

Department of Corporate and Community Services

Deputy Chief Executive: Caroline Innes BSc (Hons)

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Date: 10 December 2021

When calling please ask for: Eamonn Daly (07584 116619)

e-mail: eamonn.daly@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

TO: Provost Fletcher; Deputy Provost Cunningham; and Councillors Aitken, Bamforth, Buchanan, Convery, Devlin, Gilbert, Grant, Ireland, Lafferty, Macdonald, McLean, Merrick, Miller, O'Kane, Swift and Wallace.

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

A meeting of the East Renfrewshire Council will be held on **Wednesday 15 December 2021 at 7.00 pm.**

The agenda of business is as listed below.

Please note this is a virtual meeting.

Yours faithfully

Caroline Innes

C INNES
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

PROGRAMME OF BUSINESS

1. **Report apologies for absence.**
2. **Declarations of Interest.**
3. **Submit for approval as a correct record the Minute of meeting of the Council held on 27 October 2021.**
4. **Submit for approval as a correct record the Minute of meeting of the Council held on 25 November 2021.**
5. **Submit for approval as a correct record the Minutes of meetings for the period 28 October to 14 December 2021.**

6. Items Remitted to the Council

- (i) General Fund Capital Programme – Report by Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer)(copy attached pages 3 - 30)(Cabinet 25 November 2021).

Cabinet Recommendation

That the amendments to the Programme be approved.

- (ii) Housing Capital Programme – Joint Report by Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer) and Director of Environment (copy attached pages 31 - 38)(Cabinet 25 November 2021).

Cabinet Recommendation

That the amendments to the Programme be approved.

- (iii) Interim Treasury Management Report 2021-22 – Report by Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer)(copy attached pages 39 - 52)(Audit & Scrutiny Committee - 25 November 2021).

Audit & Scrutiny Committee Recommendation

That the Council approve the use of the organisations listed at Appendix II of the report for investment of surplus funds.

7. Statements by Conveners/Representatives on Joint Boards/Committees.

8. Provost's Engagements – Report by Deputy Chief Executive (copy attached, pages 53 - 54).

9. COVID-19 Recovery Update – Report by Chief Executive (copy attached, pages 55 - 70).

10. Designation of Monitoring Officer – Report by Chief Executive (copy attached, pages 71 - 72).

For information on how to access the virtual meeting please email eamonn.daly@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

A recording of the meeting will also be available following the meeting on the Council's YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/eastrenfrewshire/videos>

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

25 November 2021

Report by the Chief Financial Officer

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to monitor expenditure as at 30 September 2021 (Quarter 2) against the approved Capital Programme for 2020/21 and to recommend adjustments where necessary.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Cabinet is asked to:-
 - note and approve the movements within the programme; and
 - note the shortfall of £0.443m, and that income and expenditure on the programme will be managed and reported on a regular basis.

BACKGROUND

3. The General Fund Capital Programme for 2021-2031 was approved by Council on 15 March 2021. A report recommending adjustments to the 2021/22 programme resulting from timing movements and cost variations was approved by Cabinet on 26 August 2021.

CURRENT POSITION

- | | | |
|----|--|-----------------|
| 4. | Total anticipated expenditure (Appendix A) | £42.436m |
| | Total anticipated resources (Appendix B) | <u>£41.993m</u> |
| | Shortfall | <u>£ 0.443m</u> |

This report provides an update on a number of projects impacted by COVID-19, Brexit and other delays. These factors continue to have a significant impact on the market with shortages of material and labour along with associated cost pressures. This is anticipated to continue for some time with longer lead times and price increases expected across construction projects. Backlogs following the easing of restrictions are also delaying tender processes and site start dates.

Officers will continue to review the position and will provide further updates as part of the regular reporting process.

INCOME MOVEMENTS

5. The main income movements are as follows: -
 - Borrowing

Borrowing in the current financial year has been reduced by a net total of £4.444m due to timing variances in expenditure and other adjustments noted below.

- Additional and new grant funding

A number of new and additional grant funds have been awarded, supporting new and existing projects:

- Scottish Environmental Protection Agency £0.600m – to support White Cart/Levern Water project
- Renewal of Playparks £0.102m – Scottish Government playpark fund
- Fleet infrastructure £0.046m – to support installation of electric vehicle charger points
- CO2 Monitors £0.152m – for installation of fixed or handheld CO2 monitors
- Low Carbon Fund £1.084m – additional funds to support work at White Cart / Levern Water
- Nature Restoration Fund £0.084m – to support environmental projects such as planting of trees
- Bridge Maintenance Fund £0.089m (£0.812m in total) – Aurs Road bridge and waterworks (linked to City Deal project)

EXPENDITURE MOVEMENTS

6. The total estimated expenditure has reduced by £2.287m below the level reported to Council on 26 August 2021. The main movements are as follows

Revised Project Timing

- Property Schools

Kirkhill PS – Rewire (increase by £0.012m) – Works are scheduled to take place in summer 2022 however a small element of spend is now expected ahead of year end.

St Marks Car Park (reduction £0.266m) – demolition works now complete but main works now likely to start late February and run into 2022/23. Additional cost pressures likely.

Crookfur PS Extension (reduction £0.055m) – revised phasing for this project will result in a reduced spend on fees and investigation work in 2021/22. There are additional cost pressures on this project and officers are currently assessing how these can be managed, but it is likely additional funding will be required.

Mearns Castle HS Sports Facility (reduction £0.928m) – while the project will go to tender shortly with a February 2022 start, the majority of the works will take place in 2022/23. Planning conditions may create additional cost pressures.

Security CCTV Expansion (reduction £0.032m) – Remainder of work will take place in 2022/23.

- Culture & Leisure

Eastwood HS Sports Centre Changing Rooms/Disabled Facilities (increase £0.060m) – Work now programmed for 2022/23 but there are likely to be some fees and investigation work completed in 2021/22 therefore an element of spend will be required.

- Property - Other

City Deal – revised estimates for current year outturn have resulted in a decrease on Barrhead Railway Station (£0.024m) and Country Park Infrastructure (£0.070m). The bulk of the work on these projects will take place from 2023.

Property Major Maintenance – Ventilation Works (reduced from £2.200m to £0.858m in 2021/22). Work is ongoing on improving ventilation in schools however much of this is now likely to take place in summer 2022. As requirements are being assessed, additional costs have been identified and a separate paper will be brought forward once assessments are complete.

Property Major Maintenance – Fire Risk Adaptations (reduced by £0.223m) – works across four schools are now scheduled for summer 2022.

Office Accommodation (reduction £1.848m) – much of this budget is earmarked for implementation of changes required to office accommodation as a result of The Way We Work project however the works are unlikely to take place before year end. An element remains in 2021/22 for small projects already identified.

Capelrig House Upgrade (reduction £0.378m) – this will now take place in 2022/23 with only fees and investigation works in 2021/22.

- Roads – City Deal Aurs Road – Levern Valley Accessibility (increase of £0.244m – part funded from grant)

Revised outturn estimates indicate a small increase in current year spend here of £0.155m along with additional grant for the current year of £0.089m.

Expenditure reductions resulting from revised project timing are not cost savings but simply a transfer of expenditure to future financial years.

Expenditure Variances and Transfers

- Schools/ICT – Isobel Mair External Classrooms (increase of £0.100m) matched by decrease in Education Computer Equipment

A higher tender cost for this will be covered from a transfer from Education Computer equipment budget line where there is some capacity.

- Property – Other – RGP Toilet Upgrade (increase of £0.034m) matched by decrease in Muirend Synthetic Pitch.

Tender for toilet upgrade has come in £0.034m over anticipated budget however this can be covered from a transfer from Muirend Synthetic Pitch which has completed under budget.

- Property – Other (Property Maintenance) – CO2 Monitors (£0.152m increase)

Additional grant funding from the Scottish Government has been awarded for the installation or procurement of CO2 monitors

- Property – Other (Property Maintenance) – Use of provisional sums (transfer £0.433m)

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Additional funds to support work progressing on smaller projects within Hardwire Testing, COSHH, Boiler replacement, roof improvements and legionella remedial works have been applied from Provisional Sums.

- Open Spaces – White Cart Environmental Improvements including Lavern Water works (increase of £1.684m)

This project is expected to commence in early 2022 and may extend into 2022/23 with an increased scope supported by additional grant funding from SEPA and the Low Carbon Vacant & Derelict Land Fund

- Open Spaces – Renewal of Playparks (increase of £0.102m).

A grant of £0.102m has been awarded in the first year of the Scottish Government's £60m playpark upgrade initiative and work will commence shortly.

- Open Spaces – Nature Restoration (increase of £0.084m).

A grant of £0.084m has been awarded from the Scottish Government Nature Restoration Fund. This will be used to create some new small areas of woods across East Renfrewshire with some additional projects also being considered,

- Roads – City Deal Aurs Road – Lavern Valley Accessibility (increase of £0.089m in current year)

Grant funding approved will be used for works on the Aurs Road waterworks bridge which will run alongside the Aurs Road city deal project.

- Roads – General (transfers of £0.554m)

Five roads projects have been reclassified from the Roads Capital Works line to mainline projects in the table. This has the effect of reducing the mainline budgets brought forward by £0.554m, reflected on updated mainline project totals, and increasing the Roads Capital Works carry forward by the same value. There is no additional costs involved however this adjustment enables planned works within the £15m Roads Capital Works fund take place in 2021/22 rather than be delayed.

Further to this, an increase in the cost of works at Eaglesham Moor Road of £0.025m has been covered from a transfer from C2 Neilston Road which doesn't require the full budget allocated.

- Fleet – Vehicle Charging Points (increase of £0.046m)

Additional grant has been awarded to support the installation of electric vehicle charging points in 2021/22

COMMENT

7. The projected shortfall of £0.443m represents 1.06% of the resources available and is within manageable limits.

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

8. This report has been prepared following consultation with appropriate staff from various departments within the Council including Property and Technical Services and Information Technology.

RECOMMENDATIONS

9. The Cabinet is asked to:-
- note and approve the movements within the programme; and
 - note the shortfall of £0.443m and that income and expenditure on the programme will be managed and reported on a regular basis.

Further information is available from Mark Waugh, Principal Accountant – Capital, telephone 0141 577 3123.

Margaret McCrossan
Head of Accountancy Services (Chief Financial Officer)
MMcC/MW
9 December, 2021

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GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

	ANNUAL COSTS £'000		
	CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26.08.21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR
Property - Schools	10,938	9,762	2,522
Property - Culture & Leisure	5,076	5,136	1,571
Property - Other	8,487	4,789	654
Open Spaces	3,482	5,352	805
Roads	5,734	6,445	1,784
Corporate Wide - ICT	8,979	8,879	1,977
Fleet	2,027	2,073	321
TOTAL	44,723	42,436	9,634

	TOTAL COST £'000	
<i>SPENT PRIOR TO 31.03.21</i>	<i>PREVIOUS TOTAL COST</i>	<i>REVISED TOTAL COST</i>
59,384	108,952	109,052
3,974	69,130	69,130
15,885	52,419	52,591
2,512	12,314	14,184
10,146	44,583	44,965
11,573	41,987	41,887
2,884	15,848	15,894
106,357	345,233	347,703

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Property - Schools

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
Grouped	Schools Major Maintenance	1,279	1,272	394	n/a	644	10,075	10,075
800050031	Maidenhill Primary School	1,104	1,104	210	Main works complete	13,925	15,050	15,050
800050033	St Cadoc'S Ps Remodelling To Provide Pre-Five Provision For 3 & 4 Years Olds	4	4	0	Retention	870	874	874
800050030	Kirkhill PS - Rewire	0	12	0	Remaining work re-programmed for summer 2022. Will now take place in 2022/23	367	491	491
Grouped	Early Learning & Childcare - Expansion to 1,140 hours	1,358	1,358	380	Main works complete	25,355	26,713	26,713
N/a	Early Years - Crookfur/Fairweather/Overlee Masterplanning	10	10	0	Work in progress	0	10	10
800050039	St Ninian's HS Additional Temp Accomodation	1,675	1,675	995	Internal works should complete shortly, main new build underway	817	2,492	2,492
800050057	Learning & Leisure in Neilston	3,337	3,337	523	At planning stage	723	30,000	30,000
800050038	St Mark's Car Park	316	50	3	Work in progress	34	350	350
800050063	Uplawmoor PS Upgrade	0	0	0	Deferred to 2022/23	0	100	100
800050064	Crookfur PS Extension	130	75	0	Work in progress	0	2,200	2,200
800050058	MCHS Sports Facility	1,100	172	17	Still at planning stage, potential delay	3	1,726	1,726
800050065	Improving Learning	0	0	0	Allocated to Isobel Mair	0	1,600	1,600

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Property - Schools

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
800050017	Joint Faith Campus (New Denominational PS for Mearns Area & Relocation of Calderwood Lodge PS)	183	183	0	Retention works ongoing	16,488	16,671	16,671
new code	Isobel Mair External Classrooms	400	500	0	Work expected to be completed late 2021	0	400	500
800050012	Security (CCTV) Expansion	42	10	0	Work to be programmed	158	200	200
		10,938	9,762	2,522		59,384	108,952	109,052

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Property - Culture & Leisure

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
800200019	Eastwood Park Leisure - Refurbishment	4,257	4,257	1,187	Planning stage. Total costs updated for Council decision	43	55,000	55,000
800200021	Neilston Leisure	233	233	36	Planning stage.	8	7,500	7,500
800200020	ERCLT General Building Improvement Fund	367	367	345	A number of projects underway	231	1,698	1,698
800050049	Eastwood HS Sports Centre Changing Rooms/Disabled Facilities	0	60	3	Main works to take place in summer 2022 but an element of spend now expected in 2021/22	16	429	429
800200015	Equipment - Gym and Theatre	79	79	0	In progress	198	831	831
805600002	Education - Theatre Equipment	106	106	0	Work to be programmed	2	162	162
800200007	Barrhead Foundry Refurbishment (including Pool & Filtration System)	1	1	0	Retention	2,859	2,860	2,860
800200013	Barrhead Foundry Final Phase Works	33	33	0	Retention	617	650	650
		5,076	5,136	1,571		3,974	69,130	69,130

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Property - Other

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
	1. City Deal							
Grouped	Barrhead South Access - Balgraystone Road & Railway Station	170	146	108	Balgraystone Road main works complete, Railway station project scope to be finalised.	4,402	22,348	22,348
804000009	Country Park Visitor Centre & Infrastructure	125	55	0	Work planned but the project is dependant on progress on Aurs Road	300	2,800	2,800
804000006	Greenlaw Business Incubator And Innovation Centre & Employment Support Linked To Barrhead Foundry	80	80	0	Complete, retention only	5,630	5,722	5,722
	2. Environment Other Projects							
800420010	Cowan Park Changing Facilities	38	38	0	Retention only	138	280	280
800200018	Crookfur Pavilion Changing Upgrade	203	203	0	Complete - final payment to be agreed	602	805	805
802200018	Muirend Synthetic	146	112	0	Work in progress	4	150	116
802200017	RGP Toilets Upgrade	128	162	0	On site late 2021	2	130	164
800420019	St Andrews House Refurbishment	40	40	0	At design stage	0	40	40

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Property - Other

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
	3. Council Wide Property							
Grouped	Retentions - All Services	50	50	4	n/a	41	491	491
Grouped	Property Maintenance	4,296	2,883	401	n/a	1,711	13,387	13,559
800420013	Eastwood Park Campus Improvements	212	212	0	Work to be programmed	310	522	522
800404017	Office Accommodation	1,958	110	14	Work to be programmed	242	2,200	2,200
800420014	Capital Investment In Energy Efficiency Measures (NDEE Initiative)	115	115	0	Paused. Remaining works to be programmed	1,639	1,754	1,754
800420005	Thornliebank Depot Mechanical Extraction	39	39	0	Work in progress	102	141	141
800050044	Overlee Pavilion Changing	348	348	69	Complete - final payment to be agreed	557	905	905
800404015	Vacant (Surplus) Property/ Demolition	86	86	57	Allocated for St Marks	190	276	276
800420020	Capelrig House Upgrade	453	75	0	At planning stage with discussions ongoing. Transfer of remedial work budget to support	0	453	418
800402003	Capelrig House Remedial Works	0	35	1	Merged with upgrade project	15	15	50
		8,487	4,789	654		15,885	52,419	52,591

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Open Spaces

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
	1. REGENERATION							
80200008	Country Park - Tourism Infrastructure And Economic Activity Projects	0	0	0	Work will follow completion of main Aurs Road works	52	235	235
80200015	White Cart Tributaries Environmental Improvements	998	2,682	4	Awaiting outcome of Derelict Land Fund application. SEPA funding remains available to April 2022	266	1,264	2,948
80200032	Regeneration Projects - Provisional Sums	81	81	0	Number of projects in progress and should complete later in 2021	100	2,599	2,599
	2. Environment - Other Projects							
80220010	Environment Task Force	45	45	0	Work to be programmed	35	240	240
80200018	Town Centre Action	39	39	0	Work to be programmed	79	278	278
80220007	Parks, Cemeteries & Pitch Improvements	315	315	71	Work in progress	528	1,743	1,743
80220020	Renewal of Playparks	0	102	0	New grant funding	0	0	102
	Nature Restoration	0	84	0	New grant funding	0	0	84
80020017	Cowan Park	884	884	264	Work in progress	31	915	915
Grouped	Town Centre Regeneration	699	699	466	Work in progress, projects expected to complete by Sept 2021	636	1,334	1,334

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Open Spaces

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
802000005	Public Realm/Town Centre Resilience	6	6	0	Work to be programmed	218	224	224
802000029	Neilston Regeneration	92	92	0	At planning stage	8	2,600	2,600
802000011	Land And Property Acquisitions	255	255	0	Projects to be identified	144	399	399
802000028	Giffnock Town Centre Improvements	10	10	0	Work to be programmed	0	10	10
802000007	Other Public Realm	17	17	0	Work to be programmed	3	20	20
802000002	Clarkston Town Centre Action And Traffic Management Improvements	31	31	0	Work to be programmed	186	217	217
802200011	Mearns Historic Kirkyard Protective Works	1	1	0	Retention	83	84	84
800050029	St Ninian's HS - Rugby Pitch	9	9	0	Retention	143	152	152
		3,482	5,352	805		2,512	12,314	14,184

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Roads

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
	1. City Deal							
804000001	Levern Valley Accessibility Project	500	744	0	Additional grant funding approved	2,192	19,183	19,995
	2. ERC Roads							
803000004	Lighting - Core Cable & Equipment Replacement	159	159	79	Work in progress	321	1,760	1,760
803000007	Bridges Refurbishment & Pointing Work	44	44	20	Work in progress	117	585	585
803000015	Principal Inspection Group 1-6	77	29	0	Work in progress	0	245	245
803000025	Traffic Calming Studies	60	60	3	Work in progress	15	275	275
803000016	Road Safety Measures/Equipment at Schools	42	42	15	Work in progress	18	220	220
803000018	Safe Routes to School	20	20	0	Work to be programmed	43	223	223
803000042	A736 KELBURN STREET/LOCHLIBO ROAD RECONSTRUCTION	0	0	0	No further works required in 2021/22	0	372	262
803000030	A77 Ayr Road Reconstruction	175	175	3	Work in progress	415	805	805
803000033	B767 CLARKSTON ROAD RECONSTRUCTION	81	81	0	Work in progress	4	164	164
803000035	B769 Stewarton Rd (Rural) Reconstruction	6	6	6	No further works required in 2021/22	356	637	612

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Roads

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
803000034	B767 Eaglesham Road Reconstruction	0	0	0	No further works required in 2021/22	444	804	684

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Roads

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
803000047	C2 Kingston Road Reconstruction	0	0	0	This phase of works now complete - element of balance transferred to Darnley Rd / Eaglesham Moor Rd	85	315	315
803000089	A736 MAIN STREET/LEVERN ROAD BARRHEAD	200	200	2	On site Feb 2022	119	625	625
803000038	C1 Mearns Road	265	265	0	Work in progress	0	640	640
803000048	B755 Gleniffer Road	115	115	0	Work in progress	105	595	595
803000049	B776 ROWBANK ROAD	0	0	0	No further works required in 2021/22	96	605	451
803000050	C2 NEILSTON ROAD	107	43	0	Work in progress	64	321	296
803000051	C3 UPLAWMOOR RD / MAIN ST, NEILSTON	0	0	0	No further works required in 2021/22	84	324	214
803000024	Cycling, Walking & Safer Streets	508	508	63	Work in progress	329	419	508
803000031	A77 Fenwick Road Reconstruction	40	40	0	Work to commence late 2021	0	238	238
new code	B773 Darnley Road, Barrhead	100	100	0	New project approved Cabinet May 2021	0	100	100
new code	B764 Eaglesham Moor Road	120	145	0	New project approved Cabinet May 2021	0	120	145
803000189	Provisional Sums - Roads	8	8	2	n/a	0	8	8
Grouped	Roads Capital Works	3,107	3,661	1,591		5,339	15,000	15,000
		5,734	6,445	1,784		10,146	44,583	44,965

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Council Wide - ICT

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
805000002	ICT Infrastructure Projects	825	825	151	Work in progress	718	5,543	5,543
805000025	IT General Provision	1,921	1,921	168	Awaiting decision on modernisation fund bid	1,154	14,129	14,129
805000005	Corporate Information Security	66	66	1	Work in progress	684	750	750
805000023	GDPR Requirements	10	10	0	No changes anticipated at present	70	250	250
805000003	Education Network	93	93	15	Work in progress	410	1,101	1,101
805000017	PCI DSS	104	104	0	To be reviewed next quarter	31	135	135
805000031	Public Wifi Network	265	265	0	Pilot projects successful.	0	265	265
805000010	Wireless Local Area Network 2015	30	30	10	Work in progress	1,020	1,050	1,050
805000026	Income Management E-Store	54	54	7	Work in progress	151	205	205
805400002	Corporate GIS	88	88	0	Work to be programmed	112	200	200
805000018	Modern Smart Forms	53	53	0	Work in progress	147	200	200
805000020	My Account Middleware & Vendor APIs	6	6	4	Work in progress	204	210	210
805100002	Electronic Document Records Management (Rest Of Council)	124	124	0	Projects to progress late 2021	229	353	353
805000020	Myaccount Signing In To On-Line Services	135	135	0	Work in progress	150	285	285

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Council Wide - ICT

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
805000028	HSCP - Responder Service Modernisation & Safety Net Technology	180	180	0	Work in progress	0	180	180
805000022	The Digital Workplace	311	311	0	Two workstreams as staff return to offices	289	600	600
805000032	Flexi Time Application Replacement	40	40	0	Work to be programmed	40	80	80
805000024	Major ICT Contract Renewals	61	61	54	Work in progress	1,277	1,338	1,338
805000001	Core Corporate Finance, Payroll & HR	426	426	59	Work in progress	3,324	3,750	3,750
800050004	Education - Computer Equipment	950	850	142	Transfer of £100k to support Isobel Mair Ext Classrooms	965	5,353	5,253
805000033	Corporate & Community Dept Recovery System (5 year replacement programme)	39	39	0	Work to be programmed	0	0	0
805600001	ERCLT People's Network	60	60	0	Work in progress	9	229	229
805000029	ERCLT Digital Platform	410	410	58	Work in progress	0	410	410
805000009	School Servers Storage	169	169	0	Work in progress	181	350	350
805500004	Social Work Case Management System	110	110	0	Work to be programmed	0	110	110
805300003	Education CCTV	447	447	0	Work to be programmed	0	626	626
805000027	Telecare Service and Peripherals	590	590	0	Work to be programmed	35	1,150	1,150
805100003	Agile (Rest Of Council)	2	2	0	Work in progress	258	260	260

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Council Wide - ICT

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
805000008	Software Asset Management	4	4	0	Work in progress	61	65	65
800200008	Culture & Sport Self-Service Kiosk Hardware Refresh	56	56	0	Work to be programmed	54	110	110
805000034	Full Fibre Digital Transformation	1,350	1,350	1,308	Work in progress	0	2,700	2,700
		8,979	8,879	1,977		11,573	41,987	41,887

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Fleet

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
806000004	HSCP - Vehicles	247	247	159	Ongoing	41	1,164	1,164
806000001	Education - Vehicles	364	0	0	Balance transferred to Environment Vehicles (correct budget allocations)	434	1,122	1,122
806000002	Environment - Vehicles	1,268	1,632	123	Balance transferred to Environment Vehicles (correct budget allocations)	2,402	13,197	13,197
806000005	Environment - GPRS System	98	98	0		7	315	315
806000007	Rolling Road Test Facility	50	50	39	Now complete	0	50	50
	Vehicle Charging Points	0	46	0	New grant funding	0	0	46
		2,027	2,073	321		2,884	15,848	15,894

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Annex 1 - Schools Major Maintenance Analysis

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
800000002	Carolside PS - Window Renewal	0	0	0	Deferred - funds directed to other priority works	66	207	207
800000019	St Lukes Windows Entrance Area	0	0	0	Deferred - funds directed to other priority works	38	150	150
800000004	Woodfarm HS - Window Renewal	0	0	0	Deferred - funds directed to other priority works	69	298	298
800000014	School Toilet Improvements	244	2	2	St Josephs due to complete	306	550	315
800050054	THORNLIEBANK PS PR 1- WINDOW RENEWAL	92	92	54	Work in progress	8	100	100
800050055	OLM Entrance Door	46	46	43	Work in progress	4	50	50
800050066	Provisional Sums	226	226	0	n/a	0	7,896	7,896
800000008	Hazeldene Nursery - Window Renewal	1	1	0	Retention only	2	3	3
new code	Braidbar PS - Roof Improvements	50	50	0	Work in progress	0	50	50
800000009	Mearns Castle HS - Window Renewal	24	24	0	Work in progress	30	54	54
new code	Mearns Castle HS - Rear Stair Improvements	3	3	0	Retention only	0	3	3
new code	St Joseph's PS - Strucutral Improvements	4	4	0	Retention only	0	4	4
800000013	St Joseph's PS - Fabric Improvements	1	1	0	Retention only	2	3	3
800050002	St Luke'S HS - Roof Improvements (Gym Hall)	10	10	0	Work in progress	0	10	10

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Annex 1 - Schools Major Maintenance Analysis

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
80000007	Giffnock Primary windows (original block and ext	0	0	0	Transferred to ST Josephs	65	65	65
800050050	St.Josephs WC Refurbishment	60	295	295	Additional funds transferred from Giffnock PS	10	70	305
new code	School Priority Works	482	482	0	Re-prioritisation of funding from windows programme	0	482	482
800000011	St Josephs Primary windows and entrance door	36	36	0	Work in progress	44	80	80
		1,279	1,272	394		644	10,075	10,075

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Annex 2 - Property Maintenance Analysis

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
800401001	Disability Discrimination Act	78	78	0	Allocated for accessible toilets at Duff Hall	108	186	186
800404001	HardWire Testing	51	61	61	Work in progress - emergency lighting OLM	84	135	145
800404003	COSHH Upgrade	7	73	73	Work in progress	196	203	269
Grouped	Asset Management	177	177	65	Work in progress	425	602	602
800404009	Fire Risk Assessment Adaptations	308	85	61	Work in progress	168	1,676	1,676
800404012	Structural Surveys & Improvements	112	112	0	Work to be programmed	54	486	486
800600001	CEEF/Salix Energy Efficiency	253	253	0	Two potential projects identified - work to be programmed	2	855	855
800404005	Boiler Replacement	81	154	0	Work programmed at Mearns Castle HS	261	342	415
800404006	Roof Improvements	127	280	42	Work in progress	265	392	545
800404014	Legionella Remedial Improvements	18	149	96	Work in progress	132	150	301
800404011	Eastwood HQ Lighting Improvements	33	33	0	Work to be programmed	15	48	48
800200005	Community Facilities Improvements	129	129	0	Work programmed for Duff Memorial Hall	1	130	130
800420017	Ventilation Works	2,200	858	3	Programme of works in development	0	2,200	2,200
	CO2 Monitors	0	152	0		0	0	152
800420018	Provisional Sum	722	289	0	n/a	0	5,982	5,549

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

Annex 2 - Property Maintenance Analysis

		ANNUAL COSTS £'000			TOTAL COST £'000			
COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26/08/21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR	COMMENT	SPENT PRIOR TO 31/03/21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
	Corporate Total	4,296	2,883	401		1,711	13,387	13,559

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GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22

PROGRESS REPORT

RESOURCES

	£'000	£'000
Borrowing		30,035
Grants		
Capital Grant	5,336	
City Deal	238	
Early Learning and Childcare - 1140 Hours Expansion	0	
Cycling, Walking & Safer Streets	508	
Scottish Environmental Protection Agency	1,598	
Town Centre Fund	700	
Regeneration Capital Grant Fund	499	
Renewal of Playparks	102	
Fleet infrastructure	46	
CO2 Monitors	152	
Low Carbon Fund - Levern Water	1,084	
Nature Restoration Fund	84	
Bridge Maintenance Fund	89	
COVID related grant funding	<u>465</u>	10,901
Developers Contributions		804
Salix/Central Energy Efficiency Fund		253
Sustrans		0
CFCR		0
Capital Reserve		0

Capital Receipts

30

0

41,993

Appendix B

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILCABINET25 November 2021Report by the Chief Financial Officer and Director of EnvironmentHOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to monitor expenditure as at 30 September 2021 (Quarter 2) against the approved Housing Capital Programme 2021/22 and to recommend adjustments where necessary.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Council is asked to:-
 - note and approve the current movements within the programme;
 - note the shortfall of £0.160m and that income and expenditure on the programme will be managed and reported on a regular basis.

BACKGROUND

3. This report is presented in relation to the following:
 - Adjustments to the approved 2021/22 programme, reflecting timing movements resulting from the finalisation of the previous year's programme and re-phasing of 2021/22 expenditure were approved by Council on 30 June 2021 with a further update presented to Cabinet on 26 August 2021.

CURRENT POSITION

4.	Total anticipated expenditure (Appendix A)	£ 15.538m
	Total anticipated resources (Appendix B)	£ <u>15.378m</u>
	Shortfall	£ <u>0.160m</u>

COVID-19 and other market uncertainties continue to have an impact on the timing and cost of housing capital projects and some rescheduling is now required with an increase in tender costs also anticipated as we move forward.

Officers will continue to review the position and will provide further updates as part of the regular reporting process.

EXPENDITURE

5. The total estimated expenditure for 2021/22 has reduced by £3.029m due to the following changes in respect of timing of expenditure and other adjustments. A combination of Covid-19, Brexit, disruption to the supply chain & logistics, has resulted

in increased demand, labour and materials shortages which has delayed tendering and increased lead in times resulting in later start / re-start dates across the internal works programme.

- Renewal of Heating Systems (reduced by £0.033m) – A later start date will result in an element of this work falling into 2022/23.
- Rewiring (reduced by £0.087m) – works will continue into 2022/23
- External Structural Works (reduced by £0.357m) – A later start date will result in some of this work falling into 2022/23
- Energy Efficiency (reduced by £0.478m) – assessment of revised standards and requirements has resulted in a later tender process which will result in the majority of this work falling into 2022/23
- Internal Element renewals (£0.882m) – a delayed tender process and government restrictions has delayed these works and much of the internal work will now take place in 2022/23
- Communal Door Entry (reduced by £0.079m to zero) – delayed due to restrictions and the need to reach agreement with occupiers, this now won't go ahead until next year.
- Sheltered Housing (reduced by £1.013m) – internal works have been delayed to ensure they can be carried out safely and minimise any risk to residents. Majority of work will now take place in 2022/23 following revised tender process.
- Purchase of Property (CPO/MTR/ROTS) (Reduced from £0.074 to zero) – no purchases are planned in the current year. An element of this line was held for upgrades to recently acquired Rental off the Shelf units however the work has completed within other existing build allocations.

At this stage the total estimated expenditure has been reduced to £15.538m however as noted above there is an expectation that some further impact on timing and cost will be experienced. Actual Expenditure to date (30 September) is £6.737m of which £4.859m was on the new build programme which is continuing to progress well.

INCOME

6. Resources to support the Housing Capital Programme have been adjusted to reflect the above changes
 - Purchase of Property (ROTS) grant – with no planned purchases, grant available to support this has been reduced to zero (from £0.025m). This is expected to remain available should an opportunity arise.
 - Borrowing – Reflecting lower revised outturn position, borrowing has been reduced by £3.004m in 2021/22. This will remain available to support the continuation of works in 2022/23.

COMMENT

7. The projected shortfall of £0.160m represents 1.04% of the resources available and is within manageable limits.

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

8. This report has been prepared following consultation with appropriate staff from Housing Services.

RECOMMENDATIONS

9. The Cabinet is asked to:-

- note and approve the current movements within the programme;
- note the shortfall of £0.160m and that income and expenditure on the programme will be managed and reported on a regular basis

Further information is available from Mark Waugh, Principal Accountant – Capital, telephone 0141 577 3123.

Margaret McCrossan
Head of Accountancy Services (Chief Financial Officer)
MMcC/MW
9 December, 2021

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

Appendix A

HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT	TOTAL COST £'000		
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26.08.21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR		SPENT PRIOR TO 31.03.21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
835000002	Renewal of Heating Systems	613	580	170	Work in progress	0	613	613
832000001	Rewiring (including smoke/carbon monoxide detectors)	751	664	311	Work in progress	0	751	751
831000002	External Structural Works	1,987	1,630	1,180	Work in progress	0	1,987	1,987
835000008	Estate Works	171	150	116	Work in progress	0	171	171
835000006	Energy Efficiency (Including Cavity Wall Insulation)	508	30	5	Work in progress	0	508	508
835000009	Aids and Adaptations	327	322	73	Work in progress	0	327	327
831500001	Internal Element Renewals (including kitchens, bathrooms and doors)	1,657	775	0	Work programmed	0	1,657	1,657
835000005	Communal Door Entry Systems	79	0	0	Delayed to 2022/23	0	79	79
835000012	Sheltered Housing	1,383	370	23	Work in progress	0	1,383	1,383
830500003	Purchase of Property (CPO/Mortgage to Rent Acquisition)	74	0	0	No purchases planned	0	74	74
835000003	IT Systems	53	53	0		200	253	253
Grouped	Capital New Build Phase 1	3,934	3,934	2,815	Work at Balgraystone Road ongoing. 3 other sites complete	9,149	14,561	14,561
Grouped	Capital New Build Phase 2	7,020	7,020	2,044	First units at Maidenhill transferred into Council ownership Work ongoing here and other sites	202	39,469	39,469

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

Appendix A

HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS REPORT

2021/2022

COST CODE	PROJECT NAME	ANNUAL COSTS £'000			COMMENT
		CURRENT YEAR APPROVED AT 26.08.21	PROJECTED OUTTURN FOR CURRENT YEAR	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN YEAR	
N/A	Retentions	10	10	0	
		18,567	15,538	6,737	

TOTAL COST £'000		
SPENT PRIOR TO 31.03.21	PREVIOUS TOTAL COST	REVISED TOTAL COST
0	10	10
9,551	61,843	61,843

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL
HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22

Appendix B

PROGRESS REPORT

RESOURCES

	21/22 Revised £'000
Borrowing	9,756
Commuted Sums - New Build	795
Grant - New Build Phase 1	1,414
Grant - New Build Phase 2	3,110
Recharges to Owner Occupiers (including HEEPS grant)	303
Rental off the Shelf (ROTS)	-
Total	<u>15,378</u>

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILAUDIT & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE25 November 2021Report by Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer)INTERIM TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR 2021/22**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To advise the Audit and Scrutiny Committee on the treasury management activities for the first 6 months of 2021/22.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. It is recommended that Members:-
 - a) Note the interim Treasury Management Report 2021/22; and
 - b) Recommend to the Council that the attached organisations for investment of surplus funds be approved (see Appendix II).

BACKGROUND

3. The treasury management policy statement requires the Chief Financial Officer to report every 6 months on the activities of the Treasury Management operation and on the exercise of the powers delegated to her.
4. In addition, in line with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management 2017, the Audit & Scrutiny Committee is responsible for ensuring the effective inspection of treasury management activities.
5. The attached Interim Treasury Management Report for the financial year 2021/22 is submitted in accordance with these requirements.

TREASURY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES IN 2021/22

6. The interim report for period 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021 is attached as Appendix I. The report reflects both routine activities and the additional challenges we have faced in the last eighteen months. The Council's prudent treasury management position has allowed it to cope with additional cash flow demands arising from the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

RECOMMENDATIONS

7. It is recommended that Members:-

- a) Note the interim Treasury Management Report 2021/22; and
- b) Recommend to the Council that the attached organisations for investment of surplus funds be approved (see appendix II).

Report Author

Further information is available from Barbara Clark, Chief Accountant, 577 3068

Key Words

Treasury Management, Interest Rates, Prudential Indicators, investment.

EAST RENFREWSHIRE**INTERIM TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2021/22**

Table 1

1. Actual External Debt

	Borrowing 01/04/21 £m	Average Interest %	Borrowing 30/09/21 £m	Average Interest %	Change in 6 mths £m
<u>Long Term Borrowing</u>					
Public Works Loan Board	99.03	3.49	99.03	3.49	0.00
LOBO (Lender Option Borrower Option)	14.40	4.60	14.40	4.60	0.00
PFI / PPP Finance Lease	83.80	7.16	83.80	7.16	0.00
SALIX Energy Efficiency Loan	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	(0.01)
Total borrowing	197.24	5.13	197.23	5.13	(0.01)
<u>Short Term Lending</u>					
Temporary Investments	(71.93)	0.11	(69.90)	0.04	2.03

2. During the period no new borrowing was undertaken from the Public Works Loan Board and there was only a very small repayment of existing borrowing.

3. The opening cash surplus of £71.93 million has decreased to £69.90 million due to both revenue and capital cash flows.

4. At 30 September 2021 the Council had 7.30% of its total borrowing outstanding in variable rate loans. This was also the peak of borrowing outstanding in variable rate loans during the period 01/04/21 to 30/09/21. For the Council to gain a high level of stability in overall borrowing costs the Council's Treasury Policy Statement requires the exposure to variable rate loans to be less than 30% of the total borrowing outstanding.

5. The attached tables chart the following:

Table 2 The Council's debt maturity profile – which is in line with the Council's Treasury Policy Statement

Table 3 Bank base rate movements

Table 4a and 4b The Council's activity in the temporary market

Table 5a and 5b Interest rate movements in the temporary market

6. Prudential Indicators

In line with the agreed monitoring arrangements for the Prudential Indicators, listed below there is a table showing prudential indicators comparing the approved indicator, as reported to the Council on 15 March 2021, along with the projected outturn figures for the year end, demonstrating that the Council is operating well within the limits set.

Prudential Indicator	Approved indicator	Projected Outturn for the year end	COMMENT
1. Capital Expenditure	£59,785,000	£63,290,000	The movement is due to some of the 2020/21 capital projects being carried forward within both the Housing and General Fund Capital Programmes.
2. Capital Financing Requirement	£243,099,000	£238,710,000	The overall CFR is lower than the approved position due to reduced capital expenditure from that planned in the previous year, offset in part, by an increase in the current year's net expenditure .
3. Operational Boundary for External Debt	£247,783,000	£237,936,000	Movement is due to the projected in year net debt repayment of £5.46m being made, in addition to the movement in the Capital Financing Requirement.
4. Authorised Limit For External Debt	£272,375,000	£237,936,000	Approved indicator includes an allowance to cover any unusual temporary movements, it is anticipated that this will not be required during the year. The projected outturn figure also includes the projected net debt repayments of £5.46m, in addition to the movement in the Capital Financing Reserve.
5. Gross Debt	£222,594,000	£222,555,000	Gross debt has changed marginally from the approved position to reflect the new financial model for the Clyde Valley Waste Recycling Plant. The Projected Outturn assumes that the approved borrowing of £30m is taken before the end of the financial year.
6. Code of Practice For Treasury Management	The Council has adopted the CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes	All of the approved activities within the Council Treasury Management Policy Statement have been complied with.	

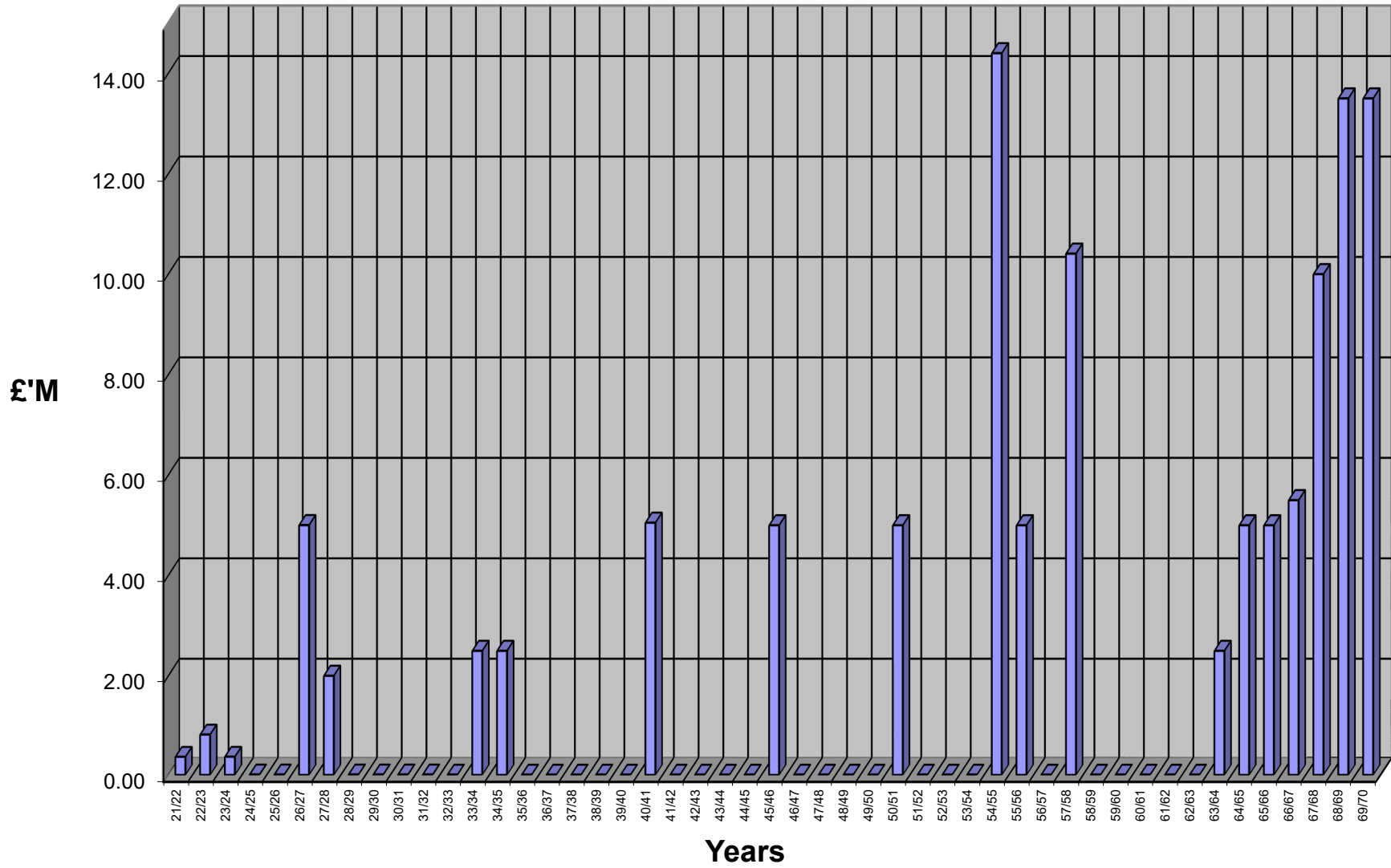
7. Approved Organisations for Investment

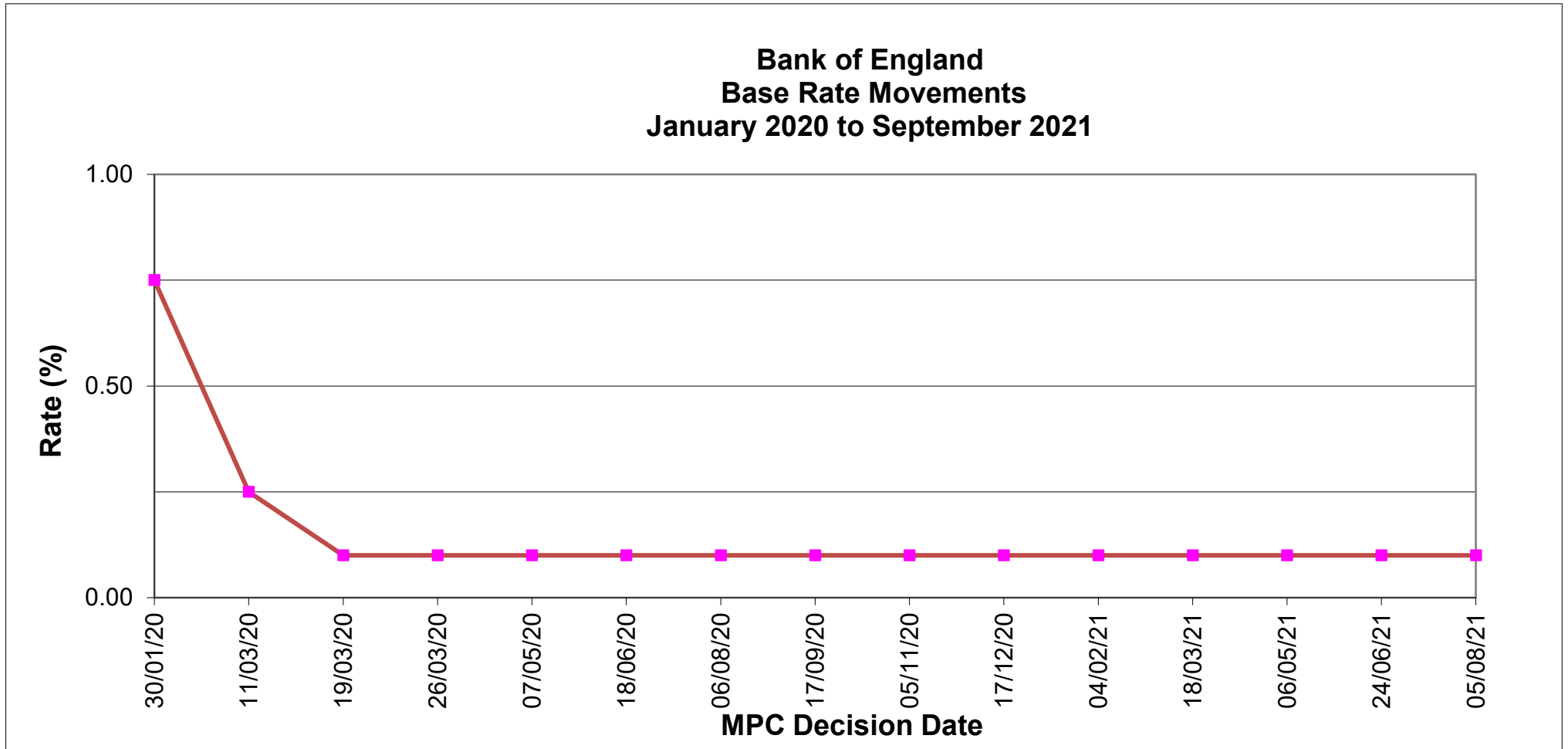
In line with normal practice the status of all Banks & Building Societies approved on the 8 September 2021 has been reviewed (see Appendix II). In this respect, the deposit limit increased for Bank of England from £25m to £30m. All lending is in line with the permitted methods of investment which were approved by Council on 15 March 2021 as part of the Treasury Management Strategy report.

As a result of the banking crisis and in line with prudent financial management, investment has been restricted to UK organisations with high credit ratings. Also, the maximum period of investment was restricted to 6 months, with the exception of loans to the Bank of Scotland, in line with advice from our Treasury Advisers. These measures have been taken as a part of a risk managed process designed to protect the principal of the sums invested.

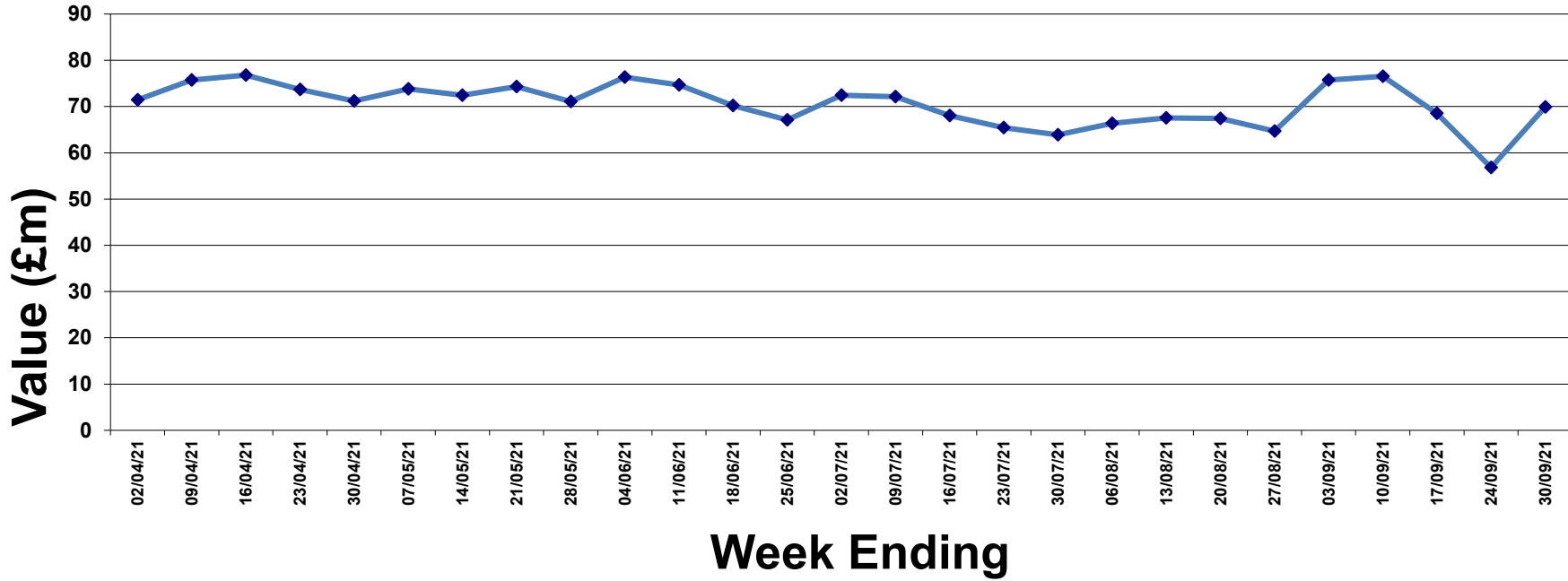
Credit ratings of organisations on the counter-party list are subject to continuous monitoring and review to ensure that subject to available professional advice, approved organisations remain sound for investment purposes.

Long Term Debt Maturity Profile as at 30/09/21

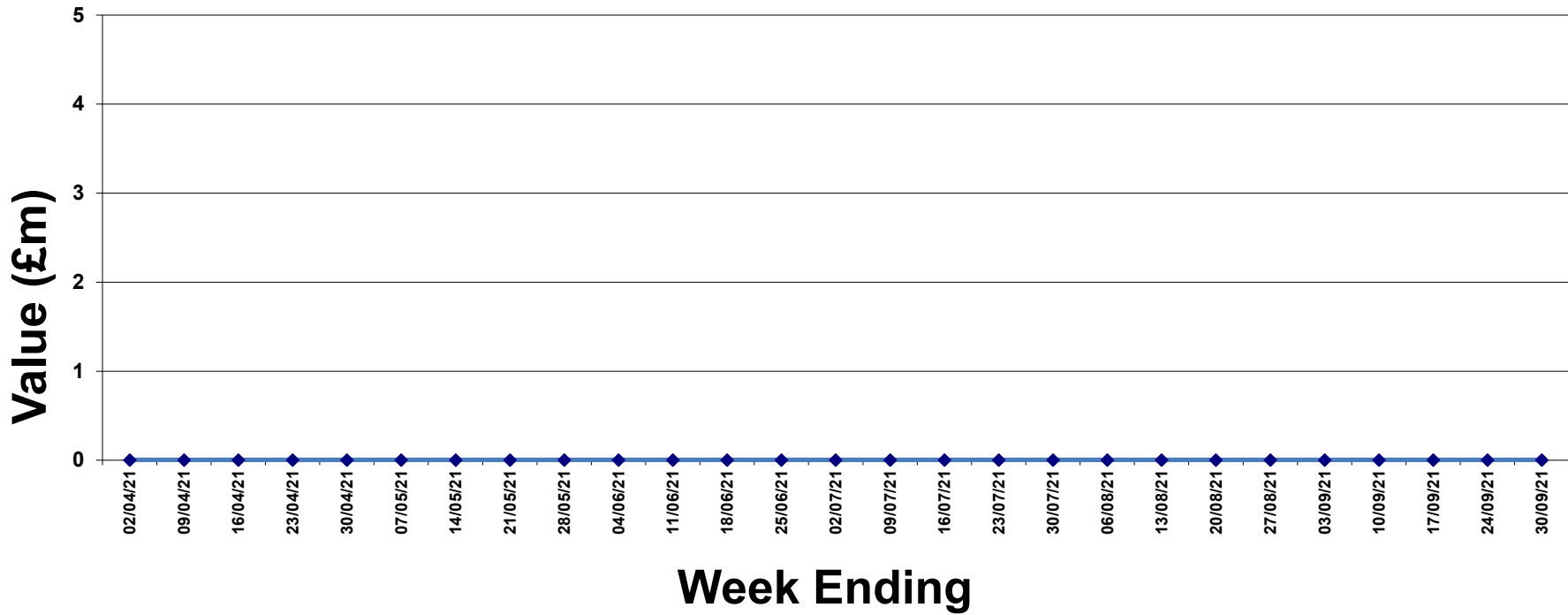




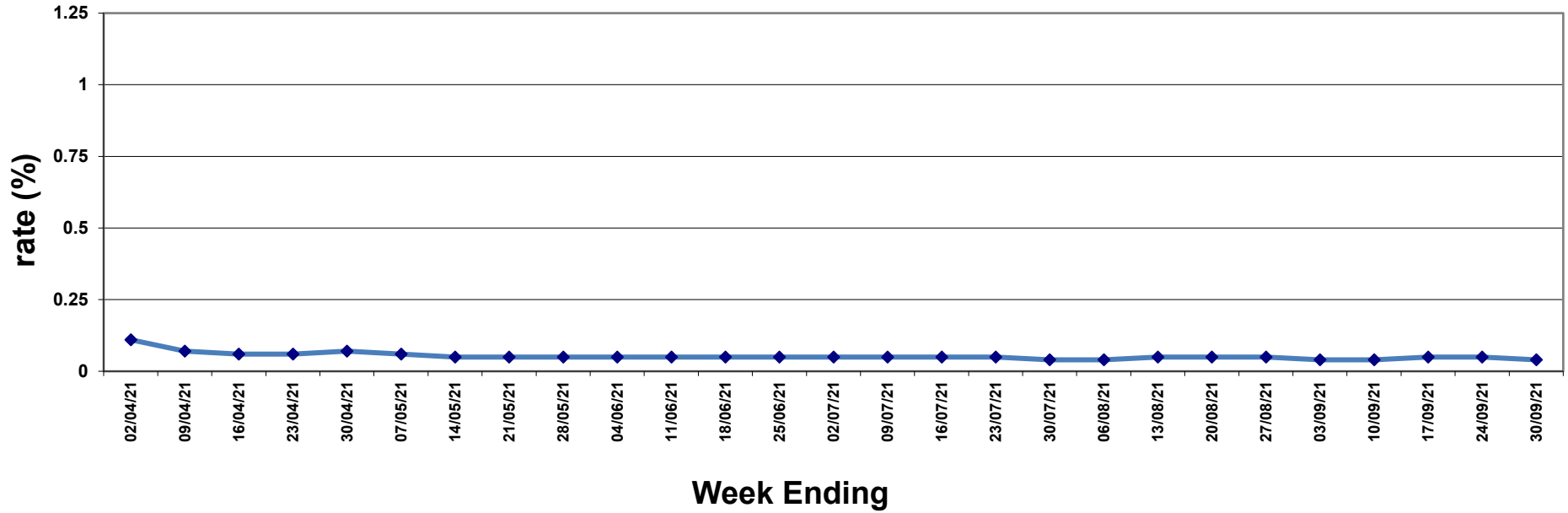
Temporary Deposits Weekly Movement (April 2021 - September 2021)



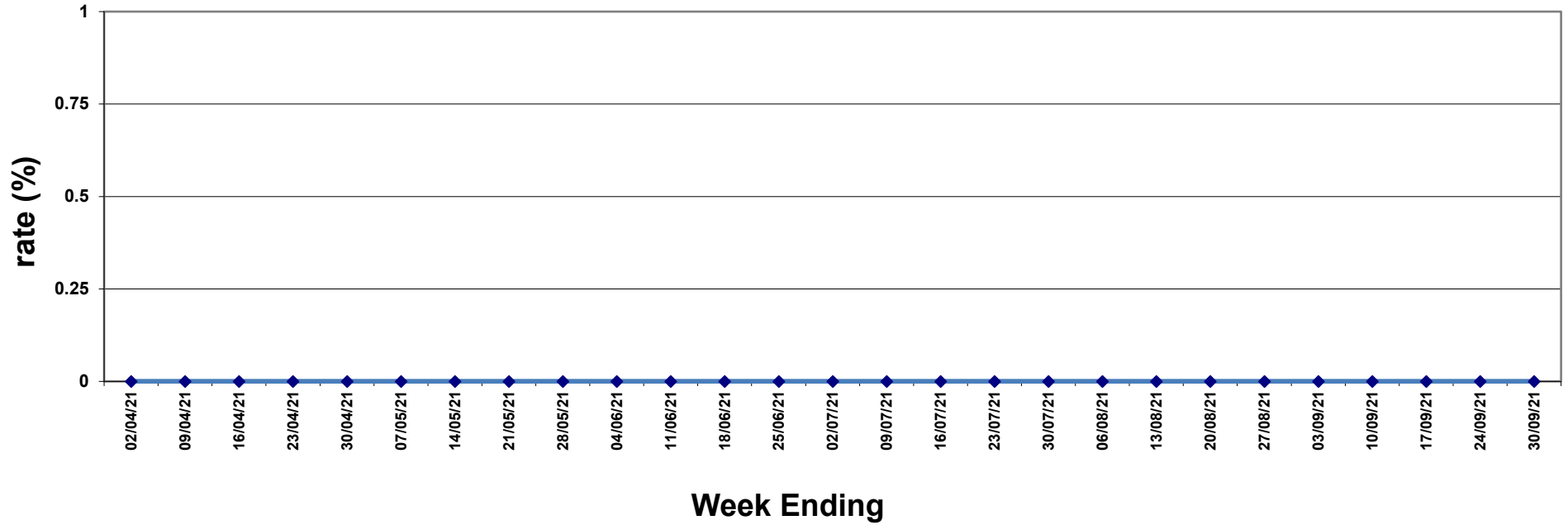
Temporary Borrowing Weekly Movement (April 2021 - September 2021)



Temporary Deposit Interest Rate Movements (April 2021 - September 2021)



Temporary Borrowing Interest Rate Movements (April 2021 - September 2021)



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ORGANISATIONS APPROVED FOR THE INVESTMENT OF SURPLUS FUNDS

Banking Group	Individual Counterparty	Limits	
		Deposit	Transaction
Bank of England	Debt Management Office	£30m	£30m
	UK Treasury Bills	£5m	£5m
Barclays Banking Group	Barclays Bank	£5m	£5m
Goldman Sachs International Bank		£5m	£5m
HSBC		£5m	£5m
Lloyds Banking Group:	Bank of Scotland	£12.5m	£12.5m
Royal Bank of Scotland Group:	Royal Bank of Scotland	£5m	£5m
	National Westminster Bank PLC		
Santander Group	Santander UK PLC	£7.5m	£7.5m
Standard Chartered Bank		£5m	£5m
Clydesdale Bank		£0m	£0m
Building Societies			
Nationwide		£5m	£5m
Local Authorities			
All Local Authorities including Police & Fire		£5m	£5m
Money Market Funds			
Maximum limit of £10m per fund		£60m	£10m

Credit Ratings

	Fitch		Moody's		S&P	
	LT	ST	LT	ST	LT	ST
Minimum Criteria (Unless Government backed)	A-	F1	A3	P-1/P-2	A	A-1/A-2

(please note credit ratings are not the sole method of selecting a counterparty)

Limit

Investment of surplus funds is permitted in each of the above organisations, limits can only be exceeded or another organisation approved with the written permission of the Chief Financial Officer.

Deposit Periods

The maximum period for any deposit is based on the LINK Suggested Duration matrix with a maximum of 6 months. The exception to this is deposits with the Bank of Scotland which is set at 365 days. These limits can only be exceeded with the written permission of the Chief Financial Officer.

Hub scheme deposit periods are dependent on the lifetime of the associated scheme.

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL**15 December 2021****Report by Deputy Chief Executive****PROVOST'S ENGAGEMENTS****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To advise the Council of the civic engagements carried out Provost Fletcher since the meeting of the Council in October.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the report be noted.

REPORT

3. Throughout the pandemic numerous civic events or engagements that would normally have been attended by the Provost have not been taking place.

4. As the vaccination programme rolls out opportunities for the Provost to attend events have resumed, albeit these have been limited in number.

5. Since the meeting in October the Provost has carried out the following civic engagements:

28 October – CAB Barrhead 50th Birthday Celebrations at Fereneze Golf Club.

5 November – Show Racism the Red Card Event at Giffnock Primary School.

14 November – Newton Mearns Cenotaph, Newton Mearns Synagogue and Cowan Park, Barrhead for Remembrance Sunday services.

18 November – Tree Planting at Rouken Glen Park to commemorate 80th Anniversary of the Association of Jewish Refugees.

19 November – Young Enterprise Scotland event at Rouken Glen Park.

7 December – Virtual School Parliament event with Giffnock Primary School.

RECOMMENDATION

6. That the report be noted.

Report Author

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Background papers - None

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL**15 December 2021****Report by Chief Executive****COVID-19 RECOVERY - UPDATE****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To provide Elected Members with a further update on response, recovery and renewal work taking place across the Council and the Trust since the previous update in October.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Council note and comment on the report.

BACKGROUND

3. Details of the levels system introduced by the Scottish Government; the ongoing vaccination programme; and the subsequent move out of the levels system with the associated effects on case numbers have all been reported at length in previous update reports considered by the Council.

4. In addition, in the reports considered by the Council on 8 September and 27 October, further information was provided on how continuing to respond to the effects of the pandemic was impacting on the ability of departments to deliver “normal” services and had contributed to significant backlogs across all departments. The reports also referred to challenges still ahead not least of which was managing public expectation that services should all be back to normal,

Omicron

5. The new discovery of a variant of concern, Omicron, in November 2021 has attracted significant Government, scientific and media attention. As more is understood about the impacts of the new variant, there is potential for further restrictions to be imposed, with resultant further impacts on service delivery.

6. At the time of writing, there has not been any announcement of further restrictions in Scotland over and above those protections currently in place. There continues to be an emphasis on home working, the wearing of face coverings, ventilation and hygiene. Individuals are encouraged to undertake rapid LFD tests regularly, particularly ahead of socialising during the festive period.

7. One significant potential impact from the early emergence of Omicron is the need for close contacts to isolate for 10 days, regardless of vaccination status. This differs from other variants, where close contacts do not need to isolate if they PCR test negative and are fully vaccinated. There is significant potential for Omicron to impact on staff availability as case numbers increase – particularly if all close contacts are required to isolate.

8. In response to the emergence of Omicron, there has been a significant ramping up of vaccination activity, following updated recommendations by the JCVI. Over 18s will now be eligible for a booster dose, and at a minimum of three months after their second dose.

Additionally, those aged 12-18 will now be eligible for a second dose. It is estimated that because of these recommendations being accepted, in excess of one million people nationally are now eligible for a further vaccine.

REPORT

9. The purpose of this report is to provide a further update to Members on work being carried out across the Council since the previous report, and should be read in the context of the previous update reports presented to the [Emergencies Committee in May](#), the [Council in June](#), the [Council in October](#), the [Council in December](#), the [Council in June 2021](#), the [Council in September 2021](#) and most recently the [Council on 27 October 2021](#).

10. Given that a full update was provided in October, this report only contains a summary of what has changed since then. It also reflects that the workload on the Council still remains extremely high.

Mass Vaccination Clinics

11. Carmichael Hall and Barrhead Health and Care Centre remain operational as vaccination clinics and provide ongoing COVID-19 vaccinations, as well as seasonal flu vaccines.

12. The continued operation of these vaccination centres represents a significant commitment from both the Trust and the HSCP. To ensure that the vaccination centres work efficiently and safely, staff support the non-clinical day-to-day operation through facilities management of the buildings, queue management and daily liaison with clinical staff. Voluntary Action East Renfrewshire has been providing additional help with support roles, allowing Trust and HSCP staff to return to their substantial roles. Voluntary Action is also supporting residents who may need transport assistance to attend their appointment.

13. Vaccination of the population remains the most important line of defence to slow down the spread and severity of the virus. Therefore, work continues with our NHS partners to maximise the opportunities for our residents to be vaccinated with additional clinics scheduled and it is likely that the vaccination centres will remain operational during January and February 2022.

14. Recently announced expansions of the COVID-19 booster vaccination programme to include all over 18s will have an impact upon the vaccination programme and centres. The Council's vaccination programme Single Point of Contact officer remains in close contact with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde colleagues, as well as neighbouring local authorities.

COVID-19 Testing

15. Testing remains a significant element of the Scottish Government's pandemic response. The Mobile Testing Unit (MTU) for symptomatic persons continues to be located at the Greenlaw Works (Business Centre). This site remains well utilised, operating Monday to Friday via Government portal bookings. The NHS have confirmed that the Greenlaw MTU will be closed on 25-28 December (inclusive of both dates) and 1-4 January (inclusive). Additionally there will be early closures (13.00) on both 24 and 31 December.

16. The Council is currently operating two Community Testing buses in various locations throughout East Renfrewshire. Busy shopping centres will be targeted over the festive period. The buses have also played a significant part in assisting Glasgow City Council with testing during the recent COP26 event.

17. An additional MTU will remain operational at the rear of the Spiersbridge Offices until at least the end of January. This is bookable through the Government portal, but allows walk-ins and offers PCR testing. The NHS have confirmed that the Mobile Testing Unit at Spiersbridge is planning to be closed during the festive period from 23 December to 5 January.

18. The Council can request additional Scottish Ambulance Service operated MTUs similar to the one operating at Spiersbridge, to enhance existing testing arrangements. This allows targeting of specific communities where spikes of the virus have occurred, as well as enhancement of the testing offer where case rates are high or variants of concern have been identified.

19. All major Council buildings have been supplied with LFD test kits for staff members who wish to test themselves. LFD kits are also available online and at some local pharmacies.

Annual leave

20. A number of services continue to be affected by staffing issues due to self-isolation requirements and annual leave requirements. There was a high level of annual leave carried over from 2020 to ensure service delivery during the height of the pandemic and it is important that managers support employees who have worked throughout to take appropriate breaks away from the workplace, which can influence capacity within some of the services.

Environment Department

21. As in previous reports and other departments, the Environment Department is certainly not in any way “back to normal”. Considerable resources are dedicated to supporting COVID response elements such as mass testing, mass vaccination and mobile testing. This has displaced resources from other areas of work, creating backlogs. This will continue to build/exist while resources are so heavily devoted to key public health protective measures.

Economic Development

22. As per previous updates, Economic Development staff have had additional responsibilities in relation to COVID business grants. This has resulted in more than £21m being paid to a wide range of local businesses and taxi drivers since the start of the pandemic. The service is prioritising key elements of its service plan, to be delivered in the remainder of 2021/22. They will also continue to process the next tranche of COVID business support grants.

Corporate Health and Safety Unit

23. Corporate Health and Safety Unit officers continue to devote significant resource to COVID related issues. Approximately 50% of the Service is now dedicated to business as usual activity, with the remaining time supporting COVID matters, including risk assessment reviews for service tasks and for buildings. COVID issues continue to have the potential to affect the Council meeting legal compliance requirements. The issues are partly that the service is not permitted to address these under remaining restrictions, and also the demand placed on the service for updated risk assessments.

24. The existing backlog of work will make new responsibilities difficult to fulfil. Relevant Health & Safety policies and information require updating, particularly those that have not been progressed in light of the pandemic response. It is imperative that the focus of the Corporate Health & Safety Unity (beyond COVID-19 work) is on areas of legal compliance. As such, there is no capacity for other matters and there will not be for some time to come.

Neighbourhood Services

25. “Work bubbles” remain a requirement within Neighbourhood Services, with the aim of containing any possible spread of COVID-19 amongst essential frontline personnel, protecting staff and essential services. The longer-term continuation of bubbles has the potential to considerably hamper next season’s grass cutting.

26. Neighbourhood Services are regularly utilising additional agency staff to fill gaps and deliver priority frontline services. This necessitates a hiring and retention of additional fleet beyond the normal establishment.

27. There remains concern in relation to the available pool of HGV drivers, which may leave the Council in a position where it does not have the required HGV employee numbers to facilitate essential services (primarily the collection of residential and trade waste). Contractors are also experiencing similar issues, particularly affecting the Household Waste and Recycling Centre at Barrhead. Neighbourhood Services are working in partnership with contractors to resolve this.

28. Refuse and recycling collections are in the main prioritised over other frontline services, which may consequently suffer backlogs. This may include grass cutting, weed spraying, street cleaning and ad-hoc cleansing complaints.

Trading Standards

29. Trading Standards played a significant and leading role in enforcing and advising businesses on the Regulations restricting trading activities during COVID-19. This led to a significant shift in resources away from the core service planned activity for 2019/20 and 2020/21. The service continues to prioritise key elements of its service plan for delivery in the remainder of 2020/21 while continuing to monitor and advise traders in relation to COVID-19. Key priority delivery has been supported through creative risk assessments and new ways of working.

Environmental Health

30. All Environmental Health staff have undertaken additional COVID responsibilities, which have been unpredictable in complexity, often unique and very time consuming.

31. The Environmental Health Service will continue to work at a national level liaising with other local authorities and partner organisational to promote the adoption of the baseline measures and enforcement of the COVID certification measures.

32. The Society of Chief Environmental Health Officers of Scotland continue to recommend extending the COVID Compliance Officer funding made available from the Scottish Government until 31 March 2022 and is co-ordinating with COSLA and SOLACE at every opportunity.

33. The Service will continue to prioritise Coronavirus related enquiries including Test & Protect notifications, clusters, outbreaks, Community Testing forums, internal enquiries from other services and supporting Asymptomatic Testing and Vaccination Centres. However, as detailed in previous reports, it remains the case that the ability to perform the full range of functions in an effective manner has been compromised.

34. The workload of Environmental Health continues to increase in line with the number of other Council Services working through their own backlogs. There has been a significant spike in Public Health work such as the re-introduction of Food safety visits and a Food Safety Audit due from Food Standards Scotland due early in the New Year. Planning applications, which often require an Environmental Health input, have also begun to increase.

Housing

35. Homeless and Housing Advice services have reintroduced face-to-face meetings in homes and in Council buildings. At present, most customers are opting for telephone interviews. Housing Officers have also reintroduced face-to-face visits in tenants' homes to provide support and assistance. Face-to-face interactions were reintroduced following discussions with Health and Safety, with a view to ensuring the continued safety for customers and staff

36. While allocations of housing remains relatively unaffected by Coronavirus restrictions, there remains a significant pressure on homelessness. There continues to be a significant demand from homeless households awaiting a permanent offer of accommodation and in temporary accommodation. Within the allocations waiting list, approximately 100 are homeless group A.

37. Rent arrears have continued to rise through 2021/22, in light of the negative impact the pandemic has had on family incomes. The return of home visits means that officers are able to discuss issues in the tenant's home to address arrears. Additionally, Housing are taking advantage of the Tenants Grant Fund provided by the Scottish Government. This fund is designed to be used to prevent both social and private tenants losing their homes due to the financial impacts of COVID-19. However, this fund is designed to prevent eviction and as most social landlords have opted not to aggressively pursue COVID arrears the fund is likely to be focused more on the private sector. While formal recovery actions, such as notice of proceedings and the courts, have resumed these actions will only be taken where all other options to prevent arrears and recovery actions have been exhausted.

38. There remains potential for delays to non-essential repairs if trades staff are required to self-isolate.

39. Planned improvement works such as kitchens commenced in the autumn, beginning with the 2019-20 backlog. Housing Services continue to work through the required procurement issues to ensure appropriate contracts are in place. However, the construction industry is still experiencing a shortage of some materials, as well as changeable pricing. This may cause delays to the planned works.

Property and Technical Services

40. Supply chain issues have continued to affect the construction industry, influencing pricing and completion in some circumstances. Property and Technical Services continue to work with other services and with Procurement to try to mitigate both cost and time impacts to projects. Technical Services continue to support services in realising agreed capital plan aspirations and meeting the challenges faced.

41. Ventilation in Council premises remains a primary focus for the Property Services Team. Property Services continue to liaise with externally appointed ventilation engineers to assess properties. This includes undertaking any works identified to comply with Government Guidance. Progress in the ventilation programme will be dependent on the availability of contractors, materials and access to buildings.

42. Carbon Dioxide monitors have been installed to all Education teaching areas. These are fixed/permanent and provide real-time information over the Internet to staff who can monitor the position on a dashboard. Property Services and Education collaborated on this undertaking following earlier Scottish Government announcements of funding and reporting, as outlined in previous reporting.

Development Management and Building Standards

43. Development Management and Building Standards continue to be able to carry out statutory duties but with protective measures in place to minimise the risk of COVID-19. Both services continue with limited public interaction, with officers primarily working from home.

44. Developers are asked to provide Building Standards with photographs or videos as evidence, to supplement site visits. This approach has increased workload, requiring extra communications. There has also been an increase in completion certificate refusals where satisfactory evidence of the work undertaken has not been produced resulting in extra work for the officers.

45. There are high levels of householder applications, particularly for extensions and garden rooms. The additional workload has resulted in a backlog in processing planning application, which has been exacerbated by staff shortages and additional online demand seeking advice, reporting unauthorised work and complaining about service problems/delays.

46. Public and business demand on Development Management continues to be very high, almost certainly due to the desire for lifestyle / employment changes across society.

47. In addition, the demands on internal and external stakeholders arising from COVID has affected the ability for others to provide consultation responses to Development Management. Consequently, the determination of some planning applications, particularly large and complex applications have been unavoidably delayed.

Strategy/Local Development Plan

48. As reported previously the Examination of Proposed LDP2 by reporters appointed by Scottish Ministers took longer than expected. The Council has however now received the Examination Report and, in October 2021, the Council approved the Proposed Modifications as per the Examination Report and agreed to submit the Plan to Scottish Ministers. Adoption of Proposed LDP2 is anticipated early in 2022 after which, work will commence on the preparation of LDP3.

49. Timescales for the preparation of the annual Housing Land audit, Vacant and Derelict land and employment monitoring have also been impacted by COVID restrictions.

Roads & Transportation

50. Roads are continuing with their revenue and capital programme without any significant issues at present. Concerns remain in relation to issues surrounding HGV drivers and their potential to present issues with delivering winter maintenance. This concern is exacerbated by potential COVID impacts among staff. Additionally, there is reliance on Neighbourhood Services to deliver Winter Maintenance. Given they will face the same issues outlined above, this could further adversely affect the delivery of the Winter Maintenance programme.

Education Department

Response to COVID -19

51. The Education Department continues to face considerable pressure from the ongoing impact of COVID, in particular the challenge of balancing the response to the pandemic with the need to focus on recovery to support children and young people with their learning and wellbeing. The challenge for our schools and nurseries in balancing these competing pressures cannot be underestimated.

52. There remains high levels of disruption in schools due to pupil and staff absence. In line with the national approach to contact tracing and testing, many of these absences are short term, often only 1 or 2 days, however, a large number of staff and pupils can often be absent at any one time. In addition, these absences tend to be concentrated in particular schools during certain periods, with a correlation between absence and community case numbers, as is to be expected. Whilst the rates of absence remain higher than any normal year, attendance rates in schools in East Renfrewshire continue to be amongst the highest in the country, with attendance at the end of November 91.9%.

53. Facilities Management continues to face challenges with staff shortages across the service and whilst the department has been promoting positions through a range of channels, including social media and job fairs, these have not yet been as successful as hoped. Officers are working closely with other departments across the Council to advise and monitor staff numbers to ensure ongoing service delivery.

54. In line with the Scottish Government's national approach, all schools and nurseries continue to encourage twice weekly Lateral Flow Device (LFD) at-home testing for staff and secondary school pupils. Given the continuing prevalence of COVID across communities, this testing programme is an important mitigation in ensuring we can minimise the risks of transmission within establishments and keep staff and pupils as safe as possible. The department continues to work with the Scottish Government to encourage full participation in the testing programme amongst staff and pupils.

55. Given the increasing concern regarding the 'Omicron variant', the department continues to liaise with the Council's Environmental Health team and the NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde Public Health Protection Unit around any further mitigations required within our schools and nurseries.

Ongoing Recovery

56. Ahead of the Christmas holidays, all schools and nurseries continue to carefully plan any festive events, weighing up their responsibilities to maintain health and safety with an understandable desire from staff, pupils and parents for a return to more normal activities and celebrations following the disruption of the last 2 years. It should be noted that the guidance for education settings does remain significantly more restrictive than the guidance in place across most other sectors and, as such, there are greater restrictions on the types of events that are able to take place. All head teachers have been working closely with their wider school and nursery communities to organise appropriate activities in line with both national and departmental guidance.

57. In November Education Scotland carried out national thematic inspections of Early Learning and Childcare settings and schools with a focus on supporting recovery. Four East Renfrewshire establishments were selected as part of the national review. An ELC setting, a primary school, a special school and a secondary school. The visits to each establishment focused on how our establishments are supporting learners during the current pandemic, in particular the work that is being undertaken to support learning and wellbeing. The inspectors met with a range of stakeholders including staff, parents and pupils.

58. All four of our establishments were commended on the support they are providing children, young people and their families, with Education Scotland highlighting practice that they would like to share nationally as case studies within the report. Strengths identified across our establishments included:-

- Empowerment of staff and learners
- The positive relationships between learners, staff and parents
- The engagement of learners in their learning

- Staff recognition of the needs of learners and how they creatively respond to improve wellbeing, address learning loss and develop resilience
- Targeted interventions for equity groups
- Partnership working
- High quality Career Long Professional Learning, especially around digital learning
- Staff feeling supported with a real team approach to recovery

59. The department continues to work closely with the Corporate Health and Safety Unit (CHSU) and Trust to implement the safe resumption of school lets. Phase 2, which includes children and young people groups such as the Scouts and Guides, is now underway, with 63% of clubs having now resumed activities, with the remainder set to resume in early 2022. The resumption of clubs and groups further supports the wellbeing of children and young people.

60. Work continues on the planning of Phase 3 which includes adult sports clubs and activities, along with all other remaining lets. All activities remain subject to ongoing risk assessments and the department will continue to ensure the safety of staff and pupils, as well as those attending such clubs, is fully considered ahead of Phase 3.

61. Schools and nurseries continue to see an impact of COVID on the wellbeing and behaviour of children and young people. The Healthier Minds Hub receives a high number of referrals for mental wellbeing support for children and young people and, as a result, it has been necessary to increase the capacity of the Hub team. The department has supported this through the secondment of a teacher and the recruitment of two additional Educational Psychology Assistants to the service.

62. Due to growing concern over the increasing number of children and young people who are not accessing school due to mental health issues, the Education Department is developing a range of measures to support this 'emotionally based school avoidance' group of children and young people. This includes:-

- Educational Psychologists completing an audit to gain an accurate picture of the number of children and young people impacted and main influences in inhibiting attendance at school
- Developing a package of support including:
 - Short term intervention planned to support transition back into school
 - Development of online resources
 - Family Support
 - Professional learning and guidance for schools

HSCP

63. The HSCP, in common with health and social care services across Scotland continues to be under considerable pressure. A combination of increased demand across all services and staff absence is creating significant issues with capacity. This is particularly acute in care at home, but is evident in all services. We continue to experience higher rates of referrals and more complex presentations as a result of the pandemic.

HSCP Vaccination Programme

64. In October 2021 the HSCP commenced the COVID -19 booster and flu vaccination programme for care homes. Over a two week period volunteers from across HSCP nursing teams visited all care homes to vaccinate residents and staff, mop up sessions have also taken place and will continue as required. HSCP nursing staff have administered 730 flu vaccinations and 628 COVID booster vaccinations within care homes in East Renfrewshire.

65. District nurses supported by other HSCP staff have made significant progress with the COVID-19 booster and flu vaccination programme for residents in their own homes. These residents are unable to attend the vaccinations centres due to frailty or other health issues. At the time of writing our nursing service has delivered 880 COVID boosters and 840 flu vaccinations to residents at home. This is in addition to the 3,500 visits they undertake to deliver care to people in their own homes each month.

PPE

66. The HSCP continues to run the PPE hub set up and run by HSCP staff. Distribution of essential protective supplies to HSCP staff, partner providers, carers and personal assistants. To date (December 2021) we have issued over 1 million gloves and aprons and 1.2 million masks.

67. HSCP district nursing and care home liaison nursing staff continue to support COVID testing for those unable to access testing centres. Staff are currently helping to facilitate testing in three residential homes and the housebound population who are symptomatic or asymptomatic testing for pre-op assessment.

Winter planning

68. The Scottish Government has announced additional funding to support health and social care providers tackle additional pressures during the challenging winter period ahead. Phase One of the additional resources is supporting 16 additional Health Care Assistants for the Greater Glasgow and Clyde health board area with local deployment to East Renfrewshire to enhance the capacity of our Care at Home Responder Service, Community Nursing and Community Rehabilitation teams.

69. We plan to strengthen our HSCP adult services front door to include a much wider MDT team approach, a focus on Technology Enabled Care and a more streamlined pathways for individuals and families to access our supports. East Renfrewshire HSCP have contributed to the development of a discharge hub across GGC hospitals to prevent hospital admissions and support timeous hospital discharges.

70. Phase Two of the funding programme sees an additional £2.1m for East Renfrewshire in 2021/22 to support Interim Care, Care at Home and Multi-disciplinary Teams. In 21/22 our model for interim care will be enhanced with funding to meet increased demand, the purchase of interim care beds, and development of our intensive support model at Bonnyton care home. This will help support rehabilitation and reablement and timely discharge to home/homely settings. For Care at Home, the additional resources will be used to address the accelerated demand pressures we are currently experiencing, increase frontline staff as well as management and support, and increase capacity for the Home First model and Technology Enabled Care. We will build the capacity of our multi-disciplinary teams across the HSCP including: developing our multi-disciplinary Front Door model and leadership arrangements; additional capacity for social work and our Care Home and Community Review Team; support for the wider GGC frailty hubs; and increased capacity for frailty practitioners, data and quality analysis and peripatetic business support.

Supporting people at home

71. Whilst the HSCP had to close our day services our learning disability staff have worked with our provider partners throughout the pandemic period to establish outreach and wraparound support for individuals. As part of our renewal and recovery focus some group work previously undertaken by staff at our older people's Kirkton service has recommenced and outreach supports are being developed.

72. Care at home has seen additional pressures due to a desire from more people to be supported at home and with more complex discharges. In the current phase of the pandemic the service is continuing to experiencing capacity pressures with higher than expected levels of staff absence and increased waiting times to access support. As a result of pressures and resource issues, in the last week of November there were: 6 people in hospital awaiting a package of care to facilitate a safe discharge; 23 people in the community awaiting services or an increase in support; and 4 people who have chosen to accept an intermediate care bed whilst awaiting services. External market provision has played a significant role in East Renfrewshire HSCP's previous track record and timely provision of care and support services. However, the volume of referrals accepted by partner providers has reduced by circa 50% and a small number of care packages have been handed back to the in house service where the external provided no longer has the staffing resource to safely support.

73. Our Hospital to Home team work to support timely and appropriate discharges from hospital. During the pandemic we have experienced significant issues around supporting 'adults with incapacity' and establishing appropriate guardianship/Power of Attorney arrangements. The team are currently managing the level of delays within acceptable levels. A significant proportion of care at home provision in East Renfrewshire is delivered by partner providers and we are seeing limited capacity internally. This, coupled with the reducing availability of care home placements, may impact on our delay numbers as the winter progresses. We continue to work with partner providers to encourage and assist them to take on complex cases as people are discharged from hospital.

74. Our Community Rehabilitation Teams continue to experience increased pressures due to the ongoing impacts and consequences of the COVID pandemic on the older population, with an increase in frailty and frailty related falls. The average of 40–50 referrals per week in 2019 / early 2020 has risen to and been sustained at 70-80 referrals per week over the past 20 months.

75. Across all mental health and recovery services, work is continuing to provide person-centred care throughout the challenges that COVID-19 has presented. The Older Adult Mental Health Team is currently going through some staff turnover within the nursing discipline and we are currently recruiting for a new Nursing Team Lead. The Peer support workers model has proved to be successful and we have increased investment to this assisting people to make a plan that helps maintain their mental health and wellbeing. The Mental Health Officer (MHO) team have filled some vacant positions recently, increasing the capacity to support the most vulnerable individuals who require statutory measures for their care and treatment. However, as is the case nationally there is a national shortage of MHOs. Challenges in relation to covering the MHO duty rota have been alleviated with support from the hospital to home team who have offered to collaborate to fill some slots.

76. Our locality social work teams are seeing a growing backlog of overdue community care reviews. This has resulted from a combination of additional support being required in the community and from the requirement for teams to focus on our pandemic response and most urgent need. As we progress our recovery and adapt to changing need we need to recognise this additional work pressure on our teams. We have recently created a designated resource to replicate the permanent care review work, and focus on completing a review for each individual currently awaiting a statutory community care review.

Support to Care Homes

77. Care Home flu and COVID -19 booster vaccinations commenced on 02 October with the first clinic taking place at Eastwood Court Care Home. In total, 12 Care Homes were covered in the programme over the space of 10 days including weekends, with a Lead Vaccinator appointed for each clinic. The initial Care Home vaccination programme was completed on 12 October, however this was subsequently followed up by a number of 'mop-up' clinics between 01 November and 03 December. The 'mop-up' clinics offered

appointments to residents who had been unable to receive the vaccination first time around due to issues around timescales since second Covid vaccination, other medical reasons and some issues in relation to consent. In total 454 care home residents (92%) received covid-19 booster vaccinations and 443 (89%) received flu vaccinations (percentages based on care home populations at the start of the programme).

78. Vaccinations were also offered to care home staff with 177 (27%) receiving the COVID-19 booster and 287 (43%) receiving the flu vaccine. Uptake among staff is lower than that of residents and is likely to be attributed to a number of factors such as timescales since second Covid-19 vaccination, and the possibility of staff making alternative arrangements for receiving the flu vaccine, or not wishing to receive the vaccination at all.

Support to Children and Families

79. Supporting children and young people's mental health continues to be a high priority, particularly as we seek to provide support to those impacted by the pandemic, and at the same time address the significant needs that existed prior to it. Whilst there are clinical solutions for a small proportion of these children the majority will not benefit from existing specialist mental health services as their difficulties are routed in the social and familial environment. The Family Wellbeing Service and the Healthier Minds Hub - the local tier 2 services - have received 678 referrals over the last year from GPs, school and other services and practitioners. If these services had not been in existence many of the children and young people would not have received any service to support them in managing their significant mental distress. Indeed a significant proportion would have been referred to CAMHS often inappropriately and it is very likely school attendance would have reduced sharply. Many more families would have sought targeted services such as social work, and GP attendance would have increased. The capacity of the tier 2 providers to respond to the significant needs of the children and young people referred will require continual monitoring to ensure risks are assessed and managed.

80. An emerging area of increasing need is from children and young people with a neuro developmental diagnosis or suspected diagnosis. Clinical pathway initiatives are being developed for neurodevelopmental cases which have been as high as 40% of the non-urgent caseloads in CAMHS and will require a multi-agency response. Across the HSCP and Council services are working together to quantify the level of need in order to be clearer on how to ensure service responses are effective and the workforce is sufficiently equipped to help children and their families in the right way.

81. As a result of the pandemic there has been a significant increase in the number of children with complex and additional support needs who have become looked after. This year alone the number of children and young people accommodated in residential care settings has increased by 85.7%; and 67% of children and young people looked after in a residential setting have a neurological diagnosis. This has significantly impacted on residential care budgets as costs are extremely high for each placement due to complexity of individual. Across the looked after children's population 17% have a significantly complex disability. The number of families eligible for an SDS budget has increased by 17% and overall referrals to the HSCP Children and Families Community Team have increased by 29%.

Criminal Justice pathways

82. The provision of unpaid work has been significantly impacted by the pandemic with Community Payback Orders suspended on 23rd March 2020. Legislation was introduced in March 2021 to reduce the number of hours originally imposed on Community Payback Orders (CPOs) by 35%. This excluded Community Payback Orders imposed for domestic abuse, sexual offending or stalking. This legislation reduced the backlog of hours by 2329 hours. The current outstanding backlog of hours for completion total 6,248.

83. In line with the increased throughput through the courts the justice service has seen a 44% increase in Diversion from Prosecution requests received from the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) during April to September 2021. Requests for Criminal Justice Social Work Reports have also increased by 151% over this period compared to the same period last year.

Supporting people affected by domestic abuse

84. We have continued to provide support for women and families affected by domestic abuse throughout the pandemic. During the six month period 1st April to 30th September 2021 East Renfrewshire Women's Aid service reported a significant increase in referrals across their services compared to the same period last year. In total 645 women and children were supported compared to 447 during the same period last year with 33% of new referrals from partner agencies, the majority from social work (30%). This is a significant increase of 44% across the whole service and significant increase 63% in duty/helpline contacts.

85. Domestic Abuse continues to be the predominant reason for referral/concern reported to HSCP Children and Families Request for Assistance (RFA) Team. In the six month period April 2021 to September 2021 there were a total of 477 referrals received with domestic abuse listed as the primary concern in 99 referrals. This is 21% of the total RFA referrals received.

86. In line with trends across Scotland the East Renfrewshire Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) has witnessed an increase in referrals for high risk victims and children as the COVID restrictions have eased. In the period April 2021 to September 2021, 66 victims (63 female, 3 male) were discussed compared to 55 (53 female, 2 male) in the same period last year - an increase of 20%. 114 children were discussed at MARAC – 78 in the same period last year representing an increase of 46%.

87. It is expected that domestic abuse referrals will continue to increase longer-term and that there are significant challenges in ensuring our services have sufficient capacity to respond.

Corporate and Community Services Department

88. As is the case in other parts of the Council, the Corporate and Community Services Department is not back to business as usual in any sense. COVID related requirements combined with major line of business system changes to Council Tax and benefits, HR and Payroll and customer management systems during the last year while staff were working from home has taken considerable amount of staff resource and created backlogs. Priority is being given the working through these whilst continuing to meet the new and increasing demand coming in to services.

Communications

89. A high level of internal and external communications are COVID related and the team work to ensure that residents and staff are aware of all measures and precautions in place to tackle the pandemic.”

HR

90. Although the COVID absences trend overall has reduced since the last report in October, from the start of December increasing numbers are again being seen. In addition with the emergence of the Omicron variant it is expected that we will see further increased numbers of cases within our workforce. In preparation for this the team have updated manager guidance ensuring that there is clarity for managers on the measures that remain in place in our workplaces and we continue to work with managers on situations that arise and

remind staff of the importance of taking lateral flow tests and adhering to all hygiene measures.

91. The team are supporting a number of services where there are staffing concerns arising from COVID absence, sickness absences, natural turnover and vacancies. This is being managed using case management and recruitment. Recruitment volumes continue to remain high as a result of additional COVID funding and the timescales placed on the spending of these funds. There are also recruitment challenges in certain sectors where it is difficult to recruit due to market competitors and this can mean repeat recruitment advertising in many cases. As we move into the winter months and the risk of absences increasing further the team continue to work with services to understand the contingency plans that need to be considered.

Customer First

92. Customer contact remains high across all contact channels. Call handling rate and waiting times have improved compared to earlier in the year and at times they have returned to pre- COVID performance however this has not been sustained as there continues to be a high volume of calls related to the launch of any COVID Supports, which causes an increase in both face to face and telephone customer contact. There is also a high volume of calls related to Council Tax payments and taxi licensing application queries related to the delays caused by COVID. Customer First has been liaising with these teams to provide support where possible. Call times are taking longer with customers often contacting about multiple and more complex issues.

93. The registration service continues to be busy with an increase in the number of community deaths being registered. There was a 24% increase in death registrations in October compared to same time last year. Death registrations continue to be carried out remotely which takes longer and brings an increased level of administration compared to pre COVID.

94. MART continue to see an increase in Income Maximisation referrals and assist with a COVID Discretionary Grant.

Community Safety

95. The Community Wardens continue to operate normal working practices with staff being able to go into households when required, subject to COVID screening questions and windows being opened. Two members of the Community Warden team are still seconded to the isolation support calls team for assessments for support grants.

ICT

96. The ICT Service continues to operate a blended approach with continued high levels of support calls and service requests. If face to face support is required our users will be invited to attend the safe screened-off support area. The Service Desk team remains under significant pressure, especially the end-user device team who are facing combined pressures of increasing new device build and deployments, with increasing numbers of rebuilds and fixes to devices due to, for example, users devices are locked due to repeatedly forget passwords. The service is still unable to accommodate low priority service requests due to the current working conditions and service pressures.

Democratic Services

97. The team continue to adapt to the COVID restrictions to ensure appropriate measures are in place when engaging with Elected Members and the public and this included safe

delivery of the Remembrance Sunday event at Cowan Park. Preparations for next year's local government elections have commenced and planning needs to incorporate additional COVID measures. The upgrade work to accommodate hybrid meetings in the Council Chamber is scheduled for February 2022.

Isolation Support

98. Via Community Safety, the Council continues to provide an Isolation Support service for those asked to isolate by Public Health Scotland. This includes text messages to all who have consented to have their details passed to the Council and follow-up outbound phone calls to each household. The team also deals with inbound COVID queries via the National Assistance Helpline and this service will continue over the festive period as will the text messages, with more targeted outgoing calls where someone has indicated they are in need of isolation support. Under Scottish Government guidance, the isolation support service will now remain in place until at least the end of March 2022.

99. Self-Isolation Support Grants (SISG) are also continuing, with initial assessment and evidence gathering by the Isolation Support team and final assessment by the Benefits/Scottish Welfare Fund team. Guidance on SISGs has changed from 30 November 2021 to include eligibility for close contacts of the Omicron variant who are required to self-isolate regardless of their vaccination status or test result.

Pandemic Payments

100. The Council is currently administering winter Family Pandemic Payments to approximately 1600 children in receipt of Free School Meals (FSMs) as a result of low income. The base payment required is £160 per child and there will be quarterly payments of this type throughout 2022, with top-ups from the Education Department to cover cost of lunches during school holidays. On a one-off basis, the December 2021 payments will also be increased by a further £50, using Scottish Government humanitarian funding, bringing each of the December payments to a total of £235 per child. There also approximately a further 400 children who are in receipt of clothing grants only (not FSMs) and we are currently looking at the potential of a one-off hardship payment to those families in January, again using humanitarian funding.

Humanitarian Support Research & Funding

101. Humanitarian support research and engagement is continuing to inform the Council's approach to recovery and renewal. An update on this area was given to Cabinet in November 2021.

Chief Executive's

Accountancy Services

102. Most Accountancy services staff are still working from home and are managing to cover all of their usual duties. We are, however, continuing to experience increased workloads due to the demands for COVID related financial information, returns and grant monitoring and staff are struggling to keep up with all demands. This has also affected progress in developing the new financial system, introduced in 2019, with a view to maximising efficiencies and so the anticipated benefits for staff across the Council have not yet been achieved. Despite these challenges, work on the 2022/23 budget preparation is now back on schedule.

103. Due to the continuation of remote working, the external audit of the Council's 2020/21 accounts took longer than usual with the statutory deadline for accounts sign off being once again extended to 30 November rather than 30 September. The sign off of the Council's 2020/21 accounts was completed on 25 November 2021 in line with this new timescale.

RECOMMENDATION

104. That the Council note and comment on the report.

Report Co-ordinator
Linda Hutchison, Senior Committee Services Officer (0141 577 8388)

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EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL15 December 2021Report by Chief ExecutiveDESIGNATION OF MONITORING OFFICER**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To propose that the Chief Officer – Legal and Procurement should be designated the Council's Monitoring Officer in terms of Section 5 of Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (the 1989 Act).

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. It is recommended that the Council agree to designate the Chief Officer – Legal and Procurement as Monitoring Officer in terms of Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 from 31st January 2021.

BACKGROUND

3. Following the retirement of the Solicitor to the Council in 2010, the Deputy Chief Executive was appointed as the Council's Monitoring Officer. Given the retirement in January 2022 of the Deputy Chief Executive, Ms Innes, it will now be necessary to designate another senior officer to perform this role.

4. In terms of Section 5(7) of the 1989 Act, the Monitoring Officer may appoint a deputy to act in their absence. Ms Innes appointed Mr Gerry Mahon, Chief Officer Legal and Procurement, as her deputy. During her time as Monitoring Officer, Ms Innes has relied on the advice and support of her Deputy, who she has worked with closely.

REPORT

5. In terms of Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, every Council must designate one of its officers to hold the statutory office of Monitoring Officer. The responsibilities of the Monitoring Officer are as prescribed by the 1989 Act. The principal duty of the Monitoring Officer is to report to the Council where they consider that a proposed decision, action or omission has given rise to or is likely to give rise to maladministration or a contravention of any enactment or rule of law. The Monitoring Officer also has responsibilities in supporting the ethical framework. The Monitoring Officer may not be the Council's Chief Financial Officer (i.e. the Director of Finance).

6. It is proposed that the Chief Officer - Legal and Procurement should be designated as the Monitoring Officer. The Chief Executive and the newly appointed Director of Business Operations and Partnerships, Ms Louise Pringle will review the best way to support the Monitoring officer role from within their departments.

7. Mr Mahon has gained considerable experience when acting as Deputy Monitoring Officer. He is regularly involved with the SOLAR Monitoring Officer Group. Whilst the role of the Monitoring Officer does not have to be undertaken by a lawyer, in practise in many councils the most senior lawyer in the council holds the post.

8. It is not expected that Mr Mahon would require to appoint a Deputy Monitoring Officer. However, that option could be considered later in consultation with the Chief Executive.

FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

9. There will be no financial or efficiency implications in relation to the proposal for the Monitoring Officer role.

CONSULTATION

10. There is no requirement for consultation in relation to the proposal.

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

11. There are no implications for partnership working in relation to the proposal.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS

12. The proposal will ensure that the Council complies with its statutory obligation to designate a Monitoring Officer.

RECOMMENDATIONS

13. It is recommended that the Council agree to designate the Chief Officer – Legal and Procurement as Monitoring Officer in terms of Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 from 31st January 2021.

REPORT AUTHOR

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Leader: Councillor Tony Buchanan
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Report date: 15 December 2021

BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are no background papers.

KEY WORDS

A report to recommend the designation of the Chief Officer Legal and Procurement as the Monitoring Officer in terms of Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

Monitoring Officer; Chief Officer Legal and Procurement; designation