

## **Finance and Performance Report – July to September 2025**

### **Recommendation**

That Cabinet notes the progress achieved during Q2 of 2025/26 and endorses the contents of the report.

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### **Updates since Q1 25/26 report**

The rationale for each of the annual targets associated with the strategic key performance indicators has been included in the report, as requested by the Scrutiny Committee.

Additionally, Service Plan actions have been updated to reflect their red, amber, or green (RAG) status from previous quarterly reports. This historical context is intended to provide a clearer picture of progress over time and support more informed performance analysis.

### **Red/Amber/Green status**

The table below provides a brief explanation of the RAG status used throughout this report to quickly and visually communicate the status of projects and service plan actions.

<b>GREEN</b>	<b>Normal level of attention</b> Project is on track to be delivered on time and within agreed resources
<b>AMBER</b>	<b>Minor concern</b> Some issues, being managed, needs to be closely monitored
<b>RED</b>	<b>Major concern</b> Serious issues, milestone dates being missed, recovery plan required

## **PERFORMANCE REPORT**

### **Section 1 Greener Faster**

#### **Delivery highlights – July to September 2025**

The council's annual carbon footprint report for the financial year 2024/25 confirms that we have met our ambitious forecasted targets for 2024/25 and demonstrates continued progress towards the council's carbon neutral targets.

- Scope 1 & 2 Market-Based Emissions we have achieved a 96% reduction compared to the 2017/18 baseline year and 85% on the previous year.
- Scope 3 Market-Based Emissions recorded a 22% reduction on the 2017/18 baseline and a 41% reduction on the previous year.
- We have exceeded our combined emissions target of 3,700 tCO<sub>2e</sub>, for 2024/25 by reducing emissions to 2,252.1 tCO<sub>2e</sub>.

These results reflect the impact of decarbonisation measures implemented for 2024/25 including switching to electric vehicles, closing City Offices at the weekends, switching to HVO for BIFFA and Park & Ride contract as well as purchasing green gas and electricity.

- The council delivered its first Winchester Green Fair, to mark the beginning of Winchester Green week. This event was aimed at residents and local communities to raise awareness and provide advice about living more sustainably, it was a great success with over 240 attendees.
- Work has started on developing a Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA) for the council and wider district. Commenced internal stakeholder engagement to discuss screening and validation sessions, this work is ongoing.
- Allocation of UKSPF and REPF funding to further carbon saving projects in the community and local businesses. These range from installing solar PV, air source heat pumps and projects improving local biodiversity and land management.
- Three workshops have been delivered to develop a community led energy plan for Harestock, with local communities engaging in participatory mapping exercises to understand current and future energy requirements.
- £396,393 Community Infrastructure Levy Funding has been approved for active travel schemes in the Winchester district.
- The air quality in Winchester city centre has improved to the extent that the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has confirmed that the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA), which has been in place since 2003, can now be revoked. This means that officers can now focus on delivering the district wide Air Quality Strategy (AQS), which seeks to deliver even higher air quality standards by 2030, ten years ahead of the national requirement.

## Our Carbon Neutrality Action Plan (Council)

<b>Lead Cabinet Member:</b> Cllr Kelsie Learney					<b>Project Sponsor:</b> Cheryl Headon							
<b>Programme RAG status*</b>	<b>Timeline</b>				<b>Budget</b>				<b>Carbon</b>			
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
<p><b>RAG Status update</b></p> <p>Carbon savings attributed to transitioning leased assets to low carbon energy are currently not on track, this means that both carbon and timeline project RAG status are rated amber for this quarter.</p> <p>Energy reduction measures to decarbonise Guildhall / City offices are costly and unlikely to be achieved due the government withdrawing all funding for public sector decarbonisation schemes.</p>												
<p><b>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</b></p> <p>Good progress has been made across all pathways for Q2. The following updates are some of the key highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two electric vehicles have been delivered for use by the Animal Welfare Officers. The vans are waiting to be refitted to meet operational requirements.</li> <li>Finance have approved the procurement of a panel van for Special Maintenance fleet.</li> <li>Nature Improvement Plan approved by Cabinet in September.</li> <li>Development and drafting of outline business case for small scale solar rooftop PV on council assets to take to PAC board next quarter. Drafting of project proposal for solar canopy sites.</li> </ul>												
<p><b>Actions for the next quarter:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secure internal budget approval to procure three additional low carbon vehicles for Special maintenance.</li> <li>Publish executive summary of Nature Improvement plan and work with communications to promote via website, video and social media.</li> <li>Completion of Vaultex solar PV repairs.</li> <li>Take a paper to Cabinet in November 2025 to obtain authority to retender Grounds maintenance and street cleansing contract and to start to review and update the current specification for the tender document.</li> <li>Completion of laptop rollout and upgrade for staff.</li> </ul>												

## Our Carbon Neutrality Action Plan (District)

<b>Lead Cabinet Member:</b> Cllr Kelsie Learney					<b>Project Sponsor:</b> Cheryl Headon							
<b>Programme RAG status</b>	<b>Timeline</b>				<b>Budget</b>				<b>Carbon</b>			
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
<p><b>RAG status update</b></p> <p>Timeline: whilst good progress has been made across the pathways some projects are still in their infancy and will take time to deliver the kilotonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e savings required. This major programme risk is being managed.</p> <p>Carbon: A key challenge for the district CNAP is tracking the carbon saved by the actions/ projects. Where possible, progress is being made on tracking carbon savings from council led actions / projects within the district. However, it is difficult to correlate these savings with government data for district emissions. This is because the government dataset is reported two years in arrears and due to the scale of the emissions and the lag in data reporting it is not possible to directly attribute these CNAP actions to government carbon savings.</p> <p>*RAG status rating is based on annual progress in year against the identified 2025/26 council delivery programme, carbon targets and budget.</p>												
<p><b>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procured a consultancy to carry out 20 business carbon saving assessments.</li> <li>• Secured Community Infrastructure Levy funding to upgrade Friarsgate crossing to a Toucan Crossing, this will help to boost cycling and create better links with the outskirts of town to the city centre.</li> <li>• Work has progressed with pre-installation surveys and design works on Council homes to identify 195 properties suitable for the installation of solar PV, batteries and/or ASHP under Social Housing decarbonisation fund.</li> <li>• Development of Local area energy plan is progressing, currently modelling scenarios to achieve net zero energy system.</li> </ul>												
<p><b>Actions for the next quarter:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HCC Active Travel Grant – outcome of bid to deliver active travel initiatives.</li> <li>• Launch of Green Business grant to facilitate businesses with reducing their energy use and saving carbon emissions</li> <li>• Delivery and launch of Winchester town Micro-consolidation scheme (cargo bike last mile delivery).</li> <li>• Local Area Energy Plan – review modelling outputs and complete final Community Led Energy Plan workshop with a specific focus on action planning.</li> </ul>												

<b>Lead Cabinet Member:</b> Cllr Steve Cramoysan				<b>Project Sponsor:</b> Cheryl Headon				
<b>Programme RAG status</b>	<b>Timeline</b>				<b>Budget</b>			
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
<b>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</b>								
<b>Contract amendments</b>								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Deed of variation to the main Biffa contract for the new food waste service and the vehicle lease agreement completed.</li></ul>								
<b>Grounds Maintenance relocation</b>								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The contract team is now fully operational at the Ring Tower depot in Winnall following the completed relocation. Barfield Close Depot is now fully leased to Biffa to provide additional space for the new food waste service. The Ring Tower building has now been handed to Asset Management team as BAU.</li></ul>								
<b>Preparing the Biffa depot for food waste</b>								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Some building/ modification works have been completed in the office building and in the yard to allow for the new food waste service.</li></ul>								
<b>Communal Properties – preparing for food waste recycling.</b>								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Work with Southampton University, Test Valley BC and Eastleigh BC on a joint research project to improve recycling in communal properties has now concluded. Strategies generated during the project are already being put in place by the project team and WCC housing colleagues.</li><li>2 Recycling officers are now in post and supporting roll out of food waste service. These officers will be prioritising communal property liaison and bin store signage.</li><li>Detailed information on the Councils communal properties has been prepared in liaison with Housing team and passed to Biffa. A letter has been sent to landlords of communal properties setting out their responsibilities. Information has also been put on the Councils web pages.</li></ul>								
<b>Procurement of food waste containers and vehicles</b>								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All containers and liners are being delivered as required in line with roll out programme.</li><li>All vehicles now delivered and operational.</li></ul>								
<b>Communications</b>								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Vehicle wraps completed, Calendars dispatched. All communications materials for roll out now completed and available. In addition, the Planning guidance document on the Council website is being updated to include food waste. Various events attended to support recycling initiatives.</li></ul>								

### **Funding and Budgets**

- Details of the New Burdens funding for the transitional element have now been received and are currently being assessed against the allocation made in the Council's budget. In addition, the council has received an indication of pEPR funding which DEFRA have confirmed will need to be allocated to improvements in household recycling. This will likely be allocated to Simpler Recycling Implementation, subject to a spending plan and Cabinet approval.

### **Timeline & Simpler Recycling Implementation**

- HCC have confirmed that they will be building a new Materials Recovery Facility to accommodate the full suite of Simpler Recycling materials, which includes pots, tubs, tray, cartons, co-mingled glass and recycling, and separated paper and card. The Project team have started working on a delivery timetable to accommodate these changes by early 2028 when the new MRF is expected to become operational.

### **Actions for the next quarter:**

- Complete roll out of food waste service as planned with full roll out by end of March 2026.
- Continue supporting communications programme for food waste rollout and address any issues raised as part of roll out.
- Recycling Officers working with Biffa on communal property engagement/ delivery of service.
- Develop an options appraisal for Simpler Recycling options and agree timetable and work/ consultation programme with ELB and Board – Autumn/Winter 2025.

<b>Lead Cabinet Member:</b> Cllr Jackie Porter, Cllr Mark Reach				<b>Project Sponsor:</b> Cheryl Headon				
<b>Programme RAG status</b>	<b>Timeline</b>				<b>Budget</b>			
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
<b>RAG status update</b> <p>The original timelines were ambitious, relying on desk-based research, but detailed site studies, due for completion by the end of 2025, will provide more precise data on site conditions and potential upgrade options.</p> <p>Due to the evolving nature of the scope, the project approach has been adjusted to remain aligned with developing requirements. These changes have affected the original timeline, however once the feasibility studies across the sites are completed and the civil engineering firm is onboarded, a more accurate and realistic delivery timeline will be provided.</p>								
<b>Progress achieved against last quarter</b>								
<b><u>Housing Revenue Account (HRA)</u></b>								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Nitrate and Phosphate credit sales are ongoing. Almost two thirds of Nitrate credits (38 of 63) and nearly all Phosphate credits (4.8 of 5.3) from Northington have been allocated. Prices are £3,250 per Nitrate credit and £50,000 per Phosphate credit (or part thereof). £230k has been invoiced to date and £373k further is expected to be paid when all balances are settled prior to developments starting on site (in line with signed Allocation Agreements). Plant installed at Northington cost £68k so this income to date of c.£0.5m is already a good return on investment in addition to inherent water quality improvements.</li><li>The Goodens credits are now starting to be allocated following payment of index-linked monitoring fee to SDNPA. There are 90 Nitrate credits and 10.51 Phosphate credits available – first allocations have been paid for, but agreements not yet signed. Some Phosphate credits from this scheme will be sold for £100k (each or part thereof) because the mitigation location is upstream of the Alresford area where there are very few Phosphate credits available suitable to mitigate development here.</li></ul>								
<b><u>Partnership for Southern Hampshire (PfSH)</u></b>								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Feasibility studies and CCTV investigations are currently in progress across the nine shortlisted sites, with the findings intended to inform a subsequent tender process for delivering the works.</li></ul>								

**Actions for the next quarter:**

- Feasibility surveys for the next HRA-funded upgrade will begin on completion of the PfSH assessments. Following the completion of feasibility studies, HRA sites will be prioritised within the overall works schedule.
- The council is seeking to appoint a civil engineering company to manage, procure and lead the delivery of this programme.
- Due to the evolving nature of the scope, the project approach has been adjusted to remain aligned with developing requirements. These changes have affected the original timeline, however once the feasibility studies across the sites are completed and the civil engineering firm is onboarded, a more accurate and realistic delivery timeline will be provided



**Greener Faster - Progress against actions in service plans**

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G	
				Q1	Q2
1	Prepare full business case for a large-scale renewal energy project	Cllr Learney	April 2027		
2	Produce a business case for delivery for phase 1 of the small-scale renewable energy generation	Cllr Learney	October 2025		
3	Deliver the Air Quality Strategy and Action Plan	Cllr Learney/ Cllr Cramoysan	March 2030		
4	Take steps to reduce carbon from council owned occupied estate	Cllr Tod	Ongoing		
5	Develop a Local Area Energy Plan	Cllr Learney	December 2025		
6	Create sustainable travel networks and projects in local areas	Cllr Learney	April 2026		
7	Develop an Electric Vehicle Charging Points framework for the district	Cllr Learney	April 2026		
8	Develop a Nature Improvement Plan	Cllr Learney	March 2026		

## Measuring our progress

Long range trackers (Annual – financial year)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	17/18 (base)	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	Target & Status 24/25	Target 25/26
GF1	Council total market-based emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e) <sup>1</sup>	Learney	Cheryl Headon	4,251.2	4,260.2	3,970.3	4,090.5	2,252.1	3,700	2,100 Set in July 2025
GF1a	Council market-based Scope 1 & 2 emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e) <sup>2</sup>	Learney	Cheryl Headon	1,444.3 <sup>2</sup>	595.6	523.4	398.2	57.7		
GF1a	% change relative to 2017/18 baseline year	Learney	Cheryl Headon	n/a	-59%	-64%	-72%	-96%		
GF1b	Council market-based Scope 3 emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e) <sup>1</sup>	Learney	Cheryl Headon	2,806.9	3,664.6	3,446.9	3,692.3	2,194.4		
GF1b	% change relative to 2017/18 baseline year	Learney	Cheryl Headon	n/a	31%	23%	32%	-22%		
GF3	WCC air quality measure	Learney	Cheryl Headon	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available		NO <sub>2</sub> 30 µg/m <sup>3</sup> by 2030

- Basis of targets:**

GF1 to GF1b - Estimated from the annual Council Carbon Footprint report - based on several interventions with associated carbon savings

GF3 - Target derived from the [‘Air Quality Strategy’](#) for targets achieved by 2030

- Footnotes:**

<sup>1</sup> Since 2017/18 the council has acquired more assets and reports more activities under scope 3 (this includes WSLP, Chesil Lodge, Home working and staff commuting, council cared for housing schemes); Target of 3,700 is the overall target for GF1 to GF1b as they are sub-sets  
 Scope 1 = Direct emissions from our activities e.g. gas, council owned cars and vans; Scope 2 = Indirect emission from energy use e.g. electricity; Scope 3 = Indirect emissions from our activities and supply chain e.g. contractor emissions including P&R buses, Winchester Sport & Leisure Park and waste collection.

<sup>2</sup> Figures for baseline year (2017/18) have been revised and updated. This reflects the reclassification of two sites, which were previously reported under Scope 2, these are now correctly reported under scope 3.

Long range trackers (Annual – calendar year)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	2017 (base)	2020	2021	2022	2023	Target 2030	Status
GF2a	District territorial GHG (ktCO <sub>2</sub> e) <sup>2</sup>	Learney	Cheryl Headon	953.7	790.5	828.9	796.8	768.6		
GF2a	% change relative to 2017/18 baseline year	Learney	Cheryl Headon		-17%	-13%	-16%	-19%		
GF2b	District carbon emissions under scope of LA influence (ktCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Learney	Cheryl Headon	669.9	560.1	591.3	556.7	533.0	520.00	n/a
GF2b	% change relative to 2017 baseline year	Learney	Cheryl Headon		-16%	-12%	-17%	-20%		

- Basis of targets:**

GF2a and GF2b – As set out in the Winchester District Carbon Neutrality Roadmap and [Carbon Neutrality Action Plan](#) to achieve zero carbon emissions.

- Footnotes:**

<sup>2</sup> Data are the overall values for GF2a and b as they are sub-sets. Previously reported figures will / may have been updated as government adjusts its calculation methodology and changes all past data to be consistent and enable direct comparison.

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q2 - 24/25	Q3 - 24/25	Q4 - 24/25	Q1 - 25/26	Q2 - 25/26	Target 25/26	Status
GF4	% of household waste sent for reuse, recycling, and composting	Cramoysan	Simon Hendey	43.26%	37.79%	35.70%	40.89%	38.68%	40%	
GF5	Residual household waste per household (kg/hh)	Cramoysan	Simon Hendey	100.12	103.91	102.42	103.62	103.38	<420 kg/hh	
GF6	Energy usage (kWh) – Electricity – City Offices <sup>3</sup>	Learney	Simon Hendey	24,634	41,260	41,002	24,491	26,743	Measure only	n/a
GF7	Energy usage (kWh) – Electricity – Guildhall <sup>3</sup>	Learney	Simon Hendey	82,014	77,890	78,998	62,400	69,509	Measure only	n/a
GF8	Energy usage (kWh) – Gas – City Offices <sup>3</sup>	Learney	Simon Hendey	24	28,262	62,786	0	0	Measure only	n/a
GF9	Energy usage (kWh) – Gas – Guildhall <sup>3</sup>	Learney	Simon Hendey	55,920	82,805	89,345	18,010	7,905	Measure only	n/a
GF10	Renewable energy generated (kWh) from solar panels <sup>4</sup>	Learney	Simon Hendey	113,011	25,842	43,123	140,117	115,262	Measure only	n/a

- **Basis of targets:**

*GF4 and GF5 - Target based on performance improvement against previous years actuals, and ensuring top percentile performance amongst peers.*

- **Footnotes:**

<sup>3</sup> *Due to the way metering is set up this includes the whole of each building (less Shoal who are sub-metered) - tenants occupying space including the university (West Wing, Guildhall), CAB and NHS (City Offices) are recharged a percentage for their usage.*

<sup>4</sup> *Data reported relates to: WCC Sites (City Offices, Cipher House, Vaultex), Winchester Sport and Leisure Park, Depot and Marwell Zoo.*

Commentary:

**GF4** – Whilst the Q2 average is slightly below the 40% target, figures have progressively increased throughout the quarter being above average in September (37.11%, 38.87% and 40.07% respectively for each month)

**GF8** – Gas powered boilers are switched in City Offices during the warmer summer months resulting in zero usage. Guildhall retains gas usage due to public space used by visitors and occupancy from other tenants (e.g. University) which we then recharge for.

## **Section 2 Healthy Communities**

### **Delivery highlights – July to September 2025**

- Completion of work to improve the drainage and resurface the 3G football pitches at Meadowside Leisure Centre in Whiteley.
- £153,000 Community Infrastructure Levy funding has been approved for improvements to River Park Recreation Ground.
- A new non-turf wicket was installed at King George V Playing Field in Winchester, funded by the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB).
- New communication boards were installed at Winchester Sport and Leisure Park to improve accessibility and increase participation in its inclusive activity programme. The boards use symbol software and will help a wide range of people, including those with learning disabilities and autistic or neurodivergent individuals.
- Nearly 200 adults with a wide range of learning and physical disabilities participated in the Winchester Personal Bests event. It is the first event of its kind to be officially recognised as Autism Friendly by the National Autistic Society.
- The Live Longer Better programme engaged 60 older people in activity to improve their health and stay independent. Sessions took place in council sheltered housing schemes, care homes and community settings, in Winchester, Denmead, Whiteley and Otterbourne.
- The Park Yoga programme concluded for 2025 with the annual attendance of 3,316 being the highest since it started in 2021.
- The Community Development Officer for North Whiteley (funded via S106 agreement and employed by Whiteley Town Council) ran a series of events and activities during the summer holidays, including a skate jam event and weekly free children's activities.
- Eight community grants were awarded, totalling £11,749, for projects including information boards for a new outdoor trail in Curdridge, startup of new physical activity sessions for older people in Southwick, startup of a new wellbeing café in Stanmore and power tools for a volunteer group at St Giles Hill.
- A new online equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) training module has been developed and offered to venues signed up to the Spaces of Sanctuary initiative, supporting them to be open, welcoming and inclusive.
- Support to Ukrainian guests resulted in three Ukrainians securing full-time employment in the professional services sector, two completing their CELTA (Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) qualifications and five extending their current visas. Ongoing support included the start of a further 12-week peer-to-peer wellbeing programme.
- Full Council in July endorsed a new twinning agreement between Winchester and the city of Nizhyn in Ukraine.

**Healthy Communities – progress against actions in service plans**

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G	
				Q1	Q2
1	Review data and agree scope of the work for community facility audit(s)	Cllr Becker	March 2026		
2	Deliver a programme of engagement and activity sessions enabling residents to live longer better (HCC fund)	Cllr Becker	March 2026		
3	Adopt a Winchester District Community Wellbeing and Resilience strategy, supported by a statement of our health priorities	Cllr Becker	October 2025		
4	Complete the construction to replace the River Park cricket pavilion	Cllr Becker	June 2026		
5	Community Integration programme for overseas guests - deliver the HCC funded support for independent living and community integration	Cllr Becker	Ongoing		
6	Deliver a programme of grants to community and voluntary sector organisations	Cllr Becker	February 2026		
7	Active Travel Networks – bike bus programme with schools	Cllr Learney	April 2026		
8	Roll out programme of training for Spaces of Sanctuary scheme	Cllr Becker	June 2025		

**Red/Amber Status**

3 - Community Wellbeing and Resilience strategy is scheduled for discussion at Housing and Environment Policy Committee in December, with final approval to follow early in 2026.

## River Park Cricket Pavilion

<b>Lead Cabinet Member:</b> Cllr Kathleen Becker				<b>Project Sponsor:</b> Cheryl Headon					
<b>Project RAG status</b>				<b>Timeline</b>		<b>Budget</b>			
				Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Liaison meeting held with key stakeholders the Pavilion Project.</li><li>• Ground works completed.</li><li>• Steel frame erected.</li><li>• Attenuation tank completed.</li><li>• Electrical design completed</li></ul>									
<b>Actions for the next quarter:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to update key stakeholders at key stages of design.</li><li>• Regular contract meetings with contractor and consultants.</li><li>• Regular liaison meetings with internal team.</li><li>• Monitor progress of works against programme.</li><li>• Review ongoing budget.</li></ul>									

## Measuring our performance

Long range trackers (Annual)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	Target & Status 24/25	Target 25/26
HC1	% adults participating in 150+ mins of sport / physical activity p/w within the Winchester district	Becker	Cheryl Headon	71.0%	73.7%	73.0%	73.3%	Tbc – Nov 25	Measure only	Measure only

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q2 - 24/25	Q3 - 24/25	Q4 - 24/25	Q1 - 25/26	Q2 - 25/26	Target 25/26	Status
HC2	Winchester Sport and Leisure Park - total number of visits	Becker	Cheryl Headon	340,178	347,038	358,832	356,284	353,328	1,455,549	
HC3	Winchester Sport & Leisure Park - number of all concessionary rate visits	Becker	Cheryl Headon	135,532	136,816	140,036	137,710	138,069	570,653	
HC4	Meadowside - total number of visits	Becker	Cheryl Headon	19,886	18,892	20,977	19,506	18,511	83,224	
HC5	Meadowside - number of all concessionary rate visits	Becker	Cheryl Headon	2,677	2,631	3,481	3,463	2,936	11,908	
HC6	Number of housing benefit claimants (rolling total)	Cutler	Liz Keys	2,553	2,452	2,301	2,154	2,012	Measure only	n/a
HC7	Number of Council tax reduction claimants (rolling total)	Cutler	Liz Keys	5,850	5,805	5,784	5,767	5,718	Measure only	n/a
HC8	Average time taken to process new housing benefit claims (days)	Cutler	Liz Keys	25.95	16.24	21.38	21.39	19.12	22 days	
HC9	% Winchester residents claiming out-of-work benefits <sup>1</sup>	Thompson	Cheryl Headon	2.30%	2.20%	2.10%	2.10%	2.10%	Measure only	n/a

- Basis of targets:**

HC2 to HC5 - Target reflects a 5% increase on actuals in 2024/25 and is 11% higher than the projections for 25/26 set out in the original tender  
 HC8 - Target based on performance improvement against previous years actuals.

- Footnotes:**

<sup>1</sup> Data provided by ONS – “CC01 Regional labour market: Claimant Count by unitary and local authority”. Published 17<sup>th</sup> of the month.



### **Section 3 Thriving Places**

#### Delivery highlights – July to September 2025

- UK Shared (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity (REPF) Funding Programmes 2025/2026: made 13 awards via the UKSPF and seven via the REPF (totalling £409,00). A UKSP board meeting took place on 29 July 2025.
- Green business support: procured a local company to deliver a programme of 20 low carbon assessments and secured funding to deliver a green business grant programme to complement the assessments offering a whole package of support for local businesses.
- Solar for business: worked with a second business to scope a power purchase agreement for solar panels.
- City street market development programme held three monthly contract management meetings monitoring performance against the new contract and delivered a market trader engagement event on 9 July.
- Business development: Organised a business growth clinic for local businesses on 17 September with Hampshire County Council's growth hub.
- Supporting rural and land-based economy: submitted a funding bid to the Government Department of Science, Innovation and Technology for the Digital Innovation Inclusion Fund for £223,850 for a Precision Agriculture Training Programme for Farmers and Young People delivered by Sparsholt College.
- Employment and skills plans: Abri's Sherecroft Farm social housing development in Botley has created eight apprenticeship opportunities and delivered over 409 days of green skills training (including solar panel and EV charge points installation).
- Blue Sail Consulting worked with the council to develop themes and priorities for Winchester District Tourism Strategy, based on thorough analysis of robust evidence base comprising visitor data, market trends, and stakeholder consultations. Visitor panel survey received over 1,000 responses from past, recent and non-visitors. Eighteen 1-2-1 business consultations were held and over 60 representatives from across the sector attended two workshops in July. A further 65 businesses completed the business survey.
- A Hampshire Destination Management Plan (DMP) Stakeholder Workshop was held in Winchester, providing opportunity for the council and businesses across the district to input into strategic visitor economy planning for Hampshire. The DMP is an output of the Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton and Winchester Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP). The council also facilitated circulation of a Hampshire business survey to visitor economy businesses and invited two Winchester-based strategic stakeholders to be members of the Hampshire LVEP Advisory Board.
- Digital visitors to [visitwinchester.co.uk](https://visitwinchester.co.uk) are up 35% compared with same quarter 2 period in 2024. Average session duration remains strong at 3 minutes. Over 303k page views in quarter 2, with the homepage being the most visited page at

over 24,000 page views in this period. Christmas pages are already performing well with almost 5,000 views during quarter 2.

- Promotion of events and activities to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Jane Austen's birth continues across Visit Winchester digital channels with the campaign pages bringing in more than 17k views in Q2. Top performing post for quarter 2 was a Jane Austen post which achieved over 89,000 views on Facebook.
- Achieved 18 pieces of [national coverage](#) from July to September 2025 with a combined reach of 251.7million. Winchester received over 127 brand mentions within this coverage, raising general awareness of the city and its attractions. Highlight coverage included BBC UK, The Daily Mail, The Guardian, Cathay Pacific, Wanderlust, Daily Express and Parents News UK, supporting footfall and awareness of the city and district's 2025 events programme.
- Cabinet agreed the approach to commence marketing the former leisure centre at Riverpark to find an investment partner to redevelop the site.

<b>Lead Cabinet Member:</b> Cllr Martin Tod					<b>Project Sponsor:</b> Simon Hendey				
<b>Programme RAG status</b>		<b>Timeline</b>				<b>Budget</b>			
		<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>
<p><b>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</b></p> <p>The care home sector in Winchester is going through a period of uncertainty. This has led to both Care UK and latterly, Boutique Care withdrawing from the Bar End Scheme with McCarthy &amp; Stone. McCarthy &amp; Stone were subsequently in discussions with the second highest scoring underbidder for the site, Metis Homes. However, a revised proposal was not forthcoming. Cabinet is therefore being asked on 14<sup>th</sup> October to approve immediate remarketing of the site.</p> <p>There remains an in-principal agreement for HRA to acquire the affordable housing element of the scheme.</p>									
<p><b>Actions for the next quarter:</b></p> <p>Cabinet on 14 October requested to approve the immediate re-marketing of the Bar End Depot site.</p> <p>Review formal bids.</p>									

## Central Winchester Regeneration (CWR)

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Martin Tod				Project Sponsor: Simon Hendey / Ken Baikie				
Programme RAG status	Timeline				Budget			
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Progress achieved during the last quarter:								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Jigsaw has continued refining the financial model, progressed the detailed design for the area, and engaged with the Local Planning Authority (LPA) through the pre-application process.</li><li>Public drop-in events were held on 17 and 18 July 2025, providing an update on progress. Attendees had the opportunity to speak directly with the project team and ask questions.</li><li>Drafting of the Full Business Case has commenced, to be submitted alongside the detailed design.</li><li>A bus options study is being undertaken to support the regeneration of Central Winchester Regeneration (CWR) and inform the city’s longer-term bus strategy.</li></ul>								
Actions for the next quarter:								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Bus Options Study report is expected to be finalised with a clear delivery strategy for the preferred option to be agreed in collaboration with Hampshire County Council (HCC).</li><li>A public drop-in event is scheduled for late November, during which the findings of the Bus Study will be presented, alongside initial concepts for the wider public realm.</li><li>The Full Business Case will continue to be developed, in preparation for submission alongside the detailed design.</li></ul>								

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Jackie Porter				Project Sponsor: Cheryl Headon				
Programme RAG status	Timeline				Budget			
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
<b>RAG status update</b> <p>The RAG status has been amended to amber in this quarter as the city council only received the Inspector’s note on the 19 September 2025. The Inspector has advised that she needs to agree all the changes to Main Modifications and see a copy of the IIA/HRA of the MM’s before we undertake a 6-week public consultation on them. It is, therefore, not going to be possible to adopt the Local Plan by the end of year but we are aiming for a date early in the New Year (a date to be confirmed).</p>								
<b>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</b> <p>At the beginning of July 2025, the Local Inspector invited comments on the implications of changing the start date of Local Plan to 2020, 2022, 2023 and 2024.</p> <p>Whilst officers were waiting for the Inspector’s note on the outcome of the Local Plan examination hearing sessions, in accordance with the agreed Local Development Scheme, officers started work on the next Local Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agreeing briefs and going out to tender for consultants to tender for the Integrated Impact Assessment/Habitats Regulations Assessment and updated Employment and Retail assessments.</li><li>• Preparing information for a new ‘Call for sites’ for the next Local Plan (this commenced the first week of October).</li><li>• Attending Duty-to-Cooperate meetings with neighbouring Local Planning Authorities.</li><li>• Continuing to work with the digital planning team in terms of having demonstrations on different public consultation software packages and work on a Business Case that resulted in the Keystone Objective being selected as the new public consultation software provider; and</li><li>• Ensuring that the Local Plan websites were kept up to date with the latest news.</li></ul> <p>The Inspector note ED38a was received on the 19 September 2025 which concluded that, subject to Main Modifications, the Local Plan is likely to be capable of being found legal compliant and sound.</p>								

**Actions for the next quarter:**

**Emerging Local Plan**

- Review and action all the points in the Inspector's letter [ED38a](#) and the Inspector's points in the Main Modifications (MM's) [ED38b](#) and prepare any Additional Modifications (AM's);
- Send the changes to the MM's and AM's to the Local Plan Inspector to agree.
- Once the Local Plan Inspector has agreed the MM's, send them to the Consultants to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) and Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA).
- Send the completed IIA and HRA to the Local Plan Inspector.
- Undertake staff training on the new Keystone Objective consultation software.
- Once the Local Plan Inspector has confirmed that she is happy with the MM's and the outcomes from the IIA/HRA process commence a 6-week public consultation.
- Work with the Comms team on the publicity of the 6-week MM's public consultation.
- After the 6-week public consultation has closed, prepare the outcome of the public consultation in a format that has been agreed by the Inspector and send this to the Inspector.
- Subject to when the Inspector has reviewed the comments on the 6-week MM's public consultation, send these to the graphic designer to incorporate into the final version of the Local Plan.
- Once the Inspector's Report has been received, prepare a Council Report to recommend the adoption of the Local Plan (date to be confirmed).
- Prepare an Integrated Impact Assessment / Habitats Regulations Assessment Adoption Statement and publish this on the website.
- Ensure that a notice of adoption of the Local Plan is published on the website (there is a 6-week period to challenge the adoption of the Local Plan).

**Next Local Plan:**

- Prepare a Project Management Plan.
- Review the briefs for the different commissions that will need to be undertaken for the next Local Plan, review any lessons learnt and go out to tender.
- Appoint consultants to undertake various commissions.
- Engage with the statutory agencies (Natural England, Environment Agency and Historic England) to discuss and agree the IIA framework and the 'reasonable alternatives'.

- Once the Call for sites process has concluded, undertake desktop assessments of the sites and then start to consider which sites might be suitable to be allocated for development.
- Review reports that have been prepared by consultants and incorporate the findings into the next Local Plan.
- Work on reviewing the Local Plan policies and identifying any gaps in policies that need to be included in the next Local Plan.
- Prepare the next Local Plan; and
- Continue to liaise with neighbouring Local Plan authorities and attend Duty-to-cooperate meetings.

## Station Approach – Stage 2

Lead Cabinet Member: Cllr Martin Tod					Project Sponsor: Simon Hendey / Ken Baikie			
Programme RAG status	Timeline				Budget			
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
<b>Progress achieved against last quarter</b> <p>Over the last quarter, the project team has prepared and submitted an end-of-stage report to formally close Stage 2 of the project. The findings were presented to the PAC Board in August.</p> <p>Additionally, the Station Approach website has been updated to include the final version of the CMP, making it publicly accessible and ensuring the site reflects the current stage of the project.</p>								
<b>Actions for the next quarter</b> <p>As outlined in the End of Stage Report, the project will not proceed to any further stages at this time.</p>								



<b>Lead Cabinet Member:</b> Cllr Kelsie Learney					<b>Project Sponsor:</b> Simon Hendey			
<b>Programme RAG status</b>	<b>Timeline</b>				<b>Budget</b>			
	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>
<p><b>RAG status update:</b></p> <p>Funding for transport related schemes will now be via individual CIL applications, and central government bids, therefore development of schemes rely on successful bids.</p>								
<p><b>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</b></p> <p>Work on the ten next step proposals continues.</p> <p><b>City Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)</b></p> <p>Approved by Hampshire County Council at September Decision Day.</p> <p><b>District Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)</b></p> <p>Plan awaiting City Plan approval to be collated into one document.</p> <p><b>Micro-Consolidation Trial</b></p> <p>Consultancy Agreement, Licence to Occupy and Grant Funding Agreement agreed. Installation of Hub planned.</p> <p>A number of <b>LCWIP active travel schemes</b> are still being progressed or have been installed by HCC in the city including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A modal filter on Hyde Church Lane,</li> <li>• TRO to permit cycling on the pedestrianised section of Middle Brook Street</li> <li>• The installation of a permanent crossing on Romsey Road</li> <li>• Upgrading the crossing at Friarsgate / Middle Brook Street</li> </ul> <p><b>Fulflood Liveable Neighbourhood Pilot</b></p> <p>HCC reviewing potential options based on feedback.</p> <p><b>CIL Funding</b></p> <p>CIL bids for transport schemes submitted.</p>								
<p><b>Actions for the next quarter:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of schemes to take forward from City and District LCWIP</li> <li>• Develop potential schemes for Fulflood Liveable Neighbourhood Pilot.</li> <li>• Appointment by Hub Management Company of an operator, installation of Hub and prepare for launch of the trial.</li> </ul>								

**Thriving Places - progress against our actions in service plans**

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G	
				Q1	Q2
1	Deliver a programme of events to mark the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth	Cllr Thompson	December 2025		
2	Manage the delivery of UKSPF programme	Cllr Thompson	March 2026		
3	Produce a Winchester District Tourism Strategy	Cllr Thompson	March 2026		
4	Deliver a programme of green business support and investment in renewable technologies (Green Economic Development Strategy (GEDS) Carbon Neutrality Action Plan (CNAP))	Cllr Thompson	March 2026		
5	Deliver the West of Waterlooville Public Arts programme	Cllr Thompson	March 2026		
6	City Street Market Development Programme	Cllr Thompson	December 2025		
7	Deliver the actions in year 1 Action Plan of the Cultural Strategy	Cllr Thompson	March 2026		
8	Contribute to and engagement with the creation of a Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP). Deliver the actions in year 1 Action Plan of the Cultural Strategy	Cllr Thompson	March 2026		
9	Future of former Leisure Centre: Market the site for sale and find a new investor	Cllr Tod	September 2026		

## Measuring our progress

Long range trackers (Annual)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	Target & Status 24/25	Target 25/26
TP1	% of economically active people in employment (aged 16-64)	Thompson	Cheryl Headon	77.4%	83.7%	75.1%	81.5%	83.6%	Measure only	Measure only
TP2	Business counts (micro, small, medium, large enterprises– source: NOMIS)	Thompson	Cheryl Headon	8,035	8,110	8,165	8,225	8,095	Measure only	Measure only
TP3	No. of unemployed (source: ONS)	Thompson	Cheryl Headon	1,800	1,700	1,235	1,900	1,600	Measure only	Measure only
TP4	% of addresses with Gigabit availability	Thompson	Cheryl Headon	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	62.2	Measure only	Measure only

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q2 - 24/25	Q3 - 24/25	Q4 - 24/25	Q1 - 25/26	Q2 - 25/26	Target 25/26	Status
TP5	Number of reported fly-tips (actual incidents) <sup>1</sup>	Cramoysan	Cheryl Headon	158	183	210	102	162	Measure only	n/a
TP6	% of fly-tips cleared within contract deadlines/days	Cramoysan	Cheryl Headon	73%	85%	82%	75%	81%	80%	
TP7	Number of reported graffiti incidents (online form totals)	Cramoysan	Cheryl Headon	11	9	12	11	15	<150	
TP8	"Public Space" issue reports <sup>2</sup>	Cramoysan	Cheryl Headon	131	121	163	110	118	<570	
TP9	% of WCC revenue spend with local suppliers	Cutler	Gareth John	22.00%	28.39%	18.80%	23.30%	23.00%	25%+	
TP10	City centre high street footfall <sup>3</sup>	Thompson	Cheryl Headon	2,714,455	2,792,881	2,930,567	2,779,719	2,660,538	Measure only	n/a
TP11	Market Towns high street footfall	Thompson	Cheryl Headon	n/a	n/a	n/a	tbc	tbc	Measure only	n/a

- Basis of targets:**

TP6 - Target based on viable baseline of numbers that fall within contract timescales (to accommodate where a proportion of fly-tips are more complicated or take longer to clear due to content, e.g. asbestos)

*TP7 and 8 - Target based on performance improvement against previous years actuals*

*TP9 – Notional target to monitor and encourage value of spend in district to support local business in conjunction with our contract procedure rules.*

- Footnotes:**

<sup>1</sup> *Figures are net total of 'actual' reports received (less any that have been identified as duplicates, out of district, private land etc.)*

<sup>2</sup> *Figures based on total form reports received for 'Clean my Street' 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.*

<sup>3</sup> *Provided by the Winchester BID Place Informatic reports*

Commentary where practical real-time KPI not on target:

**TP9** 31% of the total revenue expenditure for Q2 is incurred with large organisations based outside of Hampshire such as Biffa, Zurich, Stagecoach and Cardo. However, of the remaining 69%, one third of this was spent locally equating to 23% of total revenue spend. This remains consistent with Q1.

**TP11** Data not yet available as it would require purchase (and budget funding) to allow us to publish data (cost of £1,800 plus VAT per annum, per town centre)

**Fly-tip clearance breakdown:**

	Q2 24/25	Q3 24/25	Q4 24/25	Q1 25/26	Q2 25/26
<b>Total fly tips confirmed cleared</b>	148	156	187	85	133
Fly- tips up to 1 metre cubed in size	36	31	27	13	16
<i>Number of which cleared in time (5 working days submission to clearance)</i>	25	21	16	7	8
<i>Percentage of up to 1 metre cubed cleared in time</i>	70%	68%	59%	54%	50%
Fly-tips size 1 metre cubed and above	112	125	160	72	117
<i>Of which in time (15 working days submission to clearance)</i>	83	111	137	57	100
<i>Percentage of 1 metre cubed and above cleared in time</i>	74%	90%	86%	79%	85%
<b>Overall percentage of all fly-tips cleared in time</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>81%</b>

- The completion targets of 5 and 15 working days include 3 to 5 days for evaluation of fly-tip to assess if any enforcement action can be taken and 2 to 10 days for clearance (depending on size of up to a metre cubed / 1 metre cubed and above).
- Although the number of smaller fly tips collected within 5 days is a lower percentage than the larger ones collected within 15 days, this is not unexpected as the time for collection is much smaller which means that if an investigation takes place, it means that the teams are not able to get to that location to clear as we don't operate a dedicated fly tipping team. There were 3 fly tips that were smaller not collected within the 15days of the larger fly tip

## **Section 4 Good Homes for All**

### Delivery highlights – July to September 2025

- All new flats and houses are now occupied at the Winnall new build scheme, providing shared ownership and market rent homes.
- Legal contracts exchanged between Cala and the council allowing the handover of the first affordable units to take place in autumn 2025.
- Construction continues on the 10 affordable units at Hazeley Road, Twyford.
- Tenders were received for the construction of 5 new affordable homes in Sparsholt, and the Final Business Case is being brought to Cabinet in October 2025.
- The emerging Local Plan includes a number of policies on a key range of issues (energy efficiency standards, design of new development and affordable housing etc). The Local Plan Inspector has issued an interim note indicating the Local Plan is capable of being found 'sound' subject to the city council undertaking a 6-week public consultation.
- The Local Plan Inspector has indicated that the start date of the Local Plan should be altered from 2020 to 2024 so the Local Plan period would now run from 2024 -2044. The change in the start date has implications for the unmet housing need allowance that the city council is able to offer Havant Borough Council and Portsmouth City Council (this reduces from 1,900 homes to 290 homes). We have received extremely positive news from the Local Plan Inspector who has endorsed the city council's approach towards the inclusion of higher energy efficiency standards (Policy CN3) which is a significant achievement.
- This means when the Local Plan is adopted (early 2026) this policy will assist the city council with meeting the targets in the city council's Climate Emergency Action Plan.
- Following consultation with tenants, Cabinet Committee: Housing approved and adopted four Housing Repairs and Maintenance policies which will have a direct influence on the quality of the council's housing stock and wellbeing of our tenants' lives.

## New Homes Programme

<b>Lead Cabinet Member:</b> Cllr Mark Reach				<b>Project Sponsor:</b> Simon Hendey							
<b>Programme RAG status</b>				<b>Timeline</b>				<b>Budget</b>			
				<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>
<b>RAG status update</b> <p>There is an increase in programme confidence due to the recent S106 acquisition negotiations, but the RAG status remains Amber due to the lack of control over the pace of delivery by the private developer market. Continued commitment to commissioned schemes to mitigate S106 acquisitions risks.</p>											
<b>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Following completion of the Winnall scheme in Q4 2023/24, all new flats and houses have now been 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.</li><li>• Market engagement with SME and volume housebuilders is ongoing, with the aim of securing new build units for use as council housing.</li><li>• Contracts have now been exchanged with Cala for the acquisition of 146 S106 units at Kings Barton, Winchester. The first units will be handed over to the council during autumn 2025.</li><li>• Construction continues on the 10 affordable units at Hazeley Road, Twyford.</li><li>• Tenders were received for the construction of 5 new affordable homes in Sparsholt, and the Final Business Case is being brought to Cabinet in October 2025.</li><li>• Feasibility studies are underway on a number of pipeline council commissioned schemes with the aim of making them financially viable against a challenging economic backdrop.</li></ul>											
<b>Actions for the next quarter:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kings Barton, Winchester completed units to be handed over from Cala to the council for allocation to tenants on the council’s housing register and for sale as shared ownership homes.</li><li>• Hazeley Road, Twyford – attend site progress meetings alongside Employer’s Agent and liaise with housing colleagues regarding build progress and handover.</li><li>• Woodman Close, Sparsholt – present Final Business Case to October Cabinet.</li><li>• Southbrook Cottages, Micheldever – finalised accounts and lessons learned to be reviewed by Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet in November 2025.</li><li>• Housing Development Strategy – updated Strategy for the period 2025 to 2032 to be presented to Cabinet in November 2025.</li></ul>											

## Housing Compliance Improvement Plan

<b>Lead Cabinet Member:</b> Cllr Mark Reach	<b>Project Sponsor:</b> Simon Hendey					
<b>Programme RAG status</b>	<b>Timeline</b>			<b>Budget</b>		
	<b>Q4</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>
<p><b>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All high-risk FRA remedial actions completed.</li> <li>• Finalised drafts of compliance policies shared for review.</li> <li>• Meeting held with MRI to understand Asset management system offer and cloud-based options for hosting. Awaiting cost proposal to inform decision making for procurement.</li> <li>• Fire Safety Manager appointed-due to start October</li> <li>• Compliance Manager in post</li> <li>• True compliance – process mapping sessions held for gas &amp; electrical safety. Phasing agreed for implementing compliance workstreams.</li> </ul>						
<p><b>Actions for the next quarter:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalise compliance procedures and plan dissemination approach.</li> <li>• Recruit to permanent Health and Safety Coordinator role.</li> <li>• Health and Safety Officer onboarding planned for 3<sup>rd</sup> November.</li> <li>• Complete tenant consultation activities for compliance policies-planned early October</li> <li>• Pennington's to deliver compliance awareness training with TACT board.</li> <li>• Complete potential for gas review and update data in asset management system.</li> <li>• Decision on new Asset management system signed off.</li> </ul>						



- Water hygiene / treatment
- Asbestos
- R&M procurement process as defined by PA2023

**Good Homes for All - Progress against our actions in service plans**

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G	
				Q1	Q2
1	Procurement of major repairs and maintenance contract for council homes. Inclusive of tenant engagement.	Cllr Reach	August 2026		
2	Council housing retrofit carbon reduction programme. Focus on lowest EPC properties to achieve more energy efficient homes to meet the carbon neutral 2030 target. Establish a Retrofit Carbon Reduction Strategy	Cllr Reach	Ongoing		
3	Review and refresh the Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy	Cllr Reach	March 2026		<b>Complete</b>
4	Achieve regulatory requirements to address damp and mould cases. Ensuring cases are identified and dealt with promptly / effectively when raised by council and private rented tenants	Cllr Reach	March 2026		

**Red/Amber status**

- 2** – Strategy delayed due to current Government consultation Improving the Energy Efficiency of Socially Rented Homes in England which concluded on 12th September.
- 4** - We have seen an increase in new reports in September which is to be expected as we raise either works orders / surveyor inspections to respond to and manage these – as also mentioned in the TSM comments below, this is largely due to customers seeking an appointment that is convenient for them that falls outside the 14 day window, or required Area Property Surveyor inspections. A positive improvement is the inspection access rates compared to preceding months as we embed our processes in readiness for Awaabs Law in October 2025.

**Measuring our progress – Good Homes for All**

Long range trackers (Annual)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	Target & Status 24/25	Target 25/26
GH1	% of all WCC homes achieving energy efficiency rating of C or above	Reach	Simon Hendey	62%	63%	65%	70%	70%	70%	74%
GH2	Total new home completions across the district (rolling total)	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	121	139	276	308	1,000 by 2032	1,000 by 2032
GH3	Homelessness – numbers recorded as rough sleepers <sup>1</sup> (as at year end)	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	2	3	5	0	5

- Basis of targets:**

GH1 - Derived from Council Plan priorities and HRA Asset Management Policy

GH2 - Derived from affordable housing target laid out in Housing Strategy

GH3 - Derived from Preventing Homelessness Strategy, Government National Housing Priorities and annual homeless survey assessments

- Footnotes:**

<sup>1</sup> Figures are updated from an annual MHCLG rough sleeping count annual snapshot, which takes place every November

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q2 - 24/25	Q3 - 24/25	Q4 - 24/25	Q1 - 25/26	Q2 - 25/26	Target 25/26	Status
GH4	Avg time for homeless household to receive offer of a permanent home (days)	Reach	Simon Hendey	158	332	310	256	348	365 days	
GH5	Retrofit adjustments – total number of houses (running total)	Reach	Simon Hendey	172	223	247	0	37	242	
GH6	Retrofit adjustments – total number of adjustments made (running total)	Reach	Simon Hendey	411	424	486	0	37	744	
GH7	Percentage of planning decisions upheld at appeal (WCC / SDNP)	Porter	Cheryl Headon	n/a	n/a	n/a	100% / n/a	61% / 100%	70%	

- Basis of targets:**

GH4 – Reflects council allocation policy

*GH5 and 6 - Derived from maximum number of homes funded in housing annual capital programme.*

*GH7 – Government target is for at least 2 out of 3 cases to be dismissed at appeal., so target based on improving above government targets*

### **Commentary**

**GH3** - Several local challenges are currently contributing to an increase in rough sleeping numbers including the reduction in stage 1 supported housing accommodation available for those sleeping rough or at risk of rough sleeping and a lack of suitable accommodation, particularly one-bedroom accommodation. Westview House, previously the district's Stage 1 accommodation provider, closed in April 2025 following A2's termination of their support contract. This decision was prompted by the county council's announcement to withdraw all funding for Stage 1 accommodation from March 2026. The closure resulted in the loss of 29 bed spaces.

In response, the council is actively collaborating with alternative accommodation providers to mitigate the impact. Plans include:

- Increasing capacity at Trinity, The Beacon, and Emmaus House
- Exploring the potential to bring Westgate back into use

The council has secured county funding to establish an in-house Housing First scheme, which will offer 7 beds dedicated to supporting the district's most complex and vulnerable individuals who are homeless or at risk of rough sleeping

We are constantly working with those found rough sleeping through our outreach work. It should be noted that the figure of 5 rough sleepers in the table above is from the annual rough sleeping count which is undertaken in November each year and is not a quarterly figure.

**GH5 and GH6** – The appointment of consultants and contractors could only be confirmed after Social Housing Decarbonisation funding was confirmed from DESNZ and tenders had been returned, which resulted in most of Q1 taken up with setting up contracts with each of the companies. This process continued into Q2 and there have been further contractor delays, which has also required change in target (as reflected in the table) as we now have a more realistic timetable for work. Work on the program has begun, as shown in the Q2 figures above.

**Measuring our progress – Housing TSM**

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q2 - 24/25	Q3 - 24/25	Q4 - 24/25	Q1 - 25/26	Q2 - 25/26	Target 25/26	Status
GH8	Proportion of homes for which all required gas safety checks have been carried out	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	n/a	99.91%	99.89%	100%	
GH9	Proportion of homes for which all Electric Checks have been carried out	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	n/a	98.30%	98.81%	99.84%	
GH10	Asbestos Inspections % of Reg 4 Surveys	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	n/a	66.78%	98.29%	100%	
GH11	Proportion of Lifts with 100% of valid Loler Certificates	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	n/a	97.50%	97.50%	100%	
GH12	Proportion of homes with a 100% of Working Smoke Detector checked	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	n/a	99.70%	99.56%	100%	
GH13	Proportion of homes with a 100% of Working Carbon Monoxide Detector checked	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	n/a	99.70%	99.62%	100%	
GH14	Numbers of Damp and Mould open cases inspected and resolution agreed within 14 days	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	n/a	71%	75.33%	95%	
GH15	Number of outstanding High Risk Fire Risk Assessment actions	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	0	0	
GH16	Number of outstanding Fire Risk Assessments	Reach	Simon Hendey	n/a	n/a	n/a	76	0	0	

- Basis of targets:**

*GH8 to 16 - Targets based on regulatory standards*

**Commentary**

**GH9** - 1 property void, 2 properties tenants due to be evicted, 2 booked (one 02/10/25, one 06/10/25)

**GH10** – Asbestos management surveys are underway for the remaining schemes (5 out of 292 are outstanding)

**GH11** – The lift at Albert Court has been decommissioned and we have new lift contractor arrangements in place now; they have been issued the works order to repair the lift as a matter of urgency.

**GH12** – 23 out of 5,193 properties, which have been unable to be fully checked pending either clearance, upcoming evictions, birds nest inspections, pending repairs/upgrades which have been scheduled in for early October

**GH13** – 18 out of 4,704 properties, which have been unable to be fully checked pending either clearance, upcoming evictions, birds nest inspections, pending repairs/upgrades which have been scheduled in for early October

**GH14** – Average inspection for Q2 is 75% but since July when 50% was achieved we have seen improving performance month on month, achieving 93% in September. We expect to see increasing reports as we move into the colder months which will be addressed through either works orders or surveyor inspections supported by follow up contact to ensure resolution. This is a positive direction of travel as we embed processes in readiness for Awaab's Law coming into force on 27 October 2025. Inspections also rely on an agreement with customers for the availability for a visit, so sometimes that falls outside the 14 days despite our best efforts.

## **Section 5 Efficient and Effective**

### Delivery highlights – July to September 2025

- Customer Experience project: 17 core service areas have been mapped to capture current operational processes and document business requirements. This work lays the foundation for a digitally enabled future. Opportunities have been identified for increased efficiency and work is progressing to enhance productivity through the strategic use of existing and new IT solutions.
- A new on-line consultation tool has been procured which will provide much richer and efficient platform capability.
- As part of our transition to more digital working 'Declutter Day' was held in September and a significant number of obsolete items and stationery were removed or repurposed.
- A new self-serve and user-friendly booking system for Guildhall bookings has been procured and will be implemented in Q3.
- A total of £239,883 achieved during the quarter against the TC25 programme.
- Begun creating interactive dashboards using Microsoft Power Bi with charts and graphs to make complex data easier to analyse and understand.

## Transformation Challenge (TC25)

<b>Lead Cabinet Member:</b> Cllr Neil Cutler					<b>Project Sponsor:</b> Liz Keys							
<b>Programme RAG status</b>	<b>Timeline</b>				<b>Budget</b>				<b>Budget Reduction</b>			
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
<p><b>RAG Status update</b></p> <p>Due to a change in market circumstances related to the disposal of Bar End, the actual TC25 impact of £320k has been removed. This adjustment has resulted in an 11% reduction to the overall programme savings achieved. However, it does not materially affect the total TC25 forecast impact.</p>												
<p><b>Progress achieved during the last quarter:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total budget reductions to date totalling £1.429m (49% of £3m target)</li> <li>• During Q2 there has been a total of £239,883 achieved against the TC25 programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £88,383 achieved from a review of the Policy Service</li> <li>• £25,000 annualised capital from the sale of 27 Eastgate Street</li> <li>• £110,000 from a review of grants allocations from 2026/27</li> <li>• £8,000 saved by the Community team by redesigning and embedding delivery activity in wider community development resource</li> <li>• £8,500 saved annually as a result of the insurance service being brought in-house and employing an officer directly.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Completed 95% of Service Level Digital &amp; IT Roadmaps and shared initial findings with Senior Leadership Team.</li> <li>• Majority of the Strategic Reviews ('Preparing for change' meetings') held with CHOS' and Cabinet Members to inform future TC25 reviews and priority areas in preparation for LGR.</li> <li>• Future delivery model of Land Charges options appraisal paper approved at ELB and budget implications being worked through. Land Registry transfer planned migration due to complete by 31 October 2025.</li> </ul>												



**Actions for the next quarter:**

- Remaining Strategic Reviews ('Preparing for change' meetings') to be held with CHOS' and Cabinet Members and prioritisation exercise to be undertaken
- Service Level Digital & IT Roadmaps next steps: progressing actions agreed and building them into 26/27 service planning.
- Strategic review of parking management – Options appraisal and modelling

**Efficient and Effective - Progress against actions in service plans**

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G	
				Q1	Q2
1	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.	Cllr Cutler	Ongoing		
2	Support the TC25 transformation and digital agenda by supporting digital innovation and digital initiatives across the Council	Cllr Cutler	Ongoing		
3	Digitisation and review of the Planning Service (linked to this, other services that use the IDOX platform)	Cllr Porter	TBC		
4	Review of website to improve digital customer experience	Cllr Cutler	October 2025		
5	Customer focused digital improvements of housing landlord services	Cllr Reach	April 2026		
6	Development of Cyber Security and Resilience Strategy to increase cyber resilience and awareness across the council.	Cllr Cutler	April 2025	<b>Complete</b>	
7	Lead on the review and refresh of strategic key performance indicator set that align to the new Council Plan priorities	Cllr Cutler	June 2025		<b>Complete</b>

**Red/Amber status**

**5** - We are promoting the online “MyWinchestertenancy” Portal to all housing landlord customers to enable digital shift whilst ensuring the phone contact option is available to those customers who may not be digitally enabled. There is a project plan in development to support the digital shift for the service so that our customers have the options to self-service 24/7’

## Measuring our progress

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q2 - 24/25	Q3 - 24/25	Q4 - 24/25	Q1 - 25/26	Q2 - 25/26	Target 25/26	Status
EE1	% complaints responded to within 10 working days	Becker	Liz Keys	92%	86%	90%	88%	90%	90%	
EE2	% of upheld and partially upheld complaints	Becker	Liz Keys	48%	45%	68%	60%	70%	Measure only	n/a
EE3	Number of digital resident interactions with the council (online reports)	Becker	Laura Taylor	7,294	6,706	16,616	7,564	7,049	42,000	
EE4	% of major planning applications decided within time or agreed extension (WCC / SDNP)	Porter	Cheryl Headen	100% / ~	100% / ~	94.3% / ~	91.67% / ~	100% / ~	80%	
EE5	% of non-major planning applications decided within time or agreed extension (WCC / SDNP)	Porter	Cheryl Headen	93% / 81%	82% / 81%	93% / 88%	93.67% / 84.67%	94% / 81%	80%	

- Basis of targets:**

**EE1** - Target based on achievable outcome times, aligned with customer expectation and common target used by other authorities

**EE3** - Target based on performance improvement against previous years actuals (also allowing for plateau in new garden waste sign-ups as limited number of properties are viable for garden waste, i.e. have gardens)

**EE4 & 5** - Government targets are 60%, WCC target based on performance being above government targets

## **Section 6 Listening and Learning**

Delivery highlights – July to September 2025

- Engagement with Newlands and Headbourne Worthy parish councils to inform specification of community facilities to be delivered via S106 agreements for major development areas. This has informed planning applications for sports facilities at West Waterlooville and community building and sports facilities at Kings Barton.
- Collaboration with Sport England and various sporting governing bodies to inform development of the draft Playing Pitch Strategy and Sports Facility Assessment.
- Public drop-in events were held on 17 and 18 July 2025 to provide an update to residents and stakeholders on the progress being made by Jigsaw, the council's development partner, on developing proposals for the regeneration of Central Winchester.
- Engaged residents at the Winchester Green Fair about the food waste rollout and recycling services in general. This provided the team with helpful insight into what residents are passionate about and also where they need support to recycle better.
- Presented a talk at the Greener Schools Forum and was able to engage with the education sector on food waste in schools and how our efforts to raise awareness can help to drive participation levels for both school and household food waste recycling.
- Contacted Landlords, managing agents and housing providers about food waste and have been able to tailor solutions for food waste around specific resident needs.
- Worked with the 12 commissioning councils to undertake extensive engagement on a local and county wide basis to inform the Local Government Reorganisation proposal, which saw over 1,700 respond from the Winchester district.
- Consulted with residents, businesses and community groups to help shape the future of housing in our district. The results will be used to inform our Housing Development Strategy.
- Invited tenants to comment on six key housing policies to ensure they are clear, accessible and reflect the needs of our tenants. Feedback will directly influence how these policies are finalised before being presented for approval.
- A Hampshire Destination Management Plan (DMP) Stakeholder Workshop was held in Winchester, providing opportunity for the council and businesses across the district to input into strategic visitor economy planning for Hampshire.

**Listening and Learning – Progress against actions in service plans**

Ref	Project	Cabinet Member	Delivery Date	Status R/A/G	
				Q1	Q2
1	Community Governance Review – creation of a Winchester Town Council	Cllr Becker Cllr Cutler	April 2027		
2	Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution	Cllr Tod	2027/28		
3	Transfer of assets to parish councils – public conveniences	Cllr Becker	April 2026		
4	Parish Council engagement – planning	Cllr Porter	September 2025		<b>Complete</b>
5	Review and refresh EDI Policy, Strategy and Action Plan	Cllr Becker	February 2025	<b>Complete</b>	
6	Prepare a consultation policy and charter for adoption and use across the council	Cllr Becker	March 2026		

**Red/Amber status**

**3** – The toilet contract has been retendered, and we are now in the standstill period. Once that has been completed, we have an agreed letter to go to Parishes who have not yet expressed an interest in taking on the toilet cleaning, with a view that from April 1 26 the cost of toilet cleaning is removed, or we go through the process of reviewing our options which could include closing them.

**Measuring our progress**

Long range trackers (Annual)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	2021	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	Target & Status 24/25	Target 2026
LL1	% of residents satisfied with the way the council runs things (LG Survey) <sup>1</sup>	Becker	Laura Taylor	No survey	75% (SE 62%)	No survey	69% (LG 55%)	n/a	> LGA average	> LGA average
LL2	Resident's satisfaction with local area (LG survey) <sup>1</sup>	Becker	Laura Taylor	No survey	96% (SE 74%)	No survey	87% (LG 75%)	n/a	> LGA average	> LGA average
LL3	Housing Satisfaction survey scores TSM	Reach	Simon Hendey			78%	76%	tbc	n/a	82%

- Basis of targets:**

LL1 & 2 - Target based on outperforming scores from LG surveys to provide better satisfaction for our residents

LL3 – Target agreed with the TACT board based on benchmarking similar housing providers so as to aim for top quartile performance

- Footnotes:**

<sup>1</sup> Previous year's data relates to past resident survey responses for equivalent questions.

Practical real-time measures (Quarterly)										
No.	Performance measure	Cabinet member (Cllr)	Lead Director	Q2 - 24/25	Q3 - 24/25	Q4 - 24/25	Q1 - 25/26	Q2 - 25/26	Target 25/26	Status
LL4	Number of respondents to consultations	Becker	Laura Taylor	540	1,332	112	98	1,745	Measure only	n/a

## **Section 7 Financial Report**

### **Financial Position**

This section presents a summary of the council's financial position as of 30 September 2025 regarding the General Fund (Revenue and Capital) and Housing Revenue Account budgets.

### **General Fund Revenue**

#### **Summary**

1. A balanced budget was set by Council in February 2025 (CAB3494 refers).
2. Inflation has increased in recent months to 3.8% in August 2025 (CPI). This remains within the original budget forecast.
3. The inflationary uplift budget forecast for salaries was 4.0% for 2025/26. The final pay offer is 3.2% and is slightly offset by lower government support for increased employers NI, leaving a net saving of c£0.1m. Other vacancy management savings above target of £0.3m give a total forecast employee underspend of £0.4m.
4. Commercial property rents are subject to regular review and an additional £0.1m is currently forecast above the current budget for 2025/26. This is mainly due to rent reviews.
5. The ongoing TC25 project has identified further budget savings of approximately £0.310m per annum in 2025/26.
6. Interest receivable has been reviewed and a total net interest receivable of £0.792m is now forecast, which is £0.3m higher than budget.
7. Extended Producer Responsibility grant was confirmed at £1.680m for 2025/26, which was £0.846m higher than the provisional figure of £0.834m which was used in the budget.
8. Food Waste transitional funding of £0.118m has been received in 2025/26.
9. Lower than forecast employer's national insurance funding of £0.153m versus a budget of £0.2m.
10. Income is a major risk area and currently forecasts relating to Car Parking, Planning, General Fund Properties are currently in line with the budget set in February.

**General Fund Budget**  
**Forecast 2025/26 (£000)**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Forecast</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Greener Faster	8,783	8,783	
Healthy Communities	4,108	4,108	
Good Homes for All	1,378	1,378	
Thriving Places	2,920	2,920	
Efficient and Effective	7,209	6,499	710
TOTAL before funding	<b>24,396</b>	<b>23,686</b>	<b>710</b>
TOTAL funding	<b>(24,396)</b>	<b>(25,713)</b>	<b>1,317</b>

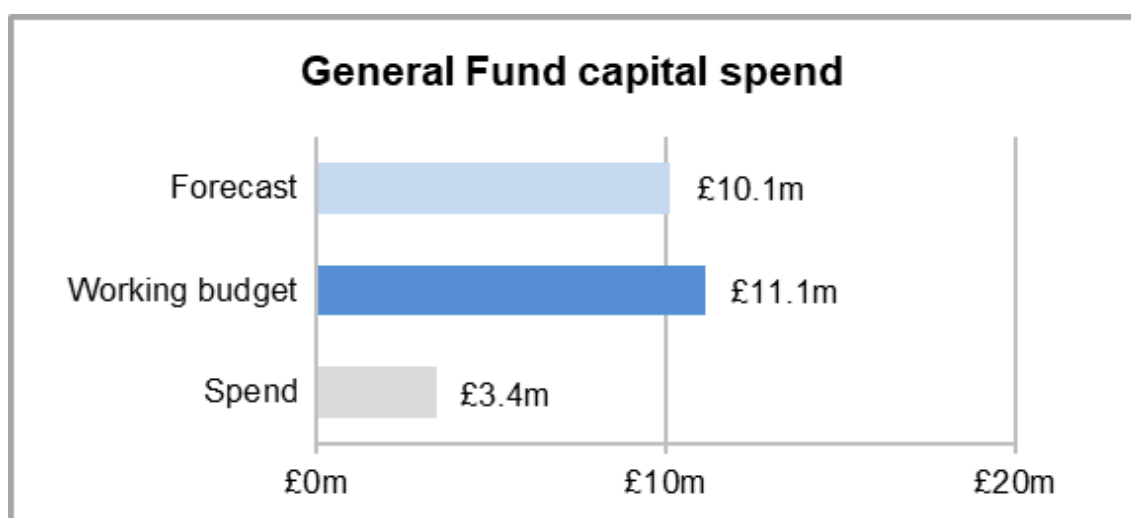
**FORECAST BUDGET  
UNDERSPEND**

**2,027**



## General Fund Capital

1. General Fund capital expenditure to the end of June was £3.4m the majority of which relates to the following projects: Food Waste including the purchase of vehicles (£1.4m), River Park Cricket Pavilion (£0.6m), CIL funded community projects (£0.37m), Disabled Facilities grants (£0.35m), Resurfacing of St Catherine's car park (£0.1m), and the Refurbishment of public conveniences (£0.17m). There have also been smaller amounts of expenditure on several other projects.
2. Capital budgets for 2025/26 were revised for brought forward balances and other changes, such as reforecasting, as part of the General Fund 2024/25 outturn reported to September cabinet (CAB3514 refers), and this is reflected in the working budget below. The forecast of full year spend is lower due to some forecast slippage (primarily in Energy Management projects £0.3m and CIL funded community projects £0.4m) and forecast savings with the largest being the acquisition of vehicles and containers for food waste (£0.3m). 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 2025/26.



4. Key items of expenditure in Q1-Q2 2025/26:

### **River Park Cricket Pavilion**

*Total Budget: £2.3m*

*Exp: Prior years £0.039m      Q1-Q2 £0.576m      Total      £0.615m*

Work on the new pavilion has commenced and is expected to be completed in early 2026. The new pavilion will be a valuable additional asset in River Park, which is already a hub for sporting, community and social activity and recreation. It will provide the required standard of changing rooms, umpire facilities, toilets

and accessibility to enable a wide and diverse range of people to participate in cricket. By providing high quality facilities, increased community sport outcomes can be achieved across a wider demographic and the pavilion can be used to support users of River Park, not just cricket, by provided changing and club house facilities to support their events or sports.

**Food Waste**

*Total Budget: £1.8m*

<i>Exp: Prior years £nil</i>	<i>Q1-Q2 £1.4m</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>£1.4m</i>
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The council has completed its purchase of the food waste vehicles and containers; the collection of food waste commenced in October. Food waste recycling has the potential to reduce the district's carbon footprint by an estimated 1,900 tonnes of CO2e per year by recycling this waste to generate clean green energy and nutrient dense soil improver.

**Disabled Facilities Grants**

*Total Budget: £1.34m*

<i>Expenditure: recurring annually</i>	<i>Q1-Q2</i>	<i>£0.35m</i>
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During the period 1 April to 30 September £352,000 of grants were paid over. In addition to the grant allocation, the council holds £0.6m of unapplied grant from prior years which can be applied to DFG expenditure should it exceed grant received in year.

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.

## **Housing Revenue Account summary**

### **Summary**

1. A deficit budget of £2.03m was set by Council in February 2025 (CAB3490 refers).
2. The inflationary uplift budget forecast for salaries, as with the General Fund, was 4.0% for 2025/26. The final uplift was 3.2%, which will reduce pressure on staffing budgets but will be offset by low government grant for increase in Employers NI.
3. An overall deficit of £0.591m is forecast for 2025/26.

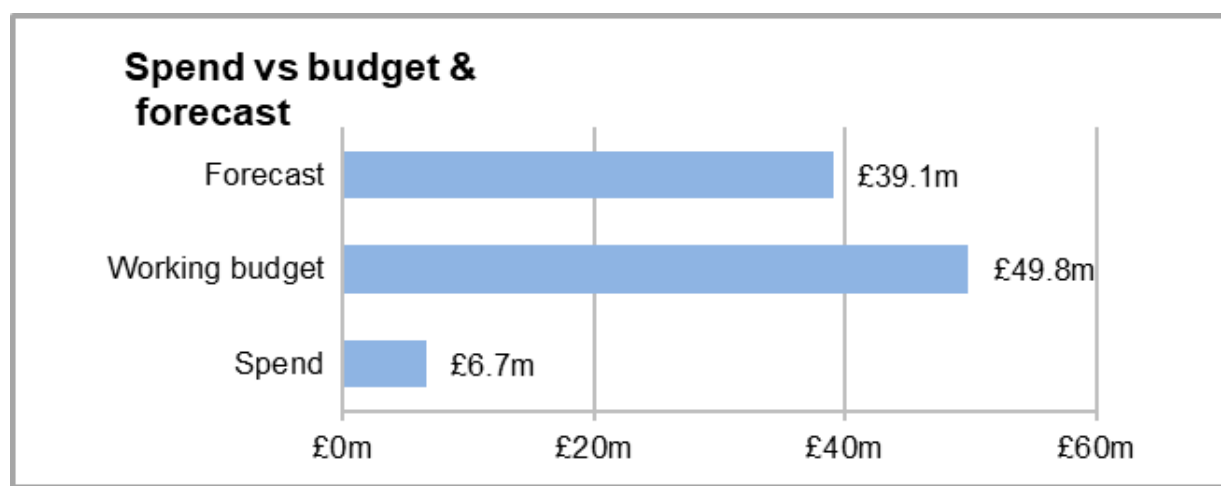
<b>Housing Revenue Account Budget Forecast 2025/26 (£000)</b>	<b>Expenditur e</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>NET</b>
Housing Management - General	6,992	(258)	6,733
Housing Management - Special	4,252	(3,258)	993
Repairs & Repairs administration	12,462	(182)	12,279
Debt management & interest income	6,000	0	6,000
Contribution to Major Repairs costs (Depreciation)	10,917	0	10,917
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40,621</b>	<b>(3,699)</b>	<b>36,923</b>
Rent, Service Charges & Other income			(34,317)
<b>FORECAST BUDGET OVERSPEND</b>			<b>2,605</b>
<b>AGREED BUDGET OVERSPEND</b>			<b>2,016</b>
<b>Forecast movement:</b>			<b>591</b>
<b>Of which (net):</b>			
<b>Baseline</b>			<b>900</b>
<b>One-off</b>			<b>(309)</b>

4. In total there is a forecast adverse variance of £0.591m which is made up of a number of variances which offset one another as follows.
5. There were a number of vacancies in the first half of 2025/26. Much of this vacancy has been offset through the use of interim staff to cover vacancies, giving rise to a favourable forecast variance of £0.08m. Work is ongoing to ensure posts are filled with suitable candidates; however, the vacancy saving forecast may increase if posts continue to remain vacant.
6. The 2025/26 budget included a one-off investment budget for software upgrades, stock condition survey, and repairs procurement. It is expected that £0.15m of the budget set aside for software development will not be spent in 2025/26 and will be returned to the working balance to be reprofiled over future years.
7. So far in 2025/26, there has been a trend demonstrating both an increase in void properties, and an increase in the associated average cost of repairing void properties to bring these back into use. On current trend, the likely overspend on void properties is likely to be approximately £1m. Additional void costs are also reflected in a forecast adverse variance of £0.03m on empty property council tax charges. In addition, a waking watch was in place at Winnall flats while fire safety issues were resolved. This has generated an adverse forecast variance of £0.07m. Compensation payments in respect of complaints and disrepair are also forecast to exceed budget by £0.05m.
8. The depreciation charge is notoriously difficult to estimate accurately, as the actual charge for the year is calculated based on both component cost of assets and valuation of properties. However, based on the 2024/25 outturn, the projected depreciation forecast has been increased by £0.3m. Whilst depreciation is a notional figure, the council is required to transfer a sum equal to depreciation to the major repairs reserve which is restricted to capital expenditure only.
9. Adverse variances are offset by a reduction in the net interest cost forecast for 2025/26. The interest cost of external borrowing is based on known PWLB debt and the rates at which the loans were taken out. Interest income on internal balances, and internal borrowing costs are based on estimated cashflow in and out of the HRA and an assumed interest rate based on short term PWLB rates. The rate achieved to date on interest on balances has been significantly better than assumed which, combined with a slower spend on capital in the first half of 2025, has generated a favourable variance of £1.1m.
10. Issues with the quality of retrofit work to void properties undertaken in 2023/4 have been identified. Engagement with the contractor responsible has taken

place and a sample of 30 properties has been selected to determine the extent of retrospective work required. At this stage it is prudent to make provision for the gross cost of works of £ 0.5m in 2025/6 and £ 0.5m in 2026/7 until the extent and nature of works is confirmed, as well as the proportion of the cost that may fall back to the Council.

#### Housing Revenue Account Capital Spend

1. Housing capital expenditure to the end of September was £6.689m, of which:
  - £1.638m was on major works.
  - £0.19m improvements & upgrades.
  - £3.731m on the New Build programme; and
  - £1.130m on other schemes.
2. Capital budgets for 2025/26 have been revised for carried forward balances and other changes following the approval of the HRA outturn report in September 2025. (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. Capital expenditure in quarters 3 and 4 is expected to include expenditure on the acquisitions at Kings Barton. The initial deposit payments have been made, with further stage payments of over £8m expected in Q3, and will account for nearly half of the overall capital forecast by March 2026. Furthermore, contracted retrofit works for the SDHF programme are expected to commence in Quarter 3.



4. Key items of expenditure in Q1 2025/26 includes:

- **Major repairs**

*Total Budget £7.49m*

*Exp: Recurring Annually*

*Q1-Q2 £1.638m*

*Total £1.638m*

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. Expenditure against the budget is comparatively low as at the end of quarter 1. This is partly due to staff vacancy in the first quarter of 2025/26, and partly due to the completion of 2024/25 works prior to commencement of the 2025/26 programme. Most contracts for the 2025/26 programme of works are in progress with the remainder being tendered or scoped. Spend for 2025/26 is therefore expected to be higher as Q3 progresses, and The forecast spend for 2025/26 is currently £7.02m against revised budget of £7.49m.

**Climate Emergency** *Total Budget £5.336m*

*Exp: Recurring annually* *Q1-Q2: £0.530m* *Total £0.53m*

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 2025/26 is anticipated at £5.1m. The main variance relates to the termination of the contract at Swiss Cottages, which will be considered by Cabinet at its October meeting. Spend is expected to increase in the second half of the year as the contract for SDHF works, which represents £3.5m of the forecast total, is expected to commence in October 2025.

• **Improvements & Upgrades** *Total budget £0.68m*

*Exp: Recurring annually* *Q1-Q2: £0.19m* *Total £0.19m*

The budget for improvements and upgrades relates specifically to Sheltered Housing upgrades and Estates improvements. The Estates improvements programme expected spend for 2025/26 is £0.35m, against budget of £0.46m.

• **Victoria House Sewerage Connection** *Total Budget £0.516m*

*Exp: Prior years - None* *Q1-Q2 £0.00* *Total £0.00m*

The budget included £0.5m for potential remedial upgrades to the sewerage connection at Victoria House. However, the work has been undertaken at no cost to the Council and the budget will therefore not be spent.

• **Sewage treatment plant upgrades** *Total budget £1.58m*

*Exp: Prior Years – None* *Q1-Q2 £0.107m* *Total £0.107m*

The budget includes £1.5m for upgrades to sewage treatment plants across the HRA stock. This is divided into works to reduce costs where running costs are high, and works to generate nutrient credits. Sites are currently being surveyed, and one site currently expected to be upgraded by the end of the year. As a result, forecast spend in 2025/26 is expected to be £0.3m and a carry forward request made for the remaining budget.

**New build:**

- **Local Authority Housing Fund Round 3** *Total budget: £0.530m*

*Exp: Prior years None                      Q1-Q2 £0.01m                      Total £0.01m*

The Council was successful in securing £0.9m in Round 3 of the Local Authority Housing fund. No properties were identified in Quarter 1; however two suitable properties were subsequently identified for purchase during July 2025. One of these properties is expected to complete in October 2025, with the second following shortly afterwards. Further suitable properties are currently being sought prior to delegated decision to release budget.

- **Buyback of former Council Houses** *Total budget: £1.36m*

*Exp: Prior years £0.312m                      Q1-Q2 £0.00m                      Total £0.312m*

In September 2024 the Cabinet approved the spend of up to £1.36m on the repurchase of former Council properties. To date, one property has been purchased at Princes Place. Further properties are currently being sought.

- **Kings Barton Property Acquisition** *Total budget: £33.927m*

*Exp: Prior years £0.03m                      Q1-Q2 £3.3m                      Total £3.33m*

The acquisition of 146 units at Kings Barton was agreed during 2024/25. The deposit and advance works payments have now been made. Further Golden Brick and stage payments for properties are expected to continue in October & November, with overall spend in 2025/26 expected to reach £20m; the first four properties are expected to be handed over in Quarter 3.

- **Unallocated budgets New Homes** *Total budget: £7.41m*

*Exp: Prior years £0.00m                      Q1-Q2 £0.00m                      Total £0.00m*

The capital programme includes £7.41m of budgets subject to approval of expenditure. During Quarter 2, Cabinet agreed in July 2025 to dispose of Cornerhouse and return the budget to unallocated, and subsequent delegated decisions have been made to allocate £0.5m to match fund the purchases of LAHF properties. Cabinet also agreed at its October meeting to proceed with a development at Woodman Close, which will reduce the unallocated funding. However, the expected commencement for Woodman will likely be December 2025 and the majority of spend expected in 2026/27.