care & Health</u> | | | | | |
| External Purchase of Care | 36,276 | 53,102 | (10,616) | (3,076) | 39,410 |
| Intake & Enablement | 727 | 3,208 | (2,473) | 0 | 735 |
| Older People Long Term Condition | 1,839 | 2,393 | (303) | 0 | 2,090 |
| Physical Disability Long Term Condition | 14 | 33 | (27) | 0 | 6 |
| Learning Disability Long Term Condition | 2,253 | 2,350 | (19) | 0 | 2,331 |
| Mental Health Long Term Condition | 1,227 | 1,702 | (474) | 0 | 1,228 |
| Service Development & Integration | 1,049 | 1,060 | 0 | (83) | 977 |
| Workforce Development | 476 | 589 | (16) | 0 | 573 |
| Total People Group | 85,498 | 158,154 | (16,993) | (52,091) | 89,070 |

SERVICES GROUP - Revenue Estimates 2025/26

| | 2024/25 Net Budget £000 | 2025/26 | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| | | Gross Budget £000 | Income £000 | Grants £000 | Net Budget £000 |
| | | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| Executive Director Environment, Highways & Community Services | 184 | 189 | 0 | 0 | 189 |
| <u>Transport & Capital Projects</u> | | | | | |
| AD Transport & Capital Projects | 111 | 115 | 0 | 0 | 115 |
| Building Design Services | 63 | 601 | (622) | 0 | (21) |
| Capital Projects | 440 | 689 | (295) | 0 | 394 |
| Car Parking R&M | 612 | 613 | 0 | 0 | 613 |
| Concessionary Fares | 2,297 | 2,713 | (2) | 0 | 2,711 |
| Flood & Water Act | 291 | 90 | 0 | 0 | 90 |
| Highways | 4,461 | 5,306 | (1,153) | (39) | 4,114 |
| Highways - DLO | (437) | 7,867 | (8,230) | 0 | (363) |
| Investment & Funding | 494 | 171 | (74) | 0 | 97 |
| Sustainable Transport | 194 | 172 | (73) | 0 | 99 |
| <u>Community Services</u> | | | | | |
| AD Community Services | 99 | 155 | 0 | 0 | 155 |
| Allotments | 19 | 29 | (8) | 0 | 21 |
| Building Cleaning - DLO | 47 | 394 | (365) | 0 | 29 |
| Cemeteries & Crematorium | (821) | 1,157 | (1,873) | 0 | (716) |
| Dolphin Centre | 1,000 | 4,686 | (3,634) | 0 | 1,052 |
| Eastbourne Complex | 36 | 270 | (237) | 0 | 33 |
| Hopetown Darlington | 380 | 2,598 | (2,004) | (125) | 469 |
| Hippodrome | 228 | 5,718 | (5,560) | 0 | 158 |
| Indoor Bowling Centre | 31 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 20 |
| Libraries | 946 | 1,077 | (41) | 0 | 1,036 |
| Move More | 31 | 157 | (118) | 0 | 39 |
| Outdoor Events | 522 | 495 | (30) | 0 | 465 |
| Community Catering - DLO | 82 | 265 | (265) | 0 | 0 |
| Culture and Heritage Fund | 124 | 125 | 0 | 0 | 125 |
| Street Scene | 6,428 | 8,942 | (2,160) | 0 | 6,782 |
| Transport Unit - Fleet Management | 57 | 67 | (82) | 0 | (15) |
| Waste Management | 4,117 | 4,662 | 0 | 0 | 4,662 |
| Winter Maintenance | 618 | 667 | (25) | 0 | 642 |
| <u>Community Safety</u> | | | | | |
| CCTV | 284 | 507 | (199) | 0 | 308 |
| Community Safety | 891 | 919 | (100) | (65) | 754 |
| General Licensing | 0 | 195 | (195) | 0 | 0 |
| Parking | (2,049) | 222 | (2,681) | 0 | (2,459) |
| Parking Enforcement | 17 | 314 | (294) | 0 | 20 |
| Private Sector Housing | 139 | 152 | (27) | 0 | 125 |
| Stray Dogs | 53 | 104 | (15) | 0 | 89 |
| Taxi Licensing | 36 | 218 | (218) | 0 | 0 |
| Trading Standards | 260 | 281 | (6) | 0 | 275 |
| <u>Building Services</u> | | | | | |
| Construction - DLO | (366) | 6,873 | (7,235) | 0 | (362) |
| <u>Corporate Landlord</u> | | | | | 0 |
| Corporate Landlord | 4,841 | 4,585 | (300) | 0 | 4,285 |
| <u>General Support Services</u> | | | | | |
| Works Property & Other | 76 | 78 | 0 | 0 | 78 |
| <u>Joint Levies & Boards</u> | | | | | |
| Environment Agency Levy | 129 | 132 | 0 | 0 | 132 |
| Total Services Group | 26,965 | 64,590 | (38,121) | (229) | 26,240 |

Resources & Governance Group - Revenue Estimates 2025/26

| | 2024/25 | 2024/25 | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| | Net Budget | Gross Budget | Income | Grants | Net Budget |
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| Executive Director Resources & Governance | 136 | 234 | (94) | 0 | 140 |
| Resources | | | | | |
| AD Resources | 120 | 127 | 0 | 0 | 127 |
| Financial Services | 1,663 | 2,120 | (512) | 0 | 1,608 |
| Financial Assessments & Protection | 336 | 403 | (43) | (40) | 320 |
| Xentrall (D&S Partnership) | 2,028 | 2,806 | (699) | 0 | 2,107 |
| Human Resources | 809 | 872 | (161) | 0 | 711 |
| Health & Safety | 200 | 252 | (47) | 0 | 205 |
| Head of Strategy Performance & Communications | | | | | |
| Communications & Engagement | 1,177 | 1,243 | (188) | 0 | 1,055 |
| Systems | 1,281 | 1,229 | (3) | 0 | 1,226 |
| Law & Governance | | | | | |
| AD Law & Governance | 136 | 140 | 0 | 0 | 140 |
| Complaints & FOI | 380 | 344 | 0 | 0 | 344 |
| Democratic Services | 1,381 | 1,594 | (37) | 0 | 1,557 |
| Registrars | (26) | 270 | (310) | 0 | (40) |
| Administration | 550 | 692 | (94) | 0 | 598 |
| Legal | 1,768 | 2,079 | (179) | 0 | 1,900 |
| Procurement | 195 | 293 | (40) | 0 | 253 |
| Coroners | 321 | 334 | 0 | 0 | 334 |
| Xentrall Shared Services | | | | | |
| ICT | 811 | 1,016 | (204) | 0 | 812 |
| Maintenance | | | | | |
| Maintenance DLO | (684) | 7,448 | (8,166) | 0 | (718) |
| Housing & Revenues | | | | | |
| Local Taxation | 473 | 1,060 | (554) | 0 | 506 |
| Rent Rebates / Rent Allowances / Council Tax | (132) | 20,092 | (19,031) | 0 | 1,061 |
| Housing Benefits Administration | 606 | 1,157 | (20) | (421) | 716 |
| Customer Services | 324 | 457 | (201) | 0 | 256 |
| Homelessness | 347 | 1,797 | (904) | (564) | 329 |
| Service, Strategy & Regulation and General Services | 155 | 310 | (154) | 0 | 156 |
| Total Resources & Governance Group | 14,355 | 48,369 | (31,641) | (1,025) | 15,703 |

CHIEF EXECUTIVES OFFICE & ECONOMIC GROWTH - Revenue Estimates 2025/26

| | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Net Budget | Gross Budget | Income | Grants | Net Budget |
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| Chief Executive | | | | | |
| Chief Executive | 216 | 222 | 0 | 0 | 222 |
| Darlington Partnership | 101 | 196 | (81) | 0 | 115 |
| AD Economic Growth | | | | | |
| AD - Economic Growth | 155 | 194 | 0 | 0 | 194 |
| Building Control | 192 | 392 | (223) | 0 | 169 |
| Consolidated Budgets | 194 | 46 | 0 | 0 | 46 |
| Development Management | 52 | 786 | (721) | 0 | 65 |
| Economy | 317 | 361 | 0 | (92) | 269 |
| Emergency Planning | 105 | 97 | 0 | 0 | 97 |
| Environmental Health | 351 | 402 | (28) | 0 | 374 |
| Place Strategy | 724 | 713 | (26) | (91) | 596 |
| Property Management & Estates | (427) | 850 | (1,227) | 0 | (377) |
| Total Chief Executives Office & Economic Growth | 1,980 | 4,259 | (2,306) | (183) | 1,770 |

APPENDIX 2

| Analysis of Pressures/Savings | Estimate 25/26 £m | Estimate 26/27 £m | Estimate 27/28 £m | Estimate 28/29 £m |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Savings - Back Office | | | | |
| Learning Disabilities - Reduced contingency needed within Direct payments | (0.100) | (0.100) | (0.100) | (0.100) |
| Economic Growth - Reduced running costs across services | (0.125) | (0.126) | (0.126) | (0.126) |
| People Services - Reduced running costs across services | (0.091) | (0.060) | (0.060) | (0.064) |
| Council Wide - Reduced running costs across services | (0.054) | (0.054) | (0.054) | (0.054) |
| Customer Services - Reduced running costs | (0.048) | (0.048) | (0.049) | (0.047) |
| Resources & Governance - Reduced running cost across services | (0.073) | (0.062) | (0.045) | (0.049) |
| Secretarial Support - Reduction in staffing through natural wastage | (0.021) | (0.043) | (0.044) | (0.044) |
| Mayoral Budget - Efficiencies in running costs | (0.002) | (0.002) | (0.002) | (0.002) |
| Communications - Changes to the Community Survey | (0.015) | (0.015) | (0.015) | (0.015) |
| Town Hall & Central House - Savings in cleaning & waste disposal | (0.046) | (0.046) | (0.046) | (0.046) |
| Refuse Collection - 26/27 no additional round and no borrowing for wheeled bins | (0.280) | (0.100) | (0.100) | (0.100) |
| Services - Reduced running costs across services | (0.138) | (0.205) | (0.207) | (0.207) |
| | (0.993) | (0.861) | (0.848) | (0.854) |
| Savings - Energy | | | | |
| Corporate Landlord - Reduced utility prices | (0.325) | (0.325) | (0.325) | (0.325) |
| Highways - Reduced utility prices | (0.050) | (0.050) | (0.050) | (0.050) |
| | (0.375) | (0.375) | (0.375) | (0.375) |
| Savings - Increased Income | | | | |
| Adults - Invest to save increased recovery of bad debt | (0.087) | (0.089) | (0.091) | (0.092) |
| Estates - Increased income from Feethams House | 0.0000 | (0.044) | (0.015) | (0.015) |
| Building Control - Increase in fees & charges | (0.030) | (0.030) | (0.030) | (0.030) |
| People Services - Changes in grant funding | (0.201) | (0.207) | (0.214) | (0.214) |
| Housing - Changes in grant funding | (0.042) | (0.043) | (0.044) | (0.044) |
| Children's - Matching of other LA charges for placements in DBC services | (0.067) | (0.067) | (0.067) | (0.067) |
| Investment Returns - Reprofile JV income | (0.149) | (0.256) | (0.301) | (0.072) |
| Revenue & Benefits - Additional income | (0.098) | (0.113) | (0.128) | (0.137) |
| Revenue & Benefits - Increase in fees & charges | (0.015) | (0.015) | (0.015) | (0.015) |
| Resources & Governance - Increased recharges for services | (0.015) | (0.015) | (0.015) | (0.015) |
| Communications - Additional income from billboard | (0.011) | (0.011) | (0.011) | (0.011) |
| Registrars - Increase in fees and charges | (0.016) | (0.016) | (0.016) | (0.016) |
| Car Parking - Continued strong patronage to reflect current income | (0.050) | (0.050) | (0.050) | (0.050) |
| Services - Additional building cleaning service level agreement income from schools | 0.0000 | (0.022) | (0.023) | (0.024) |
| Central Park - Service charge recovery | (0.050) | (0.050) | (0.050) | (0.050) |
| Building/Highway Design - Increased recovery from schemes | (0.118) | (0.119) | (0.120) | (0.120) |
| Highways - Increased fees and charges to developers | (0.045) | (0.045) | (0.045) | (0.045) |
| Highways - Increased funding for highway schemes | (0.250) | (0.250) | (0.250) | (0.250) |
| Car parking - Increase in fees and charges | (0.298) | (0.450) | (0.450) | (0.450) |
| Community Safety - Increased collection of income | (0.075) | (0.093) | (0.088) | (0.086) |
| | (1.617) | (1.985) | (2.023) | (1.803) |
| Savings - Other | | | | |
| Contingency - Release of pension fund contingency for three years | 0.000 | (1.453) | (1.462) | (1.462) |
| | 0.000 | (1.453) | (1.462) | (1.462) |
| Savings - Offset Pressures | | | | |
| Homeless - Increased accommodation for homeless people | (0.133) | (0.240) | (0.240) | (0.240) |
| | (0.133) | (0.240) | (0.240) | (0.240) |
| Savings - Transformation Projects | | | | |
| People Services - Business Support review of practices | (0.085) | (0.170) | (0.170) | (0.170) |
| Hippodrome - Reduction in subsidy | (0.150) | (0.250) | (0.275) | (0.300) |
| Dolphin Centre - Reduction in subsidy | (0.200) | (0.350) | (0.400) | (0.500) |
| Eastbourne Sports Complex - Reduction in subsidy | (0.020) | (0.050) | (0.080) | (0.100) |
| Libraries - Service review and efficiencies | (0.008) | (0.009) | (0.010) | (0.010) |
| Events - Service review and efficiencies | (0.068) | (0.133) | (0.136) | (0.136) |
| | (0.531) | (0.962) | (1.071) | (1.216) |
| TOTAL SAVINGS | (3.649) | (5.876) | (6.019) | (5.950) |
| PRESSURES | | | | |
| Increased Demand | | | | |
| Adults - Packages of Care - Increased overall packages costs | 1.476 | 1.070 | 0.757 | 0.540 |
| Adults - Other service demand pressures | 0.081 | 0.016 | 0.016 | 0.016 |
| Children's - Packages of Care - Increased overall packages costs | 0.440 | 0.353 | 0.249 | 0.427 |
| Children's - Other service demand pressures | 0.102 | 0.119 | 0.152 | 0.100 |
| Education - Education Psychology, net of traded income | -0.027 | 0.009 | 0.057 | 0.056 |
| Education - Additional SEND Transport routes | 0.122 | 0.072 | 0.062 | 0.062 |
| Homeless - Increase in Board & Lodgings | 0.005 | 0.082 | 0.082 | 0.082 |
| Revenues & Benefits - Increased postage requirements | 0.035 | 0.035 | 0.035 | 0.035 |
| Homeless - Loss of Housing Benefit Subsidy | 1.326 | 1.326 | 1.326 | 1.326 |
| Children's Legal Fees - Increased complexity and demand of cases | 0.066 | 0.066 | 0.066 | 0.050 |
| Postage - Increase postage requirements | 0.040 | 0.040 | 0.040 | 0.040 |
| Concessionary Fares - Increased patronage and inflationary pressures | 0.373 | 0.380 | 0.388 | 0.396 |

| | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Waste Disposal - Increased growth from new builds | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.024 |
| Waste Disposal - Changes in legislation and increased waste tonnages | 0.320 | 0.329 | 0.339 | 0.350 |
| Street Scene - Increased service to new build property | 0.010 | 0.020 | 0.030 | 0.040 |
| Tree Team - Additional borough wide tree inspections. | 0.100 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| | 4.469 | 3.917 | 3.599 | 3.544 |
| Price Inflation | | | | |
| Adults - Change in budgeted inflation from 24/25 MTFP | (0.200) | (0.094) | (0.046) | 1.213 |
| Economic Growth - Contractual inflation & fixed rental income | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.040 |
| Children's - Change in budgeted inflation from 24/25 MTFP | (0.067) | 0.050 | 0.048 | 0.226 |
| Contingencies - Pay inflation impact on Apprentice Levy | 0.070 | 0.076 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Education - Contractual inflation | 0.006 | 0.006 | 0.006 | 0.006 |
| Resources & Governance - Contractual inflation | 0.025 | 0.025 | 0.026 | 0.026 |
| Xentrall ICT/Agresso - Contractual Inflation | 0.080 | 0.380 | 0.680 | 0.680 |
| Services - Contractual inflation & fixed rental income | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.090 |
| Waste Disposal - Contractual inflation | 0.091 | 0.093 | 0.096 | 0.099 |
| Stray Dogs - New requirement for kennelling fees | 0.033 | 0.033 | 0.033 | 0.033 |
| | 0.038 | 0.569 | 0.843 | 2.413 |
| Reduced Income | | | | |
| Estates - Rent reviews and rent slippage | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.031 | 0.031 |
| Children's - Ending/Change of distribution of grants | 0.051 | 0.051 | 0.051 | 0.051 |
| Financing Costs - Lower investment income | 0.306 | 0.167 | 0.164 | 0.457 |
| Revenues & benefits - Reduction in Government Grant | 0.051 | 0.051 | 0.051 | 0.181 |
| Cemeteries & Crematorium - Changes in market, more local facilities and direct cremations | 0.074 | 0.076 | 0.079 | 0.081 |
| Dolphin Centre - Lost income during Phase 3 M&E works | 0.100 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| | 0.582 | 0.345 | 0.376 | 0.801 |
| Other | | | | |
| Economic Growth - Restructure of management | 0.035 | 0.035 | 0.036 | 0.037 |
| Economic Growth - Short term holding costs of NEB/Wilko Buildings | 0.185 | 0.260 | 0.150 | 0.150 |
| Revenues & Benefits - Staff changes | 0.030 | 0.040 | 0.046 | 0.059 |
| Audit Fees - Increases following PSAA procurement | 0.150 | 0.158 | 0.165 | 0.172 |
| Legal & Procurement - Staff changes | 0.026 | 0.029 | 0.030 | 0.031 |
| Services - Additional security at Leisure & Cultural premises | 0.086 | 0.090 | 0.094 | 0.098 |
| | 0.512 | 0.612 | 0.521 | 0.547 |
| Pay Award | | | | |
| Pay Award 2024/25 - Additional cost of agreed award | 0.049 | 0.056 | 0.070 | 0.072 |
| Pay Award 2025/26 - Additional 1% to cover estimated pay award | 0.712 | 0.726 | 0.741 | 0.756 |
| | 0.761 | 0.782 | 0.811 | 0.828 |
| TOTAL PRESSURES | 6.362 | 6.225 | 6.150 | 8.133 |
| Total Net Pressures | 2.713 | 0.349 | 0.131 | 2.183 |

| SCHEDULE OF CHARGES 2025/26 | | | | |
|--|-------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 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 2024 to July 2025 (Next Review July 2025) | | | | |
| Full Fees (including enrolment and tuition fees) per hour | L | 3.00 | 3.00 | NIL |
| Please see APPENDIX 3a for full Fees Policy 2024 - 2025 | | | | |
| 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 | | | |
| 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 | N | | | |
| All Ceremonies – Approved Premises | | | | |
| Application Fee for licence as an approved venue (valid for 3 years) | N | 1,750.00 | 1,925.00 | |
| Fee for Attendance - All days including Bank Holidays | L | 610.00 | 670.00 | |
| Non-refundable booking fee (inclusive of VAT) | L | 50.00 | 55.00 | |
| All Ceremonies – Town Hall | | | | |
| The Oak Room (Monday to Saturday) | L | 325.00 | 360.00 | |
| The Council Chamber Foyer (Monday to Saturday) | L | 147.00 | 165.00 | |

| Description | Type* | Existing Charge £ | New Charge £ | Financial Effect £ |
|---|-------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| *KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed | | | | |
| 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 | |
| Proof Life Certificate - for those who claim pension abroad | L | N/a | 20.00 | |
| | | | | 16,000 |

| 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 | 38.00 | |
| | | | | Minimal |
| LAND CHARGES The following fees are inclusive of VAT Search Fees Standard Search – Residential Property Standard Search – Commercial Property | L L | 93.50 143.50 | 102.10 153.70 | |
| Con 29 Required | | | | |
| Residential Property CON29 Additional Parcels | L L | 80.00 25.00 | 87.60 26.28 | |
| Commercial Property CON29 Additional Parcels | L L | 130.00 25.00 | 139.20 26.28 | |
| Con 29 Optional Optional Questions Own Questions Official Search – LLC1 | L L L | 6.00 6.00 13.00 | 8.40 8.40 14.50 | |
| Personal Search | L | No charge | No charge | |
| | | | | Minimal |

| 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 | | | | |
| Work up to and including the date upon which the court makes an order appointing a deputy for property and affairs | N | 745.00 | 944.00 | |
| Annual management fee where the court appoints a local authority deputy for property and affairs, payable on the anniversary of the court order: | | | | |
| a) for the first year | N | 775.00 | 982.00 | |
| b) for the second and subsequent years | N | 650.00 | 824.00 | |
| c) where the net assets are below £20,300, the local authority deputy for property and affairs will take an annual management fee not exceeding 3.5% of the net assets on the anniversary of the court order appointing the local authority as deputy | N | See Description | See Description | |
| d) 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 £703. | N | See Description | See Description | |
| 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 | 380.00 | |
| Preparation and lodgement of an annual report or account to the Public Guardian | N | 216.00 | 274.00 | |
| Conveyancing Costs | N | See Description | See Description | |
| Travel Rates are allowed at a fixed rate per hour for travel costs | N | 40.00 | 51.00 | |
| Please note that these rates are set by The Office of Public Guardian and are the rates as of 1st April 2024, these may be amended during 2025/26 | | | | |
| Adminstration Fee | | | | |
| Adminstration 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 | 127.00 | 133.00 | |
| | | | | Minimal |
| DEFERRED PAYMENT FEES | | | | |
| Administration cost for setting up a Deferred Payment Agreement | L | 390.00 | 410.00 | |
| 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 | |
| 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 | |
| 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 | |
| Internet Use | | | | |
| Library members First 60 minutes FREE, £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 | | | | |
| Per hour | L | 20.00 | 20.00 | |
| Partner organisations per hour | L | 15.00 | 15.00 | |
| | | | | 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 | 2,500.00 | |
| Small Major Development (10-199) for a written response, including up to 2 meetings | L | 600.00 | 800.00 | |
| 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 | 50.00 | |
| Advertisements | L | 25.00 | 25.00 | |
| Listed Building consents (to alter/extend/demolish) | L | Free | 50.00 | |
| 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 | 2,000.00 | |
| | | | | 11,000 |

| 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 | 60.00 | 62.00 | |
| General Licensing | | | | |
| Pavement Café Licence, per person | | | | |
| 1-20 | L | 100.00 | 210.00 | |
| 21-40 | L | 100.00 | 242.00 | |
| 41-60 | L | 100.00 | 273.00 | |
| 61-80 | L | 100.00 | 305.00 | |
| 81-99 | L | 100.00 | 320.00 | |
| 100 or over | L | 100.00 | 350.00 | |
| Duplicate licence fee | L | 50.00 | 53.00 | |
| Transfer of licence | L | 50.00 | 53.00 | |
| Change of detail | L | 30.00 | 32.00 | |
| Variation of Covers | L | 100.00 | 105.00 | |
| Goods on Highway Licence | L | 155.00 | 163.00 | |
| Sex Shop Grant of application | L | 3,885.00 | 4,080.00 | |
| Sex Shop Renewal | L | 1,260.00 | 1,323.00 | |
| Sex Shop transfer | L | 1,260.00 | 1,323.00 | |
| Cosmetics | | | | |
| Premise Grant | L | 294.00 | 309.00 | |
| Personal Grant | L | 68.00 | 71.00 | |
| Variation | L | 68.00 | 71.00 | |
| Scrap Metal Dealers | | | | |
| Collectors Licence (3 years) - grant | L | 158.00 | 166.00 | |
| Collectors Licence (3 years) – renewal | L | 158.00 | 166.00 | |
| Major Variation | L | 53.00 | 56.00 | |
| Minor Variation | L | 16.00 | 17.00 | |
| Site Licence (3 years) Grant | L | 368.00 | 386.00 | |
| Additional Sites (per site per year of licence) | L | 205.00 | 215.00 | |
| Site licence (3 years) – renewal | L | 284.00 | 298.00 | |
| Additional sites (per site per year of licence) | L | 205.00 | 215.00 | |
| Minor Variation Site | L | 16.00 | 17.00 | |
| | | 53.00 + 68.00 | 56.00 + 72.00 | |
| Major Variation Site | L | per additional site per year | 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 | 210.00 | 220.00 | |
| 6-20 pitches | L | 236.00 | 248.00 | |
| 21-50 pitches | L | 252.00 | 265.00 | |
| Greater than 50 pitches | L | 273.00 | 287.00 | |
| Annual Fees associated with administration and monitoring of site licences; | | | | |
| 1-5 pitches | L | No charge | No charge | |
| 6-50 pitches | L | 231.00 | 243.00 | |
| Greater than 50 pitches | L | 273.00 | 287.00 | |
| Cost of Laying Site Rules | L | 26.00 | 27.00 | |
| Cost of Variation/Transfer | L | 105.00 | 110.00 | |
| Zoo Licensing Act | | | | |
| New Application (4 years) or renewal (6 years) for a Zoo Licence (excluding the inspection costs of appointed inspector) | L | 473.00 | 497.00 | |
| Animal Welfare | | | | |
| Breeding of Dogs - Grant of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 258.00 | 271.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 305.00 | 320.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 352.00 | 370.00 | |
| Breeding of Dogs - Renewal of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 226.00 | 237.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 273.00 | 287.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 320.00 | 336.00 | |
| Pet Vending Commercial - Grant of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 265.00 | 278.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 312.00 | 328.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 359.00 | 377.00 | |
| Pet Vending Commercial - Renewal of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 233.00 | 245.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 280.00 | 294.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 327.00 | 343.00 | |
| Pet Vending Home - Grant of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 258.00 | 271.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 305.00 | 320.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 352.00 | 370.00 | |
| Pet Vending Home - Renewal of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 226.00 | 237.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 273.00 | 287.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 320.00 | 336.00 | |
| Keeping or Training Animals for Exhibition - Grant of Licence | | | | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 247.00 | 259.00 | |
| Keeping or Training Animals for Exhibition - Renewal of Licence | | | | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 226.00 | 237.00 | |
| Hiring Out of Horses - Grant of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 278.00 | 292.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 325.00 | 341.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 372.00 | 391.00 | |
| Hiring Out of Horses - Renewal of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 247.00 | 259.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 294.00 | 309.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 341.00 | 358.00 | |
| Boarding of Dogs and Cats Commercial - Grant of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 321.00 | 337.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 368.00 | 386.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 415.00 | 436.00 | |
| Boarding of Dogs and Cats Commercial - Renewal of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 289.00 | 303.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 336.00 | 353.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 383.00 | 402.00 | |

| 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 | 258.00 | 271.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 305.00 | 320.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 352.00 | 370.00 | |
| Boarding of Dogs and Cats Home - Renewal of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 226.00 | 237.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 273.00 | 287.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 320.00 | 336.00 | |
| Boarding of Dogs Day Care Up to 7 Dogs - Grant of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 258.00 | 271.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 305.00 | 320.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 352.00 | 370.00 | |
| Boarding of Dogs Day Care Up to 7 Dogs - Renewal of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 226.00 | 237.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 273.00 | 287.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 320.00 | 336.00 | |
| Boarding of Dogs Day Care 8+ Dogs - Grant of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 320.00 | 336.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 367.00 | 385.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 414.00 | 435.00 | |
| Boarding of Dogs Day Care 8+ Dogs - Renewal of Licence | | | | |
| 1 Year Licence | L | 289.00 | 303.00 | |
| 2 Year Licence | L | 336.00 | 353.00 | |
| 3 Year Licence | L | 383.00 | 402.00 | |
| Dog Boarding Franchise in Darlington - Grant of Licence | L | 137.00 + 11.00 per host + 68.00 per host inspection fee + 47.00 annual enforcement fee per year | 144.00 + 12.00 per host + 71.00 per host inspection fee + 49.00 annual enforcement fee per year | |
| Dog Boarding Franchise in Darlington - Renewal of Licence | L | 105.00 + 11.00 per host + 68.00 per host inspection fee + 47.00 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 | 63.00 + 63.00 per host | 66.00 + 66.00 per host | |
| Dog Boarding Franchise out of Darlington - Renewal of Licence | L | 58.00 + 63.00 per host | 61.00 + 66.00 per host | |
| Additional Fees | | | | |
| Cost per additional licensable activity - Grant and Renewal (each) | L | 68.00 | 71.00 | |
| Mandatory mid licence inspection fee - Grant and Renewal (each) | L | 32.00 | 34.00 | |
| Variation of licence where no inspection is required (each) | L | 37.00 | 39.00 | |
| Variation of licence where inspection is required (each) | L | 95.00 | 100.00 | |
| Application for Re-Rating (each) | L | 74.00 | 78.00 | |
| Copy Licence | L | 16.00 | 17.00 | |
| Administration Fee | L | 37.00 | 39.00 | |
| Dangerous Wild Animals (not including vets fee) | L | 126.00 | 132.00 | |

| 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 | 1,024.00 | 1,075.00 | |
| - Week | L | 404.00 | 424.00 | |
| - Day (minimum of 4 days) | L | 89.00 | 93.00 | |
| January / October - Full Calendar Month | L | 693.00 | 728.00 | |
| - Week | L | 284.00 | 298.00 | |
| - Day (minimum of 4 days) | L | 63.00 | 66.00 | |
| Note- The above to apply to Itinerant traders. For regular all year round traders - fees as follows | | | | |
| Annual Consent - Town Centre | L | 7,350.00 | 7,717.00 | |
| If Paying Monthly | L | 651.00 | 684.00 | |
| If Paying Weekly | L | 179.00 | 188.00 | |
| Buskers selling CD's – Half Day | L | 25.00 | 26.00 | |
| Full Day | L | 45.00 | 47.00 | |
| Mobile vehicles (moving or lay-by) | L | 273.00 | 287.00 | |
| New Vendor Permits | L | 35.00 | 37.00 | |
| Skips, Scaffolding and Hoardings | | | | |
| Place a skip on the highway (less than 3 days notice) | L | 40.00 | 42.00 | |
| Place a skip on the highway (more than 3 days notice) | L | 25.00 | 26.00 | |
| Erection of scaffolding | L | 60.00 | 63.00 | |
| Hoardings | L | 60.00 | 63.00 | |
| Administration Charge (per hour or part thereof) | L | 37.00 | 39.00 | |
| Statutory Fees | | | | |
| Petroleum Licences | | | | |
| Less than 2,500 litres | L | 45.00 | 48.00 | |
| 2,500 – 50,000 litres | L | 61.00 | 65.00 | |
| More than 50,000 litres | L | 128.00 | 137.00 | |
| 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 | | | | |
| <u>Permit Type – The following fees are set by statute and will be revised as changed nationally</u> | | | | |
| 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 | |
| | | | | 2,000 |

| 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 | 60.00 | 62.00 | |
| 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 | 90.00 | |
| 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 | |

| Description | Type* | Existing Charge £ | New Charge £ | Financial Effect £ |
|---|-------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| *KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed | | | | |
| Annual Subsistence Charge; | | | | |
| Standard process Low* | N | 772.00 | 772.00 | |
| Standard process Medium* | N | 1,161.00 | 1,161.00 | |
| Standard process High* | N | 1,747.00 | 1,747.00 | |
| | | (+207.00) | (+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 | 60.00 | 62.00 | |
| Measures | | | | |
| Linear measures not exceeding 3m each scale | L | 16.50 | 16.50 | |
| Not exceeding 15kg | L | 44.00 | 44.00 | |
| Exceeding 15kg but not exceeding 100kg | L | 76.50 | 76.50 | |
| Exceeding 100kg but not exceeding 250kg | L | 91.50 | 91.50 | |
| Exceeding 250kg but not exceeding 1 tonne | L | 159.00 | 159.00 | |
| Exceeding 1 tonne but not exceeding 10 tonnes | L | 254.50 | 254.50 | |
| Exceeding 10 tonnes but not exceeding 30 tonnes | L | 533.50 | 533.50 | |
| Exceeding 30 tonnes but not exceeding 60 tonnes | L | 792.00 | 792.00 | |
| 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 | 76.00 per hour | 76.00 per hour | |
| Measuring Instruments for Intoxicating Liquor | | | | |
| Not exceeding 150ml | L | 25.50 | 25.50 | |
| Other | L | 29.50 | 29.50 | |

| 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 | 110.50 | 110.50 | |
| Single Outlets | L | 151.00 | 151.00 | |
| Solely Price Adjustment | L | 275.50 | 275.50 | |
| Otherwise | | | | |
| Other Types – Single Outlets | | | | |
| Solely Price Adjustment | L | 121.00 | 121.00 | |
| Otherwise | L | 164.00 | 164.00 | |
| Other Types – Multi Outlets: | | | | |
| 1 Meter Tested | L | 176.00 | 176.00 | |
| 2 Meters Tested | L | 288.50 | 288.50 | |
| 3 Meters Tested | L | 394.00 | 394.00 | |
| 4 Meters Tested | L | 502.00 | 502.00 | |
| 5 Meters Tested | L | 606.50 | 606.50 | |
| 6 Meters Tested | L | 712.50 | 712.50 | |
| 7 Meters Tested | L | 805.00 | 805.00 | |
| 8 Meters Tested | L | 929.50 | 929.50 | |
| 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 | 76.00 per hour | 76.00 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 | 76.00 per hour | 76.00 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, Commercial Street East & West, | | | | |
| Feethams MSCP, Winston Street North & South & West | | | | |
| 1hr | L | 1.00 | 1.20 | |
| 2hrs | L | 2.00 | 2.40 | |
| 3hrs | L | 3.00 | 3.60 | |
| 4hrs | L | 4.00 | 4.80 | |
| 5hrs | L | 5.00 | 5.00 | |
| 6hrs | L | 6.00 | 6.00 | |
| 7hrs | L | 7.00 | 7.00 | |
| 8hrs | L | 8.00 | 8.00 | |
| 9hrs | L | 9.00 | 9.00 | |
| 10hrs | L | 10.00 | 10.00 | |
| Car Parks – (Long Stay) (Mon to Sat) | | | | |
| Archer Street, Garden Street, Kendrew Street East & West, Hird Street, St Hilda's & Park Place East & West | | | | |
| 1hr | L | 1.00 | 1.20 | |
| 2hrs | L | 2.00 | 2.40 | |
| 3hrs | L | 3.00 | 3.60 | |
| All day | L | 4.00 | 5.00 | |
| 2 days | L | 8.00 | 10.00 | |
| 3 days | L | 12.00 | 15.00 | |
| 7 days | L | 16.00 | 20.00 | |
| Sunday | L | 1.00 | 2.00 | |
| Car Parks – Long Stay (Mon to Sat) | | | | |
| Park Lane | | | | |
| All day | L | 5.00 | 5.00 | |
| Sunday | L | 1.00 | 2.00 | |
| East Street MSCP | | | | |
| Per hour | L | 1.00 | 1.20 | |
| All day | L | 2.00 | 3.00 | |
| Sunday | L | 1.00 | 2.00 | |
| Chestnut Street | | | | |
| All day | L | 2.00 | 2.00 | |
| 7 days | L | 8.00 | 8.00 | |
| Sunday | L | 1.00 | 2.00 | |
| 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 | 0.70 | |

| 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 | 350.00 | 350.00 | |
| Tradesmen Parking Permits | | | | |
| Daily Waiver | L | 5.00 | 5.00 | |
| 3 month permit | L | 100.00 | 100.00 | |
| 6 month permit | L | 150.00 | 150.00 | |
| 12 month permit | L | 250.00 | 250.00 | |
| | | | | 298,000 |

| Description | Type* | Existing Charge £ | New Charge £ | Financial Effect £ |
|---|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| *KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed | | | | |
| BUILDING CONTROL | | | | |
| Items inclusive of VAT at 20% | | | | |
| Letter confirming exemption | L | 20.00 | 20.00 | |
| Letter confirming enforcement action will not be taken | L | 20.00 | 20.00 | |
| Copy of historic completion/approval certificates | L | 20.00 | 20.00 | |
| Decision/Approval Notice (Building Control) | | | | |
| Responding to request for historical information from electronic databases (email response) | L | 20.00 | 20.00 | |
| Responding to request for historical information from electronic databases (letter response) | L | 20.00 | 20.00 | |
| Responding to request for historical information from manually recorded data (email response) | L | 20.00 | 20.00 | |
| Personal searches (email response) | L | 20.00 | 20.00 | |
| The Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 2010 plus VAT at the appropriate rate | | | | |
| Work charged on individual job basis | L | As agreed with client | As agreed with client | |
| | | | | NIL |

| 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 | 4.60 | 4.85 | |
| Non card holder | L | 5.25 | 5.40 | |
| Concession | L | 3.50 | 3.70 | |
| Junior Swim | L | 3.00 | 3.10 | |
| Family swim junior rate discount (up to 4 children accompanying 1 adult) | | | | |
| Per card holder | L | 2.10 | 2.45 | |
| Per non card holder | L | 2.65 | 2.75 | |
| Under 12 months | L | Free | Free | |
| Lessons | L | 52.50 | 55.00 | |
| Fitness Areas | | | | |
| The Gym | | | | |
| Card holder | L | 5.75 | 5.95 | |
| Non card holder | L | 6.25 | 6.55 | |
| Concession | L | 4.30 | 4.60 | |
| Junior Gym | L | 4.30 | 4.60 | |
| Concession | L | 3.35 | 3.50 | |
| Health & Fitness Classes | | | | |
| Health & Fitness Classes | | | | |
| Card holder | L | 4.75 | 5.15 | |
| Non card holder | L | 5.50 | 5.70 | |
| Concession | L | 3.65 | 4.30 | |
| Half Main Hall | | | | |
| Adult | | | | |
| Card holder | L | 47.00 | 49.50 | |
| Non card holder | L | 53.50 | 55.00 | |
| Junior (1 hour courts only) | L | 32.50 | 33.50 | |
| Weekday lunchtime | | | | |
| Card holder | L | 39.00 | 40.00 | |
| Non card holder | L | 43.00 | 45.00 | |
| Badminton | | | | |
| Adult | | | | |
| Card holder | L | 9.15 | 9.65 | |
| Non card holder | L | 10.40 | 10.70 | |
| Concession | L | 6.90 | 8.05 | |
| Junior (1 hour courts only) | L | 5.15 | 5.65 | |
| Concession (1 hour courts only) | L | 4.00 | 5.00 | |
| Equipment Hire | | | | |
| Footballs | L | Free | Free | |
| Footballs – Deposit (FOC for card holders) | L | 5.00 | 5.00 | |
| Badminton | L | Free | Free | |
| Badminton – Deposit (FOC for card holders) | L | 5.00 | 5.00 | |
| Table Tennis Bats | L | Free | Free | |
| 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 | 5.75 | 5.95 | |
| Parent/toddler (Soft play) | L | 5.75 | 5.95 | |
| Other Activities | | | | |
| Showers | | | | |
| Card holders | L | 2.25 | 3.00 | |
| Non card holders | L | 2.25 | 3.00 | |
| Fit 4 Life Packages | | | | |
| 12 month Full Membership | L | 299.40 | 299.40 | |
| 12 month Seniors | L | 228.00 | 228.00 | |
| 12 month Student | L | 180.00 | 180.00 | |
| 6 Month Full | L | 195.00 | 195.00 | |
| 12 Month Upfront | L | 275.00 | 275.00 | |
| Swimming Pools | | | | |
| Main Pool - per hour | L | 110.00 | 120.00 | |
| Diving Pool - per hour | L | 63.00 | 70.00 | |
| Teaching Pool - per hour | L | 63.00 | 70.00 | |
| Gala - per hour | | | | |
| Swimming Galas - whole complex | | | | |
| Normal opening hours - per hour | L | 352.00 | 370.00 | |
| Outside normal opening hours - per hour | L | 185.00 | 195.00 | |
| Swimming Galas - Schools, Junior Clubs and Organisations | | | | |
| Main Pool - Peak | L | 247.00 | 257.00 | |
| Main Pool - Off Peak | L | 175.00 | 185.00 | |
| Main Pool and Teaching Pool - Peak | L | 206.00 | 216.00 | |
| Main Pool and Teaching Pool - Off Peak | L | 212.00 | 222.00 | |
| Electronic Timing | L | 104.00 | 110.00 | |
| Ten Pin Bowling | | | | |
| Adult Standard - 1 game | L | 7.70 | 7.95 | |
| Juniors (under 16) - 1 game | L | 6.15 | 6.30 | |
| Students & Seniors - Off Peak - 1 game | L | 6.15 | 6.30 | |
| Family Package - Peak - 1 game | L | 25.00 | 26.00 | |
| Family Package - Off Peak -1 game | L | 23.00 | 24.00 | |
| Adult, Students, Seniors - Peak - 2 game | L | 15.40 | 15.90 | |
| Adult, Student, Seniors - Off Peak - 2 game | L | 11.80 | 12.30 | |
| Juniors (under 16) - Peak - 2 game | L | 12.30 | 12.60 | |
| Juniors (under 16) - Off Peak - 2 game | L | 11.80 | 12.10 | |
| Disabled and carer - Off Peak - 1 game (per person) | L | 5.25 | 5.50 | |
| Disabled and carer - Off Peak - 2 game (per person) | L | 10.50 | 11.00 | |
| Dry Sports Hall | | | | |
| Main Sports Hall - per hour | L | 115.50 | 121.00 | |
| Special Events - per hour Weekends | L | 367.00 | 385.00 | |
| Preparation - per hour Weekends | L | 194.00 | 204.00 | |
| Special Events - Schools - per hour off peak | L | 52.00 | 55.00 | |
| Function Room | L | 28.00 | 30.00 | |
| Seminar Room/Stephenson Suite meeting rooms | L | 38.00 | 41.00 | |
| Pease Suite/Studio | L | 48.00 | 51.00 | |
| Central Hall | | | | |
| All Events (except commercial, exhibitions and local societies) | L | 121.00 | 127.00 | |
| Exhibitions - commercial - per hour | L | 157.50 | 165.00 | |
| Local Societies event - per hour | L | 84.00 | 88.00 | |
| | | | | 50,000 |

| 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 | 26.00 | 30.00 | |
| Juniors Match | L | 16.00 | 20.00 | |
| | | | | Minimal |
| EASTBOURNE SPORTS COMPLEX | | | | |
| 3G Pitch | | | | |
| Non Charter Standard Pay and Play | | | | |
| 1/2 3G Pitch - Adult (1 hour) | L | 50.00 | 55.00 | |
| 1/2 3G Pitch - Junior (1 hour) | L | 40.00 | 45.00 | |
| Full 3G Pitch - Adult (1 hour) | L | 80.00 | 85.00 | |
| Full 3G Pitch - Junior (1 hour) | L | 55.00 | 60.00 | |
| Charter Standard and Partner Clubs | | | | |
| 1/2 3G Pitch (1 hour) | L | 25.00 | 30.00 | |
| Full 3G Pitch (1 hour) | L | 50.00 | 60.00 | |
| Grass Pitch Matches - Club | | | | |
| Adult per match 11 v 11 | L | 26.00 | 30.00 | |
| Junior per match 9 v 9 | L | 16.00 | 20.00 | |
| Junior per match 7 v 7 | L | 16.00 | 20.00 | |
| Junior per match 5 v 5 | L | 10.00 | 15.00 | |
| 3G Matches - Club | | | | |
| Junior per match 5 v 5 | L | 15.00 | 20.00 | |
| Junior per match 7 v 7 | L | 20.00 | 25.00 | |
| Junior per match 9 v 9 | L | 25.00 | 30.00 | |
| Junior per match 11 v 11 | L | 25.00 | 30.00 | |
| Changing room | L | 20.00 | 20.00 | |
| 3G Matches - Adults | | | | |
| AGP 1 without changing rooms | L | 40.00 | 45.00 | |
| AGP 1 with changing rooms | L | 60.00 | 65.00 | |
| AGP 2 without changing rooms | L | 60.00 | 65.00 | |
| AGP 2 with changing rooms | L | 100.00 | 105.00 | |
| Athletics Track | | | | |
| Non club rate | | | | |
| Adult | L | 5.00 | 5.50 | |
| Junior | L | 4.00 | 4.50 | |
| Full track per hour | L | 120.00 | 120.00 | |
| Club rate | | | | |
| Adult | L | 4.00 | 4.50 | |
| Junior | L | 4.00 | 4.50 | |
| Full track per hour | L | 75.00 | 85.00 | |
| Other | | | | |
| Shower | L | 2.40 | 2.60 | |
| Function room and pavilion hire per hour (exclusive of VAT) | L | 23.00 | 24.00 | |
| Multi Purpose Studio per hour (exclusive of VAT) | L | 17.00 | 18.00 | |
| | | | | 25,000 |

| Description | Type* | Existing Charge £ | New Charge £ | Financial Effect £ |
|--|-------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| *KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed | | | | |
| HIPPODROME & HULLABALOO | | | | |
| Restoration Levy (per ticket excluding children's shows) | L | 2.00 | 2.00 | |
| Booking Fee (per ticket) | L | 1.00 | 1.00 | |
| Hire & Conferencing (all pricing exclusive of VAT) | | | | |
| John Wade Group Lounge - max capacity 40 (theatre style) - per hour | L | 38.75 | 38.75 | |
| John Wade Group Lounge - max capacity 40 (theatre style) - day hire** | L | 231.75 | 231.75 | |
| Living Water Tower Room - max capacity 18 - per hour | L | 33.25 | 33.25 | |
| Living Water Tower Room - max capacity 18 - day hire** | L | 198.50 | 198.50 | |
| Hippo Lounge - max capacity 70 - per hour | L | 46.25 | 46.25 | |
| Hippo Lounge - max capacity 70 - day hire** | L | 277.75 | 277.75 | |
| Hippo Education Space - max capacity 40 (workshop of approx. 25) - per hour | L | 38.75 | 38.75 | |
| Hippo Education Space - max capacity 40 (workshop of approx. 25) - day hire** | L | 231.75 | 231.75 | |
| Hullabaloo Rehearsal Space - max capacity 35 - per hour | L | 38.75 | 38.75 | |
| Hullabaloo Rehearsal Space - max capacity 35 - day hire** | L | 231.75 | 231.75 | |
| Hullabaloo Café - max capacity 70 - per hour | L | 46.25 | 46.25 | |
| Hullabaloo Café - max capacity 70 - day hire** | L | 277.75 | 277.75 | |
| Hippodrome Theatre Hire - max capacity 1,000 - w/end full day | L | 2,200.00 | 2,310.00 | |
| Hippodrome Theatre Hire - max capacity 1,000 - w/end half day | L | 1,100.00 | 1,155.00 | |
| Hippodrome Theatre Hire - max capacity 1,000 - w/day full day | L | 2,025.00 | 2,126.25 | |
| Hippodrome Theatre Hire - max capacity 1,000 - w/day half day | L | 1,015.00 | 1,065.00 | |
| Hullabaloo Theatre Hire - max capacity 150 - per hour | L | 72.00 | 75.00 | |
| Hullabaloo Theatre Hire - max capacity 150 - day hire** | L | 520.00 | 546.25 | |
| **day hire - 9am to 5pm | | | | |
| 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. | | | | |
| | | | | 124,000 |

| Description | Type* | Existing Charge £ | New Charge £ | Financial Effect £ |
|--|-------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| *KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed | | | | |
| HOPETOWN DARLINGTON | | | | |
| General Admission Donations welcome | L | Free | Free | |
| Wagon Woods Adventure Play Children over 1 - 1 hour peak (weekends & school holidays) | L | 5.00 | 5.00 | |
| Children over 1 - 1 hour off peak (weekdays term time) | L | 3.50 | 3.50 | |
| Experiment! immersive ride (opening November 2024) | L | 5.00 | 5.00 | |
| Private Hire The Stephenson Room - per hour | L | 50.00 | 50.00 | |
| The Pease Room - per hour | L | 38.75 | 38.75 | |
| The Carriage Works - half day | L | 300.00 | 300.00 | |
| The Carriage Works - full day | L | 500.00 | 500.00 | |
| The Carriage Works - per hour, after hours | L | 100.00 | 100.00 | |
| The Goods Shed/Clocktower Café - 3 hours 6-9pm | L | 500.00 | 500.00 | |
| The Goods Shed/Clocktower Café - per hour after 9pm | L | 100.00 | 100.00 | |
| Charity/Partner rate on all above hires - 30% discount | L | | | |
| Study at The Stores Historical research by Collections Manager - per hour | L | 30.00 | 30.00 | |
| Family history short research - up to 10 mins (including scans) | L | 5.00 | 5.00 | |
| Photographic reproduction - private use | L | 6.50 | 6.50 | |
| Commercial Photographic Reproduction Small local charitable, educational incl. websites | L | 6.50 | 6.50 | |
| Local commercial incl. websites | L | 15.00 | 15.00 | |
| Specialist magazines, journals & newspapers incl. websites | L | 30.00 | 30.00 | |
| Regional TV/Video/Film/DVD | L | 50.00 | 50.00 | |
| National/international TV/Video/Film/DVD | L | 100.00 | 100.00 | |
| School Visits Package 1 - Price per pupil | L | 4.00 | 4.00 | |
| Includes led workshop, Wagon Woods play, self guided time in museum and stores plus dedicated lunch area | | | | |
| Package 2 - Price per pupil | L | 7.50 | 7.50 | |
| Includes led workshop, Wagon Woods play, Experiment! immersive ride, self guided time in museum and stores plus dedicated lunch area | | | | |
| Both packages reduced by £2 per child for Darlington school children on free school meals | | | | |
| | | | | NIL |
| STRAY DOGS | | | | |
| Dog held at Allington Way Statutory Fee | L | N/a | 25.00 | |
| Kennelling Fee | L | N/a | 20.00 | |
| Dog held offsite Fees incurred at Allington Way (as above) plus | | | | |
| Kennelling Fee per day | L | N/a | 30.00 | |
| Handling Fee | L | N/a | 50.00 | |
| | | | | 14,000 |

| Description | Type* | Existing Charge £ | New Charge £ | Financial Effect £ |
|---|-------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| *KEY for basis of fee and charges setting, L - Locally Agreed, N - Nationally Agreed | | | | |
| REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL | | | | |
| Refuse sacks (per 25) (Exclusive of VAT) | L | 126.80 | 131.50 | |
| Garden Waste Sacks (Non VATable) (for collection of 10 bags) | L | 13.70 | 14.20 | |
| Bulky Household Collection up to 6 items | L | 22.90 | 23.80 | |
| Garden Waste Service | L | 45.00 | 47.00 | |
| Cost of replacement (inclusive of 20% VAT) | | | | |
| 360L Wheeled Bin | L | 64.80 | 67.20 | |
| 240L Wheeled Bin | L | 25.60 | 26.60 | |
| Caddie | L | 8.50 | 8.80 | |
| Glass Box | L | 6.25 | 6.50 | |
| 55L Box | L | 6.25 | 6.50 | |
| Lid for recycling box | L | 2.50 | 2.60 | |
| Lid for 240L bin | L | 7.50 | 7.80 | |
| Wheeled bin wheel | L | 2.00 | 2.10 | |
| | | | | 19,000 |

| 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 | 1,050.00 | 1,160.00 | |
| 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 | 1,050.00 | 1,160.00 | |
| Cremated remains | L | 230.00 | 250.00 | |
| 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) - Full Plot | L | 1,040.00 | 1,200.00 | |
| Exclusive burial rights (50 years) - Half Plot | L | 520.00 | 600.00 | |
| Exclusive burial rights (50 years) - Quarter Plot | L | 260.00 | 300.00 | |
| Exclusive burial rights for a bricked grave | L | 2,080.00 | 2,400.00 | |
| 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 | 125.00 | 150.00 | |
| Use of Crematorium Chapel for burial/memorial service | L | 250.00 | 300.00 | |
| After post mortem remains | L | 230.00 | 250.00 | |
| Exhumation of a body (excl. re-interment) | L | 2,215.00 | 2,500.00 | |
| Exhumation of cremated remains (excl. re-interment) | L | 565.00 | 600.00 | |
| Grave Maintenance (inclusive of 20% VAT) | | | | |
| Initial payment | L | 55.00 | 60.00 | |
| Annual Maintenance | L | 40.00 | 45.00 | |
| 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 | 230.00 | 250.00 | |
| Provision of kerbs – traditional sites only) | L | 100.00 | 120.00 | |
| Vases not exceeding 300mm | L | 85.00 | 100.00 | |
| Additional inscription | L | 85.00 | 100.00 | |
| Total financial effect for Cemeteries | | | | 30,000 |

| 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 | 230.00 | 250.00 | |
| 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 | 1,050.00 | 1,160.00 | |
| Direct Cremation | L | 550.00 | 580.00 | |
| After post mortem remains | L | 230.00 | 250.00 | |
| Other charges | | | | |
| Postal Carton | L | 20.00 | 25.00 | |
| Metal Urn | L | 40.00 | 60.00 | |
| Wooden Casket | L | 50.00 | 70.00 | |
| Biodegradable Urn | L | N/a | 85.00 | |
| Baby Urn | L | 10.00 | 10.00 | |
| Extended use of Crematorium Chapel | L | 125.00 | 300.00 | |
| Scattering of remains at reserved time | L | 50.00 | 50.00 | |
| Webcasts (inclusive of VAT at the appropriate rate) | L | 55.00 | 60.00 | |
| Tributes (inclusive of 20% VAT) | | | | |
| Single Photo | L | 15.00 | 15.00 | |
| Basic Slideshow | L | 45.00 | 55.00 | |
| Slideshow set to music | L | 80.00 | 85.00 | |
| Themed Tribute to music | L | N/a | 100.00 | |
| Family supplied Tribute | L | N/a | 30.00 | |
| For every additional 25 images | L | 20.00 | 25.00 | |
| Tribute Download link | L | N/a | 20.00 | |
| Webcast Keepsake (DVD, Blu-ray, USB or audio CD) | L | 60.00 | 60.00 | |
| Extra copies | L | 30.00 | 30.00 | |
| Video Book | L | N/a | 100.00 | |
| Extra copies | L | N/a | 60.00 | |
| Memory Box | L | N/a | 130.00 | |
| Extra copies | L | N/a | 70.00 | |
| Book of Remembrance (inclusive of 20% VAT) | | | | |
| Single Entry (2 lines) | L | 75.00 | 80.00 | |
| Double Entry (3 or 4 lines) | L | 115.00 | 120.00 | |
| Additional lines | L | 25.00 | 25.00 | |
| Crest or floral emblem | L | 120.00 | 120.00 | |
| Memorial Cards (inclusive of 20% VAT) | | | | |
| Single entry card (2 lines) | L | 30.00 | 35.00 | |
| Double entry card (3 or 4 lines) | L | 35.00 | 45.00 | |
| Additional lines | L | 5.00 | 10.00 | |
| Crest of floral emblem | L | 80.00 | 100.00 | |
| Other Memorial Schemes | | | | |
| Replacement kerb vase plaque | L | 300.00 | 300.00 | |
| Replacement flower holder | L | 5.00 | 5.00 | |
| Wall plaques | L | 250.00 | 270.00 | |
| Planter plaques | L | 370.00 | 380.00 | |
| Lease of space for memorial plaques (per annum) | L | 26.00 | 27.00 | |
| Total financial effect for Crematorium | | | | 140,000 |

| 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 | 200.00 | 200.00 | |
| | | | | NIL |
| 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 | |
| Section 184 Application for private vehicle crossings | | 125.00 | 150.00 | |
| Temporary Traffic Regulation Notices (road closures etc) | L | 184.00 | 214.00 | |
| Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (road closures etc) (plus advertising) | L | 302.00 | 332.00 | |
| Emergency Traffic Regulation Orders | L | 143.00 | 173.00 | |
| Application to Secretary of State for TTRO extension (plus advertising) | L | 105.00 | 135.00 | |
| 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 | 182.00 | 186.00 | |
| - Per road name (council names) | L | 221.00 | 226.00 | |
| - Per plot | L | 16.00 | 16.50 | |
| Street Naming & Numbering of Properties: | | | | |
| - Per plot or renaming of a property | L | 37.00 | 38.00 | |
| 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 | | | |
| Access protection markings | L | No charge | No charge | |
| Tourist Sign (plus actual cost of sign) | L | £75.00 + VAT | £75.00 + VAT | |
| Accident Data Requests | L | £75.00 + VAT | £75.00 + VAT | |
| Traffic Count Data | L | 75.00 | 75.00 | |
| Street Lighting Design Service | L | Individually priced based on charge out rate | Individually priced based on charge out rate | |
| 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 | L | 8% of works + legal if delivered by developer | 8% of works + legal if delivered by developer | |
| Section 116 Stopping Up of the Highway | N | Actual Costs | Actual Costs | |
| Section 38 Road Adoption agreement | L | 8% of works + legal if delivered by developer | 8% of works + legal if delivered by developer | |
| NRSAWA Defect Charges | N | Nationally set scale of charges | Nationally set scale of charges | |
| NRSAWA Road Opening Inspection Charges (sample) | N | Nationally set scale of charges | Nationally set scale of charges | |
| Section 74 – charges for overstay | N | Nationally set scale of charges | Nationally set scale of charges | |
| | | | | 49,000 |
| 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 | | 3,000.00 | 3,066.00 (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 | 256.00 | |
| Additional parcel | L | 50.00 | 51.00 | |
| Additional notice | L | 50.00 | 51.00 | |
| Authorisation for installing a new gate or stile (HA 80 s147) | L | 100.00 | 102.00 | |
| 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 | |
| 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 | 56.00 | 56.00 | |
| Taxi Vehicle Test and MOT | L | 66.00 | 66.00 | |
| Failure to attend (less than 48 hours' notice) | L | 56.00 | 56.00 | |
| Re-test | L | 27.00 | 27.00 | |
| Re-test including emissions | L | 39.00 | 39.00 | |
| Re-test emissions only | L | 12.00 | 12.00 | |
| Charges for General Public; | | | | |
| MOT for Standard Car Class IV | L | 37.00 | 38.00 | |
| MOT for Class V Vehicles | L | 42.00 | 45.00 | |
| MOT for Class VII Vehicles | L | 42.00 | 45.00 | |
| | | | | Minimal |
| PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING | | | | |
| Works in default & statutory activities per hour | L | 60.00 | 62.00 | |
| Housing inspections & consultancy per hour (inclusive of VAT) | L | 60.00 | 62.00 | |
| Charge for the service relevant Housing Act 2004 legal notice | L | 450.00 | 465.00 | |
| Administration cost for the securing empty homes (addition of VAT if completed by agreement) | L | 300.00 | 310.00 | |
| Houses in Multiple Occupation Activities; | | | | |
| HMO licence fee per letting/let/tenancy | L | 187.00 | N/a | |
| Part A Licence Application | L | N/a | 217.00 | |
| Part B 5 year HMO licence per letting | L | N/a | 155.00 | |
| Other relevant HMO activities per hour | L | 60.00 | 62.00 | |
| Variation of HMO licence | L | 60.00 | 124.00 | |
| Housing Immigration Inspections; | | | | |
| Within 10 working days (excluding VAT) | L | 150.00 | 155.00 | |
| Fast Track within 5 working days (excluding VAT) | L | 200.00 | 217.00 | |
| General Enforcement Activities; | | | | |
| Hourly rate for preparation of case reports/prosecutions | L | 60.00 | 62.00 | |
| Additional copies of legal notices via post | L | 10.00 | 10.00 | |
| Additional copies of legal notices - Scanned copy by Email | L | Free | Free | |
| Energy Company Regulation | | | | |
| ECOflex declarations (excluding VAT) | L | 50.00 | 93.00 | |
| 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 2024 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) | | | | |
| | | | | 11,000 |
| COST OF REVENUE COLLECTION | | | | |
| Council Tax – All Charges do not incur VAT | | | | |
| Issue of Summons for Liability Order | L | 40.00 | 41.00 | |
| Issue of Liability Order | L | 50.00 | 51.00 | |
| Issue of Summons for Committal Hearing | L | 105.00 | 264.00 | |
| Issue of Statutory Demand | L | 184.00 | 187.00 | |
| Schedule 3 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 | | | | |
| Penalty where | | | | |
| - A person is requested to supply information and fails to | L | 70.00 | 70.00 | |
| - A person knowingly supplies inaccurate information | L | 70.00 | 70.00 | |
| - A person fails to notify a material change without a reasonable excuse | L | 70.00 | 70.00 | |
| Where a penalty has been imposed and there is a further request for the same information a further penalty | | | | |
| - A person fails to supply information | L | 280.00 | 280.00 | |
| - A person knowingly supplies inaccurate information | L | 280.00 | 280.00 | |
| | | | | 15,000 |
| Business Rates (NNDR) – All Charges do not incur VAT | | | | |
| Issue of Summons for Liability Order | L | 40.00 | 41.00 | |
| Issue of Liability Order | L | 50.00 | 51.00 | |
| Issue of Summons for Committal Hearing | L | 105.00 | 264.00 | |
| Issue of Statutory Demand | L | 184.00 | 187.00 | |
| | | | | 14,000 |

APPENDIX 4

**KEY ASSUMPTIONS USED IN PROJECTED
RESOURCES, EXPENDITURE AND INCOME 2025/26-2028/29**

| Factor | Assumption |
|---|--|
| Resources | |
| Council Tax base | Variable depending on projected additional properties. |
| Council Tax | 2.99% increase in 2025/26 and then 1.99% to 2028/29 |
| Adult Social Care Precept | 2% increase in 2025/26 and then 1% to 2028/29 |
| Council Tax collection | 99% collected |
| Government Grants | Government grants, as indicated in the Final Local Government Finance Settlement 2024/25 and indicative figures for 2025/26 – 2028/29. |
| | Increase in Business Rates Scheme Top Up Grant of 3.0% in 2025/26, 1% to 2028/29. No reset. Increased for projected growth in new business premises. |
| | Revenue Support Grant per final settlement 2% uplift in 2025/26 and then 1.16% to 2027/28, flatlined 2028/29. |
| | Continuation of Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) at 2024/25 rates. |
| | Continuation of Adult Social Care Support Grant of £3.753m as per 2024/25 final settlement, flatlined and assumed to continue to 2028/29. |
| | Services Grant 2024/25 as per final settlement, flatlined and assumed to continue until 2028/29. |
| | Social Care Grant, per 2024/25 final settlement at £7.153m flatlined and assumed to continue to 2028/29. |
| | Additional Local Government Funding announced in the Budget split based on Darlington's usual percentage. |
| | Assumed National Insurance for directly employed staff offset. |
| | |
| Expenditure | |
| Pay inflation | 2025/26 3% 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 2025/26 and until next triennial revaluation in 2028/29. |
| Financing Costs | |
| Interest rates payable | Average rate on existing debt 2025/26 of 4.07%, 2026/27 of 3.38%, 2027/28 of 3.23% and 2028/29 of 2.34% |
| Interest rates payable on new debt – 10 year rate | 2025/26 of 4.23%, 2026/27 of 4.03%, 2027/28 of 3.90% and 2028/29 3.90%. |
| Interest rates receivable | 3.35% in 2025/26, 3.10% in 2026/27, 3.25% in 2027/28 and 3.25% in 2028/29. |
| Income | |
| Inflationary increases | Various based on individual service considerations |

REVENUE BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2024/25**Projected General Fund Reserve at 31st March 2025**

| | |
|---|---------------|
| | 2024-28 |
| | MTFP |
| | (Feb 2024) |
| Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) :- | £000 |
| MTFP Planned Opening Balance 01/04/2024 | 16,384 |
| Approved net contribution from balances | (4,041) |
| Planned Closing Balance 31/03/2025 | 12,343 |
| Increase in opening balance from 2023-24 results | 1,321 |
| Projected corporate underspends / (overspends) :- | |
| Council Wide | (11) |
| Financing Costs | 0 |
| Joint Venture - Investment Return | 0 |
| Contingencies | 0 |
| Additional Income Received | 0 |
| Services Rebase | 0 |
| People Rebase | 0 |
| Contribution from general fund reserves to Housing Benefits | (155) |
| Pay Award 2024/25 | 0 |
| Projected General Fund Reserve (excluding Departmental) at 31st March 2025 | 13,498 |
| Planned Balance at 31st March 2025 | 12,343 |
| Improvement | 1,155 |

Departmental projected year-end balances

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| | Improvement / (decline) compared with 2024-28 MTFP |
| | £000 |
| People | (457) |
| Services | (575) |
| Resources and Governance | (1,487) |
| Chief Executive & Economy | 0 |
| TOTAL | (2,519) |

Summary Comparison with :-

| | |
|--|----------------|
| | 2024-28 |
| | MTFP |
| | £000 |
| Corporate Resources - increase in opening balance from 23/24 results | 1,321 |
| Corporate Resources - additional in-year Improvement/(Decline) | (166) |
| Quarter 1 Budget Rebase | 0 |
| Departmental - Improvement / (Decline) | (2,519) |
| Improvement / (Decline) compared with MTFP | (1,364) |
| Projected General Fund Reserve at 31st March 2025 | 10,979 |

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL TERM 2025 TO 2029

| | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| People Group | 89.070 | 91.748 | 94.301 | 97.510 |
| Chief Executives Office & Economic Growth | 1.770 | 1.714 | 1.669 | 1.749 |
| Services Group | 26.240 | 26.270 | 26.886 | 27.437 |
| Resources & Governance Group | 15.703 | 16.278 | 16.902 | 17.337 |
| Financing costs | 4.028 | 3.706 | 3.632 | 3.925 |
| Investment Returns - Joint Venture | (1.977) | (2.006) | (1.753) | (1.524) |
| Council Wide | 0.663 | 0.677 | 0.693 | 0.706 |
| Council Wide Contingencies | 0.272 | 0.278 | 0.202 | 0.202 |
| Contribution to/(from) revenue balances | (5.639) | (4.838) | (4.630) | (6.013) |
| Total Net Expenditure | 130.130 | 133.827 | 137.902 | 141.329 |
| <u>Resources - Projected and assumed</u> | | | | |
| Council Tax | 70.226 | 73.482 | 76.761 | 80.171 |
| Business Rates retained locally | 27.080 | 27.454 | 28.110 | 28.022 |
| Top Up Grant | 8.645 | 8.731 | 8.819 | 8.907 |
| Revenue Support Grant | 4.663 | 4.738 | 4.814 | 4.814 |
| Better Care Fund | 4.488 | 4.488 | 4.488 | 4.488 |
| Adult Social Care Support Grant | 3.753 | 3.753 | 3.753 | 3.753 |
| Social Care Grant | 7.153 | 7.153 | 7.153 | 7.153 |
| Services Grant | 0.166 | 0.166 | 0.166 | 0.166 |
| Additional Funding in the Budget | 2.340 | 2.340 | 2.340 | 2.340 |
| National Insurance Offset | 1.476 | 1.522 | 1.498 | 1.515 |
| Homeless Grant | 0.140 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Total Resources | 130.130 | 133.827 | 137.902 | 141.329 |

| | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <u>Balances</u> | | | | |
| Opening balance | 10.979 | 4.910 | 0.072 | (4.558) |
| Release of Earmarked Reserve | 0.220 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Transfer to Risk Reserve | (0.650) | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Contribution to/(from) balances | (5.639) | (4.838) | (4.630) | (6.013) |
| Closing balance | 4.910 | 0.072 | (4.558) | (10.571) |

| Capital Medium Term Financial Plan 2025/26 - 2028/29 | | | | | Appendix 7 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | 2025/26 £'000 | 2026/27 £'000 | 2027/28 £'000 | 2027/28 £'000 | Total £'000 |
| Children, Families & Learning | | | | | |
| School Condition Allocations | 67 | 67 | 67 | 67 | 268 |
| | 67 | 67 | 67 | 67 | 268 |
| Housing | | | | | |
| Adaptations / Lifts | 150 | 153 | 156 | 159 | 618 |
| Heating replacement programme | 1,325 | 1,351 | 1,378 | 1,406 | 5,460 |
| Structural works | 400 | 408 | 416 | 424 | 1,648 |
| Lifeline Services | 310 | 203 | 214 | 217 | 944 |
| Repairs before painting | 68 | 69 | 134 | 136 | 407 |
| Roofing | 1,000 | 663 | 676 | 690 | 3,029 |
| Garages | 50 | 50 | 26 | 27 | 153 |
| External Works (footpaths, fencing, etc.) | 210 | 214 | 218 | 223 | 865 |
| Pavement Crossing | 28 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 115 |
| Window and Door Replacement Programme | 1,495 | 2,025 | 2,065 | 1,607 | 7,192 |
| IPM works | 3,600 | 3,672 | 3,745 | 3,820 | 14,837 |
| Energy Efficiency | 4,020 | 3,917 | 3,917 | 1,500 | 13,354 |
| Communal Works | 200 | 204 | 208 | 212 | 824 |
| Capital Schemes approved in previous years | 12,835 | | | | 12,835 |
| New build (net of HE grant)/regeneration | 4,090 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 7,090 |
| Fees | 312 | 318 | 325 | 331 | 1,286 |
| | 30,093 | 14,275 | 14,507 | 11,782 | 70,657 |
| Transport | | | | | |
| Highway Maintenance | 1,206 | 1,206 | 1,206 | 1,206 | 4,824 |
| Integrated Transport | 893 | 893 | 893 | 893 | 3,572 |
| Pothole Funding | 969 | 969 | 969 | 969 | 3,876 |
| | 3,068 | 3,068 | 3,068 | 3,068 | 12,272 |
| Other Capital Programmes | | | | | |
| Disabled Facility Grants | 1,160 | 1,160 | 1,160 | 1,160 | 4,640 |
| | 1,160 | 1,160 | 1,160 | 1,160 | 4,640 |
| Council funded Schemes | | | | | |
| Advanced Design Fees (Already approved to 2025/26) | 150 | - | - | - | 150 |
| Economic Growth Investment Fund (Already approved to 2025/26) | 500 | - | - | - | 500 |
| Capitalised Repairs (Already approved to 2025/26) | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 1,000 |
| Total Council Funded Schemes | 900 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 1,650 |
| Self Financing Scheme | | | | | |
| Development of Office Block at Prestigate (Already approved to 2025/26) | 8,000 | - | - | - | 8,000 |
| Total Self Financing Schemes | 8,000 | - | - | - | 8,000 |
| Total Spending Plans | 43,288 | 18,820 | 19,052 | 16,327 | 97,487 |
| Funded by: | | | | | |
| Capital Grants | 4,295 | 4,295 | 4,295 | 4,295 | 17,180 |
| HRA Revenue Contributions | 15,948 | 13,975 | 14,207 | 11,482 | 55,612 |
| HRA Capital Receipts | 300 | 300 | 300 | 300 | 1,200 |
| Borrowing | 13,845 | | - | - | 13,845 |
| Corporate Resources | 900 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 1,650 |
| Self Financing | 8,000 | - | - | - | 8,000 |
| Total Resources | 43,288 | 18,820 | 19,052 | 16,327 | 97,487 |
| Commitments - see above | 43,288 | 18,820 | 19,052 | 16,327 | 97,487 |
| Resources Available for Investment | - | - | - | - | - |

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

HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 8 JANUARY 2025

CLIMATE CHANGE

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To give consideration to the revised briefing note for Scrutiny Committees drafted by the Sustainability and Climate Change Lead Officer, in relation to the Council's commitment to tackling climate change.

Summary

2. Following the Local Government elections in 2023, the Climate Emergency Declaration was re-affirmed, and the Council's carbon neutral target was brought forward to 2040. Further aims to increase engagement with residents and businesses were included with the intention of reducing wider borough emissions. A further commitment to monitor the Council's supply chain emissions was also added.
3. A new Climate Change Officer was recruited and joined the Council in January 2024. His focus is internal, working with teams to develop new carbon reduction projects and guiding existing actions in the climate change action plan to fruition.
4. A revised briefing note, which is attached at **Appendix 1** of this report, has been drafted by the Sustainability and Climate Change Lead Officer, and reminds Members that tackling climate change is a shared responsibility. It is deeply connected to other policy issues and local action is necessary for sustainable solutions. The Council needs to be clear how any proposal / project, or how aspects of our work, impacts on our carbon emissions and how it affects our resilience. It is also important that the decisions that the Council makes does not prevent other people from reducing their own emissions or improving their own resilience.
5. It is noted that Scrutiny has a critical role to play in these cross-cutting issues. Climate change as a stand-alone issue sits within the remit of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee, however everything the Council does either has an impact on, or is impacted by, climate change so it is important that all Scrutiny Committees ensure that everything that comes before them has considered this. The Council Plan now includes climate change as a key principle underpinning everything the Council does.

Recommendations

6. It is recommended that
- a) Members note the advice and guidance provided by Sustainability and Climate Change Lead Officer in the revised briefing note.
 - b) That the questions outlined in the revised briefing note appear as an appendix to our Agenda, and form part of any submitted Quad of Aims, to ensure that these questions remain in the forefront of Members' mind when scrutinising reports.
 - c) All internal reports coming to this Committee have a small section at the end of each report entitled 'Climate Considerations', with a brief note about any considerations which have been given, where appropriate (This can come with the qualification that the staff within the department are not qualified in climate action).

Councillor McEwan
Cabinet Member with Portfolio for Economy

Background Papers

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

Author: Paul Dalton

| | |
|--|--|
| Council Plan | The Council Plan includes climate change as a key principle underpinning everything the Council does, and the report requests that this Scrutiny Committee give consideration to how it wishes to move forward in supporting this key principle, within the remit of this Committee. |
| Addressing inequalities | There are no issues relating to diversity which this report needs to address. |
| Tackling Climate Change | The report requests that this Scrutiny Committee give consideration to how it wishes to move forward in supporting the Council Plan's key principle of tackling climate change, within the remit of this Committee. |
| Efficient and effective use of resources | This report has no impact on the Council's Efficiency Programme. |
| Health and Wellbeing | This report has no direct implications to the Health and Well Being of residents of Darlington. |
| S17 Crime and Disorder | This report has no implications for Crime and Disorder. |
| Wards Affected | The impact of the report on any individual Ward is considered to be minimal. |
| Groups Affected | The impact of the report on any individual Group is considered to be minimal. |
| Budget and Policy Framework | This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework. |
| Key Decision | This is not a key decision. |
| Urgent Decision | This is not an urgent decision |

| | |
|--|--|
| Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers | This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers |
|--|--|

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Briefing for scrutiny committees

Climate change can affect anyone, but some people have the potential to be more affected than others. How badly a person or group will be affected will depend not just on their exposure to the event, but on their social vulnerability – that is, how well they are able to cope with and respond to events like floods and heatwaves. People and communities experiencing multiple causes of vulnerability are the most extremely socially vulnerable.

Tackling climate change is a shared responsibility. It is deeply connected to other policy issues and local action is necessary for sustainable solutions. We need to be clear how any proposal/project impacts on our carbon emissions and how it affects our resilience. It is also important that the decisions we make do not prevent other people from reducing their own emissions or improving their own resilience.

Scrutiny has a critical role to play in these cross-cutting issues. Climate change as a stand-alone issue sits in the purview of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee, but everything we do either has an impact on, or is impacted by, climate change so it is important for all scrutiny committees to also ensure that everything that comes in front of them has considered it.

The Council Plan now includes climate change as a key principle underpinning everything we do. The guidance notes for cabinet and decision papers have also been updated so the “carbon impact” box should never say no impact. Clearly, proposals or projects will differ, depending on what is being discussed, and not all of the questions below will apply to everything that comes to a scrutiny committee, but they should help to tease out how the officers have come to that decision.

Questions for scrutiny committee members to ask

1. Will the proposal/project result in an increase in carbon emissions?
 - How have you ensured that energy is not wasted or lost through poor insulation, heating the wrong areas or inefficient lighting?
 - Will there be an increase in business travel or commuting?
 - How easy will it be for people to travel by public transport, bicycle or walking?
 - Is there a need for travel at all?
 - Will there be an increase in waste disposal?
2. How will you reduce emissions?
 - How can you reduce energy use?
 - How can you reduce use of natural resources?
 - How can you ensure suppliers are working in a sustainable way?
 - How can you reduce waste?
 - How can you improve energy efficiency?
3. Will the proposal have any impacts on biodiversity (positive or negative)?
 - Will there be a net reduction in trees?
 - Are there opportunities for planting?
 - Are there other habitats or wildlife considerations?

4. Does the proposal incorporate/promote the development of renewable energy?
 - How can you increase the use of renewable energy in your project?
5. How can you minimise emissions from transport?
 - How can your project enable and encourage active travel?
 - How can you reduce the need for travel at all?
6. How will you make the proposal/project resilient to the impacts of climate change, such as more frequent severe weather, floods and heatwaves?
 - How can your project be designed to be resilient to these occurrences?
 - How can you ensure the building does not overheat in summer?
 - How will your service travel during these events?
 - How can communities using your service be protected?

Supplementary questions

- Does any procurement consider the impact on the environment?
- How does the project/proposal support the climate change strategy, tree and woodland strategy and sustainable communities strategy?
- How does the project/proposal support local businesses and employers to be sustainable?
- How can the project/proposal help develop local skills?