Appendix 1

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2015/16

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Introduction

In March 2012 the Council adopted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's *Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice 2011 Edition* (the CIPFA Code) which requires the Council to approve a treasury management strategy before the start of each financial year.

In addition, the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) issued revised *Guidance on Local Authority Investments* in March 2010 that requires the Council to approve an investment strategy before the start of each financial year.

This report fulfils the Council's legal obligation under the *Local Government Act 2003* to have regard to both the CIPFA Code and the CLG Guidance.

The Council has borrowed and invested substantial sums of money and is therefore exposed to financial risks including the loss of invested funds and the revenue effect of changing interest rates. The successful identification, monitoring and control of risk are therefore central to the Council's treasury management strategy.

External Context

Economic background: There is momentum in the UK economy, with a continued period of growth through domestically-driven activity and strong household consumption. There are signs that growth is becoming more balanced. The greater contribution from business investment should support continued, albeit slower, expansion of GDP. However, inflationary pressure is currently extremely benign and is likely to remain low in the short-term. There have been large falls in unemployment but levels of part-time working, self-employment and underemployment are significant and nominal earnings growth remains weak and below inflation.

The MPC's focus is on both the degree of spare capacity in the economy and the rate at which this will be used up, factors prompting some debate on the Committee. Despite two MPC members having voted for an 0.25% increase in rates at each of the meetings between August and December 2014, the minutes of the January 2015 meeting showed unanimity in maintaining the Bank Rate at 0.5% as there was sufficient risk that low inflation could become entrenched and the MPC became more concerned about the economic outlook.

Credit outlook: The transposition of two European Union directives into UK legislation in the coming months will place the burden of rescuing failing EU banks disproportionately onto unsecured local authority investors. The *Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive* promotes the interests of individual and small businesses covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme and similar European schemes, while the recast *Deposit Guarantee Schemes Directive* includes large companies into these schemes. The combined effect of these two changes is to leave public authorities and financial organisations (including pension funds) as the only senior creditors likely to incur losses in a failing bank after July 2015.

The continued global economic recovery has led to a general improvement in credit conditions since last year. This is evidenced by a fall in the credit default swap spreads of banks and companies around the world. However, due to the above legislative changes, **the credit risk associated with making unsecured bank deposits will increase** relative to the risk of other investment options available to the Council.

Interest rate forecast: The Council's treasury management advisor Arlingclose forecasts the first rise in official interest rates in August 2015 and a gradual pace of increases thereafter, with the average for 2015/16 being around 0.75%. Arlingclose believes the normalised level of the Bank Rate post-crisis to range between 2.5% and 3.5%. The risk to the upside (i.e. interest rates being higher) is weighted more towards the end of the forecast horizon. On the downside, Eurozone weakness and the threat of deflation have increased the risks to the durability of UK growth. If the negative indicators from the Eurozone become more entrenched, the Bank of England will likely defer rate rises to later in the year. Arlingclose projects gilt yields on an upward path in the medium term, taking the forecast average 10 year PWLB loan rate for 2015/16 to 2.70%.
A more detailed economic and interest rate forecast provided by the Arlingclose is attached at Appendix 2.

For the purpose of setting the budget, it has been assumed that new investments will be made at an average rate of 0.80%, and that new long-term loans will be borrowed at an average rate of 4.00%.

<u>Local Context</u>

The Council currently has £695.9m of borrowing and £160.0m of investments. This is set out in further detail at Appendix 3. Forecast changes in these sums are shown in the balance sheet analysis in table 1 below.

<u>Table 1: Balance Sheet Summary and Forecast</u>

	31.3.14 Actual £m	**31.3.15 Estimate £m**	**31.3.16 Estimate £m**	**31.3.17 Estimate £m**	**31.3.18 Estimate £m**
General Fund CFR	635	661	904	884	847
HRA CFR	282	281	289	294	300
Total CFR	**917**	**942**	**1193**	**1178**	**1147**
Less: Other debt liabilities *	-92	-103	-239	-230	-220
Borrowing CFR	**825**	**839**	**954**	**948**	**927**
Less: External borrowing **	-710	-688	-671	-666	-644
Internal borrowing	**115**	**151**	**283**	**282**	**283**
Less: Usable reserves	-238	-224	-205	-196	-193
Less: Working capital	-93	-93	-93	-93	-93
Investments or (New borrowing)	**216**	**166**	**15**	**7**	**3**

* finance leases and PFI liabilities that form part of the Council's debt
** shows only loans to which the Council is committed and excludes optional refinancing

The underlying need to borrow for capital purposes is measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), while usable reserves and working capital are the underlying resources available for investment. The Council's current strategy is to maintain borrowing and investments below their underlying levels, sometimes known as internal borrowing, subject to holding a minimum investment balance of £30m.
The Council has an increasing CFR due to the capital programme, and a reducing amount of investments and will therefore be required to borrow up to £27m over the forecast period. Further borrowing in this period will be required if additional regeneration schemes are approved and added to the capital program.

The 2013/14 investments include £100m raised from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) in 2012/13 to finance a required capital contribution for the Nottingham Express Transit (NET) Phase 2 scheme. This borrowing was raised in advance of need, to take advantage of low interest rates and the cash is expected be expended in early 2015/16.

CIPFA's *Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities* recommends that the Council's total debt should be lower than its highest forecast CFR over the next three years. Table 1 shows that the Council expects to comply with this recommendation during 2015/16.

Borrowing Strategy

The Council currently holds £696 million of loans (excluding £103m PFI debt), a decrease of £14 million on the previous year, as part of its strategy for funding previous years' capital programmes. The balance sheet forecast in table 1 shows that the Council expects to borrow up to £15m plus a further £137m PFI debt in 2015/16. The Council may also commit to borrow additional sums at fixed rates to pre-fund future years' requirements, to reduce its level of internal borrowing or for additional capital schemes that are not yet in the capital program approval providing this does not exceed the authorised limit for borrowing of £1,050 million.

Objectives: The Council's chief objective when borrowing money is to strike an appropriately low risk balance between securing low interest costs and achieving cost certainty over the period for which funds are required. The flexibility to renegotiate loans should the Council's long-term plans change is a secondary objective.

Strategy: Given the significant cuts to public expenditure and in particular to local government funding, the Council's borrowing strategy continues to address the key issue of affordability without compromising the longer-term stability of the debt portfolio. With short-term interest rates currently much lower than long-term rates, it is likely to be more cost effective in the short-term to either use internal resources, or to borrow short-term loans instead.

By doing so, the Council is able to reduce net borrowing costs (despite foregone investment income) and reduce overall treasury risk. The benefits of internal borrowing will be monitored regularly against the potential for incurring additional costs by deferring borrowing into future years when long-term borrowing rates are forecast to rise. Arlingclose will assist the Council with

this 'cost of carry' and breakeven analysis. Its output may determine whether the Council borrows additional sums at long-term fixed rates in 2015/16 with a view to keeping future interest costs low, even if this causes additional cost in the short-term.
In addition, the Council may borrow short-term loans (normally for up to one month) to cover unexpected cash flow shortages.

Sources: The approved sources of long-term and short-term borrowing are:

- Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) and its successor body
- any institution approved for investments (see below)
- any other bank or building society authorised to operate in the UK
- UK public and private sector pension funds (except Nottinghamshire County Council Pension Fund)
- capital market bond investors
- Local Capital Finance Company and other special purpose companies created to enable local authority bond issues

In addition, capital finance may be raised by the following methods that are not borrowing, but may be classed as other debt liabilities:

- operating and finance leases
- hire purchase
- Private Finance Initiative
- sale and leaseback

The Council has previously raised the majority of its long-term borrowing from the PWLB but it continues to investigate other sources of finance, such as local authority loans and bank loans, that may be available at more favourable rates.

LGA Bond Agency: Local Capital Finance Company was established in 2014 by the Local Government Association as an alternative to the PWLB. It plans to issue bonds on the capital markets and lend the proceeds to local authorities. This will be a more complicated source of finance than the PWLB for three reasons: borrowing authorities may be required to provide bond investors with a joint and several guarantee over the very small risk that other local authority borrowers default on their loans; there will be a lead time of several months between committing to borrow and knowing the interest rate payable; and up to 5% of the loan proceeds will be withheld from the Authority and used to bolster the Agency's capital strength instead.

LOBOs: The Council holds £49m of LOBO (Lender's Option Borrower's Option) loans where the lender has the option to propose an increase in the interest rate as set dates, following which the Council has the option to either accept the new rate or to repay the loan at no additional cost. £34m of these LOBOS have options during 2015/16, and although the Council understands that lenders are unlikely to exercise their options in the current low interest rate environment, there remains an element of refinancing risk. The Council will take the option to repay LOBO loans at no cost if it has the opportunity to do so.

Short-term and Variable Rate loans: These loans leave the Council exposed to the risk of short-term interest rate rises and are therefore subject to the limit on the net exposure to variable interest rates in the treasury management indicators below.

Debt Rescheduling: The PWLB allows authorities to repay loans before maturity and either pay a premium or receive a discount according to a set formula based on current interest rates. Other lenders may also be prepared to negotiate premature redemption terms. The Council may take advantage of this and replace some loans with new loans, or repay loans without replacement, where this is expected to lead to an overall cost saving or a reduction in risk.

Forward Starting Loans: In order to minimise the risk of the uncertainty of future interest rates, we will consider the use of 'Forward Starting loans' to fix the rate of interest for a specific loan where the cash will be taken at a set future date. These will be considered where it clearly demonstrates a reduction in the overall financial risk the council is exposed to.

Investment Strategy

The Council holds significant invested funds, representing income received in advance of expenditure plus balances and reserves held. In the past 12 months, the Council's investment balance has ranged between £160 and £301 million, but investment balances are expected to reduce significantly in the forthcoming year as surplus cash will continue to be used to meet borrowing requirements.

Objectives: Both the CIPFA Code and the CLG Guidance require the Council to invest its funds prudently, and to have regard to the security and liquidity of its investments before seeking the highest rate of return, or yield. The Council's objective when investing money is to strike an appropriate balance between risk and return, minimising the risk of incurring losses from defaults and the risk receiving unsuitably low investment income.

Strategy: Given the increasing risk and continued low returns from short-term unsecured bank investments, the Council aims to further diversify into more secure and higher yielding asset classes during 2015/16. The majority of the Authorities surplus cash is currently invested in short-term unsecured bank deposits, certificates of deposit and money market funds. This diversification will therefore represent a substantial change in strategy over the coming year.

Approved Counterparties: The Council may invest its surplus funds with any of the counterparty types in table 2 below, subject to the cash limits (per counterparty) and the time limits shown.

Table 2: Approved Investment Counterparties and Limits

Credit Rating	Banks Unsecured	Banks Secured	Government	Registered Providers
UK Govt	n/a	n/a	£ Unlimited 50 years	n/a
AAA	£15m 5 years	£15m 20 years	£15m 50 years	£10m 20 years
AA+	£15m 5 years	£15m 10 years	£15m 25 years	£10m 10 years
AA	£15m 4 years	£15m 5 years	£15m 15 years	£10m 10 years
AA-	£15m 3 years	£15m 4 years	£15m 10 years	£10m 10 years
A+	£15m 2 years	£15m 3 years	£15m 5 years	£10m 5 years
A	£15m 13 months	£15m 2 years	£15m 5 years	£10m 5 years
A-	£15m 6 months	£15m 13 months	£15m 5 years	£10m 5 years
BBB+	£10m Overnight	£10m 6 months	£5m 2 years	£5m 2 years
None	n/a	n/a	£15m 25 years	n/a
Pooled funds	£10m per fund			

This table must be read in conjunction with the notes below:-

Credit Rating: Investment decisions are made by reference to the lowest published long-term credit rating from Fitch, Moody's or Standard & Poor's. Where available, the credit rating relevant to the specific investment or class of investment is used, otherwise the counterparty credit rating is used.

Banks Unsecured: Accounts, deposits, certificates of deposit and senior unsecured bonds with banks and building societies, other than multilateral development banks. These investments are subject to the risk of credit loss via a bail-in should the regulator determine that the bank is failing or likely to fail. Unsecured investment with banks rated BBB or BBB- are restricted to overnight deposits.

Banks Secured: Covered bonds, reverse repurchase agreements and other collateralised arrangements with banks and building societies. These investments are secured on the bank's assets, which limits the potential losses in the unlikely event of insolvency, and means that they are exempt from bail-in. Where there is no investment specific credit rating, but the collateral upon which the investment is secured has a credit rating, the highest of the collateral credit rating and the counterparty credit rating will be used to determine cash and time limits. The combined secured and unsecured investments in any one bank will not exceed the cash limit for secured investments.

Government: Loans, bonds and bills issued or guaranteed by national governments, regional and local authorities and multilateral development banks. These investments are not subject to bail-in, and there is an insignificant risk of insolvency. Investments with the UK Central Government may be made in unlimited amounts for up to 50 years.

Registered Providers: Loans and bonds issued by, guaranteed by or secured on the assets of Registered Providers of Social Housing, formerly known as Housing Associations. These bodies are tightly regulated by the Homes and Communities Agency and, as providers of public services, they retain a high likelihood of receiving government support if needed.

Pooled Funds: Shares in diversified investment vehicles consisting of the any of the above investment types, plus corporate bonds, commercial paper, equity shares and property. These funds have the advantage of providing wide diversification of investment risks, coupled with the services of a professional fund manager in return for a fee. Money Market Funds that offer same-day liquidity and aim for a constant net asset value will be used as an alternative to instant access bank accounts, while pooled funds whose value changes with market prices and/or have a notice period will be used for longer investment periods.

Bond, equity and property funds offer enhanced returns over the longer term, but are more volatile in the short term. These allow the Council to diversify into asset classes other than cash without the need to own and manage the underlying investments. Because these funds have no defined maturity date, but are available for withdrawal after a notice period, their performance and continued suitability in meeting the Council's investment objectives will be monitored regularly.

Risk Assessment and Credit Ratings: Credit ratings are obtained and monitored by the Council's treasury advisers, who will notify changes in ratings as they occur. Where an entity has its credit rating downgraded so that it fails to meet the approved investment criteria then:

- no new investments will be made,
- any existing investments that can be recalled or sold at no cost will be, and full consideration will be given to the recall or sale of all other existing investments with the affected counterparty.

Where a credit rating agency announces that a credit rating is on review for possible downgrade (also known as "rating watch negative" or "credit watch negative") so that it may fall below the approved rating criteria, then only investments that can be withdrawn on the next working day will be made with that organisation until the outcome of the review is announced. This policy will not apply to negative outlooks, which indicate a long-term direction of travel rather than an imminent change of rating.

Other Information on the Security of Investments: The Council understands that credit ratings are good, but not perfect, predictors of investment default. Full regard will therefore be given to other available information on the credit quality of the organisations in which it invests, including credit default swap prices, financial statements, information on potential government support and reports in the quality financial press. No investments will be made with an organisation if there are substantive doubts about its credit quality, even though it may meet the credit rating criteria.

When deteriorating financial market conditions affect the creditworthiness of all organisations, as happened in 2008 and 2011, this is not generally reflected in credit ratings, but can be seen in other market measures. In these circumstances, the Council will restrict its investments to those organisations of higher credit quality and reduce the maximum duration of its investments to maintain the required level of security. The extent of these restrictions will be in line with prevailing financial market conditions. If these restrictions mean that insufficient commercial organisations of high credit quality are available to invest the Council's cash balances, then the surplus will be deposited with the UK Government, via the Debt Management Office or invested in government treasury bills for example, or with other local authorities. This will cause a reduction in the level of investment income earned, but will protect the principal sum invested.

Specified Investments: The CLG Guidance defines specified investments as those:

- denominated in pound sterling,
- due to be repaid within 12 months of arrangement,
- not defined as capital expenditure by legislation, and
- invested with one of:
    - the UK Government,
    - a UK local authority, parish council or community council, or
    - a body or investment scheme of "high credit quality".

The Council defines "high credit quality" organisations and securities as those having a credit rating of A- or higher that are domiciled in the UK or a foreign country with a sovereign rating of AA+ or higher. For money market funds and other pooled funds "high credit quality" is defined as those having a credit rating of A- or higher.

Non-specified Investments: Any investment not meeting the definition of a specified investment is classed as non-specified. The Council does not intend to make any investments denominated in foreign currencies, nor any that are defined as capital expenditure by legislation, such as company shares. Non-specified investments will therefore be limited to long-term investments, i.e. those that are due to mature 12 months or longer from the date of arrangement, and investments with bodies and schemes not meeting the definition on high credit quality. Limits on non-specified investments are shown in table 3 below.

Table 3: Non-Specified Investment Limits

	Cash limit
Total long-term investments	£50m
Total investments without credit ratings or rated below A-	£50m
Total investments with institutions domiciled in foreign countries rated below AA+	£30m
Total non-specified investments	£50m

Investment Limits: The Council's revenue reserves available to cover investment losses are forecast to be c.£224 million on 31st March 2015. In order that no more than 10% of available reserves will be put at risk in the case of a single default, the maximum that will be lent to any one organisation (other than the UK Government) will be £15 million. A group of banks under the same ownership will be treated as a single organisation for limit purposes. Limits will also be placed on fund managers, investments in brokers' nominee accounts, foreign countries and industry sectors as below:

Table 4: Investment Limits

	Cash limit
Any single organisation, except the UK Central Government	£15m each
UK Central Government	unlimited
Any group of organisations under the same ownership	£15m per group
Any group of pooled funds under the same management	£40m per manager
Negotiable instruments held in a broker's nominee account	£100m per broker
Foreign countries	£20m per country
Registered Providers	£50m in total
Unsecured investments with Building Societies	£30m in total
Money Market Funds	£100m in total

Liquidity Management: The Council uses purpose-built cash flow forecasting software to determine the maximum period for which funds may prudently be committed. The forecast is compiled on a pessimistic basis, with receipts under-estimated and payments over-estimated to minimise the risk of the Council being forced to borrow on unfavourable terms to meet its financial commitments. Limits on long-term investments are set by reference to the Council's medium term financial plan and cash flow forecast.

Other Items

There are a number of additional items that the Council is obliged by CIPFA or CLG to include in its Treasury Management Strategy.

Policy on Use of Financial Derivatives: Local authorities have previously made use of financial derivatives embedded into loans and investments both to reduce interest rate risk (e.g. interest rate collars and forward deals) and to reduce costs or increase income at the expense of greater risk (e.g. LOBO loans and callable deposits). The general power of competence in Section 1 of the *Localism Act 2011* removes much of the uncertainty over local authorities' use of standalone financial derivatives (i.e. those that are not embedded into a loan or investment).

The Council will only use standalone financial derivatives (such as swaps, forwards, futures and options) where they can be clearly demonstrated to reduce the overall level of the financial risks that the Council is exposed to. Additional risks presented, such as credit exposure to derivative counterparties, will be taken into account when determining the overall level of risk. Embedded derivatives, including those present in pooled funds, will not

be subject to this policy, although the risks they present will be managed in line with the overall treasury risk management strategy.
Financial derivative transactions may be arranged with any organisation that meets the approved investment criteria. The current value of any amount due from a derivative counterparty will count against the counterparty credit limit and the relevant foreign country limit.

Policy on Apportioning Interest to the HRA: On 1st April 2012, the Council notionally split each of its existing long-term loans into General Fund and HRA pools. In the future, new long-term loans borrowed will be assigned in their entirety to one pool or the other. Interest payable and other costs/income arising from long-term loans (e.g. premiums and discounts on early redemption) will be charged/ credited to the respective revenue account. Differences between the value of the HRA loans pool and the HRA's underlying need to borrow (adjusted for HRA balance sheet resources available for investment) will result in a notional cash balance which may be positive or negative. This balance will be measured and interest transferred between the General Fund and HRA at the average 3 month UK Government Treasury Bill interest rate to reflect a credit risk free return.

Investment Training: The needs of the Council's treasury management staff for training in investment management are assessed as part of the staff appraisal process, and additionally when the responsibilities of individual members of staff change.
Staff regularly attend training courses, seminars and conferences provided by Arlingclose and CIPFA. Relevant staff are also encouraged to study professional qualifications from CIPFA, the Association of Corporate Treasurers and other appropriate organisations.

Investment Advisers: The Council has appointed Arlingclose Limited as treasury management advisers and receives specific advice on investment, debt and capital finance issues.

Investment of Money Borrowed in Advance of Need: The Council may, from time to time, borrow in advance of need, where this is expected to provide the best long term value for money. Since amounts borrowed will be invested until spent, the Council is aware that it will be exposed to the risk of loss of the borrowed sums, and the risk that investment and borrowing interest rates may change in the intervening period. Consideration will be given to the use of forward starting loans as an alternative where appropriate. These risks will be managed as part of the Council's overall management of its treasury risks. The total amount borrowed will not exceed the authorised borrowing limit of £1050 million. The maximum period between borrowing and expenditure is expected to be two years, although the Council is not required to link particular loans with particular items of expenditure.

Management of Risk: Risk management plays a fundamental role in treasury activities, due to the value and nature of transactions involved. Appendix 6 details the specific risks identified in respect of treasury management within the Council and the adopted Risk Management Action Plan. This Plan is reviewed at regular intervals at meetings of the Treasury Management Panel.

Arlingclose Economic & Interest Rate Forecast January 2015

Underlying assumptions:

- The UK economic recovery slowed towards the end of 2014, with economic and political uncertainty weighing on business investment. However, the Q3 growth rate of 0.7% remains slightly above the long run average, suggesting the recovery remains robust.
- Household consumption is key to the recovery in 2015. While we expect consumption growth to slow, given softening housing market activity and slower employment growth, the fall in inflation and resulting rise in both real (and nominal) wage growth and disposable income should support spending.
- Inflationary pressure is currently low (annual CPI is currently 0.5%) and is likely to remain so in the short-term. The fall in oil prices has yet to feed fully into the prices of motor fuel and retail energy and CPI is expected to fall further. Supermarket price wars are also expected to bear down on food price inflation.
- The MPC's focus is on both the degree of spare capacity in the economy and the rate at which this will be used up, factors prompting some debate on the Committee.
- Nominal earnings growth is strengthening, but remains relatively weak in historical terms, despite large falls in unemployment. Our view is that spare capacity remains extensive. The levels of part-time, self-employment and underemployment are significant and indicate capacity within the employed workforce, in addition to the still large unemployed pool. Productivity growth can therefore remain weak in the short term without creating undue inflationary pressure.
- However, we also expect employment growth to slow as economic growth decelerates. This is likely to boost productivity, which will bear down on unit labour costs and inflationary pressure.
- In addition to the lack of wage and inflationary pressures, policymakers are evidently concerned about the bleak prospects for the Eurozone. These factors will maintain the dovish stance of the MPC in the medium term. The MPC clearly believes the appropriate level for Bank Rate for the post-crisis UK economy is significantly lower than the previous norm. We would suggest this is between 2.5 and 3.5%.
- The ECB has introduced outright QE as expected. While this may alleviate some of the anxiety about the economic potential of the Eurozone, political risk remains significant (e.g. Greek election). Therefore fears for the Eurozone are likely to maintain a safe haven bid for UK government debt.

Forecast:

- We continue to forecast the first rise in official interest rates in Q3 2015, but the risks to this forecast are very much weighted to the downside. The February Inflation Report will be key to our review of the possible path for Bank Rate.

- We project a slow rise in Bank Rate. The pace of interest rate rises will be gradual and the extent of rises limited; we believe the normalised level of Bank Rate post-crisis to range between 2.5% and 3.5%.

- Market sentiment (derived from forward curves) has shifted significantly lower in the past three months; market expectations are now for a later increase in interest rates and a more muted increase in gilt yields.

- The short run path for gilt yields has flattened due to the sharp decline in inflation expectations. We project gilt yields on an upward path in the medium term.

- The short run path for gilt yields is flatter due to the deteriorating Eurozone situation. We project gilt yields on an upward path in the medium term.

	Mar-15	Jun-15	Sep-15	Dec-15	Mar-16	Jun-16	Sep-16	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17	Sep-17	Dec-17	Mar-18
Official Bank Rate													
Upside risk				0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Arlingclose Central Case	**0.50**	**0.50**	**0.75**	**0.75**	**1.00**	**1.00**	**1.25**	**1.25**	**1.50**	**1.50**	**1.75**	**1.75**	**1.75**
Downside risk			0.25	0.25	0.50	0.50	0.75	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
3-month LIBID rate													
Upside risk	0.10	0.20	0.20	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30
Arlingclose Central Case	**0.55**	**0.60**	**0.80**	**0.90**	**1.05**	**1.15**	**1.30**	**1.40**	**1.55**	**1.65**	**1.80**	**1.95**	**2.00**
Downside risk	0.15	0.20	0.30	0.40	0.55	0.65	0.75	0.85	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	1.00
1-yr LIBID rate													
Upside risk	0.10	0.20	0.20	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40
Arlingclose Central Case	**0.95**	**1.00**	**1.20**	**1.30**	**1.45**	**1.55**	**1.70**	**1.80**	**1.95**	**2.05**	**2.20**	**2.35**	**2.40**
Downside risk	0.15	0.20	0.30	0.50	0.55	0.60	0.65	0.70	0.75	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80
5-yr gilt yield													
Upside risk	0.35	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.50	0.50
Arlingclose Central Case	**1.10**	**1.20**	**1.30**	**1.40**	**1.50**	**1.65**	**1.80**	**1.95**	**2.10**	**2.20**	**2.35**	**2.40**	**2.50**
Downside risk	0.35	0.35	0.40	0.45	0.50	0.50	0.55	0.60	0.65	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.75
10-yr gilt yield													
Upside risk	0.35	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.50	0.50	0.55	0.55
Arlingclose Central Case	**1.60**	**1.70**	**1.80**	**1.90**	**2.00**	**2.15**	**2.30**	**2.45**	**2.60**	**2.70**	**2.85**	**2.90**	**3.00**
Downside risk	0.35	0.35	0.40	0.45	0.50	0.50	0.55	0.60	0.65	0.70	0.70	0.75	0.80
20-yr gilt yield													
Upside risk	0.35	0.40	0.45	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55
Arlingclose Central Case	**2.10**	**2.20**	**2.30**	**2.35**	**2.45**	**2.50**	**2.65**	**2.75**	**2.90**	**3.00**	**3.15**	**3.20**	**3.30**
Downside risk	0.35	0.40	0.50	0.60	0.70	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.80	0.85	0.85	0.90	0.90
50-yr gilt yield													
Upside risk	0.35	0.40	0.45	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55
Arlingclose Central Case	**2.15**	**2.25**	**2.35**	**2.40**	**2.50**	**2.55**	**2.70**	**2.80**	**2.95**	**3.05**	**3.20**	**3.25**	**3.35**
Downside risk	0.35	0.40	0.50	0.60	0.70	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.80	0.85	0.85	0.90	0.90

Appendix 3

PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2014/15 – 2017/18					
	2013/14 Act £m	**2014/15 Est £m**	**2015/16 Est £m**	**2016/17 Est £m**	**2017/18 Est £m**
1. PRUDENCE INDICATORS					
i) Capital Expenditure					
General Fund	69.8	111.6	207.4	55.9	28.3
HRA	52.4	65.0	67.0	64.8	51.4
	122.2	**176.6**	**274.4**	**120.7**	**79.7**
ii) CFR at 31 March					
General Fund	542.9	557.5	664.3	654.4	627.0
HRA	282.3	281.3	289.3	294.1	300.0
PFI-related debt	91.8	103.2	239.5	229.7	219.7
	917.0	**942.0**	**1193.1**	**1178.2**	**1146.7**
iii) External Debt at 31 March					
Borrowing	710.2	688.1	671.0	665.8	644.4
Other (PFI debt)	91.8	103.2	239.5	229.8	219.7
Gross debt	**802.0**	**791.3**	**910.5**	**895.6**	**864.1**
2. AFFORDABILITY INDICATORS					
i) Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream					
General Fund	16.15%	14.19%	13.92%	14.71%	14.92%
HRA	12.23%	13.03%	12.31%	12.05%	11.79%
ii) Impact of capital investment decisions			**£s**	**£s**	**£s**
Council Tax Band D (per annum)	-	-	1.38	6.49	4.28
HRA rent (per week)	-	-	-	-	-
	£m	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**
iii) Authorised limit for external debt	882.3	1091.6	1050.5	1044.6	968.1
iv) Operational Boundary for ext. debt	842.3	1041.6	1030.5	1024.6	948.1
v) HRA limit on indebtedness					
HRA CFR	282.3	281.3	289.3	294.1	300.1
HRA Debt Cap (CLG prescribed)	319.8	319.8	319.8	319.8	319.8
Difference - headroom	**37.5**	**38.5**	**30.5**	**25.7**	**19.7**
3. TREASURY MANAGEMENT INDICATORS					
i) Limit on variable interest rates- debt	8%	0-50%	0-50%	0-50%	0-50%
ii) Limit on fixed interest rates- debt	92%	50-100%	50-100%	50-100%	50-100%
iii) Fixed Debt maturity structure					
- under 12 months	4%	0-25%	0-25%	0-25%	0-25%
- 12 months to 2 years	2%	0-25%	0-25%	0-25%	0-25%
- 2 to 5 years	12%	0-25%	0-25%	0-25%	0-25%
- 5 to 10 years	19%	0-50%	0-50%	0-50%	0-50%
- 10 to 25 years	33%	0-50%	0-50%	0-50%	0-50%
- 25 to 40 years	21%	0-25%	0-25%	0-25%	0-25%
- 40 years and above	9%	0-75%	0-75%	0-75%	0-75%
iv) Sums invested for >364 days - in-house limit	£15.0m	£50m	£50m	£50m	£50m
v) Adoption of the *CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services*	YES				
vi) Credit risk	Provided in Appendix 1,				

NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS

1) **<u>Prudence Indicators</u>**

i) *'Estimate of total capital expenditure'* – a "reasonable" estimate of total capital expenditure to be incurred in the next 3 financial years, split between the General Fund and the HRA.

- This estimate takes into account the current approved asset management and capital investment strategies.

ii) *'Capital financing requirement' (CFR)* – this figure constitutes the aggregate amount of capital spending which has not yet been financed by capital receipts, capital grants or contributions from revenue, and represents the underlying need to borrow money long-term. An actual figure at 31 March each year is required, together with estimates for the next three financial years.

- This approximates to the previous Credit Ceiling calculation and provides an indication of the total long-term debt requirement.
- The figure includes an estimation of the total debt brought 'on-balance sheet' in respect of PFI schemes and finance leases.

iii) *'External debt'* - the actual level of gross borrowing (plus other long-term liabilities, including the notional debt relating to on-balance sheet PFI schemes and leases) calculated from the balance sheet, with estimates for the next three financial years.

2) **<u>Affordability Indicators</u>**

i) '*Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream'* – expresses the revenue costs of the Council's borrowing (interest payments and provision for repayment) as a percentage of the total sum to be raised from government grants, business rates, council and other taxes (General Fund) and rent income (HRA). From 1 April 2012, the General fund income figure includes revenue raised from the Workplace Parking Levy.

- These indicators show the impact of borrowing on the revenue accounts and enable a comparison between years to be made. The increase in the General Fund ratio reflects the falling grant from government and the impact of the extension of the NET capital scheme, funded from specific Government grant and the Workplace Parking Levy income streams.

ii) *'Incremental impact of capital investment decisions'* – expresses the revenue consequences of future capital spending plans to be met from unsupported borrowing and not financed from existing budget provision, on both the level of council tax and weekly housing rents.

- This is a key indicator, which provides a direct link between the capital programme and revenue budget and enables the revenue impact of additional unsupported capital investment to be understood.

iii) *'Authorised limit for external debt'* – this represents the maximum amount that may be borrowed at any point during the year. An estimate for the next three financial years is required.

- This figure allows for the possibility that borrowing for capital purposes may be undertaken early in the year, with a further sum to reflect any temporary borrowing as a result of adverse cash flow. This represents a 'worst case' scenario.

iv) *'Operating boundary for external debt'* – this indicator is a working limit and represents the highest level of borrowing is expected to be reached at any time during the year - It is recognised that this operational boundary may be breached in exceptional circumstances.

v) *'HRA limit on indebtedness'* – from 1 April 2012, a separate debt portfolio has been established for the HRA. The CLG have imposed a 'cap' on the maximum level of debt for individual authorities and the difference between this limit and the actual HRA CFR represents the headroom available for future new borrowing.

3) **Treasury Management Indicators**

i) *'The amount of net borrowing which is at a variable rate of interest'* - expressed either as an absolute amount or a percentage. Upper and lower limits for the next three financial years are required.

- A high level of variable rate debt presents a risk from increases in interest rates. This figure represents the maximum permitted exposure to such debt.

ii) *'The amount of net borrowing which is at fixed rate of interest'* - expressed either as an absolute amount or a percentage. Upper and lower limits for the next three financial years are required.

- Fixed rate borrowing provides certainty for future interest costs, regardless of movements in interest rates. The lower limit is effectively the counterpart to the upper limit for variable rate borrowing.

iii) *'Upper and lower limits with respect to the maturity structure of the Council's borrowing'* – this shows the amount of fixed rate borrowing maturing in each period, expressed as a percentage of total fixed rate borrowing.

- This indicator is designed to be a control over having large amounts of fixed rate debt falling to be replaced at the same time.

iv) *'Total sums invested for periods of greater than 364 days* – a limit on investments for periods longer than 1 year. A three-year estimate is required.

- This indicator is designed to protect the liquidity of investments, ensuring that large proportions of the cash reserves are not invested for long periods.

v) *The adoption of the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services'.* This is not a numerical indicator, but a statement of good practice.

- The Council adopted the Code on 18 February 2002. Revised Codes, issued in 2009 and 2011, have subsequently been incorporated within the Council's strategy and procedures.

vi) *Credit risk* – The Council monitors a range of factors to manage credit risk, detailed in its annual Treasury Management Strategy.

Annual Minimum Revenue Provision Statement 2015/16

Where the Council finances capital expenditure by debt, it must put aside resources to repay that debt in later years. The amount charged to the revenue budget for the repayment of debt is known as Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), although there has been no statutory minimum since 2008. The Local Government Act 2003 requires the Council to have regard to the Department for Communities and Local Government's *Guidance on Minimum Revenue Provision* (the CLG Guidance) most recently issued in 2012.

The broad aim of the CLG Guidance is to ensure that debt is repaid over a period that is either reasonably commensurate with that over which the capital expenditure provides benefits, or, in the case of borrowing supported by Government Revenue Support Grant, reasonably commensurate with the period implicit in the determination of that grant.

The CLG Guidance requires the Council to approve an Annual MRP Statement each year, and recommends a number of options for calculating a prudent amount of MRP. The following statement only incorporates options recommended in the Guidance

- For capital expenditure incurred before 1st April 2008, and for supported capital expenditure incurred on or after that date, MRP will be determined in accordance with the former regulations that applied on 31st March 2008, incorporating an "Adjustment A" of £5.095m. *(Option 1)*

- For unsupported capital expenditure incurred after 31st March 2008, MRP will be determined by charging the expenditure over the expected useful life of the relevant assets in equal instalments *or* as the principal repayment on an annuity, starting in the year after the asset becomes operational. MRP on purchases of freehold land will be charged over 50 years. MRP on expenditure not related to fixed assets but which has been capitalised by regulation or direction will be charged over 20 years. *(Option 3)*

- For assets acquired by finance leases or the Private Finance Initiative, MRP will be determined as being equal to the element of the rent or charge that goes to write down the balance sheet liability.

- No MRP will be charged in respect of assets held within the Housing Revenue Account.

Capital expenditure incurred during 2015/16 will not be subject to a MRP charge until 2016/17.

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT

The following treasury management policy statement was formally adopted by the City Council on 5 March 2012.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 The Council adopts the key recommendations of CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice (the Code), as described in Section 5 of the Code.

1.2 Accordingly, the Council will create and maintain, as the cornerstones for effective treasury management:-

- A treasury management policy statement, stating the policies, objectives and approach to risk management of its treasury management activities
- Suitable treasury management practices (TMPs), setting out the manner in which the Council will seek to achieve those policies and objectives, and prescribing how it will manage and control those activities.

1.3 The Council (i.e. full Council) will receive reports on its treasury management policies, practices and activities including, as a minimum, an annual strategy and plan in advance of the year, a mid-year review and an annual report after its close, in the form prescribed in its TMPs.

1.4 The Council delegates responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of its treasury management policies and practices to Executive Board and for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions to the Chief Financial Officer, who will act in accordance with the organisation's policy statement and TMPs and CIPFA's Standard of Professional Practice on Treasury Management.

1.5 The Council nominates Audit Committee to be responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of the treasury management strategy and policies.

2. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES OF TREASURY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

2.1 The Council defines its treasury management activities as:

"The management of the Council's investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks."

2.2 This Council regards the successful identification, monitoring and control of risk to be the prime criteria by which the effectiveness of its treasury management activities will be measured. Accordingly, the analysis and reporting of treasury management activities will focus on their risk implications for the organisation, and any financial instruments entered into to manage these risks.

2.3 This Council acknowledges that effective treasury management will provide support towards the achievement of its business and service objectives. It is therefore committed to the principles of achieving value for money in treasury management, and to employing suitable performance measurement techniques, within the context of effective risk management."

2.4 The Council's borrowing will be affordable, sustainable and prudent and consideration will be given to the management of interest rate risk and refinancing risk. The source from which the borrowing is taken and the type of borrowing should allow the Council transparency and control over its debt.

2.5 The Council's primary objective in relation to investments remains the security of capital. The liquidity or accessibility of the Council's investments followed by the yield earned on investments remain important but are secondary considerations.

Appendix 6

Risk Management Action Plan (RMAP)

Likelihood	
1	Remote
2	Unlikely
3	Possible
4	Likely
5	Almost Certain

Likelihood (L)					
5	5	10	15	20	25
4	4	8	12	16	20
3	3	6	9	12	15
2	2	4	6	8	10
1	1	2	3	4	5
	1	2	3	4	5
	Impact (I)				

Impact	
1	Negligible
2	Minor
3	Moderate
4	Major
5	Catastrophic

Low Seriousness	Medium Seriousness	High Seriousness

Summary Business Risk: SRR17 – Failure to protect the Council's investments			
Owned by: DCEX/CD - Resources	Completed by: DCEX/CD – Resources and Treasury Management Panel	Completed: Dec 2014	Next Review: Mar 2015
Prevailing Summary risk Threat Level (LxI)	4.22 (average) (1.78 x 2.67)	Target summary Risk Threat Level	3.44 (average) (1.56 x 2.44)
Summary risk mitigation effectiveness (Effective, yet to secure improvement, may not be enough)		Effective	

Risks under risk management:

Risk Ref:	Description	Current Risk Rating Score (LxI)	Target Risk Rating Score (LxI)
1	Inappropriate investment of monies with counterparties (TMP 1.1)	1 x 4 = 4	1 x 3 = 3
2	Failure to maximise recovery of Icelandic bank deposits (TMP 1.1, 1.2, 1.8)	3 x 1 = 3	3 x 1 = 3
3	Inappropriate investment strategy (TMP 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.8, 3, 4 & 11)	2 x 3 = 6	2 x 3 = 6
4	Inappropriate borrowing strategy (TMP 1.2, 1.3, 1.5 & 1.8)	1 x 3 = 3	1 x 3 = 3
5	Inappropriate management of debt portfolio (TMP 1.2, 1.3, 1.5 & 1.8)	1 x 3 = 3	1 x 3 = 3
6	Banking contract transition failure (TMP 1.1, 1.2, 1.8)	3 x 2 = 6	1 x 2 = 2
7	Poor cash management (TMP 1.2, 1. 8)	2 x 2 = 4	2 x 2 = 4
8	Colleague fraud (TMP 1.7 & 5)	2 x 3 = 6	2 x 2 = 4
9	Failure to comply with CIPFA Code of Practice and/or respond to changes in relevant legislation (TMP 1.6)	1 x 3 = 3	1 x 3 = 3

Current Management Action / Controls Acting on Risk? Delete as applicable: Some								
Risk Ref.	**Current Management/actions in place**	**Adequacy of action/control to mitigate risk**	**Additional management action/ controls**	**Responsibility for additional action**		**Critical success factors of additional actions**	**Key Dates**	
				CD	**D/ HoS**		**Additional controls complete**	**Progress review frequency**
1	• Continued use of external advisors – Arlingclose contract renewed from April ’13 to March ‘17 • Use of counterparties list based on range of formal credit ratings and wider market intelligence and advice • Limits set for amounts and time periods with individual institutions • Counterparty limits amended as and when required and future investments suspended if deemed appropriate • TM and investment strategy reviewed and amended as required • Quarterly review of the investment portfolio carried out at TM Panel meetings. • Monitoring of wider economic environment provided by advisors, with amendments to the existing strategy, as required.	EFFECTIVE	• Maintain current arrangements • Internal audit plan includes 16 scheduled audit days per annum.	GO	GW	• Weekly check by Deputy S151 officer of current investments. • Latest Internal Audit report findings give “significant assurance on controls” (Feb 15) • TM Panel meets regularly to review the overall position. • Implementation of amendments to the investment strategy when appropriate	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing	Ongoing As received Quarterly As required

2	• Co-ordination of action, through the LGA, to ensure maximisation of recovery of sums deposited in Icelandic Banks • Membership of LGA Icelandic Banks Steering Committee. • Retention of legal advisors, in UK and Iceland, through LGA • Regular updates provided on proposed actions, latest recovery levels and forecasts for future receipts	EFFECTIVE	• TM Panel meets regularly to review the overall position.	GO	GW	• Heritable Bank final recovery at 94% • Landsbanki final recovery at 91% • Glitnir Bank deposits as priority creditors, with recoveries of around 97% forecasted • c. £2.4m of Glitnir Bank recoveries in ISK in escrow subject to currency controls	Ongoing	Quarterly
3	• Retention of external advisors. • Regular reviews of interest rate forecasts • Up to date knowledge of existing and developing investment products through regular attendance at seminars and workshops • Regular review of the investment strategy • Monitoring of wider economic activity and prompt response • CFO action under delegation (and in consultation with portfolio holder) to respond quickly to emerging issues. • Regular reviews (at least	EFFECTIVE		GO	GW	• TM colleagues work with advisors and colleagues to keep abreast of wider economic conditions and respond accordingly. • TM Panel meets regularly to review the overall position. • Weekly meetings with portfolio holder	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing	Quarterly At least quarterly and as required Weekly

	quarterly) with formal changes implemented as req'd							
4	• Identification and monitoring of annual borrowing requirement • Monitoring of PWLB borrowing rates • Use of alternative loan products as appropriate • Regular review of arrangements and possibilities • Review of capital programme, informing new capital strategy.	EFFECTIVE	• Capital programme review completed	GO	GW TC	• Sufficient resources identified to cover capital expenditure and cash flows • Continued regular review by TM Panel.	Ongoing Ongoing	Quarterly Quarterly
5	• Retention of strong external advisors • Regular monitoring of debt maturity profile • Establishment and maintenance of a liability benchmark, to monitor Minimum Revenue Provision against debt and Capital Financing Requirement • Opportunities for rescheduling identified and implemented	EFFECTIVE	• Maintain existing arrangements • Continued strong performance of external advisors	GO	GW	• Continued regular review by TM Panel	At TM Panel meetings	Quarterly
6	• Project team in place to ensure smooth transition from Co-Op Bank to Lloyds Bank w.e.f. 1 January 2015	EFFECTIVE	• Extension of exiting bank contract agreed with Co-Op, on a quarterly basis	GO	GW	• Completion of transition to new bank	March 2015	Monthly
7	• Use of cash forecasting models, with regular	EFFECTIVE	• Maintain existing	GO	GW	• Regular review by TM Panel	At TM Panel meetings	At least Quarterly

	monitoring and updates undertaken • Track record is sound • Continuous adaptation of model in the light of prevailing and forecast circumstances		arrangements					
8	• System of delegation and approved processes • Separation of duties between treasury management dealing and accounting • Use of professional indemnity insurance • Governance checks in place – e.g.: review by deputy s151 officer and TM Panel in place and satisfactory outcomes to date	EFFECTIVE	• Periodic system tests • Maintain existing arrangements – to be changed if testing identifies any issues • Maintenance of an updated Treasury Management Manual of Procedures and Practices	GO	GW	• Satisfactory outcome of internal audit review • Continuing satisfactory outcome of checks by deputy s151 officer and system tests. • TM Panel review is robust	Internal audit reports Ongoing TM Panel meetings TM Panel meetings	Quarterly Ongoing Ongoing
9	• Formal adoption of Code in place since inception. • Updates are reflected in annual review of TM and Investment Strategies • Review of requirements to take place as early as possible • Training on accounting issues • Regular attendance at treasury management workshops and seminars	EFFECTIVE	• Existing arrangements to continue • LAAP bulletin updates to be identified through specific closedown action note	GO	GW	• Continued application of current arrangements • Revisions are promptly and accurately reflected • Satisfactory internal audit review outcome • Robust appraisal by TM Panel	Ongoing Annual TM and investment strategy Audit report TM Panel meetings	Ongoing Annual At least quarterly

Other Options Considered

The CLG Guidance and the CIPFA Code do not prescribe any particular treasury management strategy for local authorities to adopt. The Chief Financial Officer, having consulted the portfolio holder, believes that the above strategy represents an appropriate balance between risk management and cost effectiveness. Some alternative strategies, with their financial and risk management implications, are listed below.

Alternative	Impact on income and expenditure	Impact on risk management
Invest in a narrower range of counterparties and/or for shorter times	Interest income will be lower	Lower chance of losses from credit related defaults, but any such losses will be greater
Invest in a wider range of counterparties and/or for longer times	Interest income will be higher	Increased risk of losses from credit related defaults, but any such losses will be smaller
Borrow additional sums at long-term fixed interest rates	Debt interest costs will rise; this is unlikely to be offset by higher investment income	Higher investment balance leading to a higher impact in the event of a default; however long-term interest costs will be more certain
Borrow short-term or variable loans instead of long-term fixed rates	Debt interest costs will initially be lower	Increases in debt interest costs will be broadly offset by rising investment income in the medium term, but long term costs will be less certain
Reduce level of borrowing	Saving on debt interest is likely to exceed lost investment income	Reduced investment balance leading to a lower impact in the event of a default; however long-term interest costs will be less certain

GLOSSARY OF TREASURY MANAGEMENT TECHNICAL TERMS	
TERM	**DEFINITION**
Bank Rate	The official interest rate set by the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee and what is generally termed at the "base rate".
Capital Expenditure	Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of capital assets.
Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)	The Council's underlying need to borrow for capital purposes representing the cumulative capital expenditure of the local authority that has not been financed.
Certainty Rate (PWLB)	A 0.20% discount offered on new loans from PWLB in return for submission of information on future borrowing requirements.
Certificates of Deposit	Tradeable debt instrument issued by financial institution with fixed interest rate and maturity.
CNAV	See Money Market Funds
Credit Default Swaps	A financial instrument for swapping the risk of debt default; the buyer effectively pays an insurance premium against the risk of default.
Credit Rating	A formal opinion issued by a registered rating agency of a counterparty's (or a country's) future ability to meet its financial liabilities; these are opinions only and not guarantees.
Debt maturity	The date when an investment or loan is scheduled to be repaid.
Debt maturity profile	An analysis of the maturity dates of a range of loans/investments.
Diversification	The spreading of investments among different types of assets or between markets in order to reduce risk.
European Investment Bank (EIB)	A non-profit bank created by the European Union principally to make or guarantee loans to EU members for projects contributing to regional development within the Union. Funding is raised through the issuance of bonds, guaranteed by member states.
Funding For Lending Scheme	A Government/Bank of England scheme to provide banks with cheaper funding with the aim of increasing banks' overall net lending activity.
Government Gilts	Bonds issued by the UK Government. They take their name from 'gilt-edged': being issued by the UK government, they are deemed to be very secure as the investor expects to receive the full face value of the bond to be repaid on maturity.
Int. Financial Accounting Standards (IFRS)	Guidelines and rules set by the International Accounting Standards Board that companies and organisations follow when compiling financial statements.
Minimum Revenue Provision	An annual provision that the Council is statutorily required to set aside and charge to the Revenue Account for the repayment of debt associated with expenditure incurred on capital assets
Money Market Funds (MMF)	Pooled funds which invest in a range of short term assets providing high credit quality and high liquidity.
MMFs - CNAV	Constant Net Asset Value - a term used in relation to the value of a unit share in a pooled fund. The value of a share is always £1.
MMFs - VNAV	Variable Net Asset Value - a term used in relation to the value of a unit share in a pooled fund. A proportion of the assets may be valued at market value, rather than purchase price, reducing the value of the share on a temporary basis.
Negotiable Instruments	Term used for instruments such as Certificates of Deposits, Covered Bonds, Medium Term Notes and Corporate Bonds, where it is possible to realise the investment on the secondary market before maturity.
Non-Specified Investments	Term used in the CLG guidance. It includes any investment for periods greater than one year or those with bodies that do not have a high credit rating, use of which must be justified.

Pooled funds	Funds in which several investors collectively hold units or shares. The assets in the fund are held as part of a pool.
Premiums and Discounts	A penalty or payment arising from the premature repayment of debt. The calculation is dependant on the relative level of interest rates for the existing loan and current market rates.
Private Finance Initiative	A way of funding major capital investments, without immediate recourse to the public purse. Private consortia are contracted to design, build, and in some cases manage new projects. Contracts can typically last for 30 years, during which time the asset is leased by a public authority.
Prudential Code	Developed by CIPFA as a professional code of practice to support local authority capital investment planning within a clear, affordable, prudent and sustainable framework and in accordance with good professional practice.
Prudential Indicators	Indicators determined by the local authority to define its capital expenditure and asset management framework. They are designed to support and record local decision making in a manner that is publicly accountable; they are not intended to be comparative performance indicators.
PWLB	Public Works Loans Board. A statutory body operating within the United Kingdom Debt Management Office, an Executive Agency of HM Treasury. The PWLB's function is to lend money from the National Loans Fund to local authorities and other prescribed bodies, and to collect the repayments.
Quantitative Easing	The process used by the Bank of England to directly increase the quantity of money in the economy. The Bank buys assets from private sector institutions and credits the seller’s bank account. The seller has more money in their bank account, while their bank holds a claim against the Bank of England (known as reserves). The end result is more money out in the wider economy.
Revenue Expenditure	Expenditure to meet the continuing cost of delivery of services including salaries and wages, the purchase of materials and capital financing charges.
Specified Investments	Term used in the CLG Guidance for Local Authority Investments. Investments that offer high security and high liquidity, in sterling and for no more than 1 year. UK government, local authorities and bodies that have a high credit rating.
Supranational Bonds	Debt issued by international organisations such as the World Bank, the Council of Europe and the European Investment Bank
Term Deposits	Deposits of cash with terms attached relating to maturity and rate of return (interest).
Treasury Bills	Government-issued short-term loan instrument
Treasury Management Code	CIPFA’s Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services.
Unsupported Borrowing	Borrowing which is self-financed by the local authority. This is also sometimes referred to as Prudential Borrowing.

Proposed Forward Starting Loans

The policy of using forward starting loans is covered within the Borrowing Strategy section page, 4 and the Policy on Use of Financial Derivatives section, page 10 of the Treasury Management Strategy.

There is still a significant amount of capital investment in NET Phase 2 to be funded by the Council, including land acquisitions. In order to minimise the risk of the uncertainty of future interest rates, we have considered forward starting loans. As the land acquisitions will be taking place over a long period discussions have been held with a German bank (PBB) by our Treasury Management advisors, with a view to us entering into a contract for two forward starting loans totalling £24.5m which would finance a significant element of the future NET Phase 2 land acquisition costs and which would be required over the next 2 -3 years.

Based on the projections provided, there would be a small cash benefit in pursuing this, but the main benefits of entering into such a deal, as opposed to taking a loan now from PWLB to fix the interest rate, are:

- Securing interest rate certainty now as interest rates are extremely low, but not increasing current cash balances and the associated credit risk, and
- Reduced ‘near term’ revenue costs through delaying the start of the loans.

PBB is a leading European specialist lender for Real Estate and Public Investment finance.