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Date: Friday, 21 August 2026

To all Members of the Corporate Overview Group

Dear Councillor

A Meeting of the Corporate Overview Group will be held on Tuesday, 1 September 2026 at 7.00 pm in the Rushcliffe Arena to consider the following items of business.

This meeting will be accessible and open to the public via the live stream on YouTube and viewed via the link: https://www.youtube.com/user/RushcliffeBC Please be aware that until the meeting starts the live stream video will not be showing on the home page. For this reason, please keep refreshing the home page until you see the video appear.

Yours sincerely

Ifty Ali
Monitoring Officer (Interim)

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

   Link to further information in the Council's Constitution

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2026 (Pages 1 - 8)

4. Health and Safety Annual Report (Pages 9 - 26)

   Report of the Director of Neighbourhoods

5. Financial and Performance Management (Pages 27 - 58)

   Report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services

6. Feedback from Scrutiny Group Chairmen

Postal address
Rushcliffe Borough
Council
Rushcliffe Arena
Rugby Road
West Bridgford
Nottingham
NG2 7YG

7. Feedback from Lead Officers

8. Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes (Pages 59 - 68)

   Report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services

<u>Membership</u>

Chair: Councillor G Williams
Councillors: J Billin, A Brown, T Combellack, M Gaunt, L Plant and D Simms

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Rushcliffe Borough Council

MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
CORPORATE OVERVIEW GROUP
TUESDAY, 16 JUNE 2026

Held at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber Area B, Rushcliffe Arena, Rugby Road, West Bridgford
and live streamed on Rushcliffe Borough Council's YouTube channel

PRESENT:

Councillors G Williams (Chair), J Billin, A Brown, M Gaunt, L Plant and D Simms

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors Way and Cllr Thomas – from agenda item 8

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

K Brennan	Finance Business Partner
C Caven-Atack	Assistant Director of Corporate Services
S Soar	Democratic Services Officer

1 **Apologies for Absence**

There were apologies from Cllr Combellack

2 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3 **Minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2026**

The minutes of the previous meeting were considered.

Cllr Plant queried whether the action relating to the Warm Homes Grant had been circulated. Officers confirmed that responses had been issued by email but agreed to check and confirm.

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2026 were approved and signed by the Chair.

4 **Financial and Performance Management**

The Senior Finance Business Partner presented the outturn position for 2025/26.

The Group was informed that the revenue position showed an efficiency of £2.682m, and the capital programme reported an underspend of £4.011m. It was noted that revenue efficiencies largely arose from investment income, unrequired contingency budgets, and efficiencies within Neighbourhoods, Development and Economic Growth. These were partially offset by reduced income, particularly in planning.

The Group noted that capital variances were mainly due to delays in projects, with the majority of underspends to be carried forward into 2026/27.

Councillors were advised that the favourable financial position would support future pressures, including Local Government Reorganisation, inflationary pressures and Simpler Recycling requirements. It was also noted that no external borrowing had been required during the financial year.

It was advised that the principal savings identified through the Transformation and Efficiency Plan had been achieved and exceeded. The main savings had been delivered through the renegotiation of leisure contracts, increased income from garden and waste collection charges, and higher income from car park charges. It was also noted that improved performance at Rushcliffe Oaks and Edwalton Golf Centre had made a positive contribution to the overall financial position, helping to exceed the anticipated savings target.

It was further noted that the Council had not needed to draw on reserves or undertake any external borrowing during the period. This reflected the strength of the Council's financial management and the effectiveness of the savings and income-generation measures that had been implemented, helping to maintain a robust financial position while continuing to deliver services and key priorities.

In relation to performance, seven indicators had not met their targets. It was clarified that this was not unusual and no single overarching reason had been identified for the underperformance. It was noted that despite the significant increase in workload that officers have seen over recent years as a result of the pandemic, the cost of living crisis, the impact of conflict abroad, and more recently local government reorganisation colleagues are providing exceptional services to Rushcliffe residents achieving their targets in the remaining 50 indicators.

Members raised a number of queries, including:

- The reasons for underperformance of specific indicators
- The level of glass recycling achieved following the introduction of the scheme
- The use of the asylum dispersal grant and whether expenditure could be identified
- Recycling rate reductions and influencing factors such as weather conditions
- Budget efficiencies, particularly in relation to Streetwise services

In response, Officers advised:

- Recycling performance is influenced by external factors such as weather and measurement by weight
- Grants are not always ringfenced but further information could be provided
- Budget efficiencies reflect improved understanding of costs following service changes rather than reductions in service levels

The Group noted the report and approved the recommendations. It was RESSOLVED that the Corporate Overview Group scrutinises:

a) the 2025/26 revenue position and efficiencies identified in **Table 1** and **Appendix A and B**

b) the changes to the earmarked reserves as set out at **Appendix G** along with the carry forwards and appropriations to reserves in **Appendix A**

c) the re-profiled position on capital and approves the capital carry forwards outlined in **Appendix D and F** and summarised in **Appendix H**

d) the update on the Special Expenses outturn at paragraph 4.7 and in **Appendix C,** and

e) performance exceptions (detailed in paragraphs 4.25 to 4.28) to judge whether further scrutiny is required.

5 **Diversity Annual Report and update on the Equality and Diversity Strategy**

The Group received a report from the Assistant Director for Corporate Services and Interim Monitoring Officer on progress made against the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Action Plan. The report also outlined the Council's EDI priorities and planned activity for the next 12 months.

Assistant Director for Corporate Services and Interim Monitoring Officer noted that staff demographic data had remained broadly stable due to limited changes within the workforce. As the most recent Census data continued to be used as the baseline for comparison, there were only minor changes in the reported figures.

However, there had been a significant increase in job applications, potentially linked to wider use of flexible working and technological changes.

The Group was updated on key activities undertaken during the year, including:

- Delivery of a large-scale Lunar New Year event – over 1000 people attended
- Introduction of the Hidden Disability Sunflower Scheme
- Re-accreditation under the White Ribbon scheme
- Expansion of support for carers, including the introduction of carers' passports
- A review and update of the Council's inclusive language guide for staff and councillors

The Group discussed:

- The use and reliability of demographic data and how it informs service delivery
- Recruitment practices and the absence of demographic targets
- Support for carers and how the carers' passport operates in practice

- Whether further work should be undertaken to measure service impact across different groups

The Assistant Director for Corporate Services and the Interim Monitoring Officer confirmed that:

- Recruitment is undertaken on merit
- Resident feedback is primarily obtained through the resident satisfaction survey
- Demographic data is used selectively through analytical tools to inform service planning

The Assistant Director for Corporate Services and the Interim Monitoring confirmed that the Chair of the internal steering group has been taken up by the Assistant Director for Planning and Growth, who was unable to attend the meeting but updated the following:

- Committed to positively and proactively fulfilling its EDI duty
- We will be pragmatic in our delivery whilst ensuring that the Council continues to prioritise and embed EDI in how we plan and deliver services

The Chair asked whether armed forces support fell within this remit. It was confirmed that covered by the Armed Forces Covenant.

It is RESOLVED that the Corporate Overview Group:

a) considered and endorsed the information provided for the Diversity Annual Report

b) reviewed the action taken so far as a part of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Scheme action plan and made suggestions for future action or areas of focus.

6 **Feedback from Scrutiny Group Chairmen**

The Group received feedback from recent scrutiny activity.

It was reported that the review of the West Bridgford Contact Centre had found that, despite moving from a dedicated facility to a shared space, service quality remained high due to staff knowledge and customer interaction.

It was also noted that a change to the scrutiny scheduling, a preference for moving the date of the Corporate Overview Meeting until after other scrutiny meetings, would allow for better updates from those scrutiny meetings. It was also noted that the Carbon Management Plan is considered at a more appropriate point in the year to reflect full-year data.

7 **Feedback from Lead Officers**

There were no updates from Officers

8 **Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes**

The Group considered a request relating to park homes. The Assistant Director for Corporate Services and Interim Monitoring Officer advised that:

- The issue is complex and largely outside the Council's direct control
- A national consultation is currently underway
- Scrutiny at this stage would be unlikely to result in meaningful local outcomes

The Assistant Director for Corporate Services and Interim Monitoring Officer noted that Officers at the Council had believed that they had Councillor Combellack's agreement to produce a briefing note on this topic to address many of the points she had raised in the scrutiny request and this was circulated on 4th June.

The Assistant Director for Corporate Services and Interim Monitoring Officer advised that Officers do not believe this request is an effective use of Council resources in terms of scrutiny as there is so little that the council can do to influence the situation.

It was agreed that the item was not suitable for scrutiny at this time and should be revisited when national changes are clearer. The Group requested to be kept informed of progress from national consultation and any future changes to legislation on the basis that this may allow for this item to be reconsidered.

The Group considered a scrutiny request relating to Management of Open Spaces on New Build Estates

Cllr Way and Cllr Thomas joined the meeting to present the case for this potential scrutiny. They presented the following:

- Residents face increasing and sometimes inequitable management charges
- Charges can vary significantly between estates and residents
- Concerns include infrastructure maintenance, drainage systems and adoption of open spaces
- There is growing national attention and local impact on residents

The Group expressed a range of views:

- Strong concern about fairness and impacts on residents, particularly about having to pay twice for service, often poor service from management companies
- Recognition that issues are largely driven by national policy and legislation
- Consideration of whether local scrutiny could deliver meaningful change, or would be interacted positively by management companies

The Assistant Director for Corporate Services and the Interim Monitoring Officer highlighted that:

- The issue has previously been scrutinised multiple times
- Limited local powers restrict the Council's ability to effect change

- National consultation may provide a more appropriate basis for future scrutiny
- Referenced the Cabinet Report of July 2025 which considered this issue, and acknowledged that the Council could lobby central government

Councillors were supportive of further work to identify what actions could be taken locally, including engagement, policy review and support for residents.

Unanimously, the Group agreed to progress the request to scrutiny, with further work required to scope the review and identify an appropriate timeframe.

The Group reviewed the scrutiny work programme.

It was noted that:
- Existing scheduled items remain in place
- The new scrutiny relating to open spaces will require significant officer input
- A realistic timetable will be developed following further consideration of scope and workload

It was RESOLVED that the Corporate Overview Group:

a) considered any additional items for scrutiny from the current Cabinet Forward Plan, Corporate Strategy, Medium Term Financial Strategy, Capital and Investment Strategy and Transformation and Efficiency Programme (Appendix One)

b) determined any additional topics to be included in a scrutiny group work programme for 2026/27 for each of the scrutiny groups as presented on newly submitted scrutiny requests (Appendix Two)

c) reviewed the current work programme for each of the scrutiny groups (Appendix Three).

Work Programme 2026/27– Corporate Overview Group

16 June 2026	• Standing Items o Feedback from Scrutiny Group Chairs o Feedback from Lead Officer o Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes o Financial and Performance Management • Rolling Items o Diversity Annual Report and update on the Equality and Diversity Strategy
1 September 2026	• Standing Items o Feedback from Scrutiny Group Chairs o Feedback from Lead Officer o Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes o Financial and Performance Management

	• Rolling Items ○ Health and Safety Annual Report

17 November 2026	• Standing Items
	  ○ Feedback from Scrutiny Group Chairs
	  ○ Feedback from Lead Officer
	  ○ Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes
	  ○ Financial and Performance Management
	• Rolling Items
	  ○ Customer Feedback Annual Report

23 February 2027	• Standing Items
	  ○ Feedback from Scrutiny Group Chairs
	  ○ Feedback from Lead Officer
	  ○ Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes
	  ○ Financial and Performance Management
	• Rolling Items
	  ○ Annual Review of Corporate Strategy

Work Programme 2026/27 – Governance Scrutiny Group

18 June 2026	• Annual Fraud Report • Annual Governance Statement (AGS) • Internal Audit Progress Report Q4 • Internal Audit Annual Report • External Audit Plan • Capital and Investment Strategy Outturn • Procurement Annual Report • Investment Property Review
24 September 2026	• Risk Management Update • Going Concern • Capital and Investment Strategy Update Q1 • Internal Audit Progress Report Q1 • Statement of Accounts • External Audit Completion Report • Annual Audit Letter and VFM Conclusion
26 November 2026	• Internal Audit Progress Report Q2 • Capital and Investment Strategy Update Q2 • RIPA Review
4 February 2027	• Internal Audit Progress Report Q3 • Internal Audit Strategy • Risk Management Update • Capital and Investment Strategy Update Q3 • Capital and Investment Strategy 2027/28 • External Annual Audit Plan

Work Programme 2026/27– Growth and Development Scrutiny Group

	Items / Reports
15 July 2026	• East Midlands Freeport (Update)
14 October 2026	•
27 January 2027	•

24 March 2027	•

Work Programme 2026/27– Communities Scrutiny Group

	Items / Reports
23 July 2026	• Article 4 Direction • Council Tax policy changes (2nd homes premium and discounts for terminally ill residents and foster carers)
15 October 2026	• Metropolitan Trent Valley Housing (Update)
21 January 2027	• Review of debt collection agents by RBC in line with the outcome of the Government's consultation on Council Tax and Enforcement • Road Sweeping
15 April 2027	•

Note: In April 2026 the Group asked for the annual Carbon Management Plan Update to come forward for scrutiny in July 2027 rather than April 2027 allowing for timelier (end-of-year) data to be available

Minute No	Action	Officer Responsible
33	Confirm circulation of Warm Homes Grant information	Geof Carpenter
34	Provide data on glass recycling performance	Darryl Burch
34	Provide breakdown of asylum dispersal grant expenditure	Geof Carpenter
34	Consider provision of data on Streetwise efficiency and costs	Katie Brennan
38	Circulate updated briefing note on public open spaces / management charges	Cara Prendergast
38	Develop scope and timeline for scrutiny on open spaces management	Cara Prendergast

The meeting closed at 8.27 am.

CHAIR

Corporate Overview Group

Tuesday, 1 September 2026

Health and Safety Annual Report 2025/26

Report of the Director of Neighbourhoods

1. Purpose of report

1.1. Attached to this report is a copy of the Council's Annual Health and Safety Report which provides a summary of the Council's occupational health and safety performance during the period 1 April 2025 to end of March 2026.

1.2. The Annual Report is structured in such a way as to reflect Health and Safety Executive (HSE) guidance. It summarises the Council's health and safety policies, procedures and activities which have taken place over the last year. It also sets out training programmes delivered, provides numerical and statistical data, and the proposed health and safety objectives for the year.

1.3. The report will be presented to Corporate Overview Group which will highlight the main points to consider within the report.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the Corporate Overview Group:

a) considers the detailed information contained within the Annual Health and Safety Report;
b) notes that the Health and Safety Advisor post has increased from 18.5 to 26 hours a week to provide additional resilience and availability;
c) notes the significant progress made against the health and safety goals and objectives previously agreed by Corporate Overview Group for the financial year 2025/26; and
d) endorses the proposed health and safety objectives for 2026/27 as set out in the report.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

3.1. Best practice suggests all organisations produce and publish an annual health and safety report.

3.2. Setting health and safety objectives within a plan helps to maintain good levels of performance and to ensure continued progress in health and safety across the Council.

4. Supporting Information

4.1. Details are contained within the Annual Health and Safety Report attached at Appendix One. This includes reviewing the health and safety performance of the Council, current safety risk profile, increase in hours for the Health and Safety Advisor post, a further update of the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) visit and details of the health and safety audit undertaken by Internal Audit (BDO).

4.2. In addition, the following objectives have been set for 2026/27:

- Conduct a minimum of three H&S Audits within the year.
- Complete all H&S policy reviews that are due within 2026/27.
- Develop and ensure completion of a monthly inspection sheet.
- Support and input into the LGR H&S work stream.
- Continue to deliver appropriate workplace health initiatives in line with employee’s needs.
- Develop and deliver relevant H&S quarterly campaigns as identified by the needs of the Council.

5. Risks and Uncertainties

5.1. There is a risk of health and safety performance declining if objectives are not agreed and delivered as set out in the Annual Report.

6. Implications

6.1. Financial Implications

Appropriate budget provision is made for the discharge of the health and safety function within the Council. There could be a financial impact to the Council if it failed to deliver effective health and safety management across the organisation resulting in a serious breach of health and safety legislation.

The implementation of Terrorism the (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 (Martyn's Law) will require increased security provisions at Events organised by the Council. This will have financial implications for the West Bridgford Special Expense budget for events held in the Town Centre.

The costs associated with increase in hours of the Health and Safety officer is contained within existing budgets.

6.2. Legal Implications

The effective organisation and delivery of the Council’s arrangements for health and safety is important to ensure compliance with relevant health and safety legislation.

6.3. **Equalities Implications**

Health and safety policies have been equality impact assessed. There are no direct equalities implications from the Annual Report.

6.4. **Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications**

There are no direct crime and disorder implications from the Annual Report.

6.5. **Biodiversity Net Gain Implications**

There are no biodiversity net gain implications from the Annual Report.

6.6. **Implications for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)**

The annual health and safety report does not have any direct implications for LGR.

7. Link to Corporate Priorities

The Environment	Good compliance with health and safety legislation will have a positive impact on protecting the local environment
Quality of Life	Effective health and safety management of Council functions helps to ensure services and facilities which are safe for public use thus having a positive impact on resident's quality of life
Efficient Services	The delivery of services that are compliant with health and safety legislation is an integral part of ensuring efficient and effective services
Sustainable Growth	Health and safety supports and enables the delivery of sustainable growth

8. Recommendations

It is RECOMMENDED that the Corporate Overview Group:

a) considers the detailed information contained within the Annual Health and Safety Report;
b) notes that the Health and Safety Advisor post has increased from 18.5 to 26 hours a week to provide additional resilience and availability;
c) notes the significant progress made against the health and safety goals and objectives previously agreed by Corporate Overview Group for the financial year 2025/26; and
d) endorses the proposed health and safety objectives for 2026/27 as set out in the report.

For more information contact:	David Banks Director of Neighbourhoods Tel: 0115 9148438 dbanks@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers available for Inspection:	
List of appendices:	Health and Safety Annual Report 2025/26

Rushcliffe
Borough Council

HEALTH AND SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT

April 2025 to end March 2026

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 **Purpose of this report** - This annual report summarises the Council's occupational health and safety performance for the twelve-month period from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026.

1.2 **What this report covers -** The report is structured into sections that highlight key issues and describe the controls in place within the corporate health and safety framework, including newly implemented policies. It also provides evidence of performance and progress, including:
- training delivered;
- progress against health and safety aims and objectives; and
- accidents recorded during the reporting period.

2.0 RISK PROFILE

2.1 The Council's risk profile remains high. This is due to the following operational sites.
- High-risk depots**:** Streetwise: Eastcroft.
- Medium-risk sites: Rushcliffe Country Park; Rushcliffe Oaks.

3.0 PROVISION OF HEALTH AND SAFETY ADVICE AND SUPPORT

3.1 The Executive Management Team (EMT) approved an extension to the permanent Health and Safety Advisor role, increasing the hours from 18.5 to 26 per week to improve resilience, availability, and support for internal teams and processes. A new Health and Safety Advisor was subsequently appointed on the 1st of September 2025.

3.2 Given the high-risk nature of work activities at Streetwise, the establishment was reviewed and in July 2025 additional health and safety coordination and implementation responsibilities were included in a Technical Support Officer role. It is intended that this role will further complement the day-to-day health and safety responsibilities for all streetwise staff.

4.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY EXECUTIVE (HSE) FOLLOW UP

4.1 **Background** – As detailed in the 2024/25 annual report, the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) visited Streetwise after an employee declared a diagnosis of vibration white finger. The condition was believed to have arisen during previous employment before the individual joined Rushcliffe Borough Council. The initial HSE visit took place in January 2025. Recommendations were made and actioned. A full site inspection followed in February 2025 and resulted in one further verbal recommendation.

4.2 **HSE correspondence** – On 27 August 2025, around seven months after the visit concluded, the HSE issued a follow-up letter. The delay was due to a staff absence within the HSE. The letter confirmed the details of their investigation and measures they believed were necessary to secure compliance with relevant health and safety legislation. As in all such cases the Council was required to provide a formal response, including evidence that appropriate control measures had been implemented.

4.3 **Council response and outcome** – Following internal support and consultation, Streetwise submitted the required response and supporting evidence via a formal letter and follow-up call. The HSE accepted the response and confirmed that the matter was now closed.

5.0 KEY ACTIVITIES

BDO Internal Health and Safety Audit

5.1 Internal Audit BDO conducted a health and safety audit in February 2026. The audit outcome was favourable, with **one medium** and **five low-level** observations identified. The audit primarily focused on medium- to higher-risk service areas, including waste and recycling and trees and open spaces.

Medium

- Documentation to evidence the investigating of accidents and implementation of lessons learnt are not attached to the ESB system. This has been rectified.

Notable and highlighted areas of good practice, included:

- **Policies and procedures -** *The Health and Safety Advisor meets in-person with high-risk service areas and works collaboratively with service managers to develop policies and risk assessments. This allows both the service manager's and Health and Safety Advisor's specific expertise to be utilised to ensure policies and risk assessments are robust and consider a wide range of health and safety risks.*
  All policies are available on the intranet for employees to access at any time to ensure they are aware and may comply with procedures.

- **Training** - *Corporate e-learning modules for health and safety have high training compliance (above 90% for each course). This is supported by a regular review of training compliance by the Strategic HR Manager who emails those who are non-compliant to request this is completed timely. Automatic email notifications are also sent to an employee's line manager if their training compliance becomes overdue.*

  The Streetwise Manager (whose service area is a high health and safety risk) has created a health and safety information video to inform staff of responsibilities, including accident and near miss reporting and an appeal for ideas for improvement. This was produced following learnings from previous accidents. This has been tailored to the Streetwise Team and highlights specific health and safety risks for these staff. This also presents the learning in a different, more interactive way.

- **Accident and incident reporting** - *Accident reporting is available on the intranet, tablets for manual staff or by directly reporting these to line managers. This takes the user to the Enterprise (ESB) system which is used to record accidents and near misses. This system has been upgraded by the ICT Development Officer to enhance the reporting module as the Council have become more familiar with its operational capability; for example, allowing more free text to provide narrative about the incident. All actions and/or approvals by line managers for the investigation and management* *of health and safety incidents is recorded on this system to provide a robust audit trail. This is essential to demonstrate the actions that the Council have taken to remediate the issue in the event of an inspection.*

Policies

5.2 **Policy review progress -** Policy review activity progressed during the year, with the backlog of overdue reviews reduced.

- **Completed:** Several policies that were due for review in the previous year have now been updated.
- **Scheduled:** The remaining policies are lower risk and as there have been no relevant legislative changes, are included in the 2026/27 review programme.

Policies reviewed in 2025/26
- Health and Safety Policy Statement
- Accident Reporting Policy
- Asbestos Policy
- Bomb Threat Policy
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Policy
- Display Screen Equipment Policy
- Fire Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Hepatitis A and B Control and Immunisation Policy
- Legionella Policy
- Lone Worker Policy
- Manual Handling Policy
- Mobile Phone Policy
- Risk Assessment Policy
- Violence at Work Policy
- Young Persons and Work Experience Policy

Policies and procedures due for review (2026/27)
- Health and Safety Management Framework
- Driving at Work Policy
- Evacuation Chair Policy
- Emotional Wellbeing and Stress Management Policy
- Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER)
- Smoke-free Policy
- Corporate Warning Register

New and emerging policy requirements
- Body-worn cameras, CCTV and recording devices policy: draft in development and subject to review.
- Martyn’s Law: preparations to improve security arrangements at venues hosting events of 200+ attendees, including review of incident and response arrangements for terrorist threats.

Health & Safety Audits/Visits

5.3 The Health and Safety Advisor delivered a programme of support visits during the year, primarily focused on medium to higher-risk services.

Sites visited included:
- Streetwise
- R2Go Eastcroft Depot
- Rushcliffe Country Park
- Several other council responsible premises, parks, and facilities.

Focus and outcomes
- **Collaborative working:** Partnered with service management teams to review key health and safety arrangements.
- **Project support:** Provided safety advice to R2Go to support implementation of the glass recycling project.
- **Assurance and improvement:** Mentored and supported services to review and update risk assessments and Safe Systems of Work (SSOW).
- **Incident management:** Supported managers to review accidents and claims made against the Council.
- **Additional support:** Provided limited support to the Premises and Facilities Team to assess health and safety arrangements across other Council-controlled premises.

Training

5.4 Health and safety training needs are identified through:
- The Induction Process
- Personal Development Reviews (PDRs)
- Regular one-to-ones and team meetings
- Escalation via the Executive Management Team (EMT)
- Bespoke and job-specific (predominantly delivered by external providers or in-house “train-the-trainer” arrangements)

The Health and Safety Advisor provide support and guidance to service managers to help identify training needs. This ensures training is proportionate to risk and meets statutory and legal requirements.

5.5 **Induction Arrangements for New Starters** - All new starters complete a structured induction programme, which clearly sets out the health and safety topics to be covered at different stages of employment:
- On day one
- Within the first week
- By the end of week two

The induction programme covers core health and safety requirements, including fire evacuation arrangements, first aid provision, and accident reporting procedures. Where appropriate, this is supplemented by role-specific e-learning modules.

5.6 Human Resources/Health and Safety Advisor arranged the following health and safety training during the last 12 months:

Course Subject	Number of Staff who's training is in date	% of those requiring training who have been trained	Outcome/impact
Fire safety Training e-learning	232	97%	Refresher training for staff on fire safety issues. There are 238 employees who have access to the e-learning.
Display Screen Equipment (DSE) e-learning	231	97%	On-line training and assessment of computer workstations. 238 employees have been given access to the e-learning.
Legionella awareness e-learning	46	96%	This training is for all staff who need to be aware of the risks of Legionella within the workplace. 48 staff require this training.
Asbestos awareness e-learning	52	100%	This training is for all staff who need to be aware of the risks of Asbestos within the workplace 52 staff require this training.
Manual handling e-learning	225	95%	Basic manual handling awareness for low-risk staff. 238 employees have been given access to the e-learning package.
Emergency First Aid at Work	20	*	This 1-day qualification is designed to give first aiders working in low-risk environments the skills they need to deal with a first aid emergency.
Risk Assessment	35 (internally delivered)	*	This half day course provides information on the risk assessment process and how to undertake them.

* % figure is not applicable as this is not mandatory training and more staff trained than necessary

5.7 **On-the-job** training - The formal training programme is complemented by extensive on-the-job training across all service areas. This approach supports employees in applying their learning directly to their day-to-day activities and promotes safe and effective working practices.

5.8 **Depot – Based Training Delivery** - Training at depot locations is delivered using a range of practical methods designed to address site-specific risks and operational needs. These include:

- **Toolbox talks** – short, focused sessions delivered on site to address specific health and safety hazards or tasks.
- **Induction training** – comprehensive inductions covering job-related tasks, the safe use of work equipment, and agreed safe working practices, commonly referred to as Safe Systems of Work (SSOW).

5.9 **Additional role-specific Training** - Where required, employees receive further role-specific training to support safe and effective working practices, including:

- Driver training
- Banksman training
- Nexus and lone worker device training

5.10 **Training aim** – These arrangements help ensure work is carried out safely and competently and support the reduction of workplace incidents, accidents and near misses.

5.11 **The e-learning system** – The e-learning system helps manage mandatory training by sending automatic reminders to employees when training is due. Where training becomes overdue, notifications are also sent to the employee's line manager to support timely completion.

Completion rates for some courses were low in previous years but have improved significantly. The ongoing aim is to achieve a **minimum completion rate of 90%** across all training courses.

Meetings of Health and Safety Groups

5.12 **Health and Safety Engagement and Governance** – The Council has established a range of health and safety groups to ensure issues are discussed and acted on at the appropriate level across the organisation.

How engagement is embedded:

- **One-to-one meetings:** health and safety are included as a routine agenda item, ensuring regular discussion of relevant issues and actions.
- **Performance Development Reviews:** health and safety is reinforced through PDRs, supporting ongoing awareness, accountability and shared responsibility.

5.13 **Key topics and outcomes** – Over the past year, these meetings have enabled the Council to consider and review a range of health and safety matters, including:

- Training provision and compliance
- Occupational health matters
- Accident and near-miss trends
- Legislative updates and policy changes
- Feedback from service areas

These forums have also supported the sharing of learning and the actions arising from Health and Safety Executive (HSE) visits.

Occupational Health

5.14 The Council is supported by an external occupational health provider, which is utilised to provide a range of occupational health packages. Within the last 12 months, services provided specifically relating to health and safety issues have included:

	Attendance numbers between Apr 2025 and March 2026	Comment
Medical examinations	5	To support with sickness absence or managing medical condition in the workplace
Pre--employment medicals	51	Medical questionnaire completed prior to employment
Hand Arm Vibration assessments (HAVS)	1	Employees using vibrating tools complete a HAVS questionnaire on an annual basis. Where any symptoms are identified the employee will undergo a physical assessment
HGV Medicals	3	These are required as a part of first HGV qualification and renewed at the age of 45 and every 5 years after this
Audiology Testing	38	Hearing tests are completed for employees that are exposed to increased noise levels whilst at work

5.15
Flu injections – Employees were provided with the option to receive a free flu voucher and 48 vouchers were issued.

Eye tests – Employees can claim free eye tests if they work on display screen equipment (DSE), drive one of our fleet vehicles or require safety glasses as a part of their job role. In the 12-month period, 49 DSE tests, 12 Driver tests and 5 Safety glasses tests were provided.

Workplace Health

5.16 Workplace Health Champions have been involved in several promotional activities for staff across sites, including:

- Stress Awareness Month
- Bowel Cancer Awareness Month
- Carers Week
- World Breastfeeding Week
- Wear it Pink – Breast Cancer Awareness
- Big Sleep Out Homeless fundraiser
- Hidden Disabilities Sunflower initiative
- Bake Off competitions
- Workplace Health Walks
- Dry January
- Brew Monday
- National Eating Disorders
- No Smoking Day

6.0 PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING HEALTH AND SAFETY GOALS

6.1 At its meeting on 2 September 2025, the Corporate Overview Group endorsed the health and safety goals set by the Council's Executive Health and Safety Group. These goals are monitored and reviewed by the Executive Health and Safety Group, with progress summarised below.

H&S Goal	Target date	Action to date	Target met?
Prioritise the review and update of policies that are over 3 years old	End March 2026	See 5.2. Some low-risk policies remain outstanding and have been rolled on to 2026/27	partial
Continue to improve induction programme for high-risk work areas	End March 2026	Induction at Streetwise has been fully reviewed and work is ongoing with R2Go	Yes
Health and Safety compliance audits of low-risk areas across the Authority	End March 2026	Due to a change in health and safety advisor, it was decided that the immediate focus should be concentrated around the medium to high-risk services and the building of relationships with service managers. Compliance and low risk service audits are now factored into this year's work schedule	No
Risk assessment and training audit continuation.	End March 2026	Significant work has been taken on reviewing and updating risk assessments and ensuring competence across the authority within this area.	Yes
Review duty to manage Asbestos to ensure all RBC occupied buildings are compliant.	End Dec 2026	All buildings have asbestos risk assessments in place. Further work will continue in the support of day-to-day management.	Partial
Review of lone worker procedures and controls	End March 2025	Policy and procedures have been reviewed and updated. A review and assessment of service needs have been undertaken. New	Yes

		devices have now been issued and training completed.	
Continue to deliver appropriate workplace health initiatives in line with employee's needs	End March 2026	See initiatives listed in 5.15	Yes

7. PERFORMANCE

7.1 **Accident report forms completed.**
Corporately the number of accident report forms completed by employees and agency staff within the twelve-month period is set out in the following table:

Establishment figure head count	2017 /18 275	2018 /19 266	2019 /20 257	2020 /21 259	2021 /22 257	2022 /23 259-312	2023 /24 316	2024 /25 315	2025 /26 320
Eastcroft Depot	15	10	10	14	14	13	18	14	20
Bingham Depot	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9	16	10	12
Arena (Civic)	3	2	2	0	0	2	3	2	3
Community Contact Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Community Facilities	1	5	0	2	4	2	0	1	1
Total	**19**	**17**	**12**	**16**	**18**	**26**	**37**	**27**	**36**
Incidence rate	**69**	**64**	**47**	**62**	**70**	**91**	**117**	**85**	**113**

7.2 The table above shows that the number of accidents reports completed for employees/agency staff has increased compared with last year, although it remains broadly comparable with 2023/24. This increase is likely to reflect the work undertaken by the new Health and Safety Advisor to raise awareness of the importance of reporting accidents and near misses. Increased awareness often leads to higher reporting levels, which supports better monitoring, investigation, and learning.

7.3 The Incidence Rate shows the number of accidents per 1000 employees. This is calculated by the number of accident forms completed, divided by number of employees, multiplied by 1000. The HSE uses this formula to compare businesses' accident rates, however they only look at number of reportable accidents under RIDDOR and not accident forms completed.

7.4 **Accident report forms by type**

The table below sets out the accident figures by type.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Struck by Moving Object	5	3	2	4	5	6	7	6	7
Strike against fixed object	2	1	4	0	2	1	3	2	8
Slip / Trip / Fall	9	5	4	5	8	9	14	8	12
Manual Handling	3	3	2	6	3	6	8	6	6
Animal attack (e.g. dog)	0	5	0	1	0	3	5	1	2
Other (Shock/Contact with liquids)	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	1
Total	**19**	**17**	**12**	**16**	**18**	**26**	**39**	**27**	**36**

7.5 Key points to consider from the figures presented in this table are:

- There has been an increase in strikes against fixed objects and slips, trips, and falls compared to the previous year, however these were all still at a low level.
- Manual handling accidents have remained comparable to previous years.
- The two animal attacks are attributed to dog bites.
- There is a strong indication that medium and higher risk services are reporting more than in previous years. This is seen as a positive action following the increase in awareness of reporting all accidents and near misses.

7.6 *The number of employee days lost due to accidents.*

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Number of days lost	161	99	39	15	26	19	161	134	161

7.7 The number of days off as a direct result of an accident at work has increased in this twelve-month period when compared to last year but is the same as 2023/24. The number of days absent has fluctuated significantly over the past few years. The average annual figure over the last nine years equates to 90.5 days.

The table at section 7.8 shows that four accidents resulted in time off work during the reporting period. One accident accounted for 91% of the total days lost. This accident took place in November 2024, but the employee remained off work on long-term sick into 2025/26.

7.8 The following table shows the type of incident and injury for those accidents which resulted in time lost.

Incident Type	Injury type	Location	Time lost in days
Slip, trip, fall	Soft bruising/Anxiety	R2Go	147 days
Slip, trip, fall	Swollen ankle	R2Go	3 days
Manual Handling	Neck/shoulder	Streetwise	6 days
Strike Fixed	Puncture wound hand	R2Go	5 days
Total			**161 days**

7.9 *The number of RIDDOR injuries, illnesses and dangerous occurrences involving Council employees.*

In the 12-month period 0 accidents were reported to the Health and Safety Executive as required by the RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations) legislation. Although an employee had 147 days off in 2025/26 due to an accident this was reported under RIDDOR in 2024/25.

7.10 *The number of health and safety enforcement notices*

- 1 follow-up letter by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) to Streetwise Bingham Depot in relation to a previous investigation.
- 0 visits from the Fire Service within this 12-month period
- 0 enforcement notices served on the Council.

8. THE COUNCIL'S WIDER ROLE IN HEALTH AND SAFETY

8.1 The Council has health and safety duties to people not in its employment, for example members of public visiting our sites. The risk assessment process and management of the Council's services ensures that risks to the public and contractors are assessed at the same time as the risk to our employees.

8.2 Actions we have taken as a Council to reduce risks to members of public when visiting our premises and to those involved in activities with Council staff include:

- Water risk assessments have been completed at sites across the Borough
- Fire risk assessments completed and in place for all Council occupied buildings
- Legionella risk assessments have been reviewed and updated for all appropriate sites

- Asbestos surveys completed and management plans in place
- The gritting of car parks during periods of inclement weather to ensure safe access to the public
- Scheduled inspections of play equipment at parks using a new system PSS Live which enables real time recording of inspections and defects ensuring a faster response time
- Tree monitoring and risk assessments

8.3 The proactive actions outlined above help to reduce and manage risk at Council sites and venues. Furthermore, they assist in maintaining low accident statistics for the public and contractors in comparison with the volume and numbers of people involved. The table below set out these figures and provides a previous year comparison.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Member of Public	2	7	16	1	4	4	11	14	6
Contractor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

9. CONCLUSION AND OBJECTIVES

9.1 The information reported in relation to the management of health and safety shows that the number of accidents involving employees and agency staff increased during the year. However, the figure remains comparable with 2023/24 and, as shown in table 7.1, accident numbers can fluctuate significantly from year to year. There has also been an increase in the number of days absent from work due to workplace accidents compared with the previous year. During the 12-month period, four accidents resulted in time off from work. One of these accounted for 91% of the total days lost and related to an accident that occurred in 2024/25.

Employees are actively encouraged to return to work, and this can often be helped by using the fit note process which is issued from the GP. This process often permits employees to return to work earlier on either a phased return and/or with adaptations to duties.

9.2 Training completion rates are the highest they have been across all health and safety courses and the high completion rate was one of the positive comments from the BDO audit.

9.3 Significant progress has been made this year on completing the health and safety objectives set at the beginning of the financial year. In particular considerable time has been spent on reviewing and updating policies.

9.4 To ensure continuing development in health and safety policies and practice, the following objectives have been determined for the forthcoming year. These objectives have been identified by giving due regard to the issues highlighted in the report.

- Conduct a minimum of three health and safety audits within the year.

- Complete all health and safety policy reviews that are due within 2026/27 (see 5.2).
- Develop and ensure completion of a monthly inspection sheet.
- Support and input into the LGR health and safety work stream.
- Continue to deliver appropriate workplace health initiatives in line with employee's needs.
- Develop and deliver relevant health and safety quarterly campaigns as identified by the needs of the council.

Corporate Overview Group

Tuesday, 1 September 2026

Financial and Performance Management

Rushcliffe Borough Council

Report of the Director – Finance and Corporate Services

1. Purpose of report

1.1. This report outlines the Quarter 1 position in terms of financial and performance monitoring for 2026/27.

1.2. Whilst it is early in the financial year the projected year-end position is healthy with a projected revenue budget efficiency of £0.379m mainly due to additional investment interest and grant income. Similarly, the capital programme is projecting a £1.203m underspend position with schemes having to be reprofiled for 2027/28.

1.3. The Council has received the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) decision, which will create two unitary authorities and divide Rushcliffe between them through a boundary change. This will add complexity, increase demands on officers and is likely to require additional resources. Although the Council has prudently built a reserve (£1.199m) for these pressures, the full costs remain unknown; available underspends will be used to supplement the reserve.

1.4. Other significant challenges include rising costs, growing demand for services and the need to balance budgets without compromising service quality. The Council must therefore continue to exercise due diligence in monitoring its finances and performance and take prompt action where an adverse position arises.

1.5. The report also introduces more procurement information to improve transparency with procurement key performance indicators (KPIs).

1.6. The current Corporate Strategy will go through to March 2028 as there is less than two years to vesting day when Rushcliffe Borough Council ceases as a borough council. Overall progress against the Corporate Strategy remains positive, with strong momentum across priority areas. Delivery is broadly on track, with several strategic objectives achieved or showing measurable improvement during the period.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the Corporate Overview Group scrutinises:

a) the projected revenue budget efficiency for the year of £0.379m and proposals to appropriate this to the LGR Reserve given the risks surrounding LGR (paragraph 4.13)

b) the projected capital budget efficiencies of £1.203m including the budget changes in Appendix E

c) the projected underspend on Special Expenses of £2k (paragraph 4.8)

d) the procurement KPIs to judge whether further information is required

e) performance exceptions, to judge whether further information is required.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

3.1. To demonstrate good governance in terms of scrutinising the Council's on-going performance and financial position.

4. Supporting Information

Revenue

4.1 Table 1 below summarises the main variances with a full summary of all significant variances over £25k at **Appendix B**.

4.2 At Quarter 1 2026/27 there is a projected net revenue efficiency of £0.379m. Significant variances are highlighted in Table 1, arising mainly from additional investment interest £0.205m, additional grant income £0.292m, increased income from glass recycling due to negotiation of a new contract with significantly higher rates per tonne and a resulting budget efficiency of £0.175m.

4.3 Efficiencies are offset by increased cost of diesel/HVO £0.146m and homelessness prevention £0.174m.

4.4 The current forecast assumes the continued use of HVO. Recent increases in HVO prices could increase this overspend to around £204k. While both diesel and HVO prices are subject to the same market pressures and generally fluctuate in the same direction, HVO attracts a significant price premium. Price fluctuations are particularly relevant due to the current conflict in the gulf with price changes (both up and down) currently occurring on a weekly basis. Based on current prices, reverting to diesel from September could reduce the projected overspend to approximately £81k. However, any decision to switch back to diesel would need to be balanced against the Council's carbon reduction objectives, as this would increase fleet emissions compared with the continued use of HVO.

4.5 Some homelessness prevention schemes such as Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI) and Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme (RSAP) which were previously centralised are now fulfilled by RBC, additional funding allowance was made within the settlement, but these costs were unknown and not included in the budget.

4.6 The net efficiency represents a variance of 2.13% against budgeted net service expenditure. Appendix A sets out proposals to earmark funding for additional cost pressures and financial challenges, primarily to support LGR and the creation of a Building Control Reserve using safety levy grant income received (see paragraph 4.13).

Table 1 – Significant revenue variances

Directorate	Projected in year cost/(efficiency) £000	Reason
Chief Executive	34	£42k overspend in Legal arises due to temporary use of agency to cover vacant Monitoring Officer post and external legal support to cover demand. Risk that costs may increase depending on timing of recruitment and additional support required.
Development & Economic Growth	(35)	Efficiencies arise from; salaries underspends in BSU £55k and Property £57k due to staff turnover and vacancy and a £27k efficiency on Electricity at Rushcliffe Arena due to installation of Solar Panels. These are offset by overspends in planning caused by a projected shortfall in general planning income £50k, additional costs re Gamston SPD £45k (this will be released from planning appeals reserve).
Finance & Corporate	(294)	Efficiencies arise from additonal interest £205k, change of payroll provider £27k, salary savings in IT due to staff turnover and vacancy £31k, housing benefits £57k (based on initial estimate compared to budget) . These are offset by an overspend of £57k due to two growth posts in Finance to support LGR; Data Analyst and Finance Business Partner (£37k to be funded from LGR reserve).
Neighbourhoods	208	Overspends arise from increasing cost of diesel/HVO £146k, projected shortfall in Garden Waste income £39k, home alarms £23k and taxi licensing £26k, spend on Homelessness Prevention £174k (partly offset by asylum grant below), legal costs relating to Environmental Health cases £41k (risk of additional costs depending on outcome of cases). These are offset by salary savings due to vacancy in waste and streetwise £60k, increased income from glass recycling £175k, additonal football income £34k and NDR at East Leake £31k variance to estimated budget. Remaining overspend made up of a number of small variances.
Other Grant Income	(292)	Additional grant income awarded - Asylum support grant £60k, Internal Drainage Board grant £39k, New Burdens; Renters Rights £60k, Building Safety Levy £133k (create Building Control Reserve).
Collection Fund	0	
Projected (under)/over spend	**(379)**	

4.7 The most significant pressure on the Council's budget is the LGR transition. A reserve was established to help meet these costs, with a balance of £1.199m at 1 April 2026. Some of the reserve will be used during the year to fund additional posts, while in-year efficiencies will be used to replenish it, as set out in paragraph 4.13.

4.8 **Appendix C** shows the Outturn position on the **Special Expenses** budget. The year end position is a budget efficiency of £2k. This is due to increased income from the introduction of tennis memberships at Bridgford Park £7k. Offset by increase in business rates of £5k compared to the budget.

Capital

4.9 The opening capital budget was £7.098m this has been revised to £10.725m, an increase of £3.627m, mainly due to carry forwards from 2025/26 £3.494m. A full list of all budget adjustments can be seen in **Appendix E.**

4.10 Table 2 below summarises the main variances, with a full summary of all significant variances at **Appendices D and F.**

Table 2 – Significant capital variances

Directorate	Projected in year cost/(efficiency) £000	Reason
Development & Economic Growth	(613)	£200k ROT Masterplan not yet committed, £209k Rushcliffe Oaks PV undergoing evaluation. Potential to reprofile to 27/28.
Neighbourhoods	(590)	£136k variance on Arena Solar Panels, costs less than original estimate (corresponding reduction in grant funding); £114k variance on Vehicle Acquisition but this sum will be needed in 27/28; and £77k variance on Support for RHPs which will also be needed in 27/28.
Finance & Corporate Services	-	0
Contingency	-	0
	(1,203)	

Pressures Update

4.11 Inflation remains slightly above the Bank of England's target of 2%, at 2.8% in June 2026, a decrease from 3.4% in March. The budget assumed inflation of 3% for the majority of index linked costs. Cost pressures and economic uncertainty continue for the Council, businesses and residents, as international conflict continues in the Middle East and Ukraine. This could also impact collection rates and income from discretionary services, these continue to be monitored closely. Table 3 shows a mostly improved position from last year, it is worth noting that collection is becoming increasingly challenging and nationally rates are declining, this highlights the effectiveness of the Councils robust processes as it strives to continue to have amongst the best collection rates for Council Tax and Business Rates nationally.

Table 3 – Collection Rates Quarter 1

Description	Q1 2026/27	Q1 2025/26	Increase/(Decrease)
Sundry Debtors	96.76%	96.68%	0.08%
Council Tax	29.10%	29.30%	-0.20%
Business Rates	40.20%	39.30%	0.90%

4.12 Interest rates remain high at 3.75% (since last 0.25% cut in December 2025) and consequently the Council continues to benefit from interest on cash and investments which partially offsets some of the increased costs. If the need arose to externally borrow, then there would be adverse consequences for the budget.

4.13 The LGR decision received in July 2026 will disaggregate Rushcliffe between the two new authorities; Greater Nottingham Council and Nottinghamshire Council. This level of complexity has not been seen in any prior structural change and makes estimating costs and impact more challenging. A reserve was created in 2024/25 and the balance at 1 April 2026 was £1.199m. At Quarter 1 £0.132m has been released from the reserve to contribute to the cost of additional posts as demand on services increases. It is proposed that the reserve is topped up with the balance of the in-year efficiency £0.378m (net effect £0.246m increase).

4.14 Since the announcement of Simpler Recycling, the Council has been reporting the financial pressures arising from implementing new duties. New burdens funding allocated by Government is expected to be insufficient to cover the costs of implementing the scheme and the 2026/27 budget report showed a £1.171m shortfall in funding across the MTFS period and a reserve created to mitigate this. It has now been confirmed that there will be no additional separate funding for implementing food waste collections. The position could worsen if funding from Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) grant drops below anticipated levels. Grant for 2026/27 has been confirmed as budgeted £1.279m and indications are that recycling credits which were assumed to end will continue in year giving £0.2m additional income. Uncertainty still exists around future year funding and the MTFS will be updated accordingly for 2027/28.

4.15 The Council’s Transformation and Efficiency Plan (TEP) aims to address emerging financial challenges and is expected to deliver £0.386m savings in 2026/27 (main savings areas are; Leisure Strategy (£0.116m) through contract renegotiations, Garden Waste Scheme (£0.169m) due to price increase and Rushcliffe Oaks Crematorium £0.070m as per revised business case. At Quarter 1 £0.044m has been realised, the biggest risk to not achieving the target is Garden Waste income (at 30 June 2026 had achieved 93% of budget compared to 97% at the same time last year). Current projections assume a shortfall of £0.039m, which would be a 2% underachievement against the £1.939m income target; however, this may recover.

4.16 A Development Control Reserve is proposed to be created with the £0.133m New Burdens Safety Levy funding received in year. From 1 October 2026 there is a new requirement to charge a Building Safety Levy on residential developments, the proceeds of which are payable to Central Government. The reserve will fund the initial set-up, administration and monitoring required.

Procurement

4.17 Following the implementation of the Procurement Act 2023 on 24 February 2025, Cabinet approved a new Procurement Strategy in February 2026 to ensure compliance with the legislation. As part of the Council’s commitment to improving transparency and governance, procurement key performance indicators (KPIs) will be reported quarterly to the Corporate Overview Group and Cabinet

Table 4 – Procurement KPIs

KPI	Qtr 1	
	number	%
Number of contracts above threshold*	0	
Total contracts awarded	5	
of which:		
SME	5	100%
Local Businesses	3	60%
Number of exemptions	4	
Average procurement cycle time	5.1 months	

* Supplies and Services £214,904, Works/concessions £5,372,904, Light Touch Regime £663,540

The baseline average procurement cycle time is 4 months. While the Quarter 1 average exceeds this benchmark, the increase is attributable to a single EV charger concession contract, which took 12 months to complete due to its value and complexity. Excluding this contract, the revised average procurement cycle time would be 3.4 months. Of the four exemptions approved, these were for the following reasons; no genuine competition (3 contracts), urgency due to external funding deadline (1 contract).

Conclusion

4.18 The revenue position remains relatively healthy with efficiencies expected to support arising pressures, but this can quickly change.

4.19 The position on capital is positive and whilst long term capital resources are diminishing, it is anticipated that there will be no need to externally borrow this financial year. The capital programme is delivered with little external funding, and it is a credit to the financial position of the Council that it can continue to invest in its assets for the benefit of its residents. Existing budgets are under pressure from inflation and rising costs of labour and materials, however capital contingency budget is available, followed by reserves if necessary to mitigate the impact. The focus remains on delivering ‘business as usual’ alongside the demands of LGR.

4.20 Procurement is outsourced to Nottingham County Council and is well managed to ensure compliance with the Procurement Act 2023. There are no concerns at this time and has been reviewed by Internal Audit and reported to the Governance Scrutiny Group.

Performance Monitoring – Corporate Strategy 2024-28

4.21 The Corporate Strategy 2024-28 was approved at Council on 7 December 2023. The four themes contained within the 2019-2023 Strategy have been retained and The Environment will continue to be a major priority both in the medium and longer term. Performance is monitored by theme to better show how corporate tasks and performance indicators for each of the four corporate priorities are progressing. The full corporate scorecard is in **Appendix G**.

4.22 The current Corporate Strategy will go through to March 2028 as there is less than two years to vesting day when Rushcliffe Borough Council ceases as a district council. At this point it will be split between the two new unitary councils for Nottinghamshire, resulting from the Local Government Reorganisation process (LGR). These will be known as Nottinghamshire Council and Greater Nottingham Council.

4.23 Overall progress against the corporate strategy remains positive, with strong momentum across priority areas. Delivery is broadly on track, with several strategic objectives achieved or showing measurable improvement during the period.

4.24 While progress is strong, some challenges remain. A small number of initiatives have experienced delays due to external pressures, capacity constraints, or dependencies beyond direct organisational control. This is likely to continue as the work required for LGR will have a significant impact on staff resources available for other projects.

4.25 Environment

Major progress on climate action—building energy upgrades most notably the solar panels installed to Rushcliffe Arena, and new EV chargers to two West Bridgford car parks, Bridgford Road and Nursery car park. 15,000 trees were planted to create Rushcliffe Woods; ongoing implementation of Environment Act and Simpler Recycling changes.

Performance highlights and pressures:

- Clean streets (LINS01) – this indicator is below target, 94.3% against 98% target
- Fly-tipping (LINS06) – marginally higher than target, 360 against 357 target
- Recycling (LINS18) – above target, 47.73% compared to 47.50% target, and contamination (LINS20) is below target, 9.12% compared to 12% target.

4.26 Quality of Life

Leisure Strategy delivery progressing—Sharphill Community Hall completed (opened in July) and new / updated community and recreation facilities underway. The new walking and cycling bridge over the river Trent was officially open to members of the public on 2 June 2026. Housing indicators show temporary accommodation usage (LINS25) higher than target (20 against 18 target) but average stay in temporary accommodation is lower than last year (LINS27a) and below target (7 weeks against 12 weeks target). Attendance at leisure facilities is above target for all indicators.

Housing Options continues to experience significant demand pressures, with high levels of temporary accommodation usage, homelessness presentations, reviews, and also complaints and legal challenges creating ongoing capacity issues.

4.27 Sustainable Growth

The Greater Nottinghamshire Strategic Plan is progressing through the timetable with adoption expected from January to February 2027. There has been stronger than forecast affordable housing delivery (LINS24) (70 delivered against 40 target). This is just short of the 80-house target for quarter 2 and a positive sign that the annual target of 160 homes will be exceeded. Officers continue to be actively engaged in the redevelopment of the Ratcliffe on Soar site, working closely with Uniper, the East Midlands Freeport and other partners, while also using strategic and parish forums to engage with key stakeholders.

For LIDEG05 – Planning Appeals, 1 out of 8 appeals were allowed, this was a major application for Wysall Solar Farm.

4.28 Efficient Services

Good value-for-money task progress (monitored via MTFS); customer / service delivery generally strong in several KPIs (e.g., LINS52 - complaints on time 100%). Only one indicator below target, Percentage of expected Councillors attending in-person training events this municipal year (23.86% against 65% target).

The percentage of Councillors attending in-person training events is below target. A number of in-person training events are planned for this year however, it should be noted that the uncertainty surrounding LGR, a potentially higher number of meetings also due to LGR, and this being the ‘expected’ final year of the electoral cycle may all naturally decrease the engagement of Councillors in training across the board.

5. Risks and Uncertainties

5.1. Failure to comply with Financial Regulations in terms of reporting on both revenue and capital budgets could result in criticism from stakeholders, including both Councillors and the Council’s external auditors. Key risks are detailed in the section on Pressures at paras 4.11 to 4.16.

5.2. The Council must be adequately protected against such risks, necessitating a sufficient level of reserves. Additionally, the Council should have the flexibility to utilise reserves for projects with potential benefits or when there is a shift in strategic direction. Specific reserves are held for the above risks. The Council remains committed to maintaining financial resilience during these challenging times.

5.3. The petition and any subsequent Community Governance Review (CGR) for the potential creation of a West Bridgford Town Council could result in additional costs falling on West Bridgford Special Expenses, including consultation, governance, election and implementation costs. The timing and financial impact remain uncertain and will be monitored as the process develops.

6. Implications

6.1. Financial Implications

Financial implications are covered in the body of the report.

6.2. Legal Implications

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. It supports the delivery of a balanced budget.

6.3. Equalities Implications

There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

6.4. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications

There are no direct Section 17 implications arising from this report.

6.5. Biodiversity Net Gain

There are no direct Biodiversity Net Gain implications arising from this report.

6.6. Local Government Reorganisation

There are no Local Government Reorganisation implications associated with this report.

7. Link to Corporate Priorities

The Environment	Successful management of the Council's resources can help the Council deliver on its goals as stated in the Corporate Strategy and monitored through this quarterly report
Quality of Life	
Efficient Services	
Sustainable Growth	

8. Recommendations

It is RECOMMENDED that the Corporate Overview Group scrutinises:

a) the projected revenue budget efficiency for the year of £0.379m and proposals to appropriate this to the LGR Reserve given the risks surrounding LGR (paragraph 4.13)

b) the projected capital budget efficiencies of £1.203m including the budget changes in Appendix E

c) the projected underspend on Special Expenses of £2k (paragraph 4.8)

d) the procurement KPIs to judge whether further information is required

e) performance exceptions, to judge whether further information is required.

For more information contact:	Peter Linfield Director of Finance and Corporate Services Tel: 0115 9148 439 plinfield@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers available for Inspection:	Council 5 March 2026 – 2026/27 Budget and Financial Strategy Cabinet 14 July 2026 – Financial Outturn 2025/26
List of appendices:	**Appendix A** – Revenue Projected Outturn Position 2026/27 - June 2026 **Appendix B** – Revenue Variances over £25k - June 2026 **Appendix C** – Special Expenses Monitoring – June 2026 **Appendix D** - Capital Programme Summary 2026/27 - June 2026 **Appendix E** - Changes to Capital Budget **Appendix F** – Capital Variance Explanations – June 2026 **Appendix G –** Strategic Performance Scorecard

Projected Revenue Outturn Position 2026/27 – June 2026

2026/27	Original Budget £000	Revised Budget £000	Projected Outturn £000	Projected Variance over/(under) £000
Chief Executive	1,783	1,783	1,817	34
Development & Economic Growth	1,119	1,462	1,427	(35)
Finance & Corporate	5,594	5,732	5,439	(294)
Neighbourhoods	8,849	8,849	9,056	208
Sub Total	**17,344**	**17,826**	**17,739**	**(87)**
Capital Accounting Reversals	(4,246)	(4,246)	(4,246)	0
Minimum Revenue Provision	1,237	1,237	1,237	0
Total Net Service Expenditure	**14,335**	**14,817**	**14,730**	**(87)**
Grant Income	(6,489)	(6,489)	(6,781)	(292)
Collection Fund	(11,456)	(11,456)	(11,456)	0
Total Funding	**(17,945)**	**(17,945)**	**(18,237)**	**(292)**
Net Transfer to/(from) Reserves	**3,610**	**3,128**	**3,507**	**379**
Posts funded from LGR Reserve				(132)
Funded from Planning Appeals Reserve				(45)
Top up Planning Appeaks Reserve				45
Create Building Control Reserve				133
Top up LGR reserve				378
Total Committed from underspend				**379**
Net Budget Deficit/(Surplus)				**(0)**

Revenue Variance Explanations (over £25k)

Adverse variances in excess of £25k

Department	Reason	Projected Outturn Variance £000
Strategic Housing	Previously centralised schemes now fall under remit of RBC, this was accounted for in Government overall funding settlement but costs were unknown at time of budget setting	174
Depot & Contracts/Streetwise	Increasing cost of diesel/HVO	146
Finance	Additional posts to support LGR (Data Analyst/Finance Business Partner) partly covered from LGR reserve	75
Legal	External legal support and interim Monitoring Officer to cover demand	50
Planning & Growth	Shortfall in planning income projected due to reduced demand	50
Environmental Health	Legal fees	41
Depot & Contracts	Shortfal in Garden Waste income projected	39
Planning & Growth	Net effect of Gamston SPD (agency £95k, legal costs £67k less PPA income £117k)	45
Environmental Health	Shorthall in projected taxi income	26
Total Adverse Variances		**646**

Favourable variances in excess of £25k

Department	Reason	Projected Outturn Variance £000
Finance	Additional interest income	(205)
Depot & Contracts	Additonal income from glass sales due to higher per tonne price	(175)
Benefits	Variance arising from net effect of housing beneifts subsidy based on initial estimate	(85)
Streetwise	Salary savings in grounds maintenance	(38)
Property	Vacant post not filled	(57)
BSU	Salaries savings due to part year vacancies and staff turnover	(55)
Communities	Additional football income	(34)
Depot & Contracts	NDR East Leake Leisure Centre variance to estimated budget actual is determined by valuation office	(32)
ICT	In year vacancies and staff turnover	(31)
Finance	Savings on external payroll provision due to change in provider	(27)
Property	Saving on electricity at Rushcliffe Arena due to installation of solar panels	(27)
Total Favourable Variances		**(766)**
Other minor variances		**33**
Total Net Service Expenditure Variance		**(87)**

Special Expenses Monitoring June 2026

2025/26	Orignal Budget	Projected Outturn	Variance	Reasons
West Bridgford				
Parks & Playing Fields	471,000	464,000	(7,000)	Tennis income was not budgeted
West Bridgford Town Centre	130,600	130,600	0	
Community Halls	137,600	142,600	5,000	Variation in NDR cost to budget
Repayment of Revenue Deficit	30,000	30,000	0	
Annuity Charges	158,000	158,000	0	
Revenue Contribution to Capital Outlay	100,000	100,000	0	
Sinking Fund (The Hook)	20,000	20,000	0	
Total	**1,047,200**	**1,045,200**	**(2,000)**	
Keyworth				
Keyworth Cemetery	10,000	10,000	0	
Annuity	600	600	0	
Total	**10,600**	**10,600**	**0**	
Ruddington				
Ruddington Cemetery	11,500	11,500	0	
Total	**11,500**	**11,500**	**0**	
Total Special Expenses	**1,069,300**	**1,067,300**	**(2,000)**	

Capital Programme Summary 2026/27 – June 2026

2026/27	Original Budget £000	Current Budget £000	Projected Actual	Projected in year cost/(efficiency) £0002	Reason
Development & Economic Growth	1,470	2,266	1,653	(613)	£200k ROT Masterplan not yet committed, £209k Rushcliffe Oaks PV undergoing evaluation. Potential to reprofile £411k to 27/28.
Neighbourhoods	5,143	7,591	7,001	(590)	£136k variance on Arena Solar Panels, costs less than original estimate (corresponding reduction in grant funding); £114k variance on Vehicle Acquisition but this sum will be needed in 27/28; and £77k variance on Support for RHPs which will also be needed in 27/28.
Finance & Corporate Services	485	868	868	-	
Contingency	0	0	0	-	
Total Expenditure	**7,098**	**10,725**	**9,522**	**(1,203)**	
Funded By					
Capital Receipts	325	1,450	1,005	(445)	Primarily: variance on the Crematorium as PV works not yet committed; £70k saving on Toothill contribution; balance relates to schemes which may be reprofiled to 27/28.
Government Grants	2,224	2,302	2,168	(134)	£136k variance on Arena Solar Panels offset by £2k additional grant for Warm Homes.
Other Grants & Contributions	0	385	385	-	
Section 106 / CIL	0	1,205	1,128	(77)	Arising from £77k variance on Support for RHPs, sum will be needed in 27/28.
Use of Reserves	4,549	5,383	4,836	(547)	Primarily: £200k not yet committed ROT Masterplan; £114k Vehicle Acquisition potlentially to be reprofiled to 27/28; and £138k potentially to be reprofiled to 27/28 for work to Investment Properties.
Borrowing	-	-	-	-	
Total Funding	**7,098**	**10,725**	**9,522**	**(1,203)**	

Changes to Capital Budget – June 2026

Budget Change / Scheme	Adjustments £000	Comment	Funded by
Original Estimate Approved	**7,098**		
Various	3,145	2025/26 Carryforwards - Cabinet 14 July 2026	Mix of receipts, grants, and reserves.
Various	(37)	Accelerations from 2026/27 to 2025/26 - Cabinet 14 July 2026	Reserves
FMS Replacement System	140	From 2025/26 revenue underspends - Cabinet 14 July 2026	Organisation Stabilisation Reserve.
West Park Enhancements	(55)	Budget not required, vired to Hook new scheme	Capital receipts
West Bridgford Play Areas	(35)	Budget vired to Hook new scheme	Regeneration & Community Projects Reserve
The Hook new scheme	110	£35k from WB play areas and £55k from West Park Enhancements, £30k additional budget	Capital receipts repayable by SE annuity
Bridgford Park	10	Vired from West Park Enhancements for commemorative installation and tree carving	Capital receipts repayable by SE annuity
ICT Security	(30)	Virement between ICT budgets	Organisation Stabilisation Reserve.
IT Replacement Programme	16	Virement between ICT budgets	Organisation Stabilisation Reserve.
Technical Infrastructure	14	Virement between ICT budgets	Organisation Stabilisation Reserve.
Disabled Facilities Grants	(108)	Transfer funding to discretionary pot	Govt Grant
Disabled Facilities Grants (Discretionary)	108	Top up from DFG budget	Govt Grant
Arena Solar Panels	349	Installation of Solar Panels, grant funded	Govt Grant
Current Budget Quarter 3	**10,725**		

Capital Variance Explanations – June 2026

Name	Opening Budget	Current budget	Actual YTD	Projected Outturn	Projected Outturn Variance	Comment
Development & Economic Growth						
REPF GRANT BUSINESS GRANTS CAP PROJECTS	0	5,000	0	5,000	0	
UKSPF BUSINESS SUPPORT GRANTS	0	6,000	4,041	4,000	(2,000)	Whole grant balancewill not to be utilised on business support grants, remaining funding to be applied The Hook (new scheme).
KEYWORTH CEMETERY 22-23	0	25,000	0	0	(25,000)	Concept design prepared; application to be submitted to local Diocese for approval; likely that cost will exceed budget available - contingency application/allocation will be required. Grade 1 Listed so works to wall not straight forward. This expenditure is a Special Expense for Keyworth. It is unlikely that any expenditure will be incurred this year.
MANVERS BP ENHANCEMENTS	70,000	105,000	(13,270)	35,000	(70,000)	Final payment to roofing contractor to be released. EPC improvement work for MEES: LED lights/extractor fans. Actual is o/s accrual. Awaiting warranty docs. £70k energy efficiency works - awaiting legislation change re minimum energy standards.
STREETWISE DEPOT	0	34,000	(3,209)	34,000	0	Air conditioning for the office to be commissioned, motorising shutters, external storage space at back of building.
BRIDGFORD PARK KIOSK	0	0	(3,019)	0	0	O/s accrual. Building control need to sign the job off.
COLLIERS BP CP SURFACE/DRAIN	50,000	50,000	0	0	(50,000)	Energy efficiency works to improve EPC rating. Roof surface improvements. As with Manvers, minimum energy works, not likely this year
HIGHWAYS VERGE IMPS	0	237,000	0	237,000	0	Engagement with Via appointed to do design work. Work to be commissioned. 4 areas Cotgrave and Cropwell Bishop. Looking to ask for further funds to be able to complete all 4 areas - potentially £450k.
BINGHAM LEISURE HUB	0	8,000	8,288	8,000	0	Expenditure on Building Management System enhancements. System controls heating/cooling and monitoring mechanical equipment.
CAR PARK RESURFACING	200,000	214,000	0	214,000	0	Feasibility for scope of work Newgate St Car Park and possibly RCP. Works planned for Q4.
WATERCOURSE IMPROVEMENTS	0	16,000	(6,765)	5,000	(11,000)	A further phase of work is planned for 27/28 which is currently estimated to cost £70k (new capital appraisal to be prepared) - this balance to be used to supplement the further phase. Actual is an o/s accrual. Balance to be carried forward for next phase of works. Some design works in year.
THE POINT	0	68,000	(400)	50,000	(18,000)	Basement waterproofing work to be done and replacement auto entrance door, fire protection system. Actual is an o/s accrual.
EXTNAL DOOR/WINDOW UPGRADES	0	39,000	0	11,000	(28,000)	Potential schemes: Eaton Place and Streetwise.
COTGRAVE BUSINESS HUB	0	30,000	0	30,000	0	Power bollards and canopy lighting to be undertaken.
THE CREMATORIUM	0	279,000	18,264	70,000	(209,000)	Works undertaken; replacement entrance doors, feature bench,water Feature, hot water cylinder. Remaining provision £209k for PV is being evaluated.
RADCLIFFE-ON-TRENT MASTERPLAN	1,000,000	1,000,000	0	800,000	(200,000)	Provision is for land acquisition for car parking. Deal has been agreed. £200k not yet committed.
HAMMERHEAD MOORBRIDGE	150,000	150,000	0	150,000	0	Planning application to be submitted. Works planned for Q4.
Development & Economic Growth Total	**1,470,000**	**2,266,000**	**3,928**	**1,653,000**	**(613,000)**	

Name	Opening Budget	Current budget	Actual YTD	Projected Outturn	Projected Outturn Variance	Comment
Neighbourhoods						
LAND ACQ CARBON OFFSETTING	0	0	4,700	5,000	5,000	Legal fees relating to the acquisition of Wolds Wood in 25-26.
WARM HOMES GRANT	535,000	535,000	(0)	537,500	2,500	2nd year of scheme, expenditure reprofiled, will be fully funded by Govt Grant.
REGISTERED HOUSING PROVIDERS	0	1,197,000	578,180	1,120,000	(77,000)	First tranche of grant released for Affordable Housing units Hollygate Lane Cotgrave. Fourth tranche to be released in 27/28.
WEST PARK ENHANCEMENTS	80,000	25,000	(11,960)	25,000	0	£80k was estimated for tennis courts and storage solution. Savings have been achieved for both and only one tennis court to upgraded, total required £25k. Remaining budget vired to The Hook (new scheme)
DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT	920,000	997,000	174,679	806,000	(191,000)	Projected actual is £806k at this stage but it is expected that the budget will be fully committed.
DISCRETIONARY TOP-UPS DFGs	0	181,000	32,527	101,000	(80,000)	Projected actual is £101k at this stage but it is expected that the budget will be fully committed.
CLC AND KLC ENHANCEMENTS	20,000	40,000	(126,792)	30,000	(10,000)	£29k invoice to be processed for Cotgrave media filter replacement. Actual is outstaing retention accruals.
ARENA DEVELOPMENT	450,000	450,000	0	450,000	0	Facility now 10 years old and requires some updating, main works; £250k Studio 3 removal of low wall and ventilation works, £200k roof works which may not all be needed.
TOOTHILL SPORTS COMPLEX IMPROVEMENTS	0	200,000	10,792	203,500	3,500	Back out to tender, predict small overpsend. Risk project may slip to quarter 2 2027/28 summer holidays.
EGC ENHANCEMENTS	50,000	290,000	40,629	295,300	5,300	Projected overspend taking account of staff costs.
SHARPHILL COMMUNITY FACILITY	0	120,000	(22,470)	120,000	0	Scheme Completed July 26. Final payments to be made to contractor and consultants.Snagging to be addressed.
BRIDGFORD PARK	0	10,000	0	10,000	0	Commemorative installation and tree carvings.
PLAY AREAS/FACS FOR OLD CHILDN	100,000	73,000	55,004	73,000	0	West Park Play Area and Teen Facility completed at £55k is complete. Balance not yet committed but will be used for other play areas on a priority basis.
VEHICLE REPLACEMENT	1,868,000	1,899,000	104,385	1,785,000	(114,000)	Mower, Panel Van, Ford Transit Tipper, and Top Dresser acquired. 9 food waste trucks to be purchased circa £1.250m plus 26t Refuse Freighter, Caged Tipper, Cylinder Mower, Ford Transit Van, Depp Slitter, and a Mowing Deck to be acquired. A grant of £41k has been secured from the Football Association to part fund Streetwise Equipment needed.
RCP ENHANCEMENTS/ROU ASSET IFRS16	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	0	Works completed.
ARENA SOLAR PANELS	0	349,000	112,967	212,500	(136,500)	Installation of the solar panels fully funded by Govt Grant. Original estimated costs exceeded acquisition and installation required.
HOUND LODGE ENHANCEMENTS	395,000	395,000	0	395,000	0	New windows required not in original scheme. These are required in order to ensure that the energy efficiency works can be carried out. This will increase the costs and a capital contingency application will be made. Air Conditioner to be installed in the Manager's office.
GRESHAM PAVILION	200,000	210,000	0	210,000	0	Planned works; £110k for shower upgrade work, £10k for acquisition of a vending machine, £80-90k for Solar PV.
EMPTY HOMES CPOs	250,000	250,000	0	250,000	0	Work is continuing regarding contacting home owners and trying to engage in the process of bringing properties back into use.
THE HOOK PLAY AREA	0	110,000	0	112,000	2,000	New Scheme with £30k additional funding which will increase the SE annuity with balance vired from other WB Play Areas Capital Provision.
THE HOOK WORKS (FOOTPATHS)	50,000	35,000	0	35,000	0	Works completed.
GRANT POT FOR FOOTBALL FACILITIES	200,000	200,000	0	200,000	0	Portion of grant to be used to employ grant application specialist to assist Football Clubs. Budget was based on 8 grants x £50k (£200k in 26/27 and 27/28) but applications to this level not expected. Grant provision £375k over 26/27 and 27/28; 25k consultancy support in 26/27.
Neighbourhoods Total	**5,143,000**	**7,591,000**	**977,640**	**7,000,800**	**(590,200)**	

Name	Opening Budget	Current budget	Actual YTD	Projected Outturn	Projected Outturn Variance	Comment
Finance & Corporate Services						
ICT REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME	135,000	135,000	44,514	135,000	0	Expenditure on target
FMS REPLACEMENT	0	189,000	0	189,000	0	Work is ongoing to upgrade the FMS System
ICT SECURITY	50,000	88,000	0	88,000	0	Potential budget pressures.
TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE	65,000	65,000	13,791	65,000	0	Expenditure has commenced.
DIGITAL STRATEGY	60,000	60,000	(8,000)	60,000	0	Actual is an outstanding accrual.
APPLICATIONS/APPS	75,000	106,000	0	106,000	0	No expenditure yet but expected to be spent.
Finance & Corporate Services Total	**385,000**	**643,000**	**50,305**	**643,000**	**0**	
Contingency						
CAPITAL CONTINGENCY	100,000	225,000	0	225,000	0	£125k carried forward from 2025/26 underspends. Potential commitments for Hound Lodge and Keyworth Cemetery.
Contingency Total	**100,000**	**225,000**	**0**	**225,000**	**0**	
Total Capital Programme	**7,098,000**	**10,725,000**	**1,031,873**	**9,521,800**	**(1,203,200)**	

Summary of Performance Indicators - Strategic Scorecard

Environment

Status	Strategic Task	Dates Due Date	Status Progress Bar
▶	**ST2427_01 Deliver Rushcliffe's Climate Change Strategy 2021-2030**	**31-Mar-2030**	73%

Key Achievements 2025/6

1. **Council: Decarbonising Operations**

   Fleet Transition: The use of HVO fuel continues to be rolled out across the fleet. In addition, a further four new electric vehicles have been added into the Council's operational fleet, reducing annual emissions by approx. 12 tonnes CO_2e. The Council continue to monitor costs of both HVO and diesel in light of the current situation in the Persian Gulf region.

   Energy Efficiency Upgrades: Cotgrave LC, Sir Julien Cahn and Gamston Community Hall have all benefited from a variety of energy efficiency improvements including PV, air source heat pumps and smart controls across achieving carbon neutral energy use when on a REGO tariff. Further rollout of retrofitting LED lighting in other Council buildings.

   Carbon Literacy Training: Delivered training to over 80 staff members, embedding climate awareness into daily operations and decision-making.

   Green Procurement Policy: Rolled out updated corporate procurement guidelines prioritising low-carbon suppliers and materials.

Status	Strategic Task	Dates Due Date	Status Progress Bar

2. **Community: Supporting Residents and Businesses**

Business Climate Network: Launched a local business forum to share best practices on sustainability, with 35 SMEs participating in the first year.

Community Climate Grants: Funded 12 grassroots projects including repair cafés, community gardens, and energy advice workshops.

Public Engagement: Ran a successful "Climate Conversations" campaign, reaching over 5,000 residents through events, surveys, and social media.

3. **Conservation: Enhancing Natural Assets**

Tree Planting Programme: Planted 3,000 native trees across parks and green corridors, contributing to biodiversity and carbon sequestration. The community tree planting scheme for parish and town council's was expanded for Winter 2025. Planting of 16,541 trees and shrubs at Rushcliffe Wood, Upper Broughton and 25,210 trees and shrubs at Wolds Wood, Kinoulton, commenced in early 2026.

Biodiversity Action Plan Delivery: Restored 5 hectares of wildflower meadows and improved 2 local nature reserves with new habitats and signage.

Land Acquisition: During 2025 land was purchase, this was approximately 50 acres of land at Upper Broughton to form Rushcliffe Wood and a further approximate 50 acres at Kinoulton to form Wolds Wood. This will be used to offset the residual carbon generated from Council Operations

Citizen Science Initiatives: Engaged over 200 volunteers in wildlife monitoring and habitat surveys, strengthening local data and stewardship.

Status	Strategic Task	Dates Due Date	Status Progress Bar
▶	**ST2427_02 Implement the Environment Act commitments**	**31-Mar-2027**	46%

Communities - Officers continue to work toward implementing the Biodiversity net gain (BNG) commitments from the Environment Act.

The main focus this quarter has been the further embedding of the BNG process with Planning and Growth with staff continuing to update the guidance and undertaking assessment of planning application with BNG obligations. By 31 December 2025 four Biodiversity Net Gain reports submitted under planning permissions have been approved.

Further work has included consultation with county wide BNG group and supporting the development and implementation of the county **Local Nature Recovery Strategy**, which published by the county council in November 2025.

The Environment Act has a target to contribute to an increase in tree canopy and woodland cover in England to 17.5% by 2050. The purchase of land for additional tree planning for Carbon offsetting will contribute to this objective. Work has continued to allow the purchase of land to create Rushcliffe Woods and Wolds Wood for carbon offsetting towards Council carbon neutral target of 2030.

Biodiversity Duty: The Environment Act requires the local authority to produce a report every 5 years on the actions taken by the council, the first report was published on the council's website in March 2026. A workshop for service area leads will be held in May 2026 to review potential biodiversity impacts from council services and potential action to address these issues.

Environmental Health: The Council undertook a public consultation exercise in 2024 with a proposal to revoke the existing Smoke Control Orders and replacing these with a single Smoke Control Order, covering the whole of the Borough. It was agreed to delay any decision to implement such an order for a period of 2 years (2026). In the meantime work has continued over the quarter to educate and advise the public on the use of wood fired burners.

Waste and Resources: There is a national target to reduce residual waste (excluding major mineral wastes) per capita by 50% by 2042. A key task is the implementation of the national Simpler Recycling scheme which is well underway with the delivery of glass recycling bins to households across the borough completed and a new kerbside glass collection

Status	Strategic Task	Dates Due Date	Status Progress Bar
	service started in December 2025. A countywide communication package to promote and educate the public on the wider range of dry recycling that are now allowed in the blue wheeled bin was widely communicated with the distribution of over 50,000 new recycling stickers to residents. The changes came into effect on 31 March 2026 and include from 1 April 206 including clean food trays and tetra packs to help further increase recycling rates and reduce contamination levels. Work is now ongoing to deliver a new weekly food waste collection service by October 2027 as well as looking into a new service to collect soft plastics from households. However, DEFRA have now confirmed the collections of soft plastics will not become mandatory until March 2030 Missed bin figures are slightly above target and higher than the first quarter last year in the main down to some staff sickness. Performance is being managed with the collection crews and whilst we will continue to monitor the numbers each month the Council collect over 3.7 million bins each year with a success rate of 99.9% of bins collected on schedule		

Status	Ref.	Description	Q1 2026/27			2026/27	2025/26
			Value	Target	Long Trend	Target	Value
	CS_LINS01	Percentage of streets passing clean streets inspections	94.3%	98.0%		98.0%	95.2%
	CS_LINS06	Cumulative number of fly tipping cases (against cumulative monthly comparison for last year)	360	357		1430	1430
	CS_LINS18	Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting	47.73%	47.5%		45%	43.22%
	CS_LINS20	Percentage recycling contamination rate	9.12%	12%		12%	12.5%
	CS_LINS23	Residual waste collected per household, in kilos	112.12	117.50		470	454.22
	CS_LINS77	Percentage reduction of CO_2 from the Council's own operations (from 2008/09 baseline)	Reported annually				-56%

Quality of Life

Status	Strategic Task	Dates Due Date	Status Progress Bar
	ST2427_03 Be an active partner in the delivery of the East Midlands Devolution Deal	**31-Mar-2027**	100%

This task has been delivered and incorporated into business as usual.

Status	Strategic Task	Dates Due Date	Status Progress Bar
	ST2427_04 Deliver Rushcliffe's Leisure Strategy 2021-2027	**31-Mar-2027**	100%

A project team has been created to support the end of the East Leake PFI in 2027 which will see the inclusion of the leisure facility in the Council's leisure contract. The Council has also developed an opportunity to lease West Park cricket facility to Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club which will see the facility become a hub for community cricket, while also providing high-quality facilities for the club's expanded player pathway, which gives boys and girls the opportunity to progress towards a professional career. In line with the local football facilities plan strategy a number of joint visits have taken place to sites that have been identified and participation information shared. Green flags achieved at Rushcliffe Country Park, the Hook and Sharphill Woods. The new walking and cycling bridge over the river Trent is in place and will shortly open to members of the public. Work has completed on the Council's new community venue in Sharphill near Edwalton, which will provide an exciting new space for residents, groups and businesses to enjoy. This new facility was opened July 2026

Status	Ref.	Description	Q1 2026/27			2026/27	2025/26
			Value	Target	Long Trend	Target	Value
	CS_LINS25	Number of households living in temporary accommodation	20	18		18	9

Housing Options continues to experience significant demand pressures, with high levels of temporary accommodation usage, homelessness presentations, reviews, and also complaints and legal challenges creating ongoing capacity issues.

Status	Ref.	Description	Q1 2026/27			2026/27	2025/26
			Value	Target	Long Trend	Target	Value
	CS_LINS26a	Cumulative number of main housing duty decisions issued	22	21		21	72
	CS_LINS27a	Average length of stay of all households in temporary accommodation	7 weeks	12 weeks		12 weeks	8 weeks
	CS_LINS29a	Cumulative number of successful homelessness prevention outcomes	21	15		60	58
	CS_LINS31a	Percentage of applicants within Bands 1 and 2 rehoused within 26 weeks from the date of application	93%	60%		60%	83.67%
	CS_LINS32	Average number of weeks for all Home Search applicants to be rehoused through Choice Based Lettings	40 weeks	55 weeks		55 weeks	32 weeks
	CS_LINS51	Number of leisure centre users - public	309,171	284,996		1,200,000	1,298,905
	CS_LINS52	Number of Edwalton Golf Courses users	20,622	19,617		53,000	64,559
	CS_LINS72b	Percentage usage of community facilities	40.5%	40%		40%	40%
	CS_LINS80a	Percentage food businesses broadly compliant at first assessment / inspection	97%	91%		91%	95%
	CS_LINS80g	All crime figures within Rushcliffe per 1000 per head of population	13.57	-		-	46.78

Sustainable Growth

<table>
<tr><th>Status</th><th>Strategic Task</th><th>Dates Due Date</th><th>Status Progress Bar</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>ST2427_05 Provide community leadership in the redevelopment of the Ratcliffe on Soar site, during and post decommissioning of the power station</td><td>31-Mar-2027</td><td>50%</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Officers are actively engaged in the redevelopment of the Ratcliffe on Soar site, working closely with Uniper, the East Midlands Freeport and other partners, while also using strategic and parish forums to engage with key stakeholders. This approach ensures the Council is influencing plans and championing local interests as proposals and the wider masterplanning continue to develop.</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>ST2427_06 Implement Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill commitments</td><td>31-Mar-2027</td><td>10%</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">The Levelling-up and Regeneration Act came into effect in 2023, however whilst the Act is now law, it requires secondary legislation and further guidance to be fully implemented. Key secondary legislation still not in place include new Infrastructure Levy and National Development Management Policies. Hence, the percentage progress of this task is still relatively low.</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>ST2427_07 Adopt the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan</td><td>31-Mar-2027</td><td>75%</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan was submitted for examination on 22 December 2025. Three inspectors have been appointed to conduct the examination.

The latest GNSP timetable is:

Submission of GNSP for examination – December 2025
Examination in Public start – January 2026
Examination hearings – July 2026
Receipt of Inspector’s Report – December 2026 to January 2027
Adoption December – January 2027 to February 2027</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>ST2427_08 Support the delivery of the new employment sites and new homes, including meeting affordable housing targets, at key sites including Fairham, Gamston, RAF Newton and Bingham</td><td>31-Mar-2027</td><td>50%</td></tr>
</table>

Status	Strategic Task	Dates Due Date	Status Progress Bar
	With the exception of the Gamston site, where two applications are currently pending consideration and a third is expected later this year, the strategic sites now have the benefit of planning permission, and are delivering much needed housing in the Borough to meet local and national targets.		
	ST2427_13 Continue to be an active partner in the delivery of the East Midlands Combined County Authority aims and objectives	**31-Mar-2026**	100%
	We remain an active partner with both senior officers and Councillors engaging with EMCCA officers.		

Status	Ref.	Description	Q1 2026/27			2026/27	2025/26
			Value	Target	Long Trend	Target	Value
	CS_LIDEG05	Percentage of appeals allowed against total number of Major planning applications determined by the authority	12.5%	10%		10%	2.9%
1 out of 8 appeals were allowed, this was a major application for Wysall Solar Farm.							
	CS_LIDEG06	Percentage of appeals allowed against total number of Non-Major planning applications determined by the authority	2.7%	10%		10%	0.7%
	CS_LIDEG07	Number of planning applications received	360	-		-	1326
	CS_LIDEG09	Number of Planning Application decisions issued	544	-		-	1188
	CS_LIDEG33	Number of new homes built	No data available			-	-
	CS_LIDEG34	Area of new employment floorspace built (sq mtrs)	No data available			-	-

Status	Ref.	Description	Q1 2026/27			2026/27	2025/26
			Value	Target	Long Trend	Target	Value
	CS_LIDEG41	Level of income generated through letting property owned by the Council but not occupied by the Council	£492,725	£479,000		£1,916,000	£2,000,759
	CS_LIDEG50	Percentage of UKSPF and REPF funding allocated	No data, see note	100%		100%	100%
	CS_LINS24	Number of affordable homes delivered	70	40		160	229
	CS_LINS60	Number of users of paid council car parks	Awaiting data	255,250		1,021,000	1,021,492
	CS_LINS61	Total car parking income	Awaiting data	£291,250		£1,165,000	£1,164,340.54

*Note: UKSPF will cease in September 2026/27, no further award is expected in quarters 1 or 2.

Efficient Services

Status	Strategic Task	Dates Due Date	Status Progress Bar
	ST2427_10 Deliver good value for money in Council operations for our residents	31-Mar-2027	75%

Current progress is 25% for 2026/27 (and 75% overall) and is being monitored through the year with the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

Status	Strategic Task	Dates Due Date	Status Progress Bar
	ST2427_14 Be an active partner in the delivery of Local Government Reorganisation for the Nottinghamshire region	31-Mar-2026	100%

A Government decision was received on 16 July indicating the preferred option was Bii, the proposal that placed areas of Rushcliffe Borough Council, Broxtowe Borough Council and Gedling District Council with Nottingham City Council. Work will continue to prepare for the transfer of functions and staff to the new authority on 1 April 2028.

Status	Ref.	Description	Q1 2026/27			2026/27	2025/26
			Value	Target	Long Trend	Target	Value
	CS_LIDEG 02a	Percentage of major applications dealt with in 13 weeks or agreed period (10 or more houses) - quarterly	92.5%	70%		70%	95.7%
	CS_LIDEG 03a	Percentage of non-major applications dealt with in 13 weeks or agreed period (10 or more houses) - quarterly	88.6%	80%		80%	90.4%
	CS_LIDEG 10a	Priority 1 planning enforcement inspections carried out in target time	100%	90%		90%	93.96%
	CS_LIDEG 40b	Percentage of council owned units occupied	95.45%	95%		95%	96.42%

Status	Ref.	Description	Q1 2026/27			2026/27	2025/26
			Value	Target	Long Trend	Target	Value
✓	CS_LIDEG 42	Percentage of privately owned industrial units occupied	91.68%	92%	↓	92%	92%
✓	CS_LIDEG 60	Number of cremations held at Rushcliffe Oaks	193	188	↑	753	770
✓	CS_LIDEG 61	Income from all activities at Rushcliffe Oaks	£218,204	£214,150	↑	£856,600	£214,150
✓	CS_LIFCS 10	Percentage of invoices for commercial goods and services which were paid by the authority in payment terms	98.95%	98.00%	↑	98.00%	95.61%
✓	CS_LIFCS 15	Value of savings achieved by the Transformation Strategy against the programme at the start of the financial year	£0.44m	£0.077m	↑	£0.314	£1m
⚠	CS_LIFCS 20	Percentage of Council Tax collected in year	29.06%	29.40%	↓	99.00%	99.10%
✓	CS_LIFCS 21	Percentage of Non-domestic Rates collected in year	40.24%	38.20%	↑	99.20%	99.50%
✓	CS_LIFCS 22a	Average number of days to process a new housing benefit claim	9.14	12.5	↑	12.5	10.19
✓	CS_LIFCS 22b	Average number of days to process a change in circumstances to a housing benefit claim	2.05	4	↑	4	3.23
✓	CS_LIFCS 22c	Average number of days to process a new council tax reduction claim	11.84	17.5	↑	17.5	11.5
✓	CS_LIFCS 22d	Average number of days to process a change in circumstances to council tax benefit claim	1.41	3.5	↑	3.5	2.61
✓	CS_LIFCS 33	Percentage of time when key ICT systems are unaffected by downtime (cumulative)	99.6%	99.5%	↑	99.5%	99.6%

Status	Ref.	Description	Q1 2026/27			2026/27	2025/26
			Value	Target	Long Trend	Target	Value
	CS_LIFCS 43a	Percentage of expected Councillors attending in-person training events this municipal year	23.86%	65%		65%	51.13%
The percentage of Councillors attending in-person training events is below target. A number of in-person training events are planned for this year however, it should be noted that the uncertainty surrounding LGR, a potentially higher number of meetings also due to LGR, and this being the ‘expected’ final year of the electoral cycle may all naturally decrease the engagement of Councillors in training across the board.							
	CS_LIFCS 43b	Percentage of Councillors completing e-learning mandatory e-learning modules this municipal year	86%	80%		80%	83.7%
	CS_LIFCS 52	Percentage of complaints responded to within target times	100.0%	95.0%		95.0%	100.0%
	CS_LIFCS 62	Percentage increase in digital transactions	6.51%	1%		3.0%	3.89%
	CS_LIFCS 65	Percentage of telephone enquiries to Rushcliffe Customer Service Centre resolved at first point of contact	93%	87%		87%	93.25%
	CS_LINS03	Percentage of town centres restored to Grade A cleanliness before 10am	97.57%	92%		92%	96.8%
	CS_LINS04	Streetwise income from external customers and key partners	£120,000	£105,000		£420,000	£502,000
	CS_LINS07a	Percentage of licensing applications processed within target time	98.8%	90%		90%	97.04%
	CS_LINS12	Average length of time for the approval of a DFG	1 week	8 weeks		8 weeks	1 weeks
	CS_LINS19b	Number of missed bins (residual, dry recycling, glass and garden waste) reported	757	750		500	3,684
	CS_LINS49	Number of empty homes brought back into use	3	3		10	23

Status	Ref.	Description	Q1 2026/27			2026/27	2025/26
			Value	Target	Long Trend	Target	Value
	CS_LINS7 3a	Income generated from community buildings	£34,413.84	£32,800.00		£131,200	£106,050.75
	CS_LINS7 3b	Income generated from parks, pitches and open spaces	£107,337.01	£79,750.00		£319,000	£385,201.22

Corporate Overview Group

Tuesday, 1 September 2026

Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes

Rushcliffe
Borough Council

Report of the Director – Finance and Corporate Services

1. Purpose of report

1.1. The terms of reference for the Corporate Overview Group accepted at Council in May 2019 clearly state that a key responsibility of this Group is to:

- Create and receive feedback on work programmes for the Growth and Development, Communities, and Governance Scrutiny Groups based on the Cabinet Forward Plan, Corporate Strategy, Medium Term Financial Strategy, Capital and Investment Strategy and Transformation and Efficiency Programme.

1.2. Each meeting of the Corporate Overview Group considers the work programmes for the Growth and Development, Communities, and Governance Scrutiny Groups as well as any new Scrutiny Requests put forward by Councillors and Officers. Those items that are agreed for scrutiny are included on a future work programme for one of the four Scrutiny Groups.

1.3. Work programmes for each of the groups were reviewed in June 2026 to ensure they reflected the current priorities of the Council.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that the Corporate Overview Group:

a) consider any additional items for scrutiny from the current Cabinet Forward Plan, Corporate Strategy, Medium Term Financial Strategy, Capital and Investment Strategy and Transformation and Efficiency Programme (Appendix One)

b) determine any additional topics to be included in a scrutiny group work programme for 2026/27 for each of the scrutiny groups as presented on newly submitted scrutiny requests (Appendix Two)

c) review the current work programme for each of the scrutiny groups (Appendix Three).

3. Reasons for Recommendation

3.1. To fulfil the requirements of the terms of reference for the Corporate Overview Group and ensure effective scrutiny of decisions.

4. Supporting Information

4.1. The Council's scrutiny structure comprises of one Corporate Overview Group and three additional Scrutiny Groups focused on Growth and Development, Communities, and Governance. The Corporate Overview Group is responsible for setting the work programmes for all scrutiny groups based on the Cabinet Forward Plan, Corporate Strategy, Medium Term Financial Strategy, Capital and Investment Strategy and Transformation and Efficiency Programme. Links to these documents can be found at Appendix One.

4.2. The Corporate Overview Group considers potential items for scrutiny (submitted by officers and Councillors on a Scrutiny Request Form) at each meeting of the Corporate Overview Group. No new Scrutiny Requests have been submitted. However, Councillor Gowland has requested that the scope of the approved scrutiny item for Communities Scrutiny Group entitled 'Review of debt collection agents by RBC in line with the outcome of the Government's consultation on Council Tax and Enforcement' currently scheduled for January 2027 is extended to include additional questions contained at Appendix Two.

4.3. Appendix Three shows the work programmes for all scrutiny groups as agreed in June 2026 by the Corporate Overview Group. The Group is asked to consider if the work programmes remain appropriate and achievable for the current year.

4.4. There are no items on the work programme for Growth and Development Scrutiny Group and no new Scrutiny Requests for this Group have been received. Therefore it is proposed that the October meeting of this Group is cancelled for lack of business.

4.5. Any additional items identified from the Cabinet Forward Plan, Corporate Strategy, Medium Term Financial Strategy, Capital and Investment Strategy and Transformation and Efficiency Programme, highlighted by members of the Group or raised by officers, should be assessed against the scrutiny request form to inform the decision to include them on a scrutiny group work programme.

4.6. It is important to note that the purpose of scrutiny is to:

- scrutinise a topic in more depth than the Cabinet can in advance of a Cabinet decision with the purpose of informing the decision to be made by Cabinet
- investigate topics of concern to residents resulting in recommendations to Cabinet with the purpose of improving Council services
- monitor the progress of the Corporate Strategy to ensure the Council is meeting its stated priorities accepting that this may require more in-depth scrutiny of specific strategic projects at appropriate times
- hold the Executive to account on behalf of the residents of the Borough to ensure sound decisions are made.

4.7. The Group is reminded that there will be cases in which scrutiny is not necessary or appropriate at this time. Officers will be clear in providing reasons where they feel this is the case. Councillors are also asked to be mindful of the resources available for scrutiny and listen to the advice of Officers present in the meeting.

5. Risks and Uncertainties

5.1. There are no direct risks associated with this report.

6. Implications

6.1. Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

6.2. Legal Implications

This report supports effective overview and scrutiny, and aims to ensure that scrutiny has clear prioritisation and focus within the Council. There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

6.3. Equalities Implications

There are no direct equalities implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

6.4. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications

There are no direct Section 17 implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

6.5. Biodiversity Net Gain Implications

There are no direct biodiversity net gain implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

6.6. Local Government Reorganisation Implications

There are no direct Local Government Reorganisation implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

7. Link to Corporate Priorities

The Environment	Scrutiny of issues of concern to residents can lead to improvements in the Environment.
Quality of Life	Scrutiny of issues of concern to residents can lead to improvements in their perceived Quality of Life.
Efficient Services	Scrutiny of issues of concern to residents can lead to more efficient services.
Sustainable Growth	Scrutiny of issues of concern to residents can lead to Sustainable Growth.

8. Recommendations

It is RECOMMENDED that the Corporate Overview Group:

a) consider any additional items for scrutiny from the current Cabinet Forward Plan, Corporate Strategy, Medium Term Financial Strategy, Capital and Investment Strategy and Transformation and Efficiency Programme (Appendix One)

b) determine any additional topics to be included in a scrutiny group work programme for 2026/27 for each of the scrutiny groups as presented on newly submitted scrutiny requests (Appendix Two)

c) review the current work programme for each of the scrutiny groups (Appendix Three).

For more information contact:	Charlotte Caven-Atack Assistant Director for Corporate Services 0115 9148 278 ccaven-atack@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers available for Inspection:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix One – Document Links Appendix Two – Scrutiny Requests Appendix Three – Work Programmes 2026/27

Appendix One

Links

Cabinet Forward Plan

Cabinet Forward Plan – August 2026

Corporate Strategy

Corporate Strategy 2024-2027 - Rushcliffe Borough Council

Medium Term Financial Strategy, Capital and Investment Strategy, Transformation Plan

Council – March 2026

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Rushcliffe Borough Council – Scrutiny Request

No Scrutiny Requests were received in advance of this meeting.

Councillor Gowland has asked if the following queries can be incorporated into the existing scrutiny item for Communities Scrutiny Group entitled ‘Review of debt collection agents by RBC in line with the outcome of the Government’s consultation on Council Tax and Enforcement’ currently scheduled for January 2027.

Officers would support this approach (rather than a separate item of scrutiny) due to the similarity between the requests and being mindful of the pressure on resources as a result of LGR.

“Collecting council tax is important to ensure good public services for everyone. However, a local council should be close enough to its residents to do provide this service in a flexible and humane way. Some problems arise from administrative issues (on either the resident’s or council’s side) which often occur when things get complicated because of death, moving house, or moving out for renovation. Others arise from residents falling into financial difficulties. These are all stressful life events, and the council is likely to be able to recover the correct tax most efficiently by working with residents.

I have some questions:

- How many staff work in the tax collection office? How does this compare to other councils of our size and demographics?
- How many cases of CT arrears is RBC dealing with?
- What is the average time before such a case is changed to not allowed to pay monthly?
- What is the average time before such a case is taken to court?
- What is the average time before the bailiffs are sent in?
- Are these decisions made by a member of staff? Are they following an algorithm or do they have any flexibility in their approach?
- Is there a phone line to deal with Council Tax arrears - fully manned in working hours, and advertised on the letters?”

Scheduled Scrutiny Item [‘Review of debt collection agents by RBC in line with the outcome of the Government’s consultation on Council Tax and Enforcement’]().

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Work Programme 2026/27– Corporate Overview Group

1 September 2026	• Standing Items ○ Feedback from Scrutiny Group Chairs ○ Feedback from Lead Officer ○ Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes ○ Financial and Performance Management • Rolling Items ○ Health and Safety Annual Report
17 November 2026	• Standing Items ○ Feedback from Scrutiny Group Chairs ○ Feedback from Lead Officer ○ Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes ○ Financial and Performance Management • Rolling Items ○ Customer Feedback Annual Report
23 February 2027	• Standing Items ○ Feedback from Scrutiny Group Chairs ○ Feedback from Lead Officer ○ Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes ○ Financial and Performance Management • Rolling Items ○ Annual Review of Corporate Strategy
xx June 2027	• Standing Items ○ Feedback from Scrutiny Group Chairs ○ Feedback from Lead Officer ○ Consideration of Scrutiny Group Work Programmes ○ Financial and Performance Management • Rolling Items ○ Diversity Annual Report and update on the Equality and Diversity Strategy

Work Programme 2026/27 – Governance Scrutiny Group

24 September 2026	• Risk Management Update • Going Concern • Capital and Investment Strategy Update Q1 • Internal Audit Progress Report Q1 • Statement of Accounts • External Audit Completion Report • Annual Audit Letter and VFM Conclusion
26 November 2026	• Internal Audit Progress Report Q2 • Capital and Investment Strategy Update Q2 • RIPA Review • Review of the Council's Expenses Scheme
4 February 2027	• Internal Audit Progress Report Q3 • Internal Audit Strategy • Risk Management Update • Capital and Investment Strategy Update Q3

	• Capital and Investment Strategy 2027/28 • External Annual Audit Plan
xx June 2027	• Annual Fraud Report • Annual Governance Statement (AGS) • Internal Audit Progress Report Q4 • Internal Audit Annual Report • External Audit Plan • Capital and Investment Strategy Outturn • Procurement Annual Report • Investment Property Review

Work Programme 2026/27– Growth and Development Scrutiny Group

	Items / Reports
14 October 2026	•
27 January 2027	•
24 March 2027	•
xx July 2027	•

Work Programme 2026/27– Communities Scrutiny Group

	Items / Reports
15 October 2026	• Metropolitan Trent Valley Housing (Update)
21 January 2027	• Review of debt collection agents by RBC in line with the outcome of the Government's consultation on Council Tax and Enforcement • Road Sweeping
15 April 2027	•
xx July 2027	• Carbon Management Plan Update