

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

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Report Originator	Strategic Management Team	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No: A18/035</i>	
Wards Affected	All	12 th June 2019	
Title	DURABLE BUDGET REPORT		

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Lloyd Bunday

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to:

- a) Remind Members of the context / background to the council's budget and medium term financial strategy;
- b) Illustrate the latest budget model, the delivery of efficiencies for 2019/20 and the estimated level of efficiencies that may be required over the next few years;
- c) Outline an alternative strategy for New Homes Bonus income;
- d) Provide members with an update on the draft outturn figures for 2018/19, in relation to;
 - General Fund
 - Housing Revenue Account
 - Capital
 - Treasury Management
- e) Approve the Capital Programme carry forwards from 2018/19 so these form part of the 2019/20 Capital Programme.

2. BACKGROUND

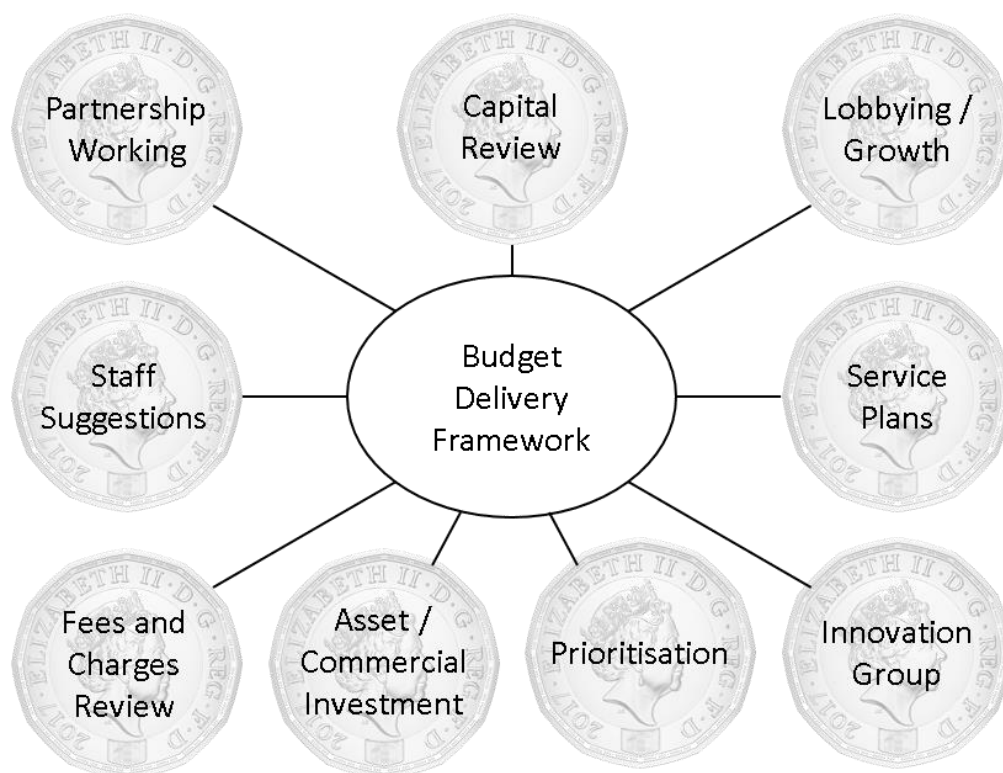
- 2.1. The Council's 2019/20 budget was approved by Council at its meeting on 27th February 2019. In terms of setting a balanced budget, the Council's strategy to date has been successful, although it has to be stressed that the budget setting process is a paper exercise and all the changes being proposed have to be realised and delivered over the next year if we are to avoid additional strain being placed on the following years' budgets. The budgets for 2019/20 will be closely monitored throughout the year and any variances will be reported to the Executive as part of the Durable Budget report.
- 2.2. Members will appreciate that the strategies the Council has adopted over the past few years have generally kept the authority in a good position from which to move forward. In Kettering, our approach ensured that the Council was able to pro-actively deal with the challenges faced through: -

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- ♦ Anticipating and trying to influence major 'Big Ticket' items;
- ♦ Having a well-motivated and flexible workforce that is pro-active in helping to deliver services.

2.3. The Council's success in delivering a balanced budget over the past number of years has come from the Budget Delivery Framework however budget reductions of this magnitude are becoming increasingly difficult to maintain. For the Council to remain in the best possible shape in the medium term it will need to ensure that it 'delivers' on all aspects of its budget framework as outlined below:



2.4. The Council has already done an impressive job of delivering around £12.8m of budget reductions to date and a further £1.5m were identified as part of setting a balanced budget for 2019/20. The Council's financial 'golden rules' and the financial 'guiding principles' provide a strong basis for the Council's medium term financial strategy. Both of these are specifically for the Council's General Fund budgets (revenue and capital) – for ease of reference these are reproduced below:

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Financial Golden Rules;

- a. The General Fund Working Balance should not fall below £1m or 10% of net revenue expenditure (whichever is the greater);
- b. When setting the level of council tax, members should always consider the medium term outlook to ensure that a sustainable budget position is maintained;
- c. The Council must always ensure that adequate funding is provided to cover all of its statutory and regulatory responsibilities;
- d. Should the Council decide to allocate significant additional / new funding to a specific service – it should identify where the required funding is coming from (or compensating savings are to be made);
- e. When setting the Capital Programme, in addition to meeting statutory responsibilities, priority will be given to schemes that are beneficial to the council's overall revenue budget position;
- f. The council must ensure that it has an overall level of revenue reserves that are appropriate for the overall level of risks that the organisation faces – including potential national funding changes;
- g. In line with the council's investment strategy, the council will look to invest in schemes that will have a positive impact over the medium term on its budget position including taking out long-term debt financing (where there is an appropriate business case).

Financial Guiding Principles;

- i. When funding for a specific service is reduced / withdrawn (from national government or another provider) the council should not substitute itself as a provider or funder of the service – unless there are exceptional circumstances;
- ii. When considering the Capital Programme, due regard is given to ensure that existing council assets are properly maintained;
- iii. Where decisions are required about the priority of funding for services, the following is followed;

Priority 1 - Statutory Requirements

Priority 2 – Fit to Council Objectives of;

- ◆ Better Town Centres

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- ◆ Better Jobs
 - ◆ Better Education Offer
- iv. Continue to seek strategic partnerships with other public sector providers to help protect services for our residents – especially those that help promote economies of ‘scope’ rather than ‘scale’;
- v. To maximise the resources that are available to the authority, the council will continue to actively lobby the Government on relevant issues.

Housing Revenue Account Guiding Principles

2.5. The HRA Golden Rules and Guiding Principles were approved by the Executive at the meeting on 23rd May 2018 for ease of reference they are reproduced below:

HRA Financial Golden Rules;

- a. *The Housing Revenue Account Working Balance should not fall below £300,000;*
- b. *When setting the level of rents, members should always consider the national policy position;*
- c. *The Council must always ensure that adequate funding is provided to cover all of its statutory and regulatory responsibilities;*
- d. *Should the Council decide to allocate significant additional / new funding to a specific service – it should identify where the required funding is coming from (or compensating savings are to be made);*
- e. *The council must ensure that it has an overall level of revenue reserves that are appropriate for the overall level of risks that the HRA faces – including potential national funding and policy changes.*

HRA Financial Guiding Principles;

- i. *When funding for a specific service is reduced / withdrawn (from national government or another provider) the council should not substitute itself as a provider or funder of the service – unless there are exceptional circumstances.*
- ii. *When setting the HRA budgets and considering the HRA Capital Programme, due regard is given to ensure that expenditure protects the long term viability of the Council’s housing stock by making sure the assets are properly maintained and have the ability to meet the Borough’s housing needs.*

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iii. *Where decisions are required about the priority of funding for services, the following is followed;*

Priority 1 - Statutory Requirements

Priority 2 – Investment in Existing Housing Stock

Priority 3 – Fit to Housing Strategy of;

- ♦ Increasing housing supply across all tenures*
- ♦ Ensuring safe and healthy homes, reducing the opportunity for crime and anti-social behavior*
- ♦ Helping people to live independently*

iv. *Continue to seek strategic partnerships with other public sector providers to help protect services for our residents – especially those that help promote economies of ‘scope’ rather than ‘scale’;*

v. *To maximise the resources that are available to the authority, the council will continue to actively lobby the Government on relevant issues.*

2.6. The Executive at the April meeting approved “*that the same methodology be applied to the formulation of the 2020/21 budget as it applied to the 2019/20 with particular reliance on:-*

- the financial ‘golden rules’*
- the financial ‘guiding principles*
- the existing nine ‘workstreams’*

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3. UPDATE OF KEY ISSUES AND BUDGET PROJECTIONS

3.1 The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy is reproduced in Table 1 – notes to the Medium Term Financial Forecast are included at **Appendix A**.

TABLE 1 - MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL FORECAST							
		Zone of "Predictability"		Zone of "Unpredictability"			
		2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
		Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1	Net Council Budget	10,893	11,118	10,385	10,107	10,482	10,364
2	Forecast Resources:						
	Government Grant						
2a	Revenue Support Grant	(171)	0	0	0	0	0
2b	Business Rates	(2,428)	(2,484)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)
	Total Government Grant	(2,599)	(2,484)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)
	Council Tax / Coll'n Fund	(300)	(350)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)
	Income From Council Tax	(6,521)	(6,722)	(6,823)	(6,926)	(7,030)	(7,135)
	Total Resources	(9,420)	(9,556)	(8,923)	(9,026)	(9,130)	(9,235)
3	Budget (Surplus) / Deficit	1,473	1,562	1,462	1,081	1,352	1,129
4	'efficiencies' Identified	(1,473)	(1,562)	0	0	0	0
5	'efficiencies' - To be Identified	0	0	(1,462)	(1,081)	(1,352)	(1,129)
6	Budget (Surplus) / Deficit	0	0	0	0	0	0
GENERAL FUND WORKING BALANCE							
		2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
7	Estimated Opening Balance	1,415	1,375	1,335	1,295	1,295	1,295
8	Town Centre Initiatives	40	40	40	0	0	0
9	Estimated Closing Balance	1,375	1,335	1,295	1,295	1,295	1,295

3.1 The Medium Term Financial Strategy comprises the following 'Zones':

- **Zone of Predictability** – covers the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years - for which the level of government funding is known.
- **Zone of Unpredictability** – This covers the period from 2020/21, which is when it is anticipated that the fairer funding formula review and Business Rates will be reset.

Based upon the figures in the MTFs, the Council would need to identify and deliver further efficiencies of around;

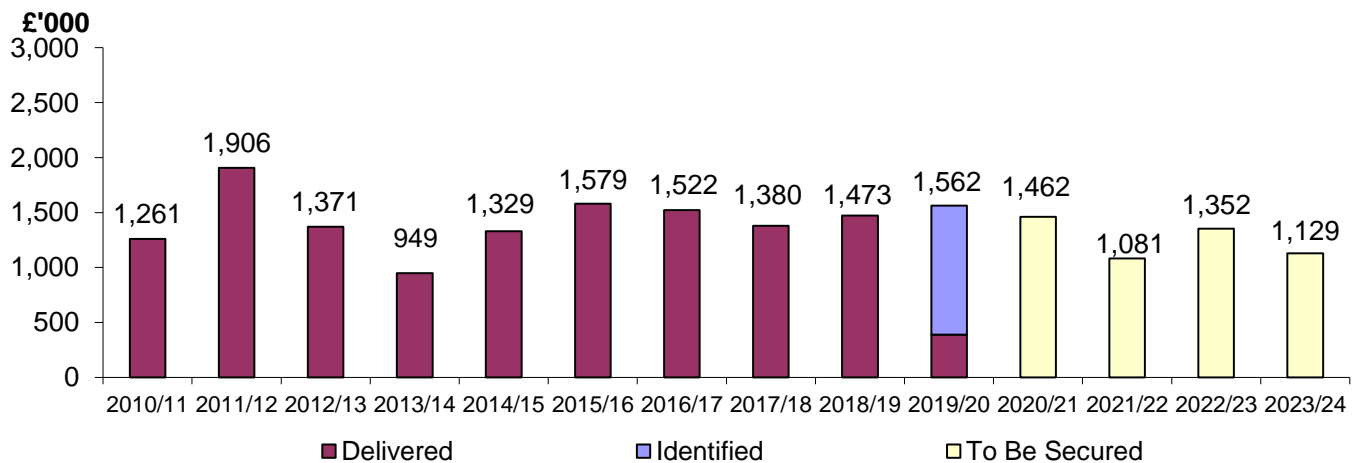
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- ◆ £1,462,000 in 2020/21,
- ◆ £1,081,000 in 2021/22
- ◆ £1,352,000 in 2022/23 and
- ◆ £1,129,000 in 2023/24

3.2 As clearly outlined in previous durable budget reports, the best estimates of the ongoing efficiency targets going forward are at least of a similar scale to those already met, this is summarised in Chart 1:

**Chart 1
Efficiencies / Savings / Income Generation**



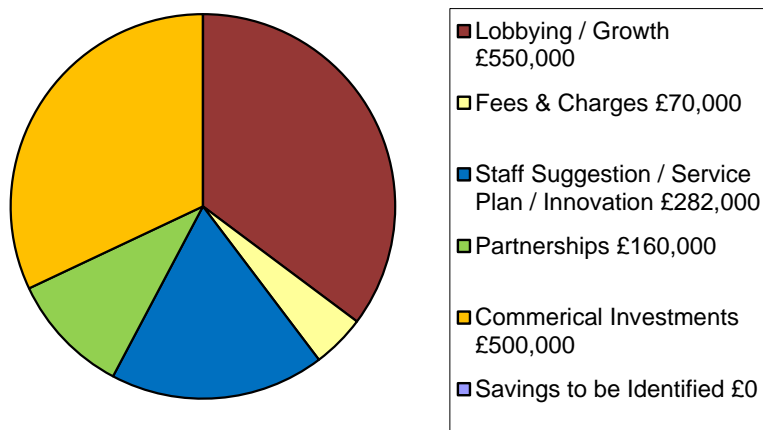
2019/20 Budget (General Fund)

3.3 Members will recall that additional ongoing 'efficiencies' of £1,562,000 were required to set a balanced budget for 2019/20. Those 'efficiencies' were identified before the budget was formally set and are summarised in Chart 2:

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Chart 2
Framework Efficiencies for the next Year
(2019/20)



3.4 Table 2 provides further information – relating to the composition of the 2019/20 Framework efficiencies:

Table 2 – Composition of 2019/20 Efficiencies		
Framework		£'000
Commercial Investments	Income from Commercial Investments	500
Lobbying / Growth	Business Rates Income	400
Staff / Innovation	Treasury Management Income	280
Partnerships	Joint Working	110
Lobbying / Growth	Homelessness Grant	83
Lobbying / Growth	New Homes Bonus	67
Fees & Charges	Crematorium Income	28
Fees & Charges	Recycling Credits	22
Various	Minor Variations	72
Total		1,562

3.5 During each budget process, members are informed of a number of ‘big ticket’ items. These are typically items of large value that could have a disproportionate impact on the Council’s budget if they moved in an adverse fashion. Consequently these are monitored very closely and members and officers may occasionally try to influence (through lobbying) any changes that may take place especially when such changes are triggered through changes in national policy. These items are included in the Councils Swing – o – meter as detailed at **Appendix B**.

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2020/21 Budget (General Fund)

- 3.6 The Executive at the April meeting approved that the Council continue using the existing budget delivery framework for the preparation of the 2020/21 budget. It was reported to the Executive that should the government formally approve the creation of two new unitary councils from April 2020 that the setting of the budgets for the Unitary will be a decision for the shadow authority and that any progress that this Council can make to delivering a balanced budget for 2020/21 would help towards the financial sustainability of the new authority.
- 3.7 The Secretary of State on the 14th May issued his formal decision in relation to the future structure of local government. In short, the government's decision is: -
- ◆ To replace the current arrangement with two new Unitary Councils (one for the north, one for the west).
 - ◆ The implementation date is 1st April 2021.
 - ◆ The above are contingent on a Children's Trust being established on a countywide basis.
- 3.8 The creation of the two new Unitary Council, means that all eight individual authorities in Northamptonshire will be required to set their own balanced budgets for 2020/21. The Executive, as in previous years will continue to receive updates on the efficiencies identified to deliver a balanced budget for this Council for the following year (2020/21).
- 3.9 The setting of the 2021/22 budget for the new Unitary Councils will be a decision for the shadow authority.
- 3.10 The period from 2020/21 onwards is much more uncertainty, Members will recall that at the same time as issuing the provisional finance settlement, the Government also issued two major consultation papers that will have significant implications on how local authority funding operates from 2020 onwards.
- 3.11 The two main consultation papers are on the following:
- **Fair Funding Review**
- This is about how the quantum of local authority funding will be allocated between different tiers of local government. In effect, the review will allocate priority spending (based upon things like population, need etc.) alongside government spending priorities.
- It is widely anticipated in local government that this review is likely to allocate more funding towards national priority areas such as adult social

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care, and children's services rather than be beneficial to the services that borough and district councils provide.

Accordingly, this review poses a major funding risk to local authorities such as Kettering Borough Council in the medium term.

▪ **Business Rates Retention**

Following on from the above, the way that the business rate retention scheme operates in the future will have major financial implications for the Council.

As a local authority, we have benefitted well under the present system due to the above average increase in our business base in the borough. This has benefitted the Council (and our revenue budget) by £m's over the past few years.

The system will be re-based in 2020 (alongside a number of other reforms). This could run a significant risk for local authorities such as Kettering who have been managing to help facilitate significant business growth over the past few years. It could result in a significant proportion of our increased business rates funding being taken away and effectively re-allocated to other areas as part of this (and the Fair Funding Review). This is a very significant funding risk for the medium term, one that should not be underestimated.

3.12 The Council responded to these key consultations and further announcements are expected over the coming months.

New Homes Bonus

3.13 Members are reminded that the New Homes Bonus Scheme seeks to incentivise housing growth by making a payment to local authorities to reward them for building houses. The scheme came into being in 2011/12 and authorities received a payment each year for 6 years after the property had been built equivalent to the annual average national Band D in Council Tax.

3.14 The following changes have since been made to the New Homes Bonus Scheme: -

- A baseline was introduced from 2017/18 whereby housing growth below 0.4% will not receive any New Homes Bonus funding, for this Council it means no reward is received for around the first 180 properties build each year. The Government have retained the option of making adjustments to the baseline in future years to reflect significant and unexpected housing growth.

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- Funding was reduced from 6 years to 5 years' worth of payments in 2017/18 and was then reduced to 4 years' worth of payments from 2018/19 onwards.

3.15 The Executive at the June 2017 meeting agreed to revise the strategy for the amount of New Homes Bonus income included in the base budget. Table 3 sets out the current New Bonus Strategy over the period of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22 to 2023/24
	%	%	%	%
2015/16	69%	0%	0%	0%
2016/17	80%	80%	0%	0%
2017/18	82%	74%	73%	0%
2018/19	100%	100%	100%	100%
2019/20	0%	100%	100%	100%
2020/21	0%	0%	100%	100%
2021/22	0%	0%	0%	100%
% of NHB included in the budget	81%	86%	91%	100%

3.16 Based on the strategy approved in June 2017 the Council will have brought 100% of the new homes bonus funding into the base budget in 2021/22 – if the Council were to bring forward the approved strategy by a year, so 100% of New Homes Bonus is included in the 2020/21 budget this could result in additional income of around £148,000 and would reduce the level of savings needed to set a balanced budget for 2020/21 from £1.462m to £1.314m.

3.17 In light of the scale of savings required in 2020/21 it is considered sensible to amend this strategy and bring 100% of the New Homes Bonus income into the General Fund budget. It is important for members to note that amending the figures that are being included in the Council's MTFS for NHB, is at this stage a simple reflection of how the scheme is working going forward. The assumptions will be kept under constant review.

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4 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

2019/20

- 4.1 A summary of Housing Revenue Account monitoring at the end of April 2019 is shown in Table 4. The HRA is currently projecting to come in on budget for 2019/20.

Table 4 - HRA	Current Budget	Projected Outturn	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Gross Expenditure	15,318	15,318	0
Gross Income	(15,318)	(15,318)	0
Net Expenditure	0	0	0

5 CAPITAL PROGRAMME

2019/20

- 5.1 A summary of the Capital Programme monitoring at the end of April 2019 is shown in Table 5. The Capital Programme is currently projecting to come in on budget for 2019/20.

Table 5 - Capital Programme	Current Budget 2019/20	Projected Outturn 2019/20	Variance (underspend) / overspend
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Expenditure			
HRA Schemes	3,822	3,822	0
General Fund Schemes	25,568	25,568	0
	29,390	29,390	0
Financing			
Capital Receipts	1,324	1,324	0
Prudential Borrowing	23,560	23,560	0
Revenue Contribution	2,728	2,728	0
Grants and Contributions	1,778	1,778	0
	29,390	29,390	0

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6. OUTTURN 2018/19

6.1 This section provides members with a summary of the outturn figures for last financial year (2018/19). The analysis covers the Council's three main accounts (plus an update on Treasury Management) and is split as follows;

- ◆ General Fund
- ◆ Housing Revenue Account
- ◆ Capital Programme
- ◆ Treasury Management

6.2 The Council is required to produce a draft set of accounts by 31st May each year, the Council has met this deadline as it has in previous years, the 2018/19 accounts are now complete and subject to external audit validation.

6.3 It was reported to the Monitoring and Audit Committee on 21st May that the Council's external auditors (EY) have experienced a high staff turnover and have had challenges in recruiting new staff, which effects the audit timetable for the 2018/19 accounts. EY have proposed that the audit will take place during August and September 2019 and are working with officers to agree a revised and detailed delivery and reporting timetable.

6.4 Whilst EY have looked at alternative options, unfortunately no practical alternative options are available other than delaying the audit to August / September 2019. This issue is not unique to this Council all the Northamptonshire authorities are affected as are a number of their other clients who are expecting their audits to be delayed as a result of their resourcing issues.

General Fund Revenue Account

6.5 Members are reminded that the General Fund account is the account that contains the majority of the Council's everyday service expenditure (excluding spending on council housing).

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General Fund Account

Covers: Day to day expenditure and income on services other than Council Housing

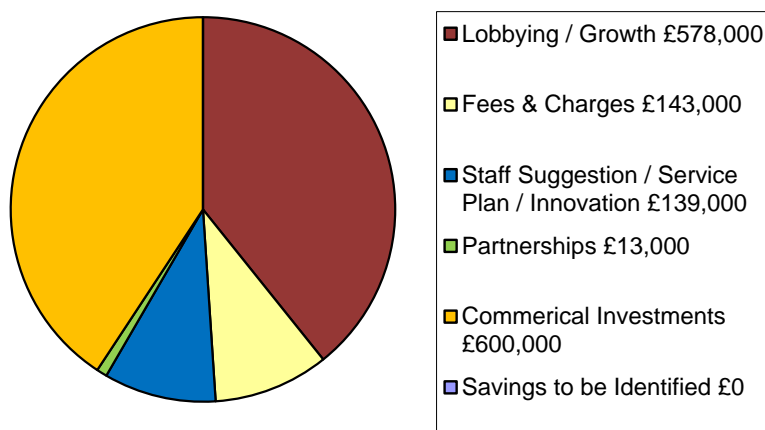
Budget: £55.8m

Funding sources: Fees & Charges / Govt Grant / Council Tax



6.6 When the Council considered the budget for 2018/19, the budget delivery framework needed to identify £1,473,000 of additional efficiency measures to set a balanced budget for the year. Chart 3 shows how the budget 'gap' was closed.

**Chart 3
Framework Efficiencies for the next Year
(2018/19)**



6.7 Table 6 provides a reminder of the composition of the 2018/19 Framework efficiency savings.

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Table 6 – Composition of 2018/19 Budget Changes		
Framework	Saving	£'000
Commercial Investments	Income from Commercial Investments	600
Lobbying / Growth	New Homes Bonus Income	343
Lobbying / Growth	Increase in Planning Fees	135
Lobbying / Growth	Homelessness Grant	100
Staff / Innovation	Treasury Management Income	100
Staff / Innovation	Other schemes	39
Fees & Charges	Additional Income	77
Fees & Charges	Crematorium Income	66
Partnerships	Joint Working	13
Total		1,473

6.8 In addition to achieving the original challenging efficiency savings target, the Council's outturn position has delivered further efficiency savings of around £334,000. The reasons for these variances are detailed in Table 7 – most of which relate to 'one-off' savings;

Table 7 - General Fund Variances	£000
Business Rates	(212)
Salaries	(146)
Kettering Training Services	(78)
Planning Fees	(60)
Contingency	(50)
Homelessness	60
Commercial Investments	80
Crematorium	88
Net other variations	(16)
Total	(334)

6.9 Members will recall that the financial landscape changed significantly from April 2013 following the Government's introduction of the Business Rates Retention Scheme prior to this date all Business Rates were pooled and distributed nationally there was no risk or reward for authorities who collected more or less in Business Rates. However from 1 April 2013 local authorities would receive a reward where there is growth in Business Rates and would see a reduction in grant if there was a decline in Business Rates.

6.10 The Council takes a prudent view and resilience tests savings before they are incorporated into the budget as such any growth from the Business Rates Retention Scheme would only be reflected in the budget when the growth has actually been delivered. This approach ensures that only growth that has been delivered is budgeted and secondly will act as a smoothing strategy should there be an adverse impact when the scheme is reset in 2020.

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6.11 It should be noted that there was a favourable variance of £212,000 from the Business Rates Retention Scheme which is reflected in the 2018/19 accounts. Due to the technical nature and the accounting arrangements for Business Rates being spread over three years, a further £248,000 of income will be accounted for over the next two years, meaning that the benefit from Business Rates Growth in 2018/19 was £460,000 higher than the budget of £1.778m

6.12 The final outturn figures are now subject to validation by external audit. The savings are a combination of some early 'locking in' of the savings that are required for 2018/19 and one off items.

6.13 Overall, the outturn for the General Fund is pleasing for the following reasons;

- ♦ Early implementation of identified savings;
- ♦ The budget delivery framework has successfully engaged staff at all levels;
- ♦ The early delivery of the savings required for 2019/20 allows attention to be turned to savings for future years;
- ♦ Additional flexibility and resources have been secured to help pump prime delivery of future years' savings and protect against possible future burdens.

6.14 After taking account of contributions to reserves and balances the Council's General Fund working balance remained at £1.415m – this is still in line with the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy '*guiding principles*'.

6.15 The savings made give confidence that the Council remains "ahead of the curve" in delivering the Medium Term Financial Strategy and whilst the Council's delivery of efficiencies and savings is to be commended, the challenges that are to be faced in future years remain both significant and unprecedented. Two areas that will impact on how local authorities are funded are outlined in Section 3.8.

Housing Revenue Account

6.16 Members are reminded that the Housing Revenue Account is a ring-fenced account for day to day income and expenditure relating to the Council's role as a Housing Landlord.

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Housing Revenue Account

Covers: Day to day expenditure and income relating to being a Council Housing landlord

Budget: £15.1m

Funding sources:
Council House Rents



- 6.17 The Housing Revenue Account's budget for 2018/19 was £15.3m. The actual spend for 2018/19 was around £15,000 lower than the budget and has resulted in the HRA reserves being increased by £15,000.
- 6.18 The Housing Revenue Account balance has remained unchanged at £850,000. This is in line with the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy which states the account must operate in a surplus position and this is achieved by adopting the principle that an agreed minimum balance of £300,000 should be the primary strategic aim over the medium to long term.

Capital Programme

- 6.19 Members are reminded that the Capital Programme is used for the acquisition, improvement and enhancement of the Council's assets.

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Capital Programme

Covers: Expenditure on acquiring, maintaining, enhancing assets

Budget: £47.3m

Funding sources:
Govt Grant / borrowing / capital receipts / external contributions



6.20 Table 8 provides a summary of the 2018/19 Capital Programme. Overall, the expenditure during 2018/19 was £20.4m compared to the working budget of £47.3m. The variance on the General Fund is around £23.2m and the main variance relates to commercial acquisitions which is showing an underspend of £20.9m against a budget of £32.3m. The variance on the HRA is around £3.7m and the main variation on the HRA relates to the timing of the delivery of two new build schemes at Scott Road and Albert Street.

Table 8 - Capital Programme Outturn 2018/19	Revised Estimate	Actual	Variance
	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure			
Council Home Improvement Programme	7,386	3,677	(3,709)
Private Sector Housing Improvement	846	721	(125)
Investment & Repair Programme	868	220	(648)
Community Project Schemes	213	105	(108)
E Government Investment Programme	265	216	(49)
Commercial Properties	32,256	11,272	(20,984)
Invest to Save Projects	5,467	4,178	(1,289)
Total Capital Expenditure	47,301	20,389	(26,912)

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The Capital Programme after taking account of budget carry forwards to 2019/20, which are subject to Executive Approval will result in 100% of the budget being spent. **Appendix C** sets out capital budgets to be carried forward to 2019/20.

Treasury Management – Current Position

6.21 The Council's debt and investment position at the beginning and the end of the year is set at in Table 8:

Table 8	31st March 2018		31st March 2019	
	Principal	Rate / Return	Principal	Rate / Return
	£'000		£'000	
Total Investments	£28,569	0.60%	£27,978	0.90%
Total Debt	£100,393	2.44%	£109,330	2.70%

	Rate of Return
Council Portfolio	0.90%
Benchmark – 3 Month LIBID	0.54%

6.22 The Council as part of its Treasury Management strategy has for a number of years effectively used its cash reserves to finance General Fund borrowing instead of borrowing money externally. As a result reserves are therefore not cash-backed and the Council would need to borrow if it wanted to use a significant proportion of its reserves. This strategy is prudent in the current economic climate where investment returns are low and counterparty risk is high.

6.23 The Council has however borrowed from external institutions as a source of funding to support the capital programme, particularly the Property Investment Strategy and the levels of borrowing have been detailed as part of the financing of the capital programme.

Compliance with Treasury Limits and Prudential Indicators

6.24 During the financial year the Council operated within its treasury limits and Prudential Indicators set out in the Council's Treasury Policy Statement and Annual Treasury Strategy Statement. The outturn for the Prudential Indicators is shown in **Appendix D**.

7 CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT

7.1 As outlined in the report.

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8 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 As outlined in the report.

9 USE OF RESOURCES

9.1 As outlined in the report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That the Executive notes:

- a) The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and associated guiding principles.
- b) The draft out-turn position for 2018/19 for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account, Capital Programme and Treasury Management;

10.2 That the Executive Approves;

- a) The Capital Programme carry forwards from 2018/19 (as detailed in Appendix C).
- b) The amended New Homes Bonus Strategy as detailed in 3.17.

Background Papers:

Contact Officers: M Dickenson

Previous Reports/Minutes:

Monthly Durable Budget Reports