#### Item

## TREASURY MANAGEMENT HALF YEARLY UPDATE REPORT 2021/22

#### To:

The Executive Councillor for Finance & Resources: Councillor Mike Davey

Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee 11th October 2021

#### Report by:

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#### Wards affected:

**All Wards** 

#### **Key Decision**

#### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Council has adopted The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management (Revised 2017).
- 1.2 This half-year report has been prepared in accordance with the Code and covers the following: -
  - The Council's capital expenditure (Prudential Indicators);
  - A review of compliance with Treasury and Prudential Limits for 2021/22;
  - A review of the Council's borrowing strategy for 2021/22;
  - A review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy;
  - A review of the Council's investment portfolio for 2021/22; and;
  - An update on interest rate forecasts following economic news in the first half of the 2021/22 financial year.
- 1.3 Cash and investment balances are forecast to stay at past levels at around £125.8 million by the end of this year.
- 1.4 Cash advances to the Cambridge Investment Partnership continue and are increasing in line with latest projections approved by the CIP board.

1.5 Interest receipts for the year are projected at £852,000 which is £94,000 below budget. Interest receipts are forecast lower than last year due mainly to reductions in investment rates.

#### 2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is asked to recommend to Council:-

- 2.1 The Council's estimated Prudential and Treasury Indicators 2021/22 to 2024/25 (Appendix A).
- 2.2 That the counterparty limit for building societies with assets over £100bn be increased by £10m to £30m (Appendix B).
- 2.3 To approve the changes to the Cambridge Investment Partnership loans in the counterparty list, to bring these into line with the approved expenditure per the approved capital plan (Appendix B).

#### 3. Background

- 3.1. The Council is required to comply with the CIPFA Prudential Code (December 2017 edition) and the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice (Revised December 2017). The Council is required to set prudential and treasury indicators, including an Authorised Limit for borrowing, for a three-year period and should ensure that its capital plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable.
- 3.2 The Code of Practice requires as a minimum receipt by full Council of an Annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement including the Annual Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy for the year ahead, a half-year review report and an Annual Report (stewardship report) covering activities in the previous year.
- 3.3 In line with the Code of Practice, all treasury management reports have been presented to both Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee and to full Council.
- 3.4 The Council is currently supported in its treasury management functions by specialist advisors who are Link Asset Services. These services include the provision of advice to the Council on developments and best practice in this area and provide information on the creditworthiness of potential counterparties, deposits, borrowing, interest rates and the economy.

#### 4. The Council's Capital Expenditure and Financing 2021/22 to 2024/25

- 4.1 The Council undertakes capital expenditure on long-term assets. These activities may either be:
  - Financed immediately through the application of capital or revenue resources (capital receipts, capital grants, developer contributions, revenue contributions, reserves etc.), which has no resultant impact on the Council's borrowing need; or;
  - If insufficient financing is available, or a decision is taken not to apply other resources, the funding of capital expenditure will give rise to a borrowing need.
- 4.2 Details of capital expenditure forms one of the required prudential indicators. The table below shows the proposed capital expenditure and how it will be financed. It also includes any re-phasing during 2021/22 and is in line with the agreed Capital Plan and estimated future capital expenditure.

Estimate	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
General Fund Capital Expenditure	95,375	52,400	43,074	16,140
HRA Capital Expenditure	67,754	86,302	76,283	149,855
Total Capital Expenditure	163,129	138,702	119,357	165,995
Resourced by:				
Capital receipts	-25,603	-17,884	-13,445	-7,819
Other contributions	-71,360	-82,444	-58,100	-104,606
Total resources available for financing capital expenditure	-96,963	-100,328	-71,545	-112,425
Financed from cash balances & any Prudential Borrowing required	66,166	38,374	47,812	53,570

4.3 In addition to a total of £21.5 million for the Mill Road and Cromwell Road developments, the Medium Term Financial Strategy now includes capital expenditure of £10.4 million for the L2 Orchard Park site and £90.8 million for the redevelopment of Park Street. This is General Fund expenditure which will be funded from cash balances and borrowing. It is reflected in the increase in the Council's Capital Financing Requirement.

#### 5. The Council's Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators

5.1 The table overleaf shows the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), which is the underlying external need to incur borrowing for a capital purpose. It also

shows the expected debt position over the period. This is termed the Operational Boundary.

Capital Financing Requirement & External Borrowing Estimate	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
General Fund Capital Financing Requirement	143,657	179,475	208,490	215,019
HRA Capital Financing Requirement	208,654	210,904	229,162	275,559
Total Capital Financing Requirement	352,311	390,379	437,652	490,578
Movement in the Capital Financing Requirement	65,860	38,068	47,273	52,926
Financed from cash balances & any Prudential Borrowing required	66,166	38,374	47,812	53,570
Minimum Revenue Provision	(306)	(306)	(539)	(644)
Estimated External Gross Debt/Borrowing (Including HRA				
Reform)	279,738	318,112	365,924	419,494
Authorised Limit for External Debt	400,000	450,000	550,000	550,000
Operational Boundary for External Debt	357,311	395,379	442,652	495,578

- 5.2 A further prudential indicator controls the overall level of borrowing externally. This is the Authorised Limit (ABL) which represents the limit beyond which borrowing is prohibited and needs to be set and revised by Members.
- 5.3 The table below shows the Council's current outstanding debt and headroom (the amount of additional borrowing that is possible without breaching the Authorised Borrowing Limit): -

UPDATE	Principal (£'000)
Authorised Borrowing Limit (A) – Agreed by Council on 17th October 2019	400,000
PWLB Borrowing (for HRA Self-Financing, B)	213,572
Headroom (A minus B)	186,428
Borrowing up to 31st August 2021	NIL
Total Current Headroom (A minus B)	186,428

5.4 During this financial year the Council has operated within the 'authorised' and 'operational' borrowing limits contained within the Prudential Indicators set out in the Council's Treasury Management Strategy Statement. The anticipated Prudential & Treasury indicators are shown in Appendix A.

#### 6. Borrowing

- 6.1 The Council is permitted to borrow under the Prudential Framework, introduced with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004.
- 6.2 Current borrowing relates to loans from the PWLB for self-financing dwellings held within the HRA, taken out in 2012 totalling £213,572,000.
- 6.3 The Council's current capital plan requires new external borrowing for the year 2021/22 onwards. This is to support the redevelopment of the Park Street multistorey car park and for capital schemes under the HRA. However, this will be kept under review as part of the development of the capital plan.
- 6.4 The provision for the repayment of debt is known as the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). Regulations require the authority to publish at least annually a policy by which MRP will be determined. This policy was agreed by Council on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Changes to the policy will be considered and amendments may be proposed in the next Treasury Management strategy, alongside the Council's capital strategy and budget setting report.
- In the event that external borrowing is undertaken the Council is able, as an eligible local authority, to access funds at the PWLB Certainty Rate (a 0.20% discount on loans) until 31 March 2022, at least (with the date agreed annually). However, the Council notes the publication of the HM Treasury Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) revised lending terms and guidance, which puts in place restrictions on borrowing from the PWLB where an authority's capital plan includes commercial schemes in the year that borrowing is required. The Council's capital plan does not include any schemes that are classified as commercial under these revised lending terms.

#### 7. Investment Portfolio

- 7.1 The Council takes a cautious approach to its Treasury Management Strategy, and the detailed counterparty list with limits is shown within Appendix B.
- 7.2 The average rate of return for all deposits to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 is 0.67%, compared to 1.04% in 2020/21. The current quoted return on the CCLA Local Authorities Property Fund is an annual return of 4.33%. Loans extended to CIP projects on Mill Road and Cromwell Road have an annual return of 4.35% for working capital loans with 0.62% taken as investment income and the balance transferred to the balance sheet for future allocation to approved projects.
- 7.3 To ensure that minimal risk is present for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) nominal cash balances, returns from lower risk investments (currently estimated at 0.2%) will be used to transfer interest receipts to the HRA.

- 7.4 Current estimates for 2021/22 include gross interest receipts of £852,000. This is mainly due to interest rates being low.
- 7.5 Interest rates are currently very low. Building societies have better rates than other local authorities and therefore it would be beneficial to have more capacity to use them at this time. We recommend increasing the investment limit with large building societies from £20m to £30m. See Appendix B for proposed changes to the Counterparty List.
- 7.6 The table below shows the Council's predicted cash balances apportioned between short term (up to 3 months), medium term (up to 1 year) and long term (core cash, up to 5 years) deposits.

DEPOSIT ANALYSIS Annualised Av Balance	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000
Short Term – 40%*	50,300	42,700	28,450	42,600	42,600
Medium Term - 30%*	37,750	32,050	21,350	31,900	31,900
Long Term – 30%*	37,750	32,050	21,350	31,900	31,900
TOTAL	125,800	106,800	71,150	106,400	106,400

<sup>\*</sup>Based on current estimated net cash inflow trends.

- 7.7 The Council's balances reduce in the short term in line with the cash requirements of the redevelopment of Park Street and of Cambridge Investment Partnership redevelopments of Mill Road and Cromwell Road and an enhanced HRA capital plan to further increase affordable homes in the City. Balances increase as loans start to be repaid and additional rent receipts are present in the HRA Business plan. All loans are secured against assets in various CIP limited companies.
- 7.8 An analysis of the sources of the Council's deposits is prepared from the balance sheet at the end of each financial year. The analysis for 31 March 2021 is shown at Appendix C.

## 8. Update on the exit from the European Union (EU) & COVID-19

- 8.1 The 2016 referendum result generated some uncertainty in the investment markets, and current events continue to disrupt the markets. The council will continue to seek out asset backed securities wherever possible as mitigation in these uncertain times. The United Kingdom left the EU on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 with an 'exit deal' coming into force on 31 January 2021.
- 8.2 COVID-19 has placed downward trends on world-wide money markets. This will continue for some time particularly with fears around a 'spike' in infection rates looming.

#### 9. Interest Rates

- 9.1 Link Asset Services is the Council's independent treasury advisor. In support of effective forecasting the Council needs to be aware of the potential influence of interest rates on treasury management issues for the Council. Link's opinion on interest rates is presented at Appendix D.
- 9.2 As above, building societies currently have better interest rates available compared with other counterparties. See Appendix B for proposed changes to the Counterparty List.

#### 10. Implications

#### (a) Financial Implications

This is a financial report and implications are included in the detailed paragraphs as appropriate.

The prudential and treasury indicators have been amended to take account of known financial activities

#### (b) Staffing Implications

None.

#### (c) Equality and Poverty Implications

None.

#### (d) Environmental Implications

None

## (e) Procurement Implications

None.

#### (f) Community Safety Implications

No community safety implications.

#### 11. Consultation and communication considerations

None required.

## 12. Background papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

## 13. Appendices

13.1 Appendix A – Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators
 Appendix B – The Council's current Counterparty list

Appendix C – Sources of the Council's Deposits

Appendix D – Link's opinion on UK Forecast Interest Rates

Appendix E – Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

## 14. Inspection of papers

14.1 If you have any queries about this report please contact:

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## Appendix A

## PRUDENTIAL & TREASURY MANAGEMENT INDICATORS

Estimates	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS				
Capital expenditure				
- General Fund	95,375	52,400	43,074	16,140
- HRA	67,754	86,302	76,283	149,855
Total	163,129	138,702	119,357	165,995
Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) as at 31 March				
- General Fund	143,657	179,475	208,490	215,019
- HRA	208,654	210,904	229,162	275,559
Total	352,311	390,379	437,652	490,578
Change in the CFR	65,860	38,068	47,273	52,926
Deposits at 31 March (Average cash balances annualised)	125,800	106,800	71,150	106,400
External Gross Debt	245,878	322,213	386,397	425,513
Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream				
-General Fund	-69	1,410	1,927	1,993
-HRA	7,375	7,353	7,792	8,709
Total	7,306	8,763	9,719	10,702
% of net revenue expenditure				
-General Fund	-0.25%	8.10%	12.96%	12.92%
-HRA	16.63%	15.74%	15.59%	16.62%
Total (%)	16.39%	23.84%	28.55%	29.54%

## PRUDENTIAL & TREASURY MANAGEMENT INDICATORS

	Estimate 2021/22 £'000	Estimate 2022/23 £'000	Estimate 2023/24 £'000	Estimate 2024/25 £'000
TREASURY INDICATORS				
Authorised limit				
for borrowing	400,000	450,000	550,000	550,000
for other long-term liabilities	0	0	0	0
Total	400,000	450,000	550,000	550,000
Operational boundary				
for borrowing	357,311	395,379	442,652	495,578
for other long-term liabilities	0	0	0	0
Total	357,311	395,379	442,652	495,578
Upper limit for total principal sums deposited for over 364 days & up to 5 years	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Upper limit for fixed & variable interest rate exposure				
Net interest on fixed rate borrowing/deposits	7,306	8,763	9,719	10,702
Net interest on variable rate borrowing/deposits	-15	-17	-17	-17
Maturity structure of new fixed rate borrowing		Upper Limit	Lower Limit	
10 years and above (PWLB borrowing for HRA Reform)		100%	100%	

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Appendix B

#### **Treasury Management Annual Investment Strategy**

#### **Current Counterparty List**

The full listing of approved counterparties is shown below, showing the category under which, the counterparty has been approved, the appropriate deposit limit and current duration limits (\*references have now been made to RFB & NRFB for UK Banks, with explanations within the Glossary at Appendix E). Recommended changes are highlighted in purple and in bold.

Name	Council's Current Deposit Period	Category	Limit (£)
Specified Investments: -			
All UK Local Authorities	N/A	Local Authority	20m
All UK Passenger Transport Authorities	N/A	Passenger Transport Authority	20m
All UK Police Authorities	N/A	Police Authority	20m
All UK Fire Authorities	N/A	Fire Authority	20m
Debt Management Account Deposit Facility	N/A	DMADF	Unlimited
Barclays Bank Plc – NRFB*	Using Link's Credit Criteria	UK Bank	35m
HSBC Bank Plc – NRFB*	Using Link's Credit Criteria	UK Bank	20m
HSBC UK Bank Plc – RFB*	Using Link's Credit Criteria	UK Bank	20m
Standard Chartered Bank	Using Link's Credit Criteria	UK Bank	20m
Bank of Scotland Plc (BoS) – RFB*	Using Link's Credit Criteria	UK Bank	20m
Lloyds Bank Plc – RFB*	Using Link's Credit Criteria	UK Bank	20m
National Westminster Bank Plc (NWB) – RFB*	Using Link's Credit Criteria	UK Nationalised Bank	20m
Santander UK Plc	Using Link's Credit Criteria	UK Bank	5m
The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc (RBS) – RFB*	Using Link's Credit Criteria	UK Nationalised Bank	20m
Other UK Banks	Using Link's Credit Criteria	UK Banks	20m
Members of a Banking Group	Using Link's Credit Criteria	UK Banks and UK Nationalised Banks	30m
Svenska Handelsbanken	Using Link's Credit Criteria	Non-UK Bank	5m

Name	Council's Current Deposit Period	Category	Limit (£)
Enhanced Cash Funds (Standard & Poor's: AAAf/S1, Fitch: AAA/S1)	Over 3 months and up to 1 year	Financial Instrument	10m (per single counterparty)
Enhanced Money Market Funds (not below AAf) - VNAV	Over 3 months and up to 1 year	Financial Instrument	5m (per fund)
Money Market Funds (AAAf) – CNAV, VNAV & LVNAV	Liquid Rolling Balance	Financial Instrument	15m (per fund) With no maximum limit overall
Custodian of Funds	Requirement for Undertaking Financial Instruments	Fund Managers	Up to 15m (per single counterparty)
UK Government Treasury Bills	Up to 6 months	Financial Instrument	15m
Other Specified Investm	ents - UK Building S	Societies: -	
Name	Council's Current Deposit Period	Asset Value (£'m) – as at 23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2020	Limit (£)
Nationwide Building Society		245,732	Assets greater than
Yorkshire Building Society		52,815	£100bn - £30m (previously
Coventry Building Society	1 month or in line	48,771	£20m) Assets between
Skipton Building Society	with Link's Credit Criteria, if longer	23,648	£50,000m and
Leeds Building Society	Ontena, ii longei	21,162	£99,999m
Principality Building Society		10,483	- £5m Assets between
West Bromwich Building Society		5,565	£5,000m and £49,999m - £2m
Non-Specified Investmen	its: -		
All UK Local Authorities – longer term limit	Over 1 year and up to 5 years	Local Authority	Up to 35m (in total)
Cambridge City Council Housing (CCHC) Working Capital Loan *	Up to 1 year	Loan	200,000
CCHC Investment *	Rolling Balance	Loan (Asset Security)	7,500,000
Cambridge Investment Partnership (Mill Road)*	Rolling Balance	Loan (Asset Security)	21,505,000

Name	Council's Current Deposit Period	Category	Limit (£)
Cambridge Investment Partnership (Cromwell Road)*	Rolling Balance	Loan (Asset Security)	48,350,000
Cambridge Investment Partnership (Orchard Park L2)*	Rolling Balance	Loan (Asset Security)	11,529,000
CCLA Local Authorities' Property Fund	Minimum of 5 years	Pooled UK Property Fund	Up to 15m
Certificates of Deposit (with UK Banking Institutions)	Liquid Rolling Balance	Financial Instrument	15m (per single counterparty)
Certificates of Deposit (with UK Building Societies)	Liquid Rolling Balance	Financial Instrument	2m (per single counterparty)
Certificates of Deposit (with Foreign Banking Institutions)	Liquid Rolling Balance	Financial Instrument	2m (per single counterparty)
Enhanced Cash Funds (Standard & Poor's: AAAf/S1, Fitch: AAA/S1)	Over 1 year and up to 5 years	Financial Instrument	10m (per single counterparty)
Enhanced Money Market Funds (not below AAf) - VNAV	Over 1 year and up to 5 years	Financial Instrument	5m (per fund)
Commercial Property Investments funded from cash balances	Over 1 year	Commercial Property	25m (in total)
Municipal Bonds Agency	N/A	Pooled Financial Instrument Facility	50,000
Secured Local Bond – Allia Limited	N/A	Local Business Bond	Up to 5m in total
Supranational Bonds – AAA	Using Link's Credit Criteria	Multi-lateral Development Bank Bond	15m
UK Government Gilts	Over 1 year & up to 30 Years	Financial Instrument	15m

Note: In addition to the limits above, the total non-specified items over 1 year (excluding balances with related parties\*) will not exceed £50m.

#### **Sources of the Council's Deposits**

Local authorities are free to deposit surplus funds not immediately required in order to meet the costs of providing its services. The Council deposits amounts set aside in its general reserves and earmarked reserves.

The interest earned on these deposits is credited to the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account respectively and helps to fund the cost of providing services. This currently amounts to around £852,000 each year based on current deposit and interest rate levels.

At 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021, the Council had deposits of £162.0 million. The table below provides a sources breakdown of the funds deposited at that date: -

Funds Deposited as at 1 April 2021	£'000	£'000
Working Capital		32,832
General Fund:		
General Reserve	16,594	
Asset Renewal Reserves	2,144	
Other Earmarked Reserves	49,099	67,837
Housing Revenue Account (HRA): -		
General Reserve	18,420	
Asset Renewal Reserves	2,534	
Major Repairs Reserve	13,647	
Other Earmarked Reserves	14,733	
Capital Financing Requirement (Including HRA)	-286,451	
PWLB Borrowing for HRA	213,572	-23,545
Capital:		
Capital Contributions Unapplied	44,672	
Usable Capital Receipts	40,213	84,885
Total Deposited		162,009

The HRA accounts for around 60% of reserves deposited.

# Link's Opinion on Forecast UK Interest Rates – As Currently Predicted Introduction

The paragraphs that follow reflect the views of the Council's Treasury Management advisors (Link) on UK Interest Rates as currently predicted.

#### **Interest rates**

Members of the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) kept the bank rate at 0.10% and kept Quantitative Easing (QE) at £895bn, on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2021. Going-forward, the Council's treasury advisor, Link, has provided the following interest rate forecasts, issued on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021:

	Sep- 21	Dec- 21	Mar- 22	Jun- 22	Sep- 22	Dec- 22	Mar- 23	Jun- 23	Sep- 23	Dec- 23	Mar- 24
Bank rate	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.25%	0.25%	0.25%	0.50%
3 month LIBID	-	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.30%	0.30%	0.30%	0.50%
6 month LIBID	-	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.30%	0.40%	0.50%	0.50%
12 month LIBID	-	0.20%	0.20%	0.20%	0.20%	0.20%	0.20%	0.40%	0.50%	0.60%	0.70%
5yr PWLB rate	1.20%	1.20%	1.20%	1.30%	1.30%	1.30%	1.40%	1.40%	1.40%	1.50%	1.50%
10yr PWLB rate	1.60%	1.60%	1.70%	1.70%	1.80%	1.80%	1.90%	1.90%	1.90%	2.00%	2.00%
25yr PWLB rate	1.90%	2.00%	2.10%	2.20%	2.30%	2.30%	2.30%	2.40%	2.40%	2.40%	2.50%
50yr PWLB rate	1.70%	1.80%	1.90%	2.00%	2.10%	2.10%	2.10%	2.20%	2.20%	2.20%	2.30%

## Appendix E

## **Treasury Management – Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations**

Term	Definition
Authorised Limit for External Borrowing	Represents a control on the maximum level of borrowing
Capital Expenditure	Expenditure capitalised in accordance with regulations i.e. material expenditure either by Government Directive or on capital assets, such as land and buildings, owned by the Council (as opposed to revenue expenditure which is on day to day items including employees' pay, premises costs and supplies and services)
Capital Financing Requirement	A measure of the Council's underlying borrowing need i.e. it represents the total historical outstanding capital expenditure which has not been paid for from either revenue or capital resources
Certificates of Deposit (CDs)	Low risk certificates issued by banks which offer a higher rate of return
CIP	Cambridge Investment Partnership
CIPFA	Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy
Corporate Bonds	Financial instruments issued by corporations
Counterparties	Financial Institutions with which funds may be placed
Credit Risk	Risk of borrower defaulting on any type of debt by failing to make payments which it is obligated to do
Enhanced Cash Funds	Higher yielding funds typically for investments exceeding 3 months
Eurocurrency	Currency deposited by national governments or corporations in banks outside of their home market
External Gross Debt	Long-term liabilities including Private Finance Initiatives and Finance Leases
Government CNAV	Highly liquid sovereign stock based on a Constant Net Asset Value (CNAV)

Term	Definition
HRA	Housing Revenue Account - a 'ring-fenced' account for local authority housing account where a council acts as landlord
HRA Self-Financing	A new funding regime for the HRA introduced in place of the previous annual subsidy system
London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR)	A benchmark rate that some of the leading banks charge each other for short-term loans
London Interbank Bid Rate (LIBID)	The average interest rate which major London banks borrow Eurocurrency deposits from other banks
Liquidity	A measure of how readily available a deposit is
Low Volatility Net Asset Value (LVNAV)	Highly liquid sovereign stock based on a Constant Net Asset Value (CNAV)
MHCLG	Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Government (formerly the Department for Communities & Local Government, DCLG)
MPC	Monetary Policy Committee - The Bank of England Committee responsible for setting the UK's bank base rate
Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)	Revenue charge to finance the repayment of debt
NHBC	National House Building Council
Non-Ring-Fenced Bank (NRFB)	Government & Bank of England rules will apply to all UK Banks which have to split their business into 'core' retail and investment units known as Ring and Non-Ring-Fenced Banks for the 1st January 2019 deadline
Non-Specified Investments	These are investments that do not meet the conditions laid down for Specified Investments and potentially carry additional risk, e.g. lending for periods beyond 1 year
Operational Boundary	Limit which external borrowing is not normally expected to exceed
PWLB	Public Works Loans Board - an Executive Government Agency of HM Treasury from which local authorities & other prescribed bodies may borrow at favourable interest rates

Term	Definition
Quantitative Easing (QE)	A financial mechanism whereby the Central Bank creates money to buy bonds from financial institutions, which reduces interest rates, leaving businesses and individuals to borrow more. This is intended to lead to an increase in spending, creating more jobs and boosting the economy
Ring-Fenced Bank (RFB)	Government & Bank of England rules will apply to all UK Banks which have to split their business into 'core' retail and investment units known as Ring and Non-Ring-Fenced Banks for the 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2019 deadline
Security	A measure of the creditworthiness of a counterparty
Specified Investments	Those investments identified as offering high security and liquidity. They are also sterling denominated, with maturities up to a maximum of 1 year, meeting the minimum 'high' credit rating criteria where applicable
Supranational Bonds	Multi-lateral Development Bank Bond
UK Government Gilts	Longer-term Government securities with maturities over 6 months and up to 30 years
UK Government Treasury Bills	Short-term securities with a maximum maturity of 6 months issued by HM Treasury
Variable Net Asset Value (VNAV)	MMFs values based on daily market fluctuations to 2 decimal places known as mark-to-market prices
Weighted Average Life (WAL)	Weighted average length of time of unpaid principal
Weighted Average Maturity (WAM)	Weighted average amount of time to maturity
Yield	Interest, or rate of return, on an investment