

Finance and Performance Report – April to June 2024

Recommendation

That Cabinet notes the progress achieved during Q1 of 2024/25 and endorses the contents of the report.

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Performance Report

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PERFORMANCE REPORT

Section 1 Tackling the Climate Emergency and Creating a Greener District

Delivery highlights – April to June 2024

- Cabinet approval given to purchase nine 12-tonne food waste vehicles, the addition of an electric RCV to support a new round in the frontline service and the infrastructure to enable charging the new electric RCV at the depot.
- Park & Ride buses and Biffa vehicle fleet now using sustainably sourced Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO), delivering a 90% reduction in carbon emissions.
- All electricity supplies are now on a green energy tariff.
- Local Area Energy Plan - WCC has commenced a key piece of strategic work which proposes to bring together a plan which will focus on decarbonising heat, transport, energy generation and map new demand. As part of this, WCC submitted an expression of interest bid to be part of a trial to develop a digital Local Area Energy Plan with Scottish & Southern Energy network operator.
- A new green communications officer has recently joined the team. Work has commenced developing a communications plan to help promote carbon saving initiatives for the council and district programme, as well as other greener faster workstreams.
- A new ecologist & biodiversity officer has joined the team, who will strengthen our ecology team and increase capacity to deal with the new mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain requirement in development management.
- Progressing with implementation of the statutory Bio-diversity Net Gain (BNG) requirement in new planning applications. Regular internal meetings and liaison with other local planning authorities and external partners to ensure we are providing support to applicants as well as a high standard of assessment and delivery of BNG.
- Invasive Goldenrod treated at Topfield, Kings Worthy to benefit the growth of native flora and improve the condition of the meadow.
- Hampshire and Isle of Wight Amphibian and Reptile Group (HIWARG) and Butterfly Conservation volunteers undertaking monitoring surveys on our key biodiversity sites.
- Delivery against the Biodiversity Action Plan progressing including training undertaken by NatureSpace on district level Licensing for Great Crested Newts and renewal of our service level agreement with Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre to undertake surveys on behalf of the council, update the Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) register, and provide a weekly planning screening report.

Our Carbon Neutrality Action Plan (Council)

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Kelsie Learney	Project Sponsor: Dawn Adey		
Programme RAG status	Timeline	Budget	Carbon
<p>Carried out review and updated all actions for the Council Carbon Neutrality Action Plan (CNAP) programme for 2024/25. Various ambitious projects have been identified to help the council work towards its carbon neutrality target. These actions will make a significant impact for the council programme. In last quarter, the Sustainability Manager and Green Communications Officer have joined the council and are assisting with the delivery of the Council's carbon neutrality targets. Data collection was completed for annual carbon footprint report for 2023/24.</p> <p>Good progress has been made across all pathways for Q1.</p> <p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From 1 April: all electricity supplies are now on a green energy tariff; all scope 1 gas sites are supplied by green gas for 2024/25 and WSLP & MLC have switched to a green electricity tariff. • All housing fleet vehicles are now 100% electric. • From 1 June both P&R and Biffa fleet are using sustainably sourced hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO), delivering a 90% reduction in carbon emissions. • Commissioned consultant to carry out a solar photo voltaic (pv) feasibility study to understand potential for additional rooftop and carport solar at 5 WCC sites – initial draft of study received. • Mapping and developing communications plan for CNAP. 			
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome and analysis of council's annual carbon footprint report for 2023/24. • Investigate measures to increase the efficiency of the heating system at City Offices. • Complete tender process for LED lighting replacement at Chesil Car Park. Works to commence in September. • Implement communications plan and launch sustainability staff intranet pages. 			

Our Carbon Neutrality Action Plan (District)

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Kelsie Learney	Project Sponsor: Dawn Adey		
Programme RAG status	Timeline	Budget	Carbon
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <p>A key challenge for the district Carbon Neutrality Action Plan (CNAP) is tracking the carbon saved and impact the council is having under the 5 pathways. To facilitate this, SMART targets have been identified for the district actions for 2024/25. The actions will make a significant impact, ensuring that we have ambitious plans and projects to help the council work towards its carbon neutrality targets.</p> <p>In last quarter the following new staff have joined the council: Sustainability Manager, Retrofit Coordinator, Green Economic Development Officer and Green Communications Officer and are assisting with the delivery of the Council's carbon neutrality targets.</p> <p>Overall good progress has been made across all pathways for Q1.</p> <p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing: Council: 47/265 properties have been retrofitted Private homes: HUG2 campaign -19 properties retrofitted. • Expression of interest bid for WCC to take part in a pilot to initiate the development a digital Local Area Energy Plan. • Progressing on Cargo Bike last mile delivery scheme. • UKSPF funding awarded to 2 green skills projects to promote and raise awareness of retrofit training opportunities in area. • Scoping exercise to identify and engage with businesses with large solar pv potential. • Installation of solar panels at Gratton Pavilion, Sutton Scotney. 8 community buildings developed decarbonisation plans. • Supporting the development of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. 			
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WCC successful with bid for pilot to help develop a Digital Local Area Energy Plan – project initiation and workshops. • Set up project management for large scale renewable energy scheme. • Deliver CNAP GEDS forum and review outcomes. Promote and launch 10 decarbonisation audits for businesses. • Deliver Carbon Neutrality Open Forum which is focused on Nature based solutions. • Identify and bring together work plan for sites for carbon sequestration based on Arcadian report. • Develop communications plan to engage and support residents and community groups to reduce carbon emissions. 			

Future of Waste and Recycling

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Kelsie Learney	Project Sponsor: Simon Hendey	
Programme RAG status	Timeline	Budget
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council confirmed its preference for a fully co-mingled dry mixed recycling collection system to HCC and the Project Integra partners on 16 April 2024. HCC will now review the data and decide what disposal facility it will provide based on whole system recycling levels, costs, and carbon impacts. • All frontline Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCV) are now operating on Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO). This will lower the carbon emissions of the service by 683 tonnes CO₂e per year. • A new Communications Officer has joined the team in June 2024 and will provide dedicated comms support for this project, ensuring that the engagement and consultation plans are robust and inclusive. Additional support will be requested to Cabinet later this year, such as Recycling Officers, who will facilitate better engagement with our communities and encourage improved participation in existing and new services. • On 19 June 2024 Cabinet approved recommendations to purchase nine 12 tonne food waste vehicles, the addition of an electric RCV to support a new round in the frontline service and the infrastructure to enable charging the new electric RCV at the depot. • Re-routed rounds are set to start in October 2024. These have been re-balanced following housing growth over the last few years and are optimised for efficiency, resilience, and carbon reduction. The change will affect around 60% of households who will be informed prior to any collection day changes. Additional resources will be put in place to cover any increase in customer contact over the transition period. • DEFRA rejected the council's appeal against the capital funding allocation for the purchase of vehicles and bins for the new food waste service. No further capital funding will be made available by government; however, the project's anticipated capital costs remain within the overall allocated capital budget for the project. 		
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biffa to procure an electric RCV for use on the optimised new routes from October 2024. • Upgrade depot infrastructure for charging the electric RCV. • Prepare comms and ensure all residents are well informed before the new rounds begin. • Biffa to procure the 9 x 12t specialist food waste vehicles. • Work with the Estates team to provide additional depot space to house the new food waste trucks and their crews. • Prepare for focus groups on food waste collection service in Winter 2024/25. 		

Nutrient Mitigation Solution

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Jackie Porter, Cllr Chris Westwood	Project Sponsor: Dawn Adey	
Programme RAG status	Timeline	Budget
<p>Progress achieved against last quarter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial desk-based reports have been completed to investigate the nutrient credit potential of 8 council-owned Waste water Treatment Works. • Technical reports have been commissioned and are underway to determine which sites should be selected and upgraded. • For the wider Partnership for South Hampshire (PfSH) project, the pre-election period has postponed governance meetings. • Internal investigations and review of technical reports has continued to inform the September Cabinet report and ensure the project is ready to move to the next gateway if approved by Cabinet. 		
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The HRA-led water treatment work upgrade projects were considered by Cabinet on 16 July 2024 (CAB3470). • A report outlining the PfSH project, and the wider Nutrient Mitigation Strategy will be taken to Cabinet on 11 September 2024. • Final technical reports will also be received in this quarter and procurement and instruction on the first plant upgrades will be completed. • The Local Planning Authority continue to work with private individuals to enter into relevant legal agreements in relation to the upgrade of package treatment plants which would generate nutrients credits. 		

Tackling the Climate Emergency and Creating a Greener District - Progress against our plans

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G
1	Develop an electric vehicle strategy	Cllr Learney	Apr 25	
2	Install EV rapid chargers where they are needed across the district	Cllr Learney	Aug 24	
3	Complete the final phase of the repairs to the Weirs	Cllr Learney	Jul 24	
4	Deliver programme of retrofit carbon reduction measures to our housing stock	Cllr Westwood	Mar 25	
5	Review and implement nutrient neutrality mitigation measures	Cllr Porter	Dec 24	
6	Adopt an air quality strategy, complying with National Air Quality Standards	Cllr Porter	Dec 24	
7	Introduce doorstep food waste collections and increase recycling	Cllr Learney	Apr 26	
8	Increase our recycling rates by introducing a simpler approach in line with Government programme for waste reforms	Cllr Learney	Apr 26	
9	Switch our buses and waste collection lorries to low or no carbon fuels	Cllr Learney	Jul 24	
10	Adopt and implement an Active Travel Plan	Cllr Learney	Apr 25	
11	Continue to embed sustainable procurement across our contracts and supply chain to support the carbon neutrality programme.	Cllr Cutler	Mar 25	
12	Investigation into provision of a natural burial area at the cemetery	Cllr Becker	Jun 25	

Tackling the Climate Emergency and Creating a Greener District - Measuring our progress

Long range trackers (Annual)									
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	Target 23/24	Target 24/25
TCE1	Carbon emissions for the council (tonnes)	Learney	Dawn Adey	2,665	4,147	3,837	Not yet available	3,700	2,000
			Lead Director	2020	2021	2022	2023	Target 2023	Target 2024
TCE2	Carbon emissions for the district (tonnes)	Learney	Dawn Adey	506,900 545,300	578,300	555,200	Not yet available	520,000	500,000

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q1 - 23/24	Q2 - 23/24	Q3 - 23/24	Q4 - 23/24	Q1 - 24/25	Target 24/25	Status
TCE3	% of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting	Learney	Simon Hendey	42.37%	42.31%	38.53%	36.13%	42.84%	40%	
TCE4	Residual household waste kg / household (average per household)	Learney	Simon Hendey	104.55	102.00	102.83	102.63	105.36	<420 kg/hh	
TCE5	Energy usage (kWh) corporate buildings: Electricity ¹	Learney	Simon Hendey	131,647	125,340	164,739	151,545	116,815	Measure only	n/a
TCE6	Energy usage (kWh) corporate buildings: Gas ¹	Learney	Simon Hendey	84,981	26,644	180,191	198,383	59,794	Measure only	n/a
TCE7	Retrofit adjustments – total number of houses completed (running total for financial year) ²	Westwood	Simon Hendey	Programme commenced 02/05/23		226	358	47	265	
TCE8	Retrofit adjustments – total number of measures completed across the houses in TCE7 (running total for financial year) ²	Westwood	Simon Hendey	Programme commenced 02/05/23		301	543	81	890	
TCE9	Renewable energy generated (kWh) from solar panels ³	Learney	Simon Hendey	158,836	121,809	33,138	43,197	138,388	Measure only	n/a

Comments:

TCE7 & 8: Completion of retrofit measures is expected to increase during the second half of the year once contractors have been appointed. One of the three contractors required for the delivery of the Retrofit Programmes has been appointed and is due to start work.

Footnotes:

¹ *Relates to electricity and gas usage at the City Offices campus (City Offices, main Guildhall plus West Wing); Due to the way metering is set up this includes the whole of each building - so university, CAB and NHS offices are recharged a percentage for their use.*

² *Figures from 23/24 relate to that year's programme of properties and measures (i.e. a different set); 24/25 begins a new set of properties and measures. The two KPI work together, so the total number of properties targeted have multiple measures targets against them. I.e. 265 properties have been targeted, and those properties will aim to have 890 measures completed on them.*

³ *Data reported relates to: WCC Sites (City Offices, Cipher House, Vaultex,), Winchester Sport and Leisure Park, Biffa and Marwell Zoo.*

Section 2 Living Well

Delivery highlights – April to June 2024

- Winchester Sport and Leisure Park has been recognised as one of the top leisure facilities in England after achieving an Outstanding rating in a national Quest assessment.
- The new sports pavilion at KGV recreation ground in Winchester was completed and the first cricket match held using the new facilities.
- Work commenced on a new £1.4m 3G artificial pitch at Winchester City Football Club.
- A new season of park yoga started, with sessional highs of 50 attendees at Whiteley and 150 at Winchester.
- Consultants appointed to produce a new Playing Pitch Strategy, due for completion in the summer of 2025.
- The Homes for Ukraine team, comprising staff from across both housing and communities teams, was a finalist in the Local Government Chronicle awards in the category of Small Team of the Year.
- An exhibition exploring stories from Ukrainians who are now part of Winchester's community was open to the public from 25 May to 6 June.
- The feedback from the Talavera Road Play Area Refurbishment consultation was published on the website on 22 April. The results of the consultation have been collated and will be used to inform the design of an upgraded play area.
- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Grip Fund – received £37.5K for additional ASB patrols using public guardians i.e. Bid Rangers and Neighbourhood Services Officers in addition to police officer patrols within the police identified hot spot location.
- A new project 'Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy' has been launched to help tackle violence against women and girls in Winchester. The main focus is to improve safety in public places and for those on nights out.
- A Live Longer Better grant of £15,000 has been awarded by Hampshire County Council to improve health life expectancy and reduce health inequalities by promoting physical activities for older adults. This will involve setting up a community of practice involving the Social Inclusion Partnership's Health Inequalities Subgroup.
- The First Foot Forward Employment Course for council tenants ran in May/June, this was in partnership with Itchen College and Winchester Job Centre.

Living Well - progress against our plans

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G
1	Work closely with local charities and voluntary organisations to review our Integration Programme for Ukrainian guests	Cllr Becker	Dec 25	
2	Develop a network of private and public sector spaces throughout the district to support a Spaces of Sanctuary scheme	Cllr Becker	Sept 24	
3	Work with developers at each major development area to provide public facilities, green spaces and areas to play	Cllr Becker	Dec 24 Ongoing	
4	Develop a Community and Wellbeing Strategy	Cllr Becker	Mar 25	
5	Deliver a wide range of physical activities through school and community sports coaching programmes	Cllr Becker	Feb 25	
6	Enable, engage and empower young, disadvantaged people to fulfil their potential through participation in sport and outdoor activities	Cllr Becker	Sep 24	
7	Support for residents with the cost-of-living crisis with the roll out of Council Tax Hardship Grants	Cllr Cutler	Mar 24	Completed
8	Deliver a programme supporting residents to live longer better	Cllr Becker	Mar 25	

Living Well - Measuring our progress

Long range trackers (Annual)								
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	Target 24/25
LW1	% of adults participating in 150+ mins of sport or physical activity per week within the Winchester district	Becker	Dawn Adey	n/a	73.7%	73.0%	73.3%	Measure only
LW2	Number of unemployed (source: Economic Activity data)	Thompson	Dawn Adey	1,800	1,700	1,235	Not yet available	Measure only

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q1 - 23/24	Q2 - 23/24	Q3 - 23/24	Q4 - 23/24	Q1 - 24/25	Target 24/25	Status
LW3	Winchester Sport and Leisure Park - total number of visits	Becker	Dawn Adey	262,177	286,167	287,617	304,205	339,755	1,233,094	
LW4	Winchester Sport & Leisure Park – total number of all concessionary rate visits	Becker	Dawn Adey	96,140	112,564	105,824	128,983	131,095	442,798	
LW5	Meadowside - total number of visits	Becker	Dawn Adey	18,052	14,367	18,296	21,410	19,506	73,050	
LW6	Meadowside - total number of all concessionary rate visits	Becker	Dawn Adey	953	884	644	444	2,552	10,242	
LW7	Number of housing benefit claimants (rolling total)	Cutler	Liz Keys	2,955	2,916	2,865	2,811	2,726	Measure only	n/a
LW8	Number of Council tax reduction claimants (rolling total)	Cutler	Liz Keys	5,776	5,757	5,839	5,898	5,854	Measure only	n/a
LW9	Average time taken to process new housing benefit claims (days)	Cutler	Liz Keys	25	24	21	19.4	20.73	24 days	
LW10	Number of reported fly-tips (actual incidents) ⁴	Porter	Simon Hendey	255	200	181	244	168	<1,100	
LW11	% of fly-tips cleared within contract deadlines/days	Porter	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	80%	80%	

No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q1 - 23/24	Q2 - 23/24	Q3 - 23/24	Q4 - 23/24	Q1 - 24/25	Target 24/25	Status
LW12	Number of reported graffiti incidents (online form totals)	Porter	Simon Hendey	30	18	9	15	26	<169	
LW13	Number of "Public Space" issues reported (online form totals inc. litter, bins, etc.) ⁵	Porter	Simon Hendey	124	133	85	199	143	<600	

Footnotes:

⁴ Figures are net total of 'actual' reports received (less any that have been identified as duplicates, out of district, private land etc.)

⁵ Figures are now based on total form reports received for 'Clean my Street' reports relating to bins/bring sites, street mess – human, syringes, spilt waste, street sweeping, overflowing litter/dog waste bins etc.-- glass, litter, alongside report forms submitted for Park Areas and Public Conveniences. The previous kpi for 23/24 - the 'litter' line was only one specific row item from the form, not inclusive of the wider set of reported 'street mess issues being collated this year (Specific totals for litter / street mess and public convenience reports will be in comments below)

Section 3 Homes for All

Delivery highlights – April to June 2024

- Nine shared ownership apartments have been purchased at Foxglove Housing in Winnall.
- Working in conjunction with police and wider Community Safety Partnership to roll out the ASB Summer Campaign.
- “Venta Living Ltd commenced trading on 14 June 2024. The first tenancy also commenced on 14 June and by the end of June three apartments had been let. Demand remains buoyant, and the apartments are currently being advertised on Rightmove as well as having been promoted locally.”
- Refurbishment and alteration work to 59 Colebrook Street to provide accommodation for our Ukraine guests is progressing well. Re-roofing has been completed including upgrading of the insulation, internal alterations and refurbishment is well underway and anticipated for completion in December 2024.
- Good progress is being made on the Temporary Accommodation (TA) Strategy work with a supply and demand analysis of households requiring housing assistance from the council developed with a projection of supply and demand data until March 2026. Stakeholder consultation is taking place, a financial forecast to support the plan and activities is underway with options being explored to expand the current portfolio of TA accommodation.
- It’s a year since the council started the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) improvement project. The officer team are close to finalising the portfolio of evidence that demonstrates compliance within the improvement framework. Should the compliance activity assessment phase be successful, we can expect to receive the DAHA accreditation by the end of this year.
- Successfully appointed 5 out of the 6 members to the TACT Board including 2 Tenants, 1 Sheltered Housing resident, 1 Shared Owner, and 1 Independent member, each bringing valuable and diverse perspectives and insights to the board.
- A questionnaire was sent to 5,000 tenants asking for feedback on the improvements in the repairs and maintenance contract. Results are being analysed. Three tenant workshops were held during June to promote through direct communication with interested tenants, social media and other tenant engagement channels.

New Homes Programme

Lead Cabinet Member: Chris Westwood	Project Sponsor: Simon Hendey	
Programme RAG status	Timeline	Budget
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <p>Following completion of the Winnall scheme in Q4 2023/24, new flats and houses have begun to be occupied. This includes shared ownership homes and, following the signing of a lease with Venta Living Ltd (the council's housing company), homes for market rent.</p> <p>Good progress has been made on market engagement with SME and volume housebuilders with the aim of securing new build units for use as council housing. An offer has been accepted on one site and there are ongoing discussions on several other sites.</p> <p>Feasibility studies are underway on several council commissioned schemes with the aim of making them financially viable against a challenging economic backdrop.</p>		
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete feasibility studies on pipeline council commissioned schemes. • Complete project and appoint professional services for The Cornerhouse, Winchester (e.g. architects) (council commissioned scheme). • Make offers on further new-build acquisitions opportunities and progress deals already secured. • Further sales of SO postcode area properties. 		

Homes for All - progress against our plans

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G
1	Review HRA Business Plan in light of the economic circumstances and review current planned services and programmes.	Cllr Westwood	Sept 24	
2	Deliver the outcomes and expectations of the standards set by the Regulator of Social Housing	Cllr Westwood	Mar 25	
3	Review of Hampshire Home Choice Framework	Cllr Westwood	Mar 26	
4	Deliver council housing retrofit carbon reduction programme	Cllr Westwood	Mar 25	
5	Develop and implement an Older Persons Accommodation Strategy	Cllr Westwood	Mar 26	
6	Seek opportunities for homes to be offered across the district by Venta Living Ltd	Cllr Westwood	Ongoing	
7	Collaborate with partners to deliver the aims set out in the Winchester Community Safety Delivery Plan 24/25	Cllr Westwood	Mar 25	
8	Review and refresh the Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy	Cllr Westwood	Mar 26	
9	Develop a Temporary Accommodation Strategy	Cllr Westwood	Mar 26	
10	Complete the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) accreditation and embed new policies and processes across the organisation	Cllr Westwood	Sept 25	

Homes for all - Measuring our performance

Long range trackers (Annual)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	Target 23/24	23/24 Status	Target 24/25
HFA1	% of all WCC homes achieving energy efficiency rating of C or above	Westwood	Simon Hendey	62%	63%	65%	Not yet available	70%	tbc	70%
HFA2	Net total new home completions across the district (rolling total)	Westwood	Simon Hendey	n/a	121	139	268	1,000 by 2030		1,000 by 2030
HFA3	Homelessness – numbers recorded as rough sleepers (as at year end)	Westwood	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	2	3	0	Annual Count	0

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q1 - 23/24	Q2 - 23/24	Q3 - 23/24	Q4 - 23/24	Q1 - 24/25	Target 24/25	Status
HFA4	Average time for homeless household to receive offer of a permanent home (days)	Westwood	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	95	365 days	
HFA5	Numbers on housing waiting list	Westwood	Simon Hendey	1,468	1,539	1,504	1,538	1,592	Measure only	n/a
HFA6	Voids cumulative re-let time (general/older persons) (days)	Westwood	Simon Hendey	12.52	13.52	14.37	15.63	22.59	13	

Comments from CHOS on quarter where status is amber or red:

HFA6: The increase in void relet time is due to multiple factors including a change in procedures by the contractor during the quarter. An action plan is in place to improve relet times during Q2.

Section 4 Vibrant Local Economy

Delivery highlights – April to June 2024

- An open call for Rural England Prosperity Funding (REPF) resulted in 31 applications totalling an over-subscribed £1million with a geographical spread across the Winchester district.
- The UK Shared Prosperity Partnership Board meeting was held on 7 June 2024 and members were able to comment on the REPF applications, above, as well as received an update on project outputs and outcomes from 2023/2024.
- Three applications for Green Business Grants received so far. Top 20 business premises across the district able to take roof top solar panels mapped to influence engagement and adoption of carbon saving investments.
- Tender for the procurement of a Winchester city centre street market operator was advertised on 17 June 2024.
- Event planning toolkit and associated Event Management guidance has been published on [Council's website](#).
- Updated information boards with maps have been installed in car parks, outside the front of the Guildhall Winchester and in Middlebrook Street to aid wayfinding and improve visitor welcome.
- In-destination marketing campaign to promote Winchester district as a sustainable tourism destination continued with promotion of Walking Weekend and National Walking Month in May with display in VIC and social media and e-newsletter content.
- Eye-Openers self-guided trail leaflet printed and distributed in Visitor Information Centre. Free download on visitwinchester.co.uk or available to purchase from VIC £3.50. Trail showcases public art, crafts and galleries across the Winchester district, supporting and enhancing the profile of the creative and cultural sector.
- Footfall to the Visitor Information Centre remains in line with numbers last year. Year to date over 25,000 visitors have been welcomed and provided with information on what to do see and do in Winchester and the wider district.

Vibrant Local Economy - Progress against our Plans

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status
1	Produce event toolkit and associated event management guidance	Cllr Thompson	June 24	Completed
2	Installation of new information boards with maps and wayfinding information	Cllr Thompson	June 24	Completed
3	Undertake consumer marketing activity including production of a public art trail leaflet	Cllr Thomason	Sep 24	Completed
4	Support independent business (food and drink, retail) and market towns across the district	Cllr Thomspson	Dec 24	
5	Support employment and skills projects and plans	Cllr Thompson	Mar 25	
6	Develop a Sustainable Tourism Strategy for the district	Cllr Thompson	Mar 25	
7	Develop and deliver a programme of Jane Austen 2025 PR and marketing	Cllr Thomspson	Jan 25	
8	Support local investment through both the UK Shared Prosperity and Rural Prosperity Funding programme	Cllr Thompson	Mar 25	
9	Deliver the action in the Green Economic Development Strategy	Cllr Thompson	Mar 25	
10	Deliver Digital Growth Factory (UK Shared Prosperity 24/25 funded project)	Cllr Thompson	Mar 25	
11	Explore future uses of the Guildhall and Abbey House	Cllr Tod	Spring 25	
12	Review of Concessionary Rental Policy	Cllr Tod	Jan 24	Completed
13	Implementation of a new Business Rates exemption and relief to support green technologies.	Cllr Cutler	Mar 24	Completed

Vibrant Local Economy - Measuring our progress

Long range trackers (Annual)								
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	Target 24/25
VLE1	% of economically active people in employment (aged 16-64 - source: NOMIS)	Thompson	Dawn Adey	77.4%	83.7%	75.1%	Not yet available	Measure only
VLE2	Business counts (micro, small, medium, large – source: NOMIS)	Thompson	Dawn Adey	8,035	8,110	8,165	8,225	Measure only

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q1 - 23/24	Q2 - 23/24	Q3 - 23/24	Q4 - 23/24	Q1 - 24/25	Target 24/25	Status
VLE3	% of WCC revenue spend with local suppliers	Cutler	Dawn Adey	26.44%	23.43%	22.28%	31.18%	22.00%	25%	
VLE4	% residents claiming out-of-work benefits ⁶	Thompson	Dawn Adey	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.10%	Measure only	n/a
VLE5	City centre high street footfall – total number of unique visitor count ⁷	Thompson	Dawn Adey	489,475	678,425	688,909	468,438	429,807	Measure only	n/a

Footnotes:

⁶ Data provided by ONS – “CC01 Regional labour market: Claimant Count by unitary and local authority”. Published 17th of the month.

⁷ Provided by the Winchester BID Place Informatic reports – Please note: From April 24, the calculation method and algorithms in their datasets used in their dashboard have been revised to be more robust, so the 24/25 data will be at lower volumes than for 23/24.

Section 5 Your Services. Your Voice

Delivery highlights – April to June 2024

- Successfully held District and Police and Crime Commissioner elections and HCC by-election on 2 May 24. Parliamentary General Election held on 4 July 24.
- Prepared for the commencement of the fieldwork for the biennial Residents' Survey, which was subsequently delayed owing to the calling of the Parliamentary Election on 4 July.
- Recruited a Digital Programme manager who is developing a Digital Vision and leading our digital transformation programme.
- On 6 June, the D-Day 80 Flag of Peace was raised at the Guildhall Winchester to mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day.
- The Freedom Parade to mark the Freedom of Entry to the Defence School of Logistics & Administration (DSLAs) took place in the City Centre on 26 June.
- King Alfred Place Estate improvements consultation, the plan has been amended in response to residents' feedback and an update on the revised plan was included on the website on 1 May 2024.
- Held the regular Parish Liaison meeting with clerks and chairs from parish and town councils which included discussions about the development of the new council plan and information was shared about the upcoming residents' survey and LGA peer challenge.
- Published our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion annual report for 24/25.
- Completed the closing of financial accounts and published our Annual Financial Report 23/24 before the 31 May statutory deadline.
- Held a performance and scrutiny training workshop in May for Scrutiny Committee members.
- Promoted the switch to e-billing enabling residents to view their council tax account information online.
- Following internal audit reviews of our project management methodology and decision-making achieved opinions of substantial assurance with no governance weaknesses observed.
- Completed preparation for LGA Corporate Peer Challenge which took place over 3 days in July.
- Received Cabinet approval to procure new waste vehicles which would run on Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO).
- There has been a net increase of 57 subscribers to the Your Council News newsletter with over 90% of new subscribers joining via the pop-up form on the homepage of the website.

Transformation Challenge (TC25)

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Neil Cutler	Project Sponsor: Liz Keys	
Programme RAG status	Timeline	Budget
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual budget impact reductions £625,632 to date. • Single quote contract negotiations - a total of £12k has been saved via contract negotiations by staff. • 25 projects/reviews have been completed to date. • City Offices and Guildhall cleaning contract - interim contract agreed for period to October 2024 and saving achieved. • Energy Management - Energy Manager now in place and is pro-actively managing energy portfolio and identifying supplier over-charging. Circa £100k of cost savings identified so far. • E-Billing Council Tax rate is 20.68%. Winner of the annual billing prize draw presented with prize. 		
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data analysis of customer contact channels to inform review of future arrangements in reception. • Pilot use of AI for taking and summarising meeting minutes. • Mobile Working – Proof of concept project – Digital inspections module tested for parking inspections during August to improve efficiencies and reduce carbon and costs. • Review of costs, recharges and allocations to ensure fees and charges achieve full cost recovery (ahead of annual update of fees and charges schedule of rates for 2025/26). • Review of portfolio of paintings, civic silver, and other items – external review undertaken, and report received. Working Group being set up to review and discuss options. 		

Your Services. Your Voice - Progress against our plans

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status
1	Undertake a district wide Residents' and Young Persons' survey	Cllr Becker	Aug 24	
2	Development of a corporate digital strategy that drives innovation across the council	Cllr Cutler	Sep-24	
3	Modernise the contact channels our residents and businesses use to contact and do business with the council to improve the customer journey	Cllr Cutler	2025	
4	Adoption of a Council Plan 2025-30 that is fit for the future	Cllr Tod	Jan 25	
5	Review and improve our approach to consultation and engagement, by adopting a new Consultation and Engagement Policy and Charter	Cllr Becker	Dec 24	
6	Further promotion of self-serve and digital services including the increased take-up of electronic billing (rollout of "Digital by Default") and notifications for Council Tax, Business Rates and Housing Benefits services, and the further roll out of SMS for the issue of electronic payment alerts and reminders. This will lead to more efficient process and a reduce in printing and postage costs with the additional benefit of reduced carbon.	Cllr Cutler	2025/26	
7	Review our complaints policy and processes and demonstrate learning from complaints to drive service improvements	Cllr Cutler	Jun 25	
8	Establish and introduce new tenant/leaseholder engagement programme	Cllr Westwood	May 24	
9	Deliver customer focussed digital transformation of housing services	Cllr Westwood	Mar 26	
10	Install improvements to the audio/visual systems for public facing meetings	Cllr Cutler	Apr 24	Complete
11	Increase subscription take up to the Your Council News email newsletter	Cllr Tod	Jun 24	

Your Services. Your Voice - Measuring our progress

Long range trackers (Annual)									
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	2021	2022	2023	2024	Target 2024	Status
YSYV1	Residents' satisfaction with the way the council runs things (Residents' Survey)	Becker	Laura Taylor	No survey	75% (SE 62%)	No survey	Not yet available	79%	n/a
YSYV2	% of Residents' Survey respondents that feel the council involves residents when making decisions	Becker	Laura Taylor	No survey	58%	No survey	Not yet available	60%	n/a

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q1 - 23/24	Q2 - 23/24	Q3 - 23/24	Q4 - 23/24	Q1 - 24/25	Target 24/25	Status
YSYV3	% complaints responded to within 10 working days	Becker	Liz Keys	57%	62%	71%	79%	79%	90%	
YSYV4	% of upheld and partially upheld complaints	Becker	Liz Keys	68%	58%	63%	68%	47%	Measure only	n/a
YSYV5	Number of residents digitally interacting with the council (number of online reports submitted through online forms platforms)	Becker	Liz Keys	10,195	9,429	4,972	15,513	8,837	42,000	
YSYV6	Number of respondents to consultations	Becker	Laura Taylor	998	734	9,672	1,182	1,182	Measure only	n/a
YSYV7	% of major planning applications decided within time or agreed extension (WCC / SDNP)	Porter	Dawn Adey	100% / ~	100% / ~	78% / ~	100% / ~	100% / 100%	80%	
YSYV8	% of non-major planning applications decided within time or agreed extension (WCC / SDNP)	Porter	Dawn Adey	96% / 83%	93% / 82%	95% / 81%	96% / 94%	97% / 86%	80%	

Comments on quarter:

YSYV3: Complaint completion rate for the quarter was impacted by a lower-than-average number being completed in time in April, due to unexpected resource absence. Since then, completion percentages have steadily risen and for June were at 94%. **Staff shortages resolved, now running at 100%.**

Section 6 Regeneration and Growth

Bar End Depot

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Martin Tod	Project Sponsor: Dawn Adey/ Simon Hendeby	
Programme RAG status	Timeline	Budget
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four bidders were interviewed in February and the shortlist is now down to a single preferred bidder. • Final due diligence is being undertaken and Heads of Terms (HOTs) are being negotiated. 		
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A recommendation for preferred bidder will be presented to Cabinet on 15 October 2024. • External lawyers to be instructed. • Heads of Terms to be finalised. • Cabinet paper to be prepared. • Preferred bidder to commission ground condition surveys. 		

Central Winchester Regeneration (CWR)

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Martin Tod	Project Sponsor: Dawn Adey/Ken Baikie	
Programme RAG status	Timeline	Budget
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on the new open space at Friarsgate has continued, with hard landscaping now complete and soft landscaping well underway. The space was open in time for the Hat Fair at the beginning of July. • Co-Creation Workshops with key stakeholders well held in the Nutshell over a three-day period. Jigsaw plan to present their findings in the coming weeks, after a final session has been held with members. Work on the DDP is progressing with several chapters nearing the stage for initial internal review. 		
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new Friarsgate Park will be open to the public. While a few more elements will be added to enhance the space over the coming months, the majority of the work will be complete. • The Archaeological dig at Friarsgate Park will begin on the 22 July and run for six weeks. During this time there will be two open days where members of the public can come down and see what has been found. • Work will continue on the DDP, which is working towards a completion date in Q3. 		

Local Plan

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Jackie Porter	Project Sponsor: Dawn Adey	
Programme RAG status	Timeline	Budget
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <p>Analysis of the recommendations from the Regulation 18 Local Plan consultation are being completed.</p> <p>During Q1 a number of draft Local Plan Topic Papers on a range of issues (Housing, Carbon Neutrality and Embodied Carbon, Heritage, Site Selection Process, Gypsy and Travellers and Student accommodation) that will accompany the Regulation 19 Local Plan have been completed. This was a key recommendation from the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) advisory meeting held in June 2023. The draft Local Plan topic papers have been discussed with an Inspector at the second PINS advisory meeting in April 2024.</p> <p>Work on the evidence Base continues, this needs to be concluded before the Regulation 19 Local Plan can be agreed by Cabinet / Full Council for public consultation. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retail and Town centre study. • Strategic Transport Assessment. • Preparing and agreeing Site Delivery Statements. • Undertaking further work on a nutrient neutrality mitigation strategy. • Preparing an Infrastructure Delivery Plan; and <p>Work with consultants continues to undertake additional areas of Evidence Base that have come out of the representations to the Regulation 18 Local Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood site sequential test and Stage 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. • Review of existing Settlement Gaps; and • Focused update to the Strategic Housing Market Assessment. <p>Work with consultants continues to prepare the Integrated Impact Assessment, Habitats Regulation Assessment, Strategic Transport Assessment and Local Plan Viability Assessment.</p> <p>Work continues with engaging neighbouring Local Planning authorities and statutory agencies such as Southern Water, Natural England on the content of Statement of Common Grounds. Officers have also prepared the draft report for Cabinet/Full Council on the Proposed Submission Local Plan (Regulation 19) and been working with the graphic designer on the version of the Local Plan that is due to be considered at Scrutiny on 29 July 2024.</p>		
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <p>Finalise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The outstanding analysis of the Reg 18 representations, • The Local Plan Evidence Base and the Local Plan Topic Papers, • Continue to work on the Statement of Common Ground and the Statement of Compliance, • Work with the Communications team regarding the publicity of the date of the Scrutiny meeting, • Prepare for the Scrutiny meeting at the end of July; and • Start making arrangements for the public consultation in terms of preparing a FAQs and ensuring that the Local Plan website is up to date. 		

Station Approach

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Martin Tod	Project Sponsor: Dawn Adey/ Ken Baikie	
Programme RAG status	Timeline	Budget
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <p><u>Concept Master Plan and public consultation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design Engine Architects have spent the last three months working on the Concept Master Plan (CMP) and the public consultation boards. An initial first draft of the CMP was shared with the Board and Reference group at the beginning of April, where feedback was provided from the group and alterations were then made. This allowed Design Engine to then begin work on the consultation material that will be used to create an on-line consultation via the Station Approach website. A draft version of the consultation boards have been shared with the Project Group and Board and their feedback has informed further iterations of the material. We are now in the process of finalising the boards for approval. • Due to the announcement of the General Election in July, the consultation period has been delayed until 16 September and will run for six weeks until the 27 October. 		
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public consultation material and supporting documents will be finalised. • The consultation will begin towards the end the quarter and run into Q3. 		

Winchester Movement Strategy

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Kelsie Learney	Project Sponsor: Simon Hendeley	
Programme RAG status	Timeline	Budget
<p>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</p> <p>A very good response level to the public consultation on Fulflood Liveable Neighbourhood scheme ‘co-discover’ was received by HCC and analysis is awaited The Engagement Analysis Report will show where residents in Fulflood have identified as ‘good’ and ‘not good’ for walking and cycling through and around the neighbourhood.</p> <p>Work with Solent Transport continues finalising details on a micro consolidation (delivery hub) trial in the city centre. The trial will look at social, environmental and economic impacts of a last mile city centre delivery hub over 12 months.</p> <p>Public consultation on District Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan underway to get feedback on the walking and cycle network put forward for improvements.</p> <p>Ongoing development of the City Local Cycling Walking and Infrastructure Plan.</p> <p>Ongoing work with HCC on Worthy Lane walking and cycling improvements. Phase 1 of the scheme widened shared use path, new crossing and trial continuous footways at Stoke Road and Dyson Drive, to start in the Autumn.</p>		
<p>Actions for the next quarter:</p> <p>Co-design stage with stakeholders of the Fulflood Liveable Neighbourhood scheme – a number of engagement workshops are to be undertaken with residents looking at which interventions would be supported and where so as to improve walking and cycling routes through and around Fulflood.</p> <p>Finalise details of the micro consolidation scheme to allow a 12-month trial of last mile delivery consolidation to start.</p> <p>Analysis of the District Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan public consultation responses</p> <p>Audits of the walking and cycling routes to be consulted on will be undertaken for the City Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan ready for consultation later in the year.</p> <p>Start construction of Phase 1 of Worthy Lane walking and cycling improvements by Dyson Drive and Stoke Road.</p>		

FINANCE REPORT

Section 7 - Financial Position

This section presents a summary of the council's financial position as of 30 June 2024 regarding the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account budgets.

General Fund Revenue

Summary

1. A balanced 2024/25 budget was set by Council in February 2024 (CAB3444 refers).
2. Inflation has steadily reduced since the budget was set in February to 2% in June 2024 (CPI). Whilst this reduction is not expected to have a material impact on 2024/25 forecasts, if inflation were to remain at current levels, then this would result in a positive impact from 2025/26 onwards.
3. Retained Business Rates – the final outturn for 2023/24 (NNDR3 return) resulted in an end of year surplus of £3.7m, with Winchester receiving a share of £1.5m. This £1.5m surplus will be distributed over 2024/25 (£1.06m) and 2025/26 (£0.44m). The cause of this variance is a significant reduction in the provision for appeals now that the 2017 rating appeals have all been determined. Whilst these decisions are incorporated into estimates from 2024/25 the forecasting of appeals remains a highly complex process, often with little information to go on, and so it is likely that further releases will take place.
4. Income forecasts
 - i) Planning Fees- £0.1m adverse in Q1. Despite government set fee increases, volume has further reduced in Q1 leading to an adverse budget variance. Work is ongoing to re-forecast income for the full year, particularly large applications which make up a large proportion of total income.
 - ii) Building Control - £0.05m adverse in Q1. Despite fee increases for Q1 2024/25, volume has fallen by a further c40% compared to Q1 2023/24. Work is ongoing to re-forecast income for the full year but to note that income in July was above budget and highlights the 'lumpy' nature of income during the year.
 - iii) Car Parking - £0.3m favourable full year forecast. Income in Q1 was significantly higher than expected due to higher usage levels across all central car parks.
 - iv) Premises Licensing - £0.09m favourable full year forecast. A post-covid recovery in licensing income was seen in the 2023/24 outturn and this is expected to continue in 2024/25 onwards.

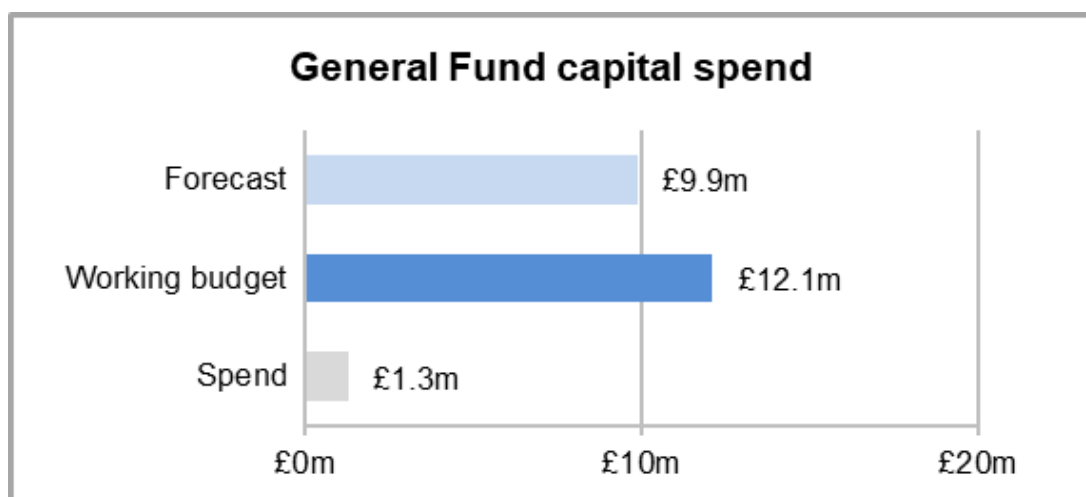
5. A baseline budget growth of £0.4m was approved from 2023/24 in relation to increased energy costs at Winchester Sport and Leisure Park. The 2023/24 energy benchmarking resulted in a net payment of £0.36m to Everyone Active but very early indications are that this could significantly reduce from 2024/25.
6. The above updated forecasts give a total forecast 2024/25 favourable budget variance of £0.24m relating to net service expenditure, plus £1.06m relating to retained business rates. These estimates will be considered as part of the 2025/26 budget process in order to determine whether any ongoing impact is expected.

General Fund Budget Forecast 2024/25

	Budget	Forecast	Variance FAV/(ADV)
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Environment	7,256	7,016	240
Living Well	3,984	3,984	
Homes for All	2,512	2,512	
Vibrant Local Economy	991	991	
Your Services. Your Voice	7,269	7,269	
	<hr/>		
TOTAL before funding	22,012	21,772	240
TOTAL funding	(22,012)	(23,072)	1,060
	<hr/>		
FORECAST BUDGET UNDERSPEND			1,300

General Fund Capital

1. General Fund capital expenditure to the end of June was £1.3m which relates to several different projects: KGV Pavilion (£0.18m), Disabled Facilities grants (£0.32m), Venta Living housing company purchase of share capital (£0.15m), KGV play area (£0.11m), St Catherine's Park & Ride resurfacing (£0.11m), and WCFC all-weather 3G pitch (£0.1m). There have also been small amounts of expenditure on several other projects.
2. Capital budgets for 2024/25 have been revised for brought forward balances and other changes, such as reforecasting, as part of the General Fund 2023/24 outturn reported to September cabinet (CAB3464 refers), and this is reflected in the forecast below. Due to the nature of capital expenditure, there is always a risk of programme slippage particularly in respect of projects that have yet to commence.
3. The full year budget and forecast below excludes £4m in respect of the Strategic Asset Purchase scheme (SAPS). This budget will only be spent if suitable assets are identified. There have been no SAPS purchases to date in 2024/25.



4. Key items of expenditure in Q1 2024/25:

- **King George V (KGV) Pavilion** *Total Budget: £3.3m*

Exp: Prior years £3.09m Q1 £0.18m Total £3.27m

Work on the new pavilion has been completed and it was officially opened on 1 August although users have been able to enjoy its facilities since June. It is now in the final account stage. It replaces two out-dated, underused, and inaccessible pavilions with a single larger, accessible, modern facility designed with sustainability and carbon saving measures. The new pavilion will benefit communities across the city and district and looks to support the development of 'grass roots' football, with a particular focus on women's, girls,' and youth football.

• **WCFC all-weather 3G pitch** *Total Budget: £1.466m*

Exp: Prior years £0 *Q1 £0.14m* *Total £0.14m*

Following a successful grant application which will fund almost 90% of the project costs, work has started on the installation of a 3G artificial turf pitch at the Winchester City Football Club alongside some stadium improvements. The project will deliver on aims and commitments such as reduced health inequalities, a wide range of physical and cultural activities for all ages and abilities and supporting communities to extend the range of sports and cultural facilities across the district. In addition to providing opportunities to host inter-school tournaments and skills workshops for under 16s, older adults, and disability football, the new facilities will offer new opportunities for female coaches and players through the involvement of Winchester City Flyers FC.

• **Disabled Facilities Grants** *Total Budget: £1.23m*

Expenditure: recurring annually Q1 £0.32m

During the period 1 April to 30 June £315,000 of grants were paid over.

Such grants enable residents of private and/or social housing who are disabled or have a mobility or other limiting condition to apply for adaptations to be undertaken in their home. Adaptations can include the installation of stair lifts, level access showers, kitchen adaptations or ramping etc. and enable residents to remain in their homes rather than having to move, go into hospital, or into residential care.

• **59 Colebrook St.** *Total Budget: £0.61m*

Exp: Prior years £0.003m *Q1 £0.099m* *Total £0.102m*

The refurbishment and conversion of 59 Colebrook Street for shared accommodation is underway. Around 75% of the budget is funded from external grants and initially the property will be used to house those from the Ukrainian Resettlement scheme.

• **Housing Company** *Total Budget: £0.15m*

Exp: Prior years £0 *Q1 £0.15m* *Total £0.15m*

£150,000 has been spent on the purchase of share capital in the council's wholly owned subsidiary, Venta Living. This is based on a leasing model whereby the council's HRA has leased a total of 41 flats recently completed as part of the HRA new build programme. It enables the council to provide alternative tenure and support those who may be unable to easily access the private sector rental market.

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

Housing Revenue Account Budget Forecast 2024/25 (£000)	Expenditure	Income	NET
Housing Management - General	7,431	(164)	7,267
Housing Management - Special	4,307	(2,119)	2,188
Repairs & Repairs administration	9,968	(127)	9,841
Debt management & interest income	5,624	0	5,624
Contribution to Major Repairs costs (Depreciation)	10,216	0	10,216
TOTAL	37,546	(2,410)	35,136
Rent, Service Charges & Other income			(34,545)
FORECAST BUDGET DEFICIT			591
AGREED BUDGET DEFICIT			1,704
Forecast movement:			(1,114)
Of which (net):			
Baseline			1,116
One-off			(2,229)

Housing Revenue Account summary

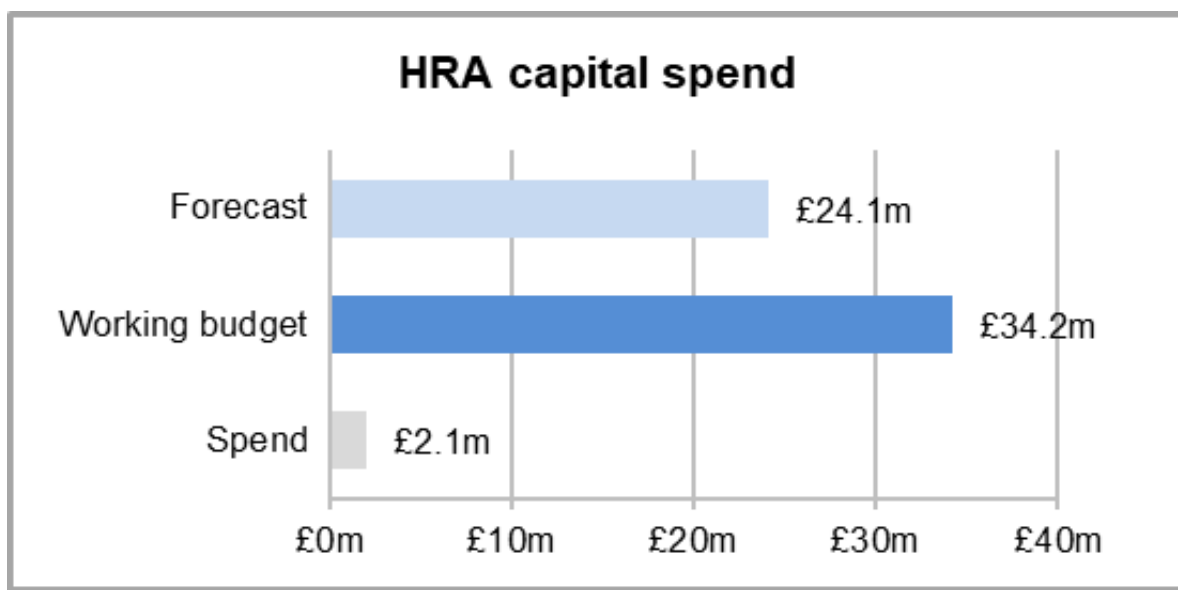
1. A deficit 2024/25 HRA budget of £1.7m was set by Council in February 2024 (CAB3445 refers).
2. The current end of year forecast is an overall deficit of £0.59m. This currently excludes the impact of capitalising the extension of time claim at Winnall Flats following agreement in June 2024, to give a clear picture of the underlying financial performance of the HRA. The key movements in the forecast are as follows:
 - i) The Outturn report CAB3445 outlines a significant overspend on repairs & maintenance costs, which is a result of a combination of increases in the volume of works being undertaken, and increased costs due to materials inflation. This continued into the 2024/25 financial year, with materials costs remaining at a high level. This is driving a forecast adverse variance on cyclical and voids costs of

£1m. Measures to address the high cost of maintenance works, including prioritisation of work, recharge policy etc are currently being reviewed.

- ii) Budgeted depreciation for HRA assets is an estimate based on prior year data, adjusted for inflation. Actual depreciation is affected by several factors such as the annual valuation of the council's housing stock and underlying component costs: therefore, varying from forecast. The budgeted depreciation for 2024/25 was based on the 2022/23 data available at the time of budget setting. Levels of actual depreciation for 2023/24 indicate that the budget for 2024/25 may be insufficient, so an adverse variance of £0.24m is currently forecast.
 - iii) The budgeted cost of external interest is currently £8.1m, which is sufficient to fund all current borrowing at 5%. The capital forecast indicates that a significant proportion of the unallocated new build budget will not be spent in this financial year, which will allow current unfinanced debt to continue to be internally borrowed, generating a one-off favourable variance of £2.1m in 2024/25.
3. The HRA budget approved by Council included budget savings of £0.4m to be achieved by 2024/25. The business plan set in February 2024 included £0.2m of identified savings, with a further £0.2m to be identified during the 2024/25 financial year. This has been achieved through staff restructuring during the first quarter of 2024/25 and is reflected as a favourable variance of £0.2m in the forecast.

Housing Revenue Account Capital Spend

1. Housing capital expenditure to the end of June 2024 was £2.059m, of which:
 - £0.876m was on major works.
 - £0.102m improvements & upgrades.
 - £0.835m on the New Build programme; and
 - £0.245m on other schemes.
2. Capital budgets for 2023/24 will be revised for carried forward balances and other changes as part of the HRA outturn report (report CAB3465). Due to the nature of capital expenditure, there is always a risk of programme slippage, particularly in respect of the unallocated new builds budget that is largely pending decisions to proceed with specific projects.



3. Key items of expenditure in Q1 2024/25 includes:

- **Major repairs** *Total Budget £10.405m*

Exp: Recurring Annually

Q1 £0.876m

The major repairs programme reflects the planned major repairs to the Council's housing stock, and includes investment in doors, windows, wall structures, kitchens and bathrooms, roofing and other similar major works. The budget has been reprofiled in Quarter 1 to reflect anticipated planned works in 2024/25.

- **Climate Emergency** *Total Budget £4.905m*

Exp: Recurring annually

Q1: £0.071m

The agreed HRA Business plan agreed a £45m investment into energy efficiency measures across the housing stock over the next 8 years, and includes expenditure on insulation and ventilation measures, and significant energy investment measures at the Swiss Cottages. The current programme for 2024/25 is anticipated at £5.47m, the increase a result of final tender costs and high cost works to non-traditional properties. In addition to the planned works for 2024/25, energy efficiency works totalling £1.3m not complete on 31st March will be completing during 2024/25. The costs of these will be met from proposed reprofiling of 2023/24 underspend into 2024/25.

- **Improvements & Upgrades** *Total budget £0.688m*

Exp: Recurring Annually

Q1 £0.102m

The budget for improvements and upgrades relates specifically to Sheltered Housing upgrades and Estates improvements. The Estates improvements programme expected spend for 2024/25 is £0.35m, against budget of £0.53m. Carry forward from prior years is proposed to be slipped to future years within the HRA business plan to facilitate future works.

New build:

- **Corner House**

Total Budget £0.986m

Exp: £0

Q1 £0

The Corner House scheme is currently undergoing viability works to inform an outline business case in Q4 of 2024/25. If approved, detail design work and planning application development will proceed in late 2024/25. It is therefore unlikely that capital works will begin until 2025/26 financial year; the forecast for 2024/25 will therefore be zero and the budget reprofiled as part of the 2024/25 business planning process.

- **Barton Farm Extra Care**

Total Budget £0.189m

Exp: £0

Q1: £0

Discussions are ongoing with Cala Homes, the site developer. Outline business case, initial design work and tender process are expected to progress in 2024/5. Depending on progress the process of land acquisition, more detailed design and planning application development will begin in 2025/26. It is therefore unlikely that capital works will begin until 2025/26 financial year, at the earliest, or the following year; the forecast for 2024/25 will therefore be zero and the budget reprofiled as part of the 2024/25 business planning process.

- **Nutrient Mitigation**

Total budget £0.6m

Exp: Prior years – None

Q1: £0

At its July meeting, Cabinet agreed to proceed with £0.4m projects in 2024/25. The forecast has been amended to £0.4m to reflect this decision. Detailed work on developing the approach to implementation has already commenced with a detailed programme likely to be developed in Q3 2024/25.

- **Winnall flats**

Total budget £19.5m

Exp Prior years: £16.873m

Q1: £0.861m

Total £17.734m

The development at Winnall is expected to be handed over in 2024/25, (how many units – check), with a forecast overall cost of £19.9m. Overall costs to be incurred in 2024/25 is expected to be £2.9m, and budget carry forward of £2.1m from 2024/25 is pending agreement as part of the outturn report.

- **Local Authority Housing Fund**

Total budget: £12.145m

Exp: Prior years £10.306m

Q1 £0

Total £10.306m

The Local Authority Housing fund is specific government grant funding awarded to the council to support the resettlement of Ukrainian refugees via acquisition or new build of properties. The council agreed to acquire a number of properties into the HRA in 2023/24, of which at the 2023/24 year end a small number of properties were

still awaiting final completion. The budget for the purchase costs, and associated assumed repair costs, are proposed to be carried forward into 2024/25 within the outturn report.

- ***New Build Unallocated***

Total budget £13.703m

Exp: *Is allocated to specific sites following decision to proceed.*

This capital budget represents the business plan commitment to deliver 1,000 new homes by 2030, for which sites have not yet been allocated. To date in 2024/25, commitment has been made to acquire four properties in 2024/5 at a forecast cost of £1.36m. The remainder of the budget is forecast to be unspent pending the identification and viability assessments of potential opportunities (both council commissioned new build on the council's own land and off the shelf new-build acquisitions from developers), and subsequent formal decisions to proceed.