CIPFA Benchmarking Clubs
Treasury Management Benchmarking 2002/03

The City Council is a member of the CIPFA Treasury Management Benchmarking Club.
In 2002/03 153 local authorities were members of this Club (of which 52 were district councils).
On the basis of the data received by the Club the results show that the City Council compared favourably to the other authorities who returned data.

Investment

Average annual return on investments in 2002/03		*2001/02*
Winchester City Council	4.23%	*5.10%*
CIPFA Benchmarking Club	4.18%	*4.87%*
Sterling Interbank Rate	3.88%	*4.55%*

Comment:
Cash investments are actively managed by the Finance Department using three money brokers to provide the best rates. Performance in 2002/03 was 0.05% above the Club average and exceeded the average Sterling Interbank Rate by 0.37%.
However, the use of an external cash manager for part of the portfolio was considered in conjunction with the audit review of finance services in 2003 and will be considered again in 2004 to see if these returns can be bettered.

Average Investment Management Costs 2002/03		*2001/02*
Winchester City Council (in house)	£851 per £m invested	*£677*
CIPFA Benchmarking Club (in house)	£900 per £m invested	*£933*
CIPFA Benchmarking Club (external)	£1,550 per £m invested	*£1,425*

Comment:
The increase in average cost per £m invested was entirely due to the lower average balance invested during 2002/03 (£33.9m) compared to 2001/02 (£44.3m).
Staff costs in particular are substantially lower (23%) than other authorities.