

Report of the Director – Finance and Corporate Services

Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Finance – Councillor D Virdi

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to outline the year-end financial outturn position for 2024/25, linked to the closure of accounts process and previous financial update reports. This report has already been presented to Corporate Overview Group in June, with no significant issues raised.
- 1.2. To summarise, the revenue budget has an overall revenue efficiency position of £2.407m and the Capital Programme overall underspend position of £5.109m. The £2.407m is allocated for significant risks for 2024/25 onwards including land acquisition for carbon offsetting, Local Government Reorganisation, West Bridgford Town Centre regeneration and Simpler Recycling. The capital underspend is largely being carried forward for the completion of existing projects.
- 1.3. The draft Statement of Accounts has been prepared and published by 30 June 2025 in accordance with statutory deadlines.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:

- a) notes the 2024/25 revenue position and efficiencies identified in **Table 1**, the variances in **Table 2** (and **Appendix A**);
- b) approves changes to the earmarked reserves as set out at **Appendix B** along with the carry forwards and appropriations to reserves in **Appendix E**;
- c) approves the capital carry forwards outlined in **Appendix C** and summarised in **Appendix F**; and
- d) notes the update on the Special Expenses outturn at paragraph 4.20 and in **Appendix D**.

3. Reasons for Recommendations

To accord with good financial governance and the Council's Financial Regulations.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1 The Council is required to categorise its income and expenditure as either revenue or capital. The General Fund account deals with the Council's revenue income and expenditure, where spend is incurred on day-to-day expenditure or on items used within the year. Capital income and expenditure is included in the Capital Programme. The Financial Outturn, for both revenue and capital, is presented below.

Revenue Outturn

- 4.2 The net revenue position in Table 1 below shows a transfer to reserves of £4.742m, originally planned to be a transfer to reserves of £2.202m (adjusted to £1.781m reflecting carry forward commitments from 2023/24) a net increase of £2.961m.
- 4.3 The economic environment continues to be challenging, which impacts both residents and businesses and ultimately creates risks with regards to the Council's budget. The table below shows a positive outcome given this economic environment. The Council has continued to identify service efficiencies during the year to balance the additional pressures and has overachieved against the Transformation and Efficiency Plan (TEP) target of £0.733m (para 4.15) by £16k. It is worth noting the service budgets have an efficiency position of £1.933m, with increased Business Rates income and additional grants accounting for further efficiencies of £0.407m and £0.633m respectively to give a total of £2.962m.
- 4.4 The Quarter 3 report presented to Cabinet on 11 March 2025, reported projected efficiencies of £2.164m and approved reserve appropriations to this value, which are included in the final carry forwards and reserves totalling £2.962m shown in **Appendix E**.

Table 1: Revenue Outturn Position

	Original Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Revised Outturn £'000	Revised Variance £'000
Chief Executive	1,525	1,539	1,541	2
Finance & Corporate	4,952	4,985	3,598	(1,387)
Development and Economic Growth	482	530	664	134
Neighbourhoods	7,824	8,149	6,993	(1,156)
Sub Total	14,782	15,203	12,796	(2,407)
Capital Accounting Reversals	(1,895)	(1,895)	(1,895)	0
Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)	1,178	1,178	1,652	474
Total Net Service Expenditure	14,065	14,486	12,553	(1,933)
Grant Income (including New Homes Bonus)	(2,125)	(2,125)	(2,758)	(633)
Business Rates	(5,763)	(5,763)	(6,170)	(407)
Council Tax	(8,347)	(8,347)	(8,347)	0
Collection Fund Deficit	(32)	(32)	(20)	12
Total Funding	(16,267)	(16,267)	(17,295)	(1,029)
Net Transfer to/(-)from Reserves	2,202	1,781	4,742	2,962
Carry forward requests (Appendix E)				(99)
Reserves required				(2,863)
Net Surplus after carry forwards and reserve transfers				0

- 4.5 The main revenue variances are shown in **Table 2** (with more detail at **Appendix A**) some of which are requested to be carried forward for commitments in 2025/26. In the case of adverse variances, if these trends do continue then it will place further pressure on the budget and further budget efficiencies will need to be identified.

Table 2: Main Items Impacting on the Current Revenue Budget

Main Variances		£'000
Adverse Variances		
Planning	£105k Planning fees income reduced due to reduction in demand from new developments, £68k enforcement costs and £207k appeals (covered by release from the Planning Appeals Reserve)	380
Property	£48k salaries unable to be capitalised due to capital programme reprofiling, £55k tree survey repair works (covered by release from reserves) £29k utilities at Rushcliffe Arena	133
Benefits	Rent increase from supported housing provider (covered by release from reserves) however this is an ongoing budget pressure	205
Depot & Contracts	£56k Edwalton Golf Course due to extended closure following adverse weather conditions in the spring and planned food mitigation works, £83k fleet and tanker hire (due to ageing fleet, vehicles have now been replaced). Other costs including utilities, tyres and other equipment	254
Total		972
Favourable Variances		
Financial Services	Higher rates of interest and higher investment balances £1.1m, Contingency not required £0.5m and other minor savings	(1,639)
Depot & Contracts	£148k diesel (lower prices and HVO savings), £109k Parkwood Leisure Contract, £98k car parking (£25k increase in income, £73k saving on contract), £49k Eastcroft depot rent savings on contract renewal, £22k salary savings (net of agency cover)	(426)
Environmental Health	£157k Homes for Ukraine funding (request to transfer to reserves), £70k Taxi licence income, £43k Idox saving due to not moving to cloud, £25k costs recovered (works in default £16k and housing checks on behalf of other authorities)	(295)
Streetwise	£25k salary savings (net of agency), £48k consumables and materials, £31k additional income, £21k fuel	(125)
Planning & Growth	£80k agency budget not required, £49k Idox saving due to not moving to cloud	(130)
Revenues & Benefits	£83k Council Tax costs recovered, £63k Housing Benefit overpayments	(145)
ICT	Delays on less essential projects to be carried forward to deliver the projects	(108)
Total		(2,868)
Technical Adjustments	See paragraph 4.6 below	(452)
Other minor variances		(59)
Total Variances		(2,407)

- 4.6 In 2024/25 the Council has adopted IFRS 16 Leases, as required by the Code of Practice for Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom. The main impact of the new requirements is that for any payments made by the Council under a lease arrangement are removed from in year expenditure and replaced with an asset (and offsetting liability) on the Balance Sheet in recognition of the right to use for a period of more than one year. The technical adjustment in Table 2 reflects the removal of the expenditure on lease payments which has now been replaced by a charge to Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) and interest (reflected in variance to MRP in Table 1).
- 4.7 We continue to report on the reduced capital value in the Council's treasury investments and the fact there is a statutory override, which prevents this being a cost to the taxpayer, now extended to 2028/29. As markets change so do the values. To be prudent, the Council has created a reserve totalling £1.173m to mitigate the potential impact on the General Fund and it is proposed that this is topped up by a further £0.137m from 2024/25 efficiencies to give a total reserve of £1.31m. This is reported and closely monitored by the Governance Scrutiny Group.

Carbon Reduction

- 4.8 The Council's Policy and Regulation Framework was updated and approved at Cabinet on 14 May 2024. Within the Framework, there is a requirement for some carbon offsetting through the establishment of a range of habitats to promote ecological recovery. As such, a Climate Change reserve was created and as at 31 March 2025 has a balance of £2.492m (£1.5m of which for land acquisition). The reserve is required to deliver carbon offsetting targets.

4.9 Local Government Reorganisation

The full cost of undertaking Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) is unknown; however, this is expected to be significant. At Quarter 3 it was proposed to increase the Organisation Stabilisation Reserve by £0.2m from budget efficiencies. At outturn it is proposed to set aside a further £0.461m (£0.661m in total) from 2024/25 budget efficiencies. Updates on the progress of LGR will be made to Full Council during the year with formal submission of the Council's preferred option due on 28 November 2025 and the Government's decision thereafter (likely to be in early 2026).

4.10 Simpler Recycling

In January we reported to Cabinet the financial pressures that were accruing from Simpler Recycling. The funding is not expected to cover the costs of implementing the scheme and by 2029/30 there is a net annual budget pressure of £0.318m. A Simpler Recycling reserve has been created to ring fence the funding until they are required and to allow the appropriation of any future underspends towards the budget pressure.

4.11 Transformation and Efficiency Plan (TEP)

The Council's Transformation and Efficiency Plan (TEP) is designed to meet emerging financial challenges. In 2024/25 the savings target was £0.733m, with the three most significant being income from Green Bin Collection from

increased fees (£0.238m), income from car parks due to increased fees and introduction of charges at Bingham (£0.214m) and leisure management contract savings (£0.228m). Each of these has been met and exceeded in year, some smaller target shortfalls offset these; however, total TEP savings achieved for 2024/25 was (£0.749m), which overall was £16k above target.

Reserves

4.12 There are a number of movements in revenue reserves largely agreed as part of the budget setting process and budget monitoring reported during 2024/25. A net transfer to earmarked reserves of £3.340m comprises: £10.642m transferred to reserves from revenue less £7.302m transferred from reserves (£5.9m revenue and £1.402m capital). The overall net movement on revenue reserves are detailed at **Appendix B**. The key points to note are:

- £1.509m New Homes Bonus (NHB) income is transferred in and appropriated to Regeneration reserve £0.759m and Climate Change £0.750m (included in the figures below).
- Other 'Transfers Out' or use of reserves total £5.793m of these, £2.189m are movements between reserves to redirect funds between reserve balances such as the Collection Fund and Freeport to new pressures i.e. Simpler Recycling and carbon offsetting and £1.402m used to fund capital projects, mainly vehicle replacements and Cotgrave Leisure Centre enhancements. Of the remaining £2.202m, significant items include: £1.178m from the NHB reserve used to offset the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP - this is a requirement by legislation to make a charge to the revenue budget for the recovery of internal borrowing for capital expenditure) and £0.421m out from the Organisation Stabilisation Reserve for approved carry forwards from 2023/24.
- Other 'Transfers In' total £9.133m increasing reserves. The transfers between reserves as above total £2.189m. Other significant items comprise: £3.432m efficiencies to cover carry forward and reserve commitments (**Appendix E**); £1.124m for Organisation Stabilisation, £1.061m Regeneration and Community Projects reserve and £0.850m for Climate Change reserve to support carbon reduction initiatives going forward

Specific Reserves

4.13 Commentary on earmarked reserves:

- The NHB reserve balance of £8.153m is used to fund internal borrowing in relation to capital projects (MRP Minimum Revenue Provision).
- The Organisation Stabilisation Reserve Balance of £4.368m will partly be used to fund the carry forward requests of £99k and the transfers to reserves of £1.237m (**Appendix E**). This includes the provision for current pressures such as LGR, climate change and Simpler Recycling.

- The Climate Change reserve balance of £2.492m includes £1.5m towards land acquisition for the Council's commitment to achieve carbon neutral by 2030.
- LGR is to be funded from the Organisation Stabilisation Reserve. Costs are unknown at this stage but are anticipated to be significant. £0.2m was added to the reserve in Quarter 3, and a further £0.461m is proposed to be added from 2024/25 underspends.
- A new reserve has been created for Simpler Recycling, this is to be created using £1.020m from the Collection Fund reserve, which is no longer required and topped up with £0.230m from grant income for this scheme received during 2024/25.

4.14 Overall, whilst the level of Earmarked Reserves is a healthy £24.287m (23/24 was £20.947m) there are ongoing risks, due to inflationary cost pressures, the rising cost of living, delayed local government reforms, the onset of LGR, and long-term funding uncertainties. Additionally, future capital funding is a concern, as illustrated in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), with reserves expected to decrease to approximately £15 million by 2029/30. The Council aims to reduce carbon emissions and promote Borough growth, which will require funding from reserves. The repayment of internal borrowing (MRP) has been reliant on NHB receipts, whilst this has been extended for one additional year for 2025/26 these will then cease with no replacement currently on the horizon. The General Fund balance of £2.604m accords with the Council's approved MTFS.

Revenue carry forward requests and Reserve Commitments

4.15 The Council's robust financial position enables it to fund service demand or cost pressures not identified in the budget. Some of these have already been mentioned above (e.g. Carbon Offsetting, LGR and Simpler Recycling) but other pressures include regeneration of West Bridgford Town Centre, and replacement of the Council Chamber AV system. Requests for the use of reserves in 2025/26 (from 2024/25 efficiencies) to support continuing cost pressures and delivery of the Council's priorities are shown in **Appendix E**.

Capital

4.16 The year-end Capital Programme provision totalled £12.154m (see **Table 3 and Appendix C**). This comprised of an opening budget of £11.079m, plus carry forwards of £3.405m and adjustments of £3.417m and rephasing of budgets to 2025-26 (approved in Quarters 1-3) of £5.747m. Actual expenditure in relation to this revised provision totalled £7.045m (58% of the revised budget) a variance of £5.109m, £4.308m of which is requested to be carried forward for schemes that have been rephased from 2024/25 and the Council has committed to delivering in 2025/26.

Table 3: Capital Summary

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	Original Budget £000	Current Budget £000	Actual £000	Variance £000
Development and Economic Growth	2,220	2,061	1,035	(1,026)
Neighbourhoods	8,559	9,290	5,711	(3,579)
Finance & Corporate Services	150	517	299	(218)
Contingency	150	286	0	(286)
Total Expenditure	11,079	12,154	7,045	(5,109)
Financing Analysis				
Capital Receipts	(2,989)	(2,010)	(782)	1,228
Government Grants	(2,745)	(4,643)	(3,457)	1,186
Use of Reserves	(2,053)	(3,477)	(1,403)	2,074
Grants/Contributions	0	(338)	(409)	(71)
Section 106 Monies	(3,292)	(1,686)	(994)	692
Borrowing	(0)	(0)	(0)	0
Total Funding	(11,079)	(12,154)	(7,045)	5,109
Net Expenditure	-	-	-	-

The main underspends are as follows:

- Land Acquisition Carbon Offsetting £1.5m – this budget was created from efficiencies in 2023/24 £0.425m and 2024/25 £0.698m and £0.377m from NHB reserve. This will allow the Council to implement the Carbon Offsetting Framework as approved at Cabinet 14 May 2024. This budget needs to be carried forward to pursue opportunities in 2025/26.
- Home Upgrade Green Energy Grants (HUG2) £0.727m – this scheme is 100% grant funded and managed by the East Midlands Net Zero Hub with works carried out by EON, and RBC acting only as agent with no control over the outcome. The underspend represents the amount of grant available which has not been utilised. This was due to external delays to the inception of the scheme and grant conditions meaning it was only applicable to off-gas properties within certain income boundaries of which there were limited suitable applicants identified.
- Rushcliffe Oaks Crematorium – £0.488m – £0.550m was carried forward of this £0.150m was for potential VAT liability relating to partial exemption, this was not breached and can be released as a saving. The remaining £0.338m is to be carried forward for enhancements following post-opening feedback.
- Cotgrave and Keyworth Leisure Centre Enhancements £0.398m – due to rephasing of the scheme, capital completion of Cotgrave was 12 May 2025 and Keyworth works commenced 28 April. Budget is required to be carried forward to cover these works.
- Disabled Facilities Grants – £0.297m, this has been committed but works not yet complete, budget is required to be carried forward. It is noted that a sustainable longer-term solution is required as both demand and costs

rise. The Council continues to lobby Central Government for additional and redistributed grant allocations. An additional £0.113m was received in 2024/25 and this forms part of the carry forward, this increase will continue into 2025/26. There are longer term pressures on this service and the need to support the most vulnerable in our community, an additional £0.2m has been allocated from 2024/25 efficiencies to support this budget.

- Contingency £0.286m – in addition to the budget of £0.150m and amount of £0.180m was carried forward from 2023/24 with only £28k allocated to Bingham Car Park machines and £16k for air conditioning at Boundary Court allocated in year. This will be carried forward.
- Bingham Arena Enhancements – £0.250m set aside for post opening enhancements, requires carry forward.
- Information Systems Strategy £0.218m – this is relating to a number of projects including the Council Chamber AV system replacement and Bartec (vehicles tracking) upgrade. Due to resource issues within the team the projects have been rephased and therefore require the budget to be carried forward.
- Vehicle Replacement – £0.197m, mostly relates to pest control vans which will be delivered in 2025/26, carry forward is required.

A summary of the main variances can be found in **Appendix E and F** including savings of £0.986m, acceleration of £0.176m, overspends of £9k, and a net carry forward request of £4.308m. Details of all variances can be found in **Appendix C**

- 4.17 **Appendix D** shows the Outturn position on the **Special Expenses** budget. Budgets within the Special Expenses area are also exposed to cost-of-living risks and the impact on household disposable income. The Special Expenses outturn budget deficit for West Bridgford is £50k. The total net deficit in the notional West Bridgford Fund as at 31 March 2025, is £0.184m comprising of an opening deficit of £0.134m adjusted for the in-year deficit of £50k. The budgets are set using estimates and the timing of expenditure can result in variances against the budget. The main variances are related to reduced income from Gresham and Sir Julian Cahn (undergoing refurbishment) and has resulted in the £50k deficit. The budget going forward will aim to ensure deficits are recovered; and post refurbishment it is hoped that income from facility hire will increase.

Financial Outturn Conclusion

- 4.18 Despite the financial challenges experienced, prudent budgeting has negated the need to draw on reserves or to externally borrow. Inflation has now begun to fall; however, there remains a risk to both Council expenditure and to income receipts as pressures remain on household disposable income. The impact of LGR, local government funding reforms and other government policy initiatives such as Simpler Recycling are likely to continue to pose challenges to the MTFS.

- 4.19 The Council remains committed to driving efficiency and innovation. The Transformation and Efficiency Plan, encompasses medium-term projects that consistently challenge Council processes and drive income streams. In light of the additional pressures identified, transformation is an essential requirement and the biggest transformation project, LGR, is on the horizon.
- 4.20 Whilst the Council currently has a relatively healthy reserves balance, this is a finite resource, and reserves will diminish over time. With the aforementioned challenges there remains the need to maintain healthy reserve balances. Reserves are necessary to insulate the Council against significant financial risks and enable the Council to deliver its Corporate Priorities, to improve services and invest and grow the Borough.
- 4.21 The year-end Financial Statements are subject to audit by Mazars and are anticipated to be considered by the Governance Scrutiny Group in September 2025.

5. Alternative options considered and reasons for rejection

There are no other options identified, subject to the views of Cabinet.

6. Risks and Uncertainties

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 The transfer of the net surplus to reserves will relieve pressure on Council budgets such as system upgrades and service pressures arising post budget setting (as discussed in paragraphs 6.3 and 6.4 below) and carry forward of budget efficiencies will assist the Council to meet its priorities to support and grow the Borough.
- 6.3 LGR may impact as early as 2027 or 2028, inevitably if organisational objectives change then finances will have to shift. The cost of implementing changes both financially and regarding attraction and retention of staff during the consultation and transition period are currently largely unknown but are expected to have a significant impact.
- 6.4 Increases in employers National Insurance contributions will not be fully met by grant income to mitigate this in 2025/26 and it is unknown if there will be further grants in future years. Further costs may also be passed to the Council via rising contract costs as suppliers seek to recover their own increased costs.
- 6.5 Changes in Central Government policy can impact the amount and timing of Business Rates received, such as adjustments to small Business Rates Relief. Additionally, there is a potential risk from Government reform, although significant changes are not expected before the 2026/27 period.
- 6.6 There is an ongoing risk from inflation affecting the Council's expenditures, including fuel and utilities, as well as income from fees and charges. This

situation is being closely monitored and, if necessary, will be incorporated into regular financial reporting to Cabinet and Corporate Overview Group.

6.7 Recruitment continues to be challenging in the sector and this increases the pressure on the pay budgets and agency costs and the ability to deliver high quality services.

6.8 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. The Council remains committed to maintaining financial resilience during these challenging times.

7. Implications

7.1. Financial Implications

Financial implications are contained within the body of the report.

7.2. Legal Implications

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

7.3. Equalities Implications

There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

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

There are no direct Crime and Disorder implications arising from this report.

8. Link to Corporate Priorities

Quality of Life	The budget resources the Corporate Strategy and therefore resources all Corporate Priorities.
Efficient Services	
Sustainable Growth	
The Environment	

9. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Cabinet:

- a) notes the 2024/25 revenue position and efficiencies identified in **Table 1**, the variances in **Table 2** (and **Appendix A**);
- b) approves changes to the earmarked reserves as set out at **Appendix B** along with the carry forwards and appropriations to reserves in **Appendix E**;
- c) approves the capital carry forwards outlines in **Appendix C** and summarised in **Appendix F**;

- d) notes the update on the Special Expenses outturn at paragraph 4.20 and in **Appendix D**.

For more information contact:	Peter Linfield Director – Finance and Corporate Services 0115 914 8439 plinfield@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers Available for Inspection:	Council 7 March 2024 – 2024-25 Budget and Financial Strategy; Cabinet 10 September 2024 – Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Q1 Cabinet 10 December 2024 – Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Q2 Cabinet 11 March 2025 – Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Q3
List of appendices:	Appendix A – Revenue Variance Explanations Appendix B – Movement in Reserves Appendix C – Capital Variance Explanations Appendix D – Special Expenses Position Appendix E – Carry forward and reserve commitments Appendix F – Summary Capital carry forwards

Revenue Variance Explanations (over £25k)**Adverse variances in excess of £25k**

Service	Reason	Outturn Variance £'000
Development & Economic Growth		
Planning & Growth	£105k Planning fees income lower than budgeted due to reduction in demand from new developments, £68k enforcement costs and £207k appeals (covered by release from Planning Appeals Reserve)	380
Property Services	£48k salaries unable to be capitalised due to rephasing of the capital programme, £55k tree repair works (covered by £45k release from reserves), £29k utilities Rushcliffe Arena	133
Central Mail	Increased costs of postage	31
Neighbourhoods		
Depot & Contracts	£56k ECG extended closure of golf course due to adverse weather conditions in the spring and planned flood mitigation works, £83k fleet and tanker hire (due to ageing fleet, vehicles have now been replaced), and other minor variances.	254
Strategic Housing	£45k upgrade to Choice Based Lettings software, £26k emergency accommodation	71
Finance & Corporate Services		
Revenues & Benefits	£205k benefits due to rent increase from supported housing provider (covered by release from reserves for 2024/25 but ongoing revenue budget pressure), £43k local council tax discounts (care leavers and annexe).	248
Financial Services	£85k increase in bad debt provision, £43k increase in merchant card fees.	128
Total Adverse Variances		1,245

Revenue Variance Explanations (over £25k)**Favourable variances in excess of £25k**

Service	Reason	Outturn Variance £'000
Development & Economic Growth		
Planning & Growth	£80k agency budget not required, £49k Idox saving due to not moving to cloud.	(130)
Economic Development	UKSPF admin grant not budgeted	(65)
Building Control	Provision of Building Control by South Kesteven, lower than budget, account surplus distributed	(54)
Neighbourhoods		
Depot & Contracts	£148k diesel, £109k Parkwood Leisure Contract, £98k parking (£25k increase in income and £73k saving on contract), £49k Eastcroft depot rent savings on contract renewal, £22k salary savings (net of agency cover)	(426)
Environmental Health	£157k Homes for Ukraine funding (request to transfer to reserves), £70k Taxi licence income, £43k Idox saving due to not moving to cloud, £25k costs recovered (works in default £16k and housing checks on behalf of other authorities)	(295)
Streetwise	£25k salary savings (net of agency), £48k consumables and materials, £31k additional income, £21k fuel.	(125)
Strategic Housing	Homelessness grant applied in year	(145)
Community Development	£110k additional income from Gresham AGP pitches, £27k Bio-diversity grant awarded.	(137)
Finance & Corporate Services		
Financial Services	Higher returns on investment due to rates of interest and higher investment balances £1.1m, Contingency not required £0.5m, and other minor variances	(1,639)

Service	Reason	Outturn Variance £'000
Revenues & Benefits	£83k Council Tax costs recovered, £63k Housing Benefit overpayments recovered.	(145)
ICT	Saving on support and maintenance mainly due to delay in rolling out Autopilot AI tool and Keep It backup solution for 365 (carry forward £61k requested to continue these works)	(108)
Communications & Customer Services	£42k vacant post in Performance & Reputation, £28k part year vacancies in Customer Services	(70)
Chief Executive		
Legal	Staff turnover gave rise to short vacant periods and scale point differences	(51)
Total Favourable Variances		(3,390)
Technical Adjustments	Technical adjustment reducing departmental expenditure on rental costs due to New Accounting Standards IFRS16 adjustments requiring rental commitments to be capitalised. This is subsequently offset by an increase in MRP which is charged to the General Fund and therefore an overall net nil impact on the budget and tax payer.	(452)
Other Minor Variances		190
Total Variance		(2,407)

Appendix B

Movement in Reserves

Movement in Reserves	Balance at 31.03.24	Transfers in	Transfers out	Balance at 31.03.25	Transfers in notes	Transfers out notes
	£000	£000	£000	£000		
Investment Reserves						
Regeneration and Community Projects	3,226	1,817	(762)	4,281	£1061 planned transfers (£759 NHB, £75k Special Expense play areas, £62k Annuity Charge, £165k sinking funds) £36k crematorium sinking fund from 23/24 underspends (OS reserve), £720k from 24/25 efficiencies (App E)	Capital spend; Cotgrave Leisure Centre (£575k), ICT (£176k), Bridgfield (£11k)
Investment Properties Sinking Fund	795	200	(113)	882	£200k planned transfer to reserves from investment properties income	Capital spend; Manvers (£96k), Castle Donnington (£17k)
New Homes Bonus	9,652	1565	(3,064)	8,153	£1,509 NHB income, £56k from saving on 23/24 MRP	(£759) to Regeneration reserve, (£750) to climate change reserve, (£1,178) MRP, £377k to climate change reserve
Corporate Reserves						

Movement in Reserves	Balance at 31.03.24	Transfers in	Transfers out	Balance at 31.03.25	Transfers in notes	Transfers out notes
Organisation Stabilisation	3,261	2,760	(1,453)	4,368	£1,124k I&E surplus, £200k release Freeport reserve, £1,436 from 24/25 efficiencies (App E)	(£68) app guard, (£421k) carry forwards from 23/24 underspends, (£536k) 23/24 underspends, (£56k) 23/24 MRP saving, (£45k) tree survey works, (£205k) Supported Housing Provider rent increase. Capital spend (£122k) ICT.
Climate Change	201	2,350	(59)	2,492	£850k planned transfer (£750k from NHB, £100k additional grant income) £425k from 23/24 underspends (OS reserve), £377 from NHB reserve, £698k from 24/25 efficiencies (App E)	(£4) Bin lorry wraps, Capital spend; Cotgrave Leisure centre (£43k), Gamston/SJCP (£7k), Streetwise EV (£6k)
Treasury Capital Depreciation Reserve (IFRS 9)	1,173	137		1,310	£137k from 24/25 efficiencies (App E)	
Collection Fund S31 Reserve	1,085		(1085)	0		(£65k) planned transfer to revenue to cover previous deficits. £1,020k to simpler recycling reserve
Development Corporation (Freeport)	200		(200)	0		(£200k) release to organisation stabilisation

Movement in Reserves	Balance at 31.03.24	Transfers in	Transfers out	Balance at 31.03.25	Transfers in notes	Transfers out notes
						reserve no longer required.
Risk and Insurance	100			100		
Planning Appeals	349	285	(210)	424	£75k from 23/24 underspends (OS reserve), £210k from 24/25 efficiencies (App E)	(£210k) to revenue for planning appeals
Elections	51	50		101	£50 planned transfer from General Fund underspend	
Flood Grant & Resilience	0	28	(6)	22	£28k planned transfer in from additional grant.	(£6k) flood grants to parishes
Simpler Recycling	0	1,250		1,250	£1,020k from collection fund reserve, £230k from 24/25 efficiencies (App E)	
Operating Reserves						
Planning	56			56		
Leisure Centre Maintenance	28	15		43	£15k planned transfer from General Fund Underspend	
Vehicle Replacement Reserve	770	185	(350)	605	£185k planned transfer for replacement of Streetwise fleet	Capital spend (£350k) vehicle replacements
TOTAL	20,947	10,642	(7,302)	24,287		
General Fund Balance	2,604			2,604		

Capital Programme Summary March 2025

	Original Budget £000	Current Budget £000	Actual YTD £000	Variance £000	Carry forward(C)/ Saving (S)/ Overspend (O)/ Acceleration (A)	Notes
DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC GROWTH						
REPF (Rural England Prosperity Fund) Capital Grants	0	487	487	0	n/a	Scheme fully delivered
UKSPF (UK Shared Prosperity Fund) Capital Grants	0	153	153	0	n/a	Scheme fully delivered
Manvers Business Park Enhancements	200	100	96	(4)	C	Roller shutters complete. £200k Roof reprofiled to 25/26. Balance required to be carried forward for phase 2 and additional £100k may be required in 25/26 due to price increases, this will look to be met from contingency.
Streetwise Depot	240	140	64	(76)	C	£40k original estimate for EVCP but revised cost £60k to be funded from UKSPF. Contractor appointed and EV infrastructure is complete. Balance is required for vehicle wash works not yet started, tender documents still being finalised.
Bridgford Park Kiosk	0	0	0	0	n/a	Planning approval obtained to construct a dedicated staff toilet for the kiosk. Building regs application to be made and works to be tendered. Scheme reprofiled to 25-26
Colliers BP Enhancements	0	0	0	0	n/a	Installation of barriers and bollards for security to be assessed. Guttering and cladding under review. Not urgent, £16k reprofiled to 25/26.

	Original Budget £000	Current Budget £000	Actual YTD £000	Variance £000	Carry forward(C)/ Saving (S)/ Overspend (O)/ Acceleration (A)	Notes
Highways Verges: Cotgrave/Bingham/Cropwel I Bishop	190	50	13	(37)	C	Works at Woodview completed. Schemes complicated as Highways Authority need to be consulted - possible use of SLA to enable NCC to lead and commission VIA. £140k already reprofiled to 25-26. Carry forward of remaining underspend required.
Traveller Site Acquisition	1,000	0	0	0	n/a	No sites identified, no commitments. Provision removed (funding from NHB repatriated: £377k to the Climate Change Reserve for land acquisition and balance back to the NHB Reserve).
RCCC Premises	35	35	0	(35)	S	Low value works have been written off to revenue, no further work required.
Cotgrave Phase 2	0	71	33	(38)	C	£33k commemorative gardens covered by UKSPF funding. Underspend to be carried forward for potential resolutions re anti-social behaviour i.e. lighting and potential enhancement to business hub.
Boundary Court	0	16	17	1	O	Air Conditioning Replacements. Minor overspend.
Bingham Arena Enhancements	0	250	0	(250)	C	Residual £250k provision to meet any post opening enhancements for Bingham Arena and Enterprise Centre.
Water Course Improvements	210	30	22	(8)	C	Order placed for feasibility work, need clearance from the Environment Agency. Contractor on site undertaking surveys. Works to continue 25/26.
The Point	0	15	0	(15)	C	Ramp roller shutter to be done, £25k already reprofiled to 25/26, remainder to be carried forward
Bingham Market Place Improvements	0	6	0	(6)	C	Balance to be carried forward for paving works.
Devonshire Railway Bridge	100	0	0	0		VIA inspection identified some remedial work but not urgent. £100k scheme reprofiled to 26/27.

	Original Budget £000	Current Budget £000	Actual YTD £000	Variance £000	Carry forward(C)/ Saving (S)/ Overspend (O)/ Acceleration (A)	Notes
Walkers Yard 1a/b and 3	70	70	0	(70)	C	Works not committed and use of unit 3 under review. No enhancement works needed at present. Balance requested to be carried forward to cover enhancements at Cotgrave Business Hub.
The Crematorium	150	550	62	(488)	S/C	£150k of this provision is for VAT if the partial exemption calculation is breached, this is not the case and £150k can be given up as a saving. £400k was to address any post opening enhancement works required. Drainage and paving works have been undertaken. £54k UKSPF funding applied. A small retention is now held on the main contract. There are some outstanding enhancements yet to be completed £338k is requested to be carried forward.
Keyworth Cemetery	25	0	0	0	n/a	Surveys undertaken. Works to be agreed with the Diocese. Quotes to be sourced. No commitments yet. £25k reprofiled to 25/26.
West Bridgford Town Centre - Environmental Improvements	0	88	88	0	n/a	UKSPF funded works complete.
	2,220	2,061	1,035	(1,026)		
NEIGHBOURHOODS						
Vehicle Replacement	454	737	540	(197)	C	A review of the fleet has been carried out and there was a need to accelerate the purchase of a Tanker and a Crane Tipper. Pest Control Vans will now be delivered in 25/26.
Support for Registered Housing Providers	2,500	24	26	2	O	Budget has mainly been reprofiled to future years with projects in the pipeline for delivery in 2025/26. Spend in 24/25 for units practical completion on Garage Sites Ph 2.

	Original Budget £000	Current Budget £000	Actual YTD £000	Variance £000	Carry forward(C)/ Saving (S)/ Overspend (O)/ Acceleration (A)	Notes
Discretionary Top Ups	0	64	64	0	n/a	This provision is to meet existing commitments and contains top up monies from County.
Disabled Facilities Grants	695	1,145	848	(297)	C	There is continued pressure on the Mandatory DFG provision the situation is improving with waiting times reducing. A further government grant of £113k has been awarded however RBC has still had to commit its own resources to support service delivery. Underspend can be carried forward to meet future commitments with grants already in the pipeline.
Hound Lodge Enhancements	325	0	0	0	n/a	£325k provision reprofiled into 26/27.
Rushcliffe Arena Enhancements	0	65	0	(65)	C	Low value works in year written off to revenue, carry forward required for enhancement works.
Car Park Resurfacing	0	79	59	(20)	C	Bridgford Road works complete. Balance to be carried forward for works arising.
Cotgrave & Keyworth Leisure Centre Enhancements	2,620	3,056	2,658	(398)	C	In year spend funded by £162k Sports England Grant, £780k Strategic CIL and £35k Sec 106, £395k UKSPF and £304k Salix (12% match funding from climate change reserve). The remainder funded by reserves and capital receipts. Capital completion of Cotgrave Leisure Centre is scheduled for 12 May 2025. Keyworth Leisure Centre works commence on 28 April 2025. Underspend required to be carried forward for continuation of these works.
Edwalton Golf Club Enhancements	30	30	0	(30)	C	Sum not yet committed. An action plan has been completed, currently obtaining quotes for flood prevention works, expected to commence September 2025. It is essential for these works to be completed before any internal enhancements to the club house take place. Budget to be carried forward to facilitate these works.

	Original Budget £000	Current Budget £000	Actual YTD £000	Variance £000	Carry forward(C)/ Saving (S)/ Overspend (O)/ Acceleration (A)	Notes
Toothill Sports Complex Improvements	100	10	0	(10)	C	Consultant assessment received at a cost of £5k this year. Sum for improvements to Athletics Track subject to a pre-app with planning. Options to be assessed but are tied in with school redevelopment. £90k has been reprofiled to 25/26 to align with school development plans. Underspend to be carried forward.
Gresham Sports Park Redevelopment	0	88	26	(62)	C	Moving shipping container complete, CCTV improvements (following ASB/crime issues) has been profiled into 25/26. Further work on swale and trees required. £20k expenditure on cricket wickets fully funded by English Cricket Board Grant. A consultant will be commissioned for the CCTV specification. Carry forward required for these works.
Land Acquisition Carbon Offsetting	0	1,500	0	(1,500)	C	Cabinet approved new initiative. Carry forward required to cover land purchase for sale agreed in 2025/26 as set out in the Cabinet report in May 2025.
RETROFIT Grants	103	583	511	(72)	S	New Government Initiative fully funded. Scheme complete. Underspend £72k (funding received matches spend)
Gamston Community Centre Enhancements Special Expense	130	130	14	(116)	C	Sum for decarbonisation works. Successful Salix bid. Contract tendered but no bidders. Consultant designer approved. A retender exercise has been completed with 4 bids received. Carry forward required to progress works which need to align with SJCP to preserve bookings.
HUG2 Green Energy Grants	534	890	163	(727)	S	New initiative, fully funded by Government Grant. Significant underspend due to delay in scheme implementation. Funded to spend, surplus will be returned.
Car Park Machines Bingham	0	28	29	1	O	Replacement and new installations. Works complete. Minor overspend.

	Original Budget £000	Current Budget £000	Actual YTD £000	Variance £000	Carry forward(C)/ Saving (S)/ Overspend (O)/ Acceleration (A)	Notes
Rushcliffe Country Park Play Area	0	97	99	2	O	Works complete. Site opened June 24. Minor overspend.
External Door/Window Upgrades Various Sites	0	46	0	(46)	C	To be undertaken ad hoc, no commitments yet. Budget to carried forward.
Sharphill Paths Special Expense	0	7	7	0	n/a	Funded from UKSPF; works complete.
Bridge Field Access Imps Spec Exp	0	53	56	3	O	Works complete. £20k funded from UKSPF; £25k Neighbourhood CIL; and £11k from Special Expense Capital Reserve. Minor overspend.
Alford Road Football Pitches	0	28	26	(2)	S	Order placed. £23k funding from Neighbourhood CIL; £3.4k Football Foundation Grant. Works complete minor underspend.
Edwalton Community Facility Spec Exp	498	0	176	176	A	Detailed design and cost plan has been developed and a Legal Agreement has been drafted. Estimated build cost £628k and total of £840k including land and legal and professional costs. Budget already reprofiled to 25/26 with completion expected in March 2026. The land including ground preparation work was acquired at the end 2024/25 and expenditure is now £151k which has been funded from UKSPF
Greythorn Drive Play Area Spec Exp	0	106	92	(14)	C	Play area complete June 2024, funded from Sec 106. Mini MUGA still to be completed. Requested project management support from VIA. Carry forward required for completion also funded from Sec106.
Bridgford Park and Bridge Field Play Areas Spec Exp	75	159	88	(71)	C	£75k UKSPF funding allocated; £13k S106; work is ongoing carry forward required to complete, further Sec 106 available with remaining to be funded from capital receipts.
The Hook Works	0	6	6	0	n/a	Works required to the ditch at Hook Nature Reserve funded from UKSPF complete.

	Original Budget £000	Current Budget £000	Actual YTD £000	Variance £000	Carry forward(C)/ Saving (S)/ Overspend (O)/ Acceleration (A)	Notes
West Park Julien Cahn Pavilion Special Expense	495	359	223	(136)	C	£50k redirected from Lutterell Hall for teen play area, work to commence in June. Main contractor for SJCP commenced construction in April 2025, completion expected September 2025. £164k funded by Cricket Board Grant, £44k Salix (12% match funding from reserves), remainder from capital receipts. Carry forward required to complete works.
	8,559	9,290	5,711	(3,579)		
FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES						
Information Systems Strategy	150	517	299	(218)	C	Finance income management system completed on budget £110k. Financial Management System replacement commenced underspend £23k to be carried forward. Works have commenced on AV replacement project; the hearing loop has been installed but remaining works slipped to 2025/26 £78k carry forward required. The following carry forwards are also required; ICT replacement programme £12.5k (£5k monitor replacement slipped), ICT Security £21k (SIEM network monitoring work slipped), technical infrastructure £13k, Digital strategy £40k (works deferred), Applications Apps £31k (works deferred).
	150	517	299	(218)		
CONTINGENCY						
Contingency	150	286	0	(286)	C	Budget movement: Original Budget £150k. £180k brought forward from 23-24; £28k allocation Bingham Car Park Machines; £16k allocation Boundary Court Air Con.
	150	286	0	(286)		

	Original Budget £000	Current Budget £000	Actual YTD £000	Variance £000	Carry forward(C)/ Saving (S)/ Overspend (O)/ Acceleration (A)	Notes
TOTAL	11,079	12,154	7,045	(5,109)		
IFFS 16 adjustments for donated assets			750			Keyworth Leisure Centre and Rushcliffe Country Park brought onto balance sheet as an asset to comply with IFRS16 and funded as a donation.
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			7,795			

Special Expenses Outturn 2024/25

	Original Budget £	Outturn Actuals £	Outturn Variance £	Reasons for variance
<u>West Bridgford</u>				
Parks & Playing Fields	486,700	501,218	14,518	£8k Bridgford Park (patrols required for ASB £3.5k and ground works £4.5k) £6k shortfall on room hire at West Park.
West Bridgford Town Centre	115,100	127,680	12,580	New electrical pillars for Christmas lights and overspend on Christmas event due to weather conditions.
Community Halls	101,300	131,343	30,043	Shortfall on income targets for room hire; Gamston £13k and SJCP £21k (mainly due to closure for capital works)
Contingency	7,300	0	(7,300)	
Annuity Charges	98,000	98,188	188	
RCCO	75,000	75,000	0	
Sinking Fund (The Hook)	20,000	20,000	0	
Total	903,400	953,429	50,029	
<u>Keyworth</u>				
Cemetery & Annuity Charges	14,200	12,980	(1,220)	Savings on responsive works
Total	14,200	12,980	(1,220)	
<u>Ruddington</u>				
Cemetery	10,400	10,305	(95)	
Total	10,400	10,305	(95)	
TOTAL SPECIAL EXPENSES	928,000	976,764	48,714	

Carry Forwards and Reserve Commitments

	Reserve		£000
Carry forward to 25/26			
ICT maintenance contracts	OS		61
Nottinghamshire county Council DHP top up underspend	OS		11
Planning Skills Delivery funding underspend for Design Code and GIS training	OS		19
Positive Futures to cover grant cut (9 months at old rate)	OS		8
Total carry forwards			99
Appropriation to/(from Reserves)			
Bin Wraps	Climate Change		(4)
Flood Grants to Parishes	Flood Grant & Resilience		(6)
Tree survey repair works	OS		(45)
Rent increase from supported housing provider	OS		(205)
Planning appeals	Planning Appeals		(210)
Top up planning appeals reserve	Planning Appeals		210
Defra food waste container funding	Simpler Recycling		163
Defra food waste project management funding	Simpler Recycling		67
Economic Growth signage	Regeneration & Community Projects	Q1	70
Land acquisition for carbon offsetting	Climate Change	Q2	698
West Bridgford town centre regeneration	Regeneration & Community Projects	Q2	500
Top up Disabled Facilities Grants	OS	Q2	200
Council Chamber Av	Regeneration & Community Projects	Q2	150
Homes for Ukraine	OS	Q3	157
Local Government Reorganisation	OS	Q3	200
Treasury capital depreciation	Treasury Capital	Q3	137
Local Government Reorganisation	OS	Q4	461
Agency cover for sickness and staff turnover	OS	Q4	250
Green belt funding works in 2025/26	OS	Q4	70
Total Reserves Appropriations	(transfer in £3,432, transfer out £470)		2,863

Transfers between reserves			
Freeport reserve not required	Freeport		(200)
Organisation Stabilisation reserve	OS		200
New homes bonus reserve	New Homes Bonus		(377)
Top up climate change reserve for land acquisition	Climate Change		377
Collection fund reserve not required	Collection Fund		(1,020)
Top up simpler recycling reserve	Simpler Recycling		1,020
Total Carry Forwards and Reserves Commitments			2,962

Summary capital variances

Capital Outturn Variance Analysis 24-25		£000s
Carry Forwards:		
Manvers Business Park Enhancements		(4)
Streetwise Depot (Unit 10 Moorbridge)		(76)
Highways Verges: Cotgrave/Bingham/Cropwell Bishop		(37)
Cotgrave Phase 2		(38)
Bingham Arena Enhancements		(250)
Watercourse Improvements		(8)
The Point		(15)
Bingham Market Place Improvements		(6)
Walkers Yard 1a/b and 3		(70)
Rushcliffe Oaks Crematorium		(338)
Vehicle Replacement Programme		(197)
Disabled Facilities Grants		(297)
Car Park Resurfacing		(20)
Rushcliffe Arena Enhancements		(65)
Cotgrave & Keyworth Leisure Centre Enhancements		(398)
Edwalton Golf Club Enhancements		(30)
Toothill Sports Complex Improvements		(10)
Gresham Sports Park Redevelopment		(62)
Land Acquisition Carbon Offsetting		(1,500)
Gamston Community Centre Enhancements Special Expense		(116)
External Door/Window Upgrades Various Sites		(46)
Greythorn Drive Play Area Special Expense		(14)
Bridgford Park and Bridge Field Play Areas Spec Exp		(71)
West Park Julien Cahn Pavilion Special Expense		(136)
ICT		(218)
Contingency		(286)
Sub-total		(4,308)
Savings:		
Rushcliffe Customer Services Contact Centre		(35)
Rushcliffe Oaks Crematorium		(150)
Retrofit Grants		(72)
Home Upgrade Green Energy Grants (HUG2)		(727)
Alford Road Football Pitches		(2)
Sub-total		(986)
Overspends:		
Boundary Court		1
Support for Registered Housing Providers		2
Car Park Machines Bingham		1
Rushcliffe Country Park Play Area		2
Bridgefield Access Improvements Special Expense		3
Sub-total		9
Accelerations:		
Edwalton Community Facility Spec Exp		176
Sub-total		176
TOTAL		(5,109)