

Executive

14 November 2017: 9.30 am

London Councils offices are wheelchair accessible

Location: Room 5

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*** Declarations of Interests**

If you are present at a meeting of London Councils' or any of its associated joint committees or their sub-committees and you have a disclosable pecuniary interest* relating to any business that is or will be considered at the meeting you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your disclosable pecuniary interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public. It is a matter for each member to decide whether they should leave the room while an item that they have an interest in is being discussed. In arriving at a decision as to whether to leave the room they may wish to have regard to their home authority's code of conduct and/or the Seven (Nolan) Principles of Public Life.

*as defined by the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive
Tuesday 12 September 2017 9:30 am**

Cllr Claire Kober OBE was in the chair

Present

Member	Position
Cllr Claire Kober OBE	Chair
Cllr Peter John OBE	Deputy chair
Cllr Teresa O'Neill OBE	Vice chair
Ms Catherine McGuinness	Vice chair
Cllr Ruth Dombey OBE	Vice chair
Mayor Sir Steve Bullock	
Cllr Ray Puddifoot MBE	
Cllr Lib Peck	
Cllr Darren Rodwell	
Cllr Rave Govindia CBE	Substituting for Cllr Kevin Davis

London Councils officers were in attendance

1. Apologies for absence and announcement of deputies

Apologies were received from Cllr Julian Bell and Cllr Kevin Davis for whom Cllr Ravi Govindia was substituting.

2. Declaration of interest

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 20 June 2017

The minutes of the Executive meeting held on 20 June 2017 were agreed.

4. London Business Rates pool – oral update

The Interim Director: Finance, Performance and Procurement updated the Executive on Business Rates pooling:

- The uncertainty that had existed over the Government's approach to Business rates pooling was clarified when it invited applications for pilots for 2018/19. Whilst London was not included in that call because it was being treated separately as a product of the MoU agreed at the Spring budget, the principles and timescales applying to London would be similar.
- The view of the Executive was being sought in advance of Leaders' Committee and the Congress of Leaders and the Mayor meeting on 10 October.

Cllr Ravi Govindia CBE asked about whether a 'make-or-break' point had been reached. The view was that it had. He also asked about options for a strategic investment pot and its potential size. The Interim Director replied 25%, 20% and 10% were in the models in the Prospectus. The Government would be likely to push for an agreement at the higher end of that range.

Cllr Teresa O'Neill OBE was concerned what additional burdens may be imposed as part of the deal that could cost more than the potential gain despite the potential 'no detriment' clause in the agreement. It was agreed that it would be important to see this explicitly covered off in any deal.

The Chair informed the Executive of the Labour Group's view, one that had come particularly from outer London boroughs, that the London pilot should not jeopardise the conduct of the Fair Funding review and that a letter from the Government guaranteeing that should be sought.

Cllr Darren Rodwell urged some 'story-telling' setting out London's relative progress on this compared to the other parts of the country. People should be encouraged to recognise that London's reputation as an effective collective grouping was potentially at stake.

Cllr Ray Puddifoot MBE suggested a model motion could be drawn up that could be put to all London's councils.

The Chair concluded by agreeing that an updated Prospectus be circulated to Leaders as soon as possible to help determine the final, in principle, position well before 10 October..

The Executive agreed to note the update.

5. Devolution and Public Service Reform

The Chair introduced the item saying it included updates on the progress against the Memorandum of Understanding with Government on further devolution to London, particularly in relation to:

- Business Rates retention
- Devolution of the Adult Education Budget and progress towards wider skills devolution
- The Work and Health Programme
- The Industrial Strategy
- Health devolution
- Devolution of the Criminal Justice Service
- Housing Infrastructure

She concluded her introduction by describing meetings she had recently had with ministers which had been encouraging.

A number of members, including Mayor Sir Steve Bullock, Cllr Ruth Dombey OBE and Cllr O'Neill complained of recent developments in the organization of the Health Service in London, in particular around centralization of CCGs and the danger of over-riding progress that had been made locally.

The Executive agreed to note the report.

6. Transforming Health and Care in London

In the absence of Cllr Kevin Davis the Strategic Lead for Health and Adult Social Care introduced the report saying:

- One of the messages from discussions in the Executive and Leaders' Committee earlier this year was that London Councils should look to develop a political vision underpinned by a policy framework that would enable London local government to seize the agenda more firmly
- Based on discussion at this meeting, firmer proposals will be brought back to Members later in the year
- The thinking in the paper was based on –
 - An analysis of different integrated commissioning delivery models and drawing out lessons for sharing across the capital.
 - Mapping of integrated ways of working taking place across different footprints
- The integration agenda had continued to evolve, in particular at the national level with the emergence of Accountable Care Systems
- A vision and framework were offered up in early draft format to seek Executive's comment and instruction on further development
- The section on Accountable Care Systems described the parallel thinking on integration, as set out in the NHS Five Year Forward View Delivery Plan published in March 2017. Experience in recent years would suggest that there was the potential for national policy direction to fetter London's efforts at reform
- The section on the Better Care Fund reported that there had been an increase in concern around the Better Care Fund, which had the potential to distract local government from its broader reform agenda.
- The report noted the latest position on the health devolution Memorandum of Understanding and noted the risk of ongoing delay to signing the agreement.

Cllr Dombey urged a shift away from the NHS approach which was about access to Healthcare and instead work towards an approach more based on wellbeing

emphasising prevention especially in the area of mental health. Only the surface was being scratched of the potential of health and wellbeing boards.

Cllr Puddifoot urged greater emphasis on prevention in the report and referred to point 6 in the vision about the need for locally accountable politicians to lead on shaping provision, a point that Cllr Peck agreed with. He urged that we should stress that the NHS is not accountable.

Cllr O'Neill asked whether there needed to be push-back on certain NHS changes, either we were partners helping to deliver change or we were not.

The Executive agreed that these comments should be reflected upon in developing the draft narrative framework for further submission to members at a future point.

7. Schools Funding

Cllr Peter John OBE introduced the report saying:

- It covered recent policy developments relating to school revenue, capital and SEND funding
- On revenue funding, in July the Secretary of State for Education had committed to increasing the core schools budget by £1.3 billion in 2018/19 and 2019/20. Every school would receive at least a 0.5 per cent a year per pupil cash increase.
- This additional investment was welcome; however there were still concerns for London's schools. It was highly likely that the 70 per cent of London schools previously set to lose funding under the draft National Funding Formula would only receive the minimum cash increase of 0.5%. This was likely to mean a reduction in real terms per pupil funding for these schools. This would only be confirmed when the school allocations were published shortly.
- When the school budget allocations were published an analysis would be undertaken to understand how much of the additional £1.3 billion per year investment would

benefit London schools. If London's schools lost out, London Councils would continue to lobby government to protect all school budgets in real terms

- On Capital funding, last Wednesday London Councils published the latest edition of *Do The Maths*, its annual school places planning report.
- The report highlighted that there would be a shortfall of 63,710 places across schools in London until 2022/23. Demand was growing steadily at secondary level, but demand in the primary sector was slowing for the first time in almost a decade. Boroughs had reported a number of reasons for this slowing demand, including:
 - A considerable number of new places had been created over the past year, helping to reduce the shortfall significantly
 - A lower birth rate
 - A rapid increase in house prices
 - Changes in migration patterns amongst particular populations, potentially as an early consequence of the decision to leave the EU
- Despite the reduction in the shortfall for primary places, London would still need additional funding for school places of an estimated £1 billion over the next six years.
- Lobbying of Government would continue to argue for appropriate levels of capital funding, as well as to push for a reform to the free school programme to ensure there was greater strategic link up with local authorities on the development of new schools
- On Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) funding, a recent London Councils' survey on Children's Services finances found that 23 out of 28 boroughs were spending more on high needs than the amount allocated through the high needs block of the DSG. The aggregate funding gap across these 23 boroughs was £94 million. Another area of significant overspend was in SEND transport budgets, with overspends averaging £1 million per borough.
- Given these huge funding pressures facing London boroughs, London Councils was proposing to lobby Government directly on this issue.

Cllr O'Neil asked for reference to be made to Education Services Grant and Special Schools which Cllr John agreed with.

The Executive agreed to note the report.

8. Month 3 Revenue Forecast 2017/18

The Director of Corporate Resources introduced the report by pointing out it was the first forecast for this financial year: He continued

- Following a conversation with Cllr Puddifoot outside of the meeting, during which Cllr Puddifoot queried the level of actual expenditure reported as at Month 3 for the Joint Committee in Table 4 of the report, the Director of Corporate Resources informed the meeting that there had been an error in the figure shown in the second column of Table 4, under M3 actual expenditure for Employee Costs. The figure in the report of £954,000 should actually be £1.016 million
- This amendment, however, had no effect on the projected forecast surplus for the Joint Committee of £731,000 for the year
- Cllr Puddifoot had also enquired (also outside of the meeting) as to why actual expenditure for Joint Committee running costs was so low at the end of the first quarter. The Director of Corporate Resources explained that the actual spend had been depressed by the reversal of 2016/17 liabilities, which was misleading and agreed to review the manner in which this information was reported to members at the end of the first quarter for future financial years, starting with 2018/19. Any on-going effect from previous years transactions would be separated out.

The Executive agreed to note the overall forecast surplus as at 30 June 2017 (Month 3) of £1.485 million and note the position on reserves as detailed in the report.

9. Debtors Update Report

The Director of Corporate Resources introduced this report by saying that assurances had been received from the two boroughs that had long-standing debts that they would be settled by the end of the month.

The Executive agreed:

- To note that all borough, TfL and GLA debts raised up to 31 December 2016 and reported to the Executive at its meeting on 28 February 2017 had been paid
- To note the level of outstanding debt of £3.237 million in respect of borough, TfL and GLA invoices raised in the period 1 January to 31 July 2017
- To note the level of outstanding debt of £76,633.26 in relation to other debtors invoices raised up until 31 July 2017 and
- To note the specific action being taken in respect of significant debtors, as detailed in the report.

10. Nominations to Outside Bodies

The Executive agreed to note the report.

AOB

Cllr Darren Rodwell set out some proposals in relation to London local government's presence at MIPIM.

The Chair concluded that Cllr Rodwell should write to Leaders seeking comments on the proposition that:

- (i) Willing boroughs feature in a promotional booklet;

- (ii) London Councils branding support for an area at MIPIM as part of the overall London space – this would be a venue to distribute the booklet and for use by involved boroughs. The role would reflect that this was funded by sponsorship by the City of London Corporation and others – none of whom were developers. The next step would be to consult Leaders to see if they were supportive.

Action points

	Item	Action	Progress
4.	London Business Rates pool – oral update	Strategic Policy	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A document to be circulated to leaders before 10 October even if it was only an updated prospectus. 		Completed 19/9/17
7.	Schools Funding	PAPA Children's Services	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reference to be made to Education Services Grant and Special Schools 		Ministerial letter sent included mention of Free special schools. ESG will be picked up in future lobbying.
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact boroughs to see if they were supportive of Cllr Rodwell's proposals. 	Transport, Environment and Infrastructure	Completed 19/10/17

The meeting ended at 11:00am

Executive

Independent Panel on the Remuneration of Councillors

Item no. 4

Report by: Derek Gadd **Job title:** Head of Governance

Date: 14 November 2017

Contact Officer: Derek Gadd

Telephone: 020 7934 9505 **Email:** derek.gadd@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Summary: This paper offers to the Executive for consideration two draft reports by the Independent Panel on the Remuneration of Councillors: one remuneration as applied to members in boroughs and a second as applied to London Councils' members.

The Chair of the Panel Sir Rodney Brooke CBE, DL will be attending this meeting.

Recommendations: The Executive is recommended to:

- Make any comments it may wish to go back to the Panel
- Consider whether the reports need to be submitted to Leaders' Committee on 5 December 2017; and, if neither of the above -
- To note that it is intended to finalise the reports for publication in January 2018.

Independent Panel on the Remuneration of Councillors

Background

1. London Councils, and its predecessor body the Association of London Government (the ALG), has maintained an Independent Panel to look into the remuneration of councillors since 1998. Since 2000 local authorities have been obliged to set up an independent panel to consider an appropriate level of allowances for their members¹. The legislation contained special provision for London boroughs to use an independent panel set up by London Councils for this purpose rather than a local panel. Such panels only make recommendations – it remains the responsibility of each individual authority to decide the level of remuneration, and which members should be remunerated.
2. When, in 2004, the then ALG decided to remunerate its leading members for their work for London Councils, the Panel was requested to make recommendations on the scope and quantum of that remuneration so that, since that time, the panel has made two separate sets of recommendations, one for consideration by the boroughs for their members and one for consideration by London Councils for the work members do for it.
3. From early on, the Panel recommended that members' allowances should be up-rated (annually) in line with the officers pay award and where this was the case the regulations required a four-yearly review². As a consequence, the Independent Panel has met every four years in time to publish a report in, 2006, 2010 and 2014.
4. The Panel was commissioned once again at Leaders' Committee on 11 July 2017 and the Panel members were formally agreed and began work reports in September 2017 reviewing the two respective.
5. As in previous cycles the Panel consulted boroughs and the party groups as well as carrying out research into current practice in boroughs and elsewhere in the UK. The Panel has combined face-to-face meetings with virtual work and produced their draft reports in October 2017 so that they could be considered by the Executive at this meeting and Leaders' Committee in December (if thought necessary) in time for any further work that may come out of those meetings to be completed before an anticipated final publication in January 2018.
6. Sir Rodney Brooke CBE DL, who chairs the Panel will be attending the meeting of the Executive to provide an overview of the conclusions and listen to views of the Executive.

¹ Section 99 of the Local Government Act 2000

² Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (Regulations) England 2003 10 (5) Where an authority has regard to an index (officers pay award) for the purpose of annual adjustment of allowances it must not rely on that index for longer than a period of four years before seeking a further recommendation from the independent remuneration panel established in respect of that authority on the application of an index to its scheme.

Equalities Implications:

There are no direct Equalities implications for London Councils arising from this report.

Financial Implications:

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications:

There are no direct Legal implications for London Councils arising from this report

Recommendations:

The Executive is recommended to:

- Make any comments on the two reports it may wish to go back to the Panel;
- Consider whether the reports need to be submitted to Leaders' Committee on 5 December 2017, and if neither of the above:-
- To note that it is intended to finalise the reports for publication in January 2018.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Remuneration of Councillors in London 2017, draft report
- Appendix 2 - London Councils 2017: Remuneration of Members, draft report

Remuneration of councillors in London 2017

Introduction

The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 ('the Regulations') authorise the establishment by the Association of London Government (now London Councils) of an independent remuneration panel to make recommendations in respect of the members' allowances payable by London boroughs. Such a panel ('the Panel') was established and reported in 2001, 2003, 2006, 2010 and 2014. It now comprises Sir Rodney Brooke CBE DL (Chair), Steve Bundred and Anne Watts CBE.

The Regulations require a review of the scheme every four years as a minimum. The current Panel has therefore completed a review of remuneration for councillors in London. We present our findings and recommendations in this report.

As a preparation for our work, we invited all London boroughs to give their views on the operation of the existing scheme. We are grateful for the feedback, which confirms that the existing London scheme of members' allowances is still fit for purpose. We make recommendations accordingly. However, where issues have arisen from the comments we received, we have addressed them in this report.

The role of elected members

In our previous reports we reflected on the importance of the role of elected members. We repeat at Appendix B the job profile for councillors which we originally included in our 2010 report. The feedback we have received is that it continues to be appropriate.

The Local Governance Research Unit, based at Leicester Business School, recently launched a Councillor Commission as an independent review of the role and work of the councillor. The Commission's report points out that councillors oversee million-pound budgets, balancing complex financial pressures at a time of severe cutbacks in local authority spending, making decisions which will affect their areas for decades to come. In London each Borough Council is responsible for services crucial to its residents. Each has a revenue budget of up to £1.4bn as well as a substantial capital programme. The scale of their turnover and other financial activities are in many instances comparable with those of large publicly quoted companies.

Councillors are faced with unenviable choices. Demand for local authority services continues to grow. In particular, there is rapid growth in the number of old people with a corresponding increase in demand for social care. London itself faces acute housing problems. Councillors have an increased responsibility for health. Thus the strain on and competition for resources increase the demands made on elected members. The responsibilities and accountabilities are made clear after a tragedy like the Grenfell Tower fire.

The evidence we received confirms that the workload and responsibilities of councillors continue to increase and that their role has become more complex, and not only in the areas of social care, housing and health. There has been growth in the number of sub-regional meetings, partnerships and joint bodies (such as Boards for Health & Wellbeing and Safer Neighbourhoods) which require the commitment and time of leaders, cabinet members and front-line councillors. Partnership engagement makes great demands on councillors. There has been a marked increase in informal meetings, such as working groups, forums and community gatherings as well as formal meetings like local authority companies. The expectations of the public continue to rise.

While valuable to democracy, the use of social media adds to the pressure on councillors by increasing demands from their constituents in several different ways. Communication with councillors is not only easier but immediate. The public expects a speedy response, so that it is now more difficult for councillors in employment to deal with concerns as quickly as voters expect. Not only do social media make it easier for their constituents to get hold of councillors, but they also enable an isolated concern to become an organised campaign.

Recruitment of councillors

We received evidence that it is increasingly difficult to recruit people of quality who are prepared to stand for office as councillors. Though the low level of allowances was mentioned as a reason for this, a major disincentive is the time commitment required of a councillor. That time commitment (as well as finance) can make it difficult to combine the role with a job and a family life. As one councillor commented to the Leicester Business School Commission, 'Serving on outside bodies means that I am working every day of the week, weekends too'. As was pointed out in responses we received, the problem is exacerbated in London, where councillors are on the whole younger than in other parts of the country and often in employment. They also face substantially higher costs of living.

Though the time commitment may be the main disincentive to service as a councillor, it is important that, as far as reasonably possible, financial loss does not

prevent people from becoming councillors. Allowances are not shown by polls to be something which influences councillors to take on the role, though they are instrumental in making it possible for some people to do so. Allowances should be set at a level that enables people to undertake the role of councillor, while not acting as an incentive to do so. If it is important that there are no financial incentives to being a councillor, it is equally important that there should not be a financial disincentive. It is clearly desirable that service as a councillor is not confined to those with independent means.

Since our last report the Government has removed the possibility of councillors joining the local government pension scheme. We believe that access to the pension scheme can be an important factor in making service as a councillor financially possible for a wider range of people. It is particularly significant for those who, like elected mayors, leaders and portfolio holders, give most or all of their time to service in local government and lose the opportunity to contribute to a pension scheme elsewhere. Loss of access to a pension scheme imposes a further financial penalty on councillors.

We do not repeat the arguments for appropriate remuneration for councillors which we have set out in our previous reports. We believe them to be self-evident. But we do repeat our belief in the importance of local democracy and the role of councillors within it.

The current financial and political climate

Because of the current financial climate, the local government pay settlement in recent years has been severely limited. Since our last report there have been three awards of 1%. Acutely sensitive to the current financial austerity, some boroughs have frozen members' allowances and failed to apply the pay awards to them. Indeed some boroughs have even reduced members' allowances.

Our recent reports have made no recommendations for increasing the levels of members' allowances other than continuing provision for annual adjustments in accordance with the annual local government pay settlement. As the Government-appointed Councillors' Commission pointed out in their 2007 report, the recommendations of the London Panel has led to some convergence of members' allowances across London. Indeed, the Councillors' Commission recommended a similar system for the country as a whole. Following our recommendations, there is now considerable congruity in the basic allowance made by London boroughs.

However, most London boroughs have not adopted our recommendations in their entirety and there remain substantial differences in the amount of special responsibility allowances. We fully recognise that now is not the time to contemplate

a general increase in councillors' allowances. Nevertheless we hope that in the longer term the financial situation will permit further convergence of members' allowances around our recommendations.

Level of Basic Allowance

In our last report we recommended that there should be a Basic Allowance paid to every councillor of £10,703. Updated for the local government staff pay awards since then, the figure is now £11,045. Given the loss of pension rights; growth in the volume and complexity of the work of councillors; and the limited increase in the Basic Allowance since our last report, we believe that there is a strong case for considering a larger increase. The basic allowance is now less than the allowances paid by many similar authorities outside London. In Wales, for example, the government-appointed commission sets the basic allowance at £13,400 for members of local authorities with populations which are generally substantially lower than those of London boroughs.

However we reluctantly accept that, in the current financial climate, it would be inappropriate to recommend a general increase in members' allowances (beyond the annual updating). Pegging an annual increase to staff pay awards will ensure that councillors can receive annual increases which are in line with those received by staff. **We therefore recommend that the Basic Allowance be set at £11,045.** We believe that it remains sensible to frame recommendations which are common across London.

Special Responsibility Allowances

Given the extent of the responsibilities of leaders of London boroughs, the Panel's first report in 2001 recommended that their remuneration should equate to that of a Member of Parliament. [Our recommendations for other special responsibility allowances are related to that recommended for leaders.]

Since then the increase in the remuneration of Members of Parliament has substantially exceeded the annual local government pay increase to which we tied the special responsibility allowance for the leader of a London borough. At the time of our last report an MP received a salary of £67,060 while our recommendation for a borough leader (increases having been restricted to the local government staff pay increases) was for total remuneration of £65,472, a difference of £1,588. Updated for the local government pay awards, our recommendation for the current total remuneration of a London borough leader would be £68,130. Meanwhile the salary of MPs has increased to £76,011, a difference of £7,881. Moreover MPs continue to be entitled to a pension as well as to sundry other benefits (such as termination payments) which are not available to leaders.

In our current consultation we enquired whether the remuneration of an MP remains a sound comparator to fix the remuneration of a borough leader. In general the responses agreed that the comparator was appropriate and, if anything, that the Leaders of London boroughs warranted a higher remuneration than an MP, because they had greater financial responsibility and legal burdens, and especially given the differential pension arrangements. Indeed one respondent authority suggested that the direct responsibilities of a Leader should command the salary of a Junior Minister.

We sympathise with the responses. Certainly the way in which MPs' remuneration has outpaced that of leaders would prompt a review of the Leaders' allowances had the Panel not had regard to the current stringent economic circumstances. For the same reasons which prompt us to peg the Basic Allowance, **we recommend that the special responsibility allowance for a Leader should be in accordance with our former recommendation, plus the subsequent local government staff pay awards, ie £57,085. We recommend the maintenance of its relation to other special responsibility allowances, as set out in the Appendix to this report.** Nevertheless we hope that parity of the remuneration of the Borough leaders with the remuneration of Members of Parliament will be restored when the economic situation eases and that the other Special Responsibility Allowances will then be adjusted accordingly.

Interpretation of the Scheme

The responses from the boroughs generally indicated no problems with interpretation of our recommendations, though many had adopted lower figures, especially for special responsibility allowances. We continue to believe that the scheme we propose is sufficiently flexible to accommodate the varying political management arrangements of different London boroughs. Specifically, we were asked for guidance on what percentage of councillors should receive a special responsibility allowance. **We reiterate our view that no more than 50% of councillors should receive a special responsibility allowance. We also continue to believe that no member should receive more than one special responsibility allowance though we accept that there might exceptionally be special circumstances where allocation of more than one Special Responsibility Allowance might be justified, eg where members undertake a number of different time-consuming roles such as sitting on licensing hearings.**

We were asked to give more detailed guidance on the roles allocated to different bands and whether these could be tied to the time commitment required of a role, expressed as a percentage of the time commitment of the Leader. However, we

believe that the percentages we identify should be tied not only to time commitment but also to levels of responsibility.

Training and Support

The responsibilities of councillors are substantial, extensive and complex. We have mentioned the Grenfell Tower tragedy as a chilling instance of those responsibilities. **We believe that every borough should have an ongoing programme of member training and development and that members should be provided with logistical and clerical support to help them deal with their workload.**

Barriers to being a councillor

It is important that obstacles to becoming a councillor should be removed wherever possible. Child care costs can be a significant deterrent to service as a councillor. **We repeat our strong view that in appropriate cases when they undertake their council duties, councillors should be entitled to claim an allowance for care of dependents. The dependents' carers' allowance should be set at the London living wage but (on presentation of proof of expense) payment should be made at a higher rate when specialist nursing skills are required.**

We also repeat our belief that members' allowances schemes should allow the continuance of Special Responsibility Allowances in the case of sickness, maternity and paternity leave in the same terms that the council's employees enjoy such benefits (that is to say, they follow the same policies).

Travel and Subsistence allowances

We continue to believe that the Basic Allowance should cover basic out-of-pocket expenses incurred by councillors, including intra-borough travel costs and expenses. The members' allowances scheme should, however, provide for special circumstances, such as travel after late meetings or travel by councillors with disabilities. The scheme should enable councillors to claim travel expenses when their duties take them out of their home borough, including a bicycle allowance.

Allowances for Mayor or Civic Head

Many councils include the allowances for the mayor (or civic head) and deputy in their members' allowance scheme. However these allowances do serve a rather different purpose from the 'ordinary' members' allowances, since they are intended to enable the civic heads to perform a ceremonial role. There are separate statutory provisions (ss 3 and 5 of the Local Government Act 1972) for such allowances and councils may find it convenient to use those provisions rather than to include the allowances in the members' allowance scheme.

Update for inflation

We continue to recommend that for a period of four years the allowances we recommend should be updated annually in accordance with the headline figure in the annual local government pay settlement.

We have been asked whether it is necessary for the annual updating to be formally authorised by the council each year. The Regulations do seem to make this obligatory.

Sir Rodney Brooke CBE DL

Steve Bundred

Anne Watts CBE

London 1 October 2017

Appendix A

Basic allowance £11,045

Special responsibilities – beyond the basic allowance

The case for special allowances

The reasons for payment of additional special responsibility allowances should be clearly set out in local allowances schemes. Special allowances should come into play only in positions where there are significant differences in the time requirements and levels of responsibility from those generally expected of a councillor.

Calculation of special allowances

The proposed amounts for each band are a percentage of the figure suggested for a council leader depending upon levels of responsibility of the roles undertaken and are explained below. We believe that the SRA, which the previous panel recommended for the leader of a London council (updated), continues to be appropriate.

Categories of special allowances

The regulations specify the following categories of responsibility for which special responsibility allowances may be paid:

- Members of the executive where the authority is operating executive arrangements
- Acting as leader or deputy leader of a political group within the authority
- Presiding at meetings of a committee or sub-committee of the authority, or a joint committee of the authority and one or more other authorities, or a sub-committee of such a joint committee
- Representing the authority at meetings of, or arranged by, any other body
- Membership of a committee or sub-committee of the authority which meets with exceptional frequency or for exceptionally long periods
- Acting as spokesperson of a political group on a committee or sub-committee of the authority
- Membership of an adoption panel
- Membership of a licensing or regulatory committee

- Such other activities in relation to the discharge of the authority's functions as require of the member an amount of time and effort equal to or greater than would be required of him by any one of the activities mentioned above, whether or not that activity is specified in the scheme.

Local discretion

It is for the councils locally to decide how to allocate their councillors between the different bands, having regard to our recommendations and how to set the specific remuneration within the band. They must have regard to our recommendations. We believe these should have the merits of being easy to apply, easy to adapt, easy to explain and understand, and easy to administer.

BAND ONE

The posts we envisage falling within band one include:

- Vice chair of a service, regulatory or scrutiny committee
- Chair of sub-committee
- Leader of second or smaller opposition group
- Service spokesperson for first opposition group
- Group secretary (or equivalent) of majority group
- First opposition group whip (in respect of council business)
- Vice chair of council business
- Chairs, vice chairs, area committees and forums or community leaders
- Cabinet assistant
- Leadership of a strategic major topic
- Acting as a member of a committee or sub-committee which meets with exceptional frequency or for exceptionally long periods
- Acting as a member of an adoption panel where membership requires attendance with exceptional frequency or for exceptionally long periods
- Leadership of a specific major project.

Remuneration

We propose that band one special responsibility allowances should be on a sliding scale of between 20 – 30 per cent of the remuneration package for a council leader.

This would be made up as follows:

Basic allowance: £11,045

Band One allowance: £2,582 to £9,397

Total: £13,627 to £20,442

BAND TWO

The types of office we contemplate being within band two are:

- Lead member in scrutiny arrangements, such as chair of a scrutiny panel
- Representative on key outside body
- Chair of major regulatory committee e.g. planning
- Chair of council business (civic mayor)
- Leader of principal opposition group
- Majority party chief whip (in respect of council business).

Remuneration

We propose that band two allowances should be on a sliding scale between 40 – 60 per cent, pro rata of the remuneration package for a council leader.

This is made up as follows:

Basic allowance £11,045

Band two allowances: £16,207 to £29,797

Total: £27,252 to £40,842

BAND THREE

We see this band as appropriate to the following posts:

- Cabinet member
- Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board
- Chair of the main overview or scrutiny committee
- Deputy leader of the council

Remuneration:

We propose that band three allowances should be between 70 – 80 per cent pro rata of the remuneration package for a council leader.

This is made up as follows:

Basic allowance: £11,045

Band three allowance: £36,917 to £43,460

Total: £47,962 to £54,505

BAND FOUR

Leader of cabinet

This is a full-time job, involving a high level of responsibility and includes the exercise of executive responsibilities. It is right that it should be remunerated on a basis which compares with similar positions in the public sector, while still retaining a reflection of the voluntary character of public service.

Remuneration:

We propose that the remuneration package for a council leader under band four of our scheme should be £68,130.

This is made up as follows:

Basic allowance: £11,045

Band four allowance: £57,085.

Total: £68,130

BAND FIVE

Directly elected mayor

A directly elected mayor has a full-time job with a high level of responsibility and exercises executive responsibilities over a fixed electoral cycle. It is right that it should be remunerated on a basis which compares with similar positions in the public sector, while still retaining a reflection of the voluntary character of public service. However we believe this post remains different to that of the strong leader with cabinet model. The directly elected mayor is directly elected by the electorate as a whole. The strong leader holds office at the pleasure of the council and can be removed by the council. We believe that the distinction is paramount and this should be reflected in the salary level.

Remuneration:

We propose that a directly elected mayor should receive a remuneration package of 25 per cent higher than that recommended for a council leader and that it should be a salary set at **£85,162**.

Appendix B

On behalf of the community – a job profile for councillors

Purposes:

1. To participate constructively in the good governance of the area.
2. To contribute actively to the formation and scrutiny of the authority's policies, budget, strategies and service delivery.
3. To represent effectively the interests of the ward for which the councillor was elected, and deal with constituents' enquiries and representations.
4. To champion the causes which best relate to the interests and sustainability of the community and campaign for the improvement of the quality of life of the community in terms of equity, economy and environment.
5. To represent the council on an outside body, such as a charitable trust or neighbourhood association.

Key Tasks:

1. To fulfil the statutory and local determined requirements of an elected member of a local authority and the authority itself, including compliance with all relevant codes of conduct, and participation in those decisions and activities reserved to the full council (for example, setting budgets, overall priorities, strategy).
2. To participate effectively as a member of any committee or panel to which the councillor is appointed, including related responsibilities for the services falling within the committee's (or panel's) terms of reference, human resource issues, staff appointments, fees and charges, and liaison with other public bodies to promote better understanding and partnership working.
3. To participate in the activities of an outside body to which the councillor is appointed, providing two-way communication between the organisations. Also, for the same purpose, to develop and maintain a working knowledge of the authority's policies and practices in relation to that body and of the community's needs and aspirations in respect of that body's role and functions.
4. To participate in the scrutiny or performance review of the services of the authority, including where the authority so decides, the scrutiny of policies and budget, and their effectiveness in achieving the strategic objectives of the authority.
5. To participate, as appointed, in the area and in service-based consultative processes with the community and with other organisations.

6. To represent the authority to the community, and the community to the authority, through the various forums available.
7. To develop and maintain a working knowledge of the authority's services, management arrangements, powers/duties, and constraints, and to develop good working relationships with relevant officers of the authority.
8. To develop and maintain a working knowledge of the organisations, services, activities and other factors which impact upon the community's well-being and identity.
9. To contribute constructively to open government and democratic renewal through active encouragement of the community to participate generally in the government of the area.
10. To participate in the activities of any political group of which the councillor is a member.
11. To undertake necessary training and development programmes as agreed by the authority.
12. To be accountable for his/her actions and to report regularly on them in accessible and transparent ways.

Appendix C

The independent panel members

Sir Rodney Brooke CBE DL had a long career in local government, including as chief executive of West Yorkshire County Council, Westminster City Council and the Association of Metropolitan Authorities. He was knighted in 2007 for his contribution to public service.

Steve Bundred was chairman of Monitor, chief executive of the Audit Commission and chief executive of the London Borough of Camden.

Anne Watts CBE has an extensive career in equality and diversity and governance that spans the private, voluntary and public sectors with organisations including the Open University, the University of Surrey, the Commission for Equality and Human Rights and Business in the Community. She chaired the Appointments Commission.

LONDON COUNCILS 2017

Remuneration of Members

Report of the Independent Panel on Members' Allowances

Introduction

1. The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 ('the Regulations') authorise the establishment by the Association of London Government (now *London Councils*) of an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations in respect of the members' allowances payable by London boroughs. Such a Panel was established and reported in 2001, 2003, 2006, 2010 and 2014. It will report again in 2017.
2. In 2004 the Panel, acting under Regulation 6 of the Regulations, made recommendations on the allowances to be paid to the elected officers of the Association of London Government. The Panel's recommendations were accepted with only slight amendment. The Panel met again in 2006 and made further recommendations about changes in the scheme. In 2010 and 2014 the Panel recommended further minor modifications, which were accepted. The Panel continued to recommend that the allowances should be updated annually in line with the local government staff pay settlement.
3. The Panel has been re-constituted and now comprises Sir Rodney Brooke CBE DL (Chair), Steve Bundred and Anne Watts CBE. We have considered whether any change in circumstances warrants a change to the remuneration scheme.

Principles

4. The Panel continues to base its conclusions on the principles enunciated in 2004:
 - Those who contribute as London councillors to the work of *London Councils* should be remunerated along the same lines and in accordance with the same principles as members of London boroughs.
 - The level of special responsibility allowances should be such as will properly reflect the time commitment and expertise required to fulfil these roles.
 - *London Councils* remains an important representative body.
 - Financial reward is and should not be the motivation for service on *London Councils*, but equally its scheme of allowances must make it economically

possible for the organisation to draw on a wide range of councillors across the political spectrum.

5. We have sought the views of the Leaders of London Councils and of the Chief Executive. They concur that the scheme is fit for purpose and requires no change. We accept their advice.
6. We are mindful of the current economic climate and the severe constraints it places on the finances of local government. Because of this climate, in recent years *London Councils* members have not accepted the pay increases negotiated for local government staff. As a result, the allowances paid are below the level which they would have reached had the increases been accepted.
7. Recognising the long-term inadvisability of allowing members' allowances to decline in real terms, we believe that the allowances should be updated to include the pay increases negotiated for local government staff. We recognise that members may choose not to accept such increases but believe that it is important that they should be formally approved if only to set a base line for the future. The schedule to this report sets out the levels of remuneration which we recommend.
8. Our previous recommendations remain in place – no member should receive more than one allowance and allowances should continue to be updated annually in line with the staff pay settlement.
9. We therefore recommend the allowance set out in the appendix below.

Rodney Brooke
Steve Bundred
Anne Watts

1 October 2017

Appendix

	Amount recommended ¹	Amount taken ²
Executive		
Chair	£22,068	£20,997
Deputy Chair, Vice-Chair and other Executive members with portfolios	£11,034	£10,499
without portfolio	£5,519	£5,250
Party Group Policy Leads	£2,759	£2,625
Grants Committee		
Chair	£11,034	£10,499
Grants Vice-Chair	£2,759	£2,625
Transport and Environment Committee		
Chair	£11,034	£10,499
Vice-Chair	£2,759	£2,625
Greater London Employers' Forum		
Chair	£11,034	£10,499
Vice-Chair	£2,759	£2,625
Audit Committee Chair	£5,519	£5,250
Capital Ambition Chair	£5,519	£5,250
Lead member for Equalities	£5,519	£5,250
Whip	£5,519	£5,250

¹ The 2014 figure increased in each year since by the local government officers' pay award

² The amount taken by members has remained the same since 2014

DRAFT

Executive

Devolution and Public Service Reform Item No 6

Report by: Doug Flight **Job title:** Head of Strategic Policy

Date: 14 November 2017

Contact Officer: Doug Flight

Telephone: 020 7934 9805 **Email:** Doug.flight@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Summary:

This paper reports on London government's work on devolution and public service reform – including updates regarding the progress against the Memorandum of Understanding with Government on further devolution to London, particularly in relation to:

- Business Rates retention
- Adult Education Budget and progress towards wider skills devolution
- The London Work and Health Programme
- Industrial and Economic Development Strategy
- Health devolution
- Devolution of the Criminal Justice Service
- Housing devolution

Members of the Executive are asked to:

- Consider and comment on the progress of London government's work on devolution and reform.
 - Provide guidance on shaping the next stage of London's negotiations with Government.
-

Devolution and Public Service Reform

Introduction

1. London Borough Leaders have driven a programme of work in pursuit of devolution and reform of public services in London, working closely in partnership with the Mayor of London and the GLA. This led to a programme of joint action that being taken forward following the Mayor's Devolution Summit in July 2016, followed by an agreement between Government, the Mayor of London and London Councils of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for further devolution to London, announced as part of the Spring Budget in March 2017.
2. The MoU provides a platform for work by the Government, the GLA and London Councils to bring forward devolution of additional powers, freedoms and flexibilities for London government. The key themes for further devolution to London agreed in the MoU include the development and funding of infrastructure through a Development Rights Auction Model, a commitment to explore business rates retention, investment to tackle urban traffic congestion, and commitments to further health, housing, criminal justice, skills and employment devolution. The Chair of London Councils and the Mayor will be meeting Ministers on this agenda throughout the devolution process.
3. A Member Devolution Group comprising the Mayor of London and lead members of London Councils was established in September 2016, and met twice with the Mayor of London to help progress further devolution to London. This joint work is now being taken forward under the auspices of the Congress of Leaders and Congress Executive. The Congress of the Mayor of London and Leaders last met on 10 October 2017 to consider the opportunity for London to pilot full business rates devolution from April 2018 and to note progress towards the London devolution agreement with Government.
4. This paper provides an update on London government's continuing negotiations with Government in relation to the MoU and wider devolution issues, in particular the following areas:-
 - Business Rates retention
 - Adult Education Budget and progress towards wider skills devolution
 - London Work and Health Programme
 - Industrial Strategy

- Health devolution
- Devolution of the Criminal Justice Service
- Housing devolution

Business Rates

5. At Leaders' Committee in October 2017, Leaders agreed to support in principle an application to Government for a London-wide business rates pilot pool for 2018/19 and that in the event that the pilot pool continues, it should not last for more than two years (i.e. beyond 2019/20) without a positive recommitment by all participating authorities. It was also agreed that proposals should be developed (subject to further legal advice) by which the boroughs delegate authority to a new joint committee of Leaders and the Mayor to agree the allocation of strategic investment resources to specific projects in accordance with the principles and voting arrangements to be contained within the agreed framework for operating the pool.
6. A report regarding the London-wide business rates pilot pool for 2018/19 is included as a separate agenda item.

Skills Devolution

7. London government is continuing to make the case for skills devolution, based on the need for the national system to be more responsive to employer demand and to provide inclusive opportunities for all learners and businesses in London. The process of leaving the EU will provide a series of challenges and opportunities that support the case for a more agile and responsive skills system in London.
8. As part of the Spring Budget MoU on further devolution to London, the Government reiterated its commitment to devolving the Adult Education Budget (AEB) to the Mayor of London by 2019/20, subject to a series of readiness conditions. Progress towards concluding the AEB devolution deal between Government and the Mayor has been slow, with delays occurring due to the general election earlier this year and a lack of clarity around the readiness conditions associated with the deal. The Mayor of London and Chair of London Councils recently met with the Secretary of State for Education and pressed her to inject pace and resources into the AEB devolution process.

9. Devolution of the AEB remains scheduled to start in 2019/20. Discussions around joint governance arrangements between the GLA and London boroughs are underway, with the GLA proposing that London Councils portfolio holder and each sub-regional lead member for skills are represented on an Adult Education Budget (AEB) Programme Board that will directly advise the Mayor on decisions around the AEB. Further discussions are taking place between London Councils, GLA and sub-regions to explore the sub-regional role in governance. The aim is to put a paper outlining proposal to Leaders' Committee in December. The Government will need to formally consult on AEB devolution with London boroughs and the London Assembly. This is due to take place during February and March 2018.
10. As agreed at the Congress of the Mayor of London and Leaders on 10 October 2017, London Councils and the GLA are putting together a joint letter and paper to Government on proposals for how the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) should operate and how it might be used in the capital. The UKSPF will replace European Structural and Investment Funds, worth around £580m over the current programme (2014-2020).
11. Work is also underway to consider how best to commission and measure the impact of Adult and Community Learning (ACL) services in London as part of a devolved skills system, which are primarily managed and/or provided by London boroughs. Services are also working sub-regionally to consider how best to collaborate to make ACL services more efficient and effective, building on recommendations from the ACL review completed last year.

Work and Health Programme

12. The devolved Work and Health Programme (WHP) will provide employment support for Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) or Employment and Support claimants with long term health conditions and disabilities, as well as JSA claimants who have been unemployed for two years or more. London's sub-regions will receive devolved funding from the DWP worth up to £70m over five years. This is being match-funded by an additional £65m from the European Social Fund, to support London's 50-55,000 long term unemployed and people with disabilities and health conditions to seek employment.
13. The procurement of the Programme is currently on track, with all sub-regions expecting to announce successful providers by December 2017 and for each programme to have

started by the end of March 2018. London Councils, sub-regions and Jobcentre Plus/DWP are also developing a joint approach to generating sufficient and suitable referrals to the WHP.

Industrial and Economic Development Strategy

14. London Councils and the GLA both responded to the Government's Industrial Strategy Green Paper, shortly before the General Election was announced. Both responses made the case for further and wider devolution and a place-based strategy that would benefit both the Capital and the UK as a whole.
15. Given the Government's commitment in the Queen's Speech to create a modern industrial strategy, there may be further opportunities for London Councils to work in partnership with the Mayor of London as the Strategy develops. It is anticipated that the Government will publish its Industrial Strategy White Paper in late November or December 2017, after the Autumn Budget announcement.
16. The Mayor's Economic Development Strategy and wider revamped London Plan may provide opportunities to make the case for inclusive growth in the capital as well as securing the powers and responsibilities that London boroughs will need to achieve increased productivity. London Councils will work closely with the boroughs and sub-regional partnerships to engage with the development of the Mayor's Economic Development Strategy and subsequent London Plan.

Health Devolution

17. Members will be aware that London partners (including London Councils, GLA, NHS England, Public Health England and the London office of CCGs) are working with No. 10 and the Department of Health to finalise a health devolution MoU that will facilitate the next steps of the Health collaboration agreement made with Government in December 2015. The MoU will be an enabling document allowing local areas to opt-in to detailed devolution proposals that build on learning from the London pilots on integration, prevention and reinvestment of capital estate receipts.
18. Final drafting revisions, most notably around prevention and capital receipts from estates, have been agreed by London Partners and a proposed Memorandum of

Understanding (MoU) has been sent to Ministers for consideration. Ministers' collective agreement process is underway at the time of writing and we expect a finalised MoU to be agreed before the Autumn Budget. A verbal update on progress towards the final MoU will be provided at the meeting.

19. The agreement of a MoU between Government and London partners is an important stage in the health devolution process that should enable a more preventative, integrated health system to be delivered locally in London. This is linked to London's wider health and social care transformation aspirations, such as improved effectiveness of partnership working between health services and local government as well as deeper integration of health and care systems.

Criminal Justice Devolution

20. The overarching MoU on devolution to London included a commitment to agree a specific MoU towards criminal justice devolution. The aim of the criminal justice devolution agreement will be to support collaborative working towards better outcomes for London's victims, witnesses, and youth, female and adult offenders, as well as taking positive steps to reduce reoffending in the capital. The Secretary of State for Justice reaffirmed the Government's commitment to progress the MoU in his recent response to a joint letter from the Mayor and Chair of London Councils following the General Election.
21. A series of meetings between MOPAC, London Councils and Ministry of Justice officials is currently underway to explore the scope of the criminal justice MoU, with the aim of reaching a position where a formal agreement could be concluded by January 2018. At Leaders' Committee in October 2017, Leaders agreed to delegate authority to approve the final terms of the MoU to the three London Councils' member representatives on the London Crime Reduction Board (Chair, Executive Member for Crime and Public Protection, and Conservative Group Lead for Crime and Public Protection).
22. Potential areas of devolution have been identified in order to develop a more bespoke criminal justice service for London through the MoU. These include: greater flexibility to drive pooled investment in prevention and rehabilitation services; redesign of the management, accountability and responsiveness of future London community rehabilitation contracts; provision of more specialised victims and witness services in London; the development of a more consistent, whole system approach to youth justice

including better alignment of commissioning and distribution of funding; and greater diversion of funding to support rehabilitation of female offenders in the community.

23. The MoU has the potential to deliver a range of benefits, both in terms of an improved criminal justice service at a London level, as well as direct benefits for boroughs in their wider work to reduce crime and improve public safety. Benefits could range from the establishment of a regional position on Integrated Offender Management, which would present opportunities for boroughs to link to Through the Gate provision and integrate with local housing and employment services, to direct involvement in the development of more effective and targeted alternatives to custody for London's female offenders.
24. Regular reports have been provided throughout the development of this work to the London Crime Reduction Board, which is set to play a key role in providing oversight of a more devolved and integrated criminal justice system in London following the MoU.

Housing

25. On 14 September 2017 DCLG published a consultation on the assessment of local housing need that proposes a series of new methodologies based on household growth information. As anticipated, this radically increases the housing need figure for London to 72,000 homes per annum. The increases are far from uniform across the capital as some boroughs see reductions to their targets whereas others, such as LBs Merton and Greenwich, would experience increases of 468 and 847 per cent respectively.
26. London Councils will be submitting a detailed response to the consultation, which closes on 9 November 2017. At the time of writing, the response highlights concerns regarding the way that the assessment of need has been calculated and how this has resulted in large scale increases in the targets set, as well as concerns about the centralisation of policy for housing delivery.
27. The expectation of Government that London increases its housing delivery from 20-25,000 to 72,000 homes per annum is unrealistic at present unless Government addresses the timescale in which increased capacity is to be delivered. Further powers to support land assembly in London will also be required, as will greater flexibility in the use of local authority funds.
28. The ability to generate land value capture on major infrastructure projects in London and the provision of improved transport links will be critical to increasing housing

supply. The Government needs to clarify its investment in projects such as Crossrail 2 and the Bakerloo Line Extension in order for boroughs to deliver increased levels of housing. Even given these changes, it will take time to ramp up delivery to the types of level currently expected from DCLG under the consultation proposals.

Conclusion

29. Following the General Election and in the run-up to the Autumn Budget 2017, London government has continued to engage in devolution negotiations with the aim of securing further progress in the areas highlighted in the MoU and in relation to wider devolution ambitions. London local government will also want to be prepared for new opportunities to secure devolution that may emerge in the period ahead, for example through the development of the Industrial Strategy and other areas of public service reform. This will require an agile approach at borough, sub-regional and pan-London levels. The Chair of London Councils and the Mayor will be meeting Ministers on this agenda throughout the devolution process.

30. The discussion under this agenda item will provide Executive with the opportunity to:

- Consider and comment on the progress made to date on in advancing London Government's joint work on devolution and public reform.
- Provide guidance on shaping the next stage of London's negotiations with Government.

Background Papers

Financial implications for London Councils

None

Legal implications for London Councils

None

Equalities implications for London Councils

There are no direct equalities implications for London Councils as a result of this paper.

However, core elements of the propositions are targeted at improving outcomes for groups of people with protected characteristics, notably improving employment outcomes for disabled people.

Executive

Audited Accounts 2016/17

Item no: 7

Report by: David Sanni **Job title:** Head of Financial Accounting
Date: 14 November 2017
Contact Officer: David Sanni
Telephone: 020 7934 9704 **Email:** david.sanni@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Summary This report presents the audited statement of accounts for 2016/17 for adoption and compares the results to the pre-audited position reported to the Executive at their meeting held on 20 June 2017.

Recommendations The Executive is asked:

- to note the changes between the pre-audited and audited financial outturn for 2016/17 for each of London Councils' three committees; and
- to formally adopt each of the three statutory accounts attached at Appendices A to C.

Audited Accounts 2016/17

Introduction

1. At its meeting on 20 June 2017, the Executive was informed of the provisional pre-audited consolidated financial outturn of London Councils for the year ended 31 March 2017. The external auditors, KPMG, completed their work on the financial accounts and have issued unqualified opinions on all three accounts. This report summarises the differences identified between the pre audited and audited figures and provides members with a brief explanation of the changes. London Councils' Audit Committee approved the audited accounts at its meeting on 21 September 2017.

Audited Accounts

2. The audited accounts are included at appendices A to C of this report. Table 1 below compares the pre-audited and audited net surplus for the year (including the transfer to/from reserves) for each of the three accounts.

Table 1 – Comparison of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement pre-audited and audited Net Surplus for 2016/17

Accounts	Pre-Audited (£000)	Audited (£000)	Difference (£000)
Joint Committee	(883)	(532)	351
Grants Committee	(517)	(517)	-
TEC	(1,644)	(715)	929
Total	(3,044)	(1,764)	1,280

3. The reason for the movements are as follows:
 - Joint Committee – the decrease in the pre-audited surplus is attributable to a provision of £333,000 for the potential shortfall in funding in relation to the borough ESF funded programme services, which was first reported to the Executive in March 2016 and relates primarily to the 2013-15 ESF programme. In addition, there is a decrease of £19,000 in core Joint Committee income to adjust for invoices incorrectly recognised in 2016/17 offset by a rounding difference of £1,000.
 - TEC – the decrease in the pre-audited surplus is attributable to the TEC sub-committee's approval of the transfer of £734,000 to the 2020 Freedom Pass Re-issue Reserve at its meeting on 20 July 2017 and an increase in current liabilities of £195,000 to bring the historic accounting treatment of adjudicators' fees in line with

generally accepted accounting practice. The fees were previously recognised in the financial year that they were paid rather than the year the service was provided.

4. Table 2 below compares the pre-audited and audited level of reserves (excluding the Pension and Accumulated Absences Reserves) as at 31 March 2017 for each of the three funding streams.

Table 2 – Comparison of pre-audited and audited reserves as at 31 March 2017

Accounts	Pre-Audited (£000)	Audited (£000)	Difference (£000)
Joint Committee	5,769	5,417	(352)
Grants Committee	2,017	2,018	1
TEC	5,270	5,075	(195)
Total	13,056	12,510	(546)

5. The difference between the decrease in reserves of £546,000 and the decrease in the total revenue surplus for the year of £1.28 million (Table 1) is due to the transfer of £734,000 to the 2020 Freedom Pass Re-issue Reserve.

Annual Governance Statement

6. An Annual Governance Statement (AGS) is included in the audited accounts in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code) and guidance issued by CIPFA/SOLACE. The AGS was approved by London Councils Audit Committee at its meeting on 22 June 2017. KPMG reviewed the AGS as part of their audit work and concluded that it complies with the requirements of the Code and relevant guidance.

Financial Implications for London Councils

The financial implications are incorporated into the report

Legal Implications for London Councils

None

Equalities Implications for London Councils

None

Appendices

Appendix A - Consolidated Statement of Accounts of London Councils Joint Committee for 2016/17

Appendix B – Statement of Accounts of London Councils Grants Committee for 2016/17

Appendix C – Statement of Accounts of London Councils Transport and Environment Committee for 2016/17

Background Papers

Final Accounts working files 2016/17

London Councils' Executive Report on Consolidated Pre-Audited Financial Results 2016/17 of 20 June 2017



LONDON COUNCILS JOINT COMMITTEE
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

LONDON COUNCILS - JOINT COMMITTEE

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NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Review of the year

About London Councils

London Councils represents London's 32 borough councils and the City of London.

It is a cross-party organisation that works on behalf of all of its member authorities regardless of political persuasion.

London Councils makes the case to government, the Mayor and others to get the best deal for Londoners and to ensure that our member authorities have the resources, freedoms and powers to do the best possible job for their residents and local businesses.

London Councils runs a number of direct services for member authorities including the Freedom Pass, Taxicard and Health Emergency Badge. It also supports an independent parking appeals service and a pan-London grants programme for voluntary organisations.

London Councils acts as a catalyst for effective sharing among boroughs – be that ideas, good practice, people, resources, or policies and new approaches.

The strategic direction of London Councils is set by its Leaders' Committee, which comprises the Leaders and directly elected Mayors of all of London's local authorities. There is also a cross-party Executive, which guides the organisation's day-to-day work.

A Focal Point for London Local Government

Member authorities do, of course, have their own relationships with pan-London organisations and in particular with the Mayor and the GLA. There are, however, a range of issues where the Mayor, the GLA and other pan-London organisations seek to establish collective negotiation and dialogue with London's boroughs. On these issues, London Councils acts as the focal point for representing borough interests – informed by the political and professional networks that we run. We then enable that information to be shared and disseminated quickly with member boroughs.

To ensure that our member authorities have influence in the decisions made at pan-London level that impact on them and the communities they serve, London Councils is engaged in a series of collaborative mechanisms for shaping the way issues are taken forward across London. Working with the Mayor and other London partners, London Councils nominates – on a cross party basis – members to serve on boards such as:

- London Crime Reduction Board
- London Enterprise Action Partnership
- London Health Board
- Homes for London Board
- London Waste and Recycling Board

Some of these have statutory underpinning. The overall progress of these is monitored jointly by the Mayor and borough Leaders. The Mayor and borough Leaders meet twice a year in the Congress of Mayor and Leaders; and the London Councils Executive – augmented by sub-regional partnership representatives – meet with the Mayor in the Congress Executive.

In addition, London Councils ensures that the London local government perspective is part of policy development at national level by, for example, organising a full set of ministerial meetings and senior official discussions, and also by promoting ideas and policies at each of the party conferences.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

London Councils was also instrumental in establishing the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for London, originally in May 2015, set up to promote London in the interests of all of its people, places and businesses as a global city and powerhouse of the economy. Since then the APPG for London has met regularly to explore a London approach to key areas of the devolution agenda, housing, transport, welfare and infrastructure, including transport and connectivity. London Councils provides the secretariat to the group on behalf of London government, including the Mayor of London.

Devolution and Public Service Reform

For a number of years now, London Councils, in partnership with the Mayor and the boroughs, has worked with partners across London and beyond, to promote the benefits of further devolution of a range of powers, resources and responsibilities, to better meet the challenges of a growing city and ongoing fiscal restraint.

London Councils has been in the vanguard of the devolution debate; supporting the Mayor of London's London Finance Commission, jointly commissioning the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufacturers and Commerce (RSA) City Growth Commission with the Core Cities, Local Government Association and Greater London Authority (GLA), and working closely with the GLA on the London Growth Deal and subsequent devolution negotiations with government.

The government also agreed the ambition that local government should retain 100 per cent of growth in the business rates that it collects by 2020 and London Councils has been leading work to translate these ambitions into a set of principles that can underpin discussions with government on a devolved approach to setting, collecting and managing business rates in the capital.

A significant further step in the journey towards devolution was taken by the government in March when the Chancellor announced, as part of the spring budget, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on further devolution to London. London Councils was a signatory to that MoU.

It signalled the government's agreement to London Government – the boroughs and the Mayor – receiving additional responsibilities over: transport, health, criminal justice, skills and employment support in the capital.

Resources

Ensuring our member authorities have the resources to secure the services their residents need, while continuing to support the capital as a national asset, is central to London Councils' work. Our Finance, Procurement and Performance team work with Treasurers and others across the capital to make the case for boroughs to be sufficiently resourced in terms of both specific funding streams and their overall resources base, including through locally raised taxes. In 2016/17, we:

- Continued lobbying for the retention of business rates for London – London Councils has engaged with central government and the DCLG/LGA working groups around design of reforms for 100 per cent retention of growth in business rates. The government has responded positively to the joint London Government proposals and committed, as part of the wider memorandum of understanding on devolution to London, in Spring Budget 2017 to exploring options for granting London government greater powers and flexibilities over the administration of business rates, including exploring the piloting of a London business rates pool in 2018/19.
- Lobbied for specific recognition of pressures in London following the business rates revaluation – including through the consultation on the transitional relief arrangements. The government subsequently announced additional funding through a local discretionary fund, with £124 million of the national funding (£300 million) coming to London over five years.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Lobbied for adult social care funding pressures to be fully funded at the 2016 Autumn Statement. In Budget 2017, the government announced that it had found an additional £2 billion nationally for adult social care over the next four years, announced in Budget 2017, of which London's share is £316 million. While this is unlikely to be enough to fully fund adult social care pressures in London, it reflects the fact that lobbying arguments proposed by the LGA, ADASS, London Councils and others about the adult social care funding pressures were recognised by government.
- Led the lobby to protect all schools from reductions in funding as a result of the new schools funding formula, up to a potential £245 million. The government subsequently published draft proposals with additional funding and protections, leading to significantly lower funding reductions for London than expected. Further extensive lobbying to ensure that a new funding formula should not leave any individual school facing a reduction in cash resources was undertaken. Further protections and commitments to education funding were subsequently included in the main parties' manifestos ahead of the 2017 General Election.
- As part of assisting and supporting borough finance teams, London Councils continued to produce a range of analysis and tools for boroughs to use as part of their financial planning.

Economic Development

London's local authorities play a vital role in promoting and sustaining the economic health of their communities, supporting local businesses and helping Londoners to gain the skills needed to thrive in a competitive and fast moving jobs environment. London's economy is vital to the national interest. London Councils has been making the case to government that further devolution of resources and responsibilities is key to unlocking the potential of London's communities and local economies to support national growth. In 2016/17, we:

- Negotiated the transfer of £70 million funding from government to boroughs working in sub-regional partnerships for the Work and Health Programme in London. London boroughs will design, commission and programme manage this devolved programme in London, which will support up to 55,000 Londoners.
- Secured Co-Financing Organisation (CFO) status for four lead boroughs for the European Social Fund (ESF) by getting government to change the national criteria. This will enable the London boroughs to add £65 million of ESF to the devolved Work and Health Programme in London, almost doubling the funding available.
- Supported boroughs and the sub-regions in the design and commissioning of the Work and Health Programme, including holding three market engagement and networking events attended by around 300 people.
- Secured commitment from the government for further discussions around reform and alignment of activities around employment, apprenticeships and careers in London, as part of the devolution Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in March 2017.
- Secured commitment from the Deputy Mayor to the principle of joint governance of a devolved skills system in London and a series of joint activities between the Greater London Authority (GLA) and boroughs to prepare for skills devolution, should a deal be agreed.
- Supported the boroughs and sub-regions to jointly lead the Further Education (FE) and Adult Community Learning (ACL) reviews in London and oversee the implementation of the review's recommendations.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Lobbied the government on its proposals for the apprenticeship levy and related public sector targets. The government maintained the uplift in funding for apprentices from disadvantaged areas.
- Held the London Borough Apprenticeship Awards to celebrate the achievements of apprentices in the London and achieved good publicity for this and developed a film showing London boroughs as a positive career choice for apprenticeships that is being used as a promotional tool by boroughs.
- Continued to lobby around the re-balancing of Arts Council England (ACE) funding away from London and to the regions. ACE announced a standstill settlement for London for 2018-22.
- Organised a major conference on the value of culture, as part of the London Culture Forum, attracting over 120 delegates.
- Held the fourth Small Business Friendly Borough Awards, in partnership with the FSB, that attracted the largest number of entries to date with 38 nominations from 23 boroughs.

Children's Services and Schools

London's boroughs have played a leading role in the transformation of education in the capital over the past 25 years, transforming the reputation of London's schools from among the worst performing schools of any region to the best in the country. The continued success of London's schools is all the more important given that the capital's young people enter a world of employment where they will compete against some of the world's best. London Councils works to support our member boroughs in ensuring young Londoners receive the education they need to succeed and works closely with groups, such as the Association of London Directors of Children's Services, on a wide range of issues in support of children, young people and their families. In 2016/17, we:

Led a highly effective and focused campaign based around a set of agreed 'asks'

- That all children receive a great education – every child in the country deserves this.
- That the government finds an additional £335 million for the schools that stand to lose through the National Funding Formula without taking money away from other schools.
- That the government revises the draft National Funding Formula to better reflect London's needs and to avoid a decrease in educational standards.

On school places, we:

- Published and briefed on Do the Maths 2016, our analysis of school places demand in the capital. London Councils demonstrated that a total of 110,365 new school places will be needed in London between 2016/17 and 2021/22 to meet forecast demand, consisting of 62,935 primary places and 47,430 secondary places. This is equivalent to creating 3,680 additional classes across London at an average rate of 600 new classes every single year.

On school funding, we coordinated and delivered a comprehensive campaign to seek greater funding protection for London schools that included:

- Responding to the two government consultations on the National Funding Formula (NFF) calling for all schools to be protected from cuts arising from the new formula.
- Working with the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry to alert London businesses of the threat that funding cuts to London schools could pose to economic growth in the capital.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Direct political engagement with DfE Ministers and officials to ensure London's message was heard at the highest level.
- Sending a joint letter with Core Cities UK to the Education Secretary urging the government to invest to ensure the introduction of the NFF does not result in funding cuts to individual schools.
- Campaigning to raise awareness of our concerns about the National Audit Office findings that schools face a real terms budget reduction in the coming years, as demographic growth and workforce costs place further pressure on a cash-flat budget.
- As secretariat for the APPG for London, helping organise two meetings for London MPs to discuss the impact of proposed budget cuts on London schools including with a panel of expert speakers from the education and business sectors.
- Our media team coordinated a high profile media campaign to focus on the issue of school funding in the capital that gained extensive coverage, including in: the Times Educational Supplement; the Financial Times; the Guardian; the Evening Standard, as well as on BBC News, Radio 4 and Channel 4 news.

London Councils' school funding campaign was successful in influencing the main parties' manifestos ahead of the general election 2017 to protect London's schools from the negative impact of the proposed NFF.

In addition, in support of children more widely, in 2016/17 we:

- Help boroughs coordinate humanitarian efforts to provide safety to several hundred unaccompanied minors in France to the UK, with several hundred new arrivals in London in the final few months of 2016.
- Led calls for the government to clarify funding support for newly arrived vulnerable children and ensure their smooth settlement in the UK, particularly in light of the fact that the capital is home to a third of children seeking asylum alone in England.

Young People's Education and Skills

London Councils hosts and supports the Young People's Education and Skills Board, the lead strategic body for 14 to 19 education and training in London, providing pan-London leadership for the current and future education and training needs of young people and employers. The board supports local authorities in undertaking their statutory functions and assists other stakeholders with planning, policy and provision.

Young People's Education and Skills works for London's boroughs and exists to guide and support them in developing their local strategic plans in tune with regional priorities. The board brings together key stakeholders from across London to help set the region's priorities to influence and shape the education provision on offer to young people. A small staff resource is based in London Councils to support the work generated by the board. In 2016/17 the team worked to further the board's key priorities to:

- Achieve full participation of everyone up to age 18.
- Continue implementation of ambitious reforms for young people with special educational needs and disabilities.
- Radically improve careers work.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

Achievements in 2016/17 included:

- The further dissemination of London Ambitions, in partnership with the Greater London Authority (GLA), to ensure that all young people have access to good careers education, information advice and guidance.
- Supporting local authorities in London to promote Apprenticeship opportunities in local government through sponsorship of Skills London, the capital's biggest jobs and careers event for young people.
- Working with the boroughs of Bromley and Enfield to support local authority colleagues with implementing significant special educational needs and disability reforms.
- Commissioning research into the progression of young Londoner's into Higher Education to support boroughs to widen participation and improve social mobility.

London Ambitions

Young people are three times more likely to spend significant periods of time not in education, employment or training (NEET) if they are uncertain or unrealistic about their career ambitions. Last year around 100,000 16-24 year-old Londoners found themselves in that position. That's why we want to ensure that every young person has at least 100 hours of experiences of the world of work by the time they are 16. We know schools and colleges cannot do this on their own, which is why London Ambitions works with London's employers to make sure they are engaged with developing and supporting careers curriculums and get involved in school and college leadership by becoming governors.

Every London borough now has a London Ambitions ambassador, the next step is to see every school and college in London committed to becoming a 'London Ambitions' school or college.

Health and Adult Care

Through their adult social care services, London boroughs provide vital help and support to enable residents to live their lives as fully, independently and safely as possible, despite illness or accidents, old age, disability or vulnerability. With social care costs set to account for £6 in every £10 spent by boroughs by 2019, London Councils has consistently made the case to government to properly fund these vital services. Ongoing reforms to the NHS, the introduction of the Care Act and the transfer of Public Health responsibilities to local authorities, all contribute to changing and highly pressured health and social care environment across the capital. In support of boroughs in 2016/17, we:

- Actively lobbied government for an immediate injection of new cash into adult social care, including a joint letter with the Association of Directors of Adult Services and the society of London Treasurers, with an additional £2 billion announced in the March Budget, of which £124 million will come to London
- Developed consensus around an agreed set of practical measures to promote greater integration of health and care across the capital at a faster rate
- On behalf of London boroughs we have worked with London health and care partners to ensure borough interests are at the heart of the agenda, in particular on the integration of health and care, and have set up and secured an influential voice at new London level partnership meetings.
- Secured commitment from government to publish a second health devolution agreement, also announced in the March Budget.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Lead the strategy to renew the uniquely successful London HIV Prevention Programme, now agreed for a further two years (until April 2019).
- Lobbied government and NHS England to ensure Pre Exposure Prophylaxis was commissioned by the NHS as a preventative treatment.

Policing and Crime

London Councils aims to ensure that the interests of Londoners, and their councils, are fully recognised in policing, in the development of community safety policies, and in the allocation of funding. In 2016/17, we:

- Ensured boroughs had a voice in the MPS's reform of local policing as part of 'One Met 2020'.
- Established a member-level Task and Finish Group to help influence a collaborative approach to taking forward MOPAC's changes to Crime Prevention funding.
- Worked with the London Community Rehabilitation Company to articulate boroughs' concerns and help shape a more locally responsive service.
- Published the London Gang Member Referral Guide, providing boroughs with a framework for councils and other agencies to effectively share information on gang members who move between boroughs.
- Continued to support and strengthen pan-London local authority emergency response and planning arrangements.
- Supported a collaborative approach, across boroughs, to preventing violent extremism, working through the relaunched London Prevent Board.
- Supported borough engagement in the London Crime Reduction Board and in particular in the development of the new Police and Crime Plan.
- Engaged with voluntary sector providers, MOPAC and the GLA to develop a joined-up approach to Women's refuge provision and practice.
- Backed boroughs in the development of the pan London housing reciprocal agreement to underpin support for women experiencing violence.
- Facilitated the exchange of best practice about tackling disproportionality in the youth justice system.
- Facilitated the exchange of best practice in understanding the links between violence and vulnerability and designing interventions.

Housing and Planning

London Councils has been at the forefront of highlighting the scale of London's housing crisis and supporting boroughs respond to that crisis – both in mitigating the impact on their communities and in controlling the costs of providing temporary accommodation to homeless and vulnerable households. In 2016/17 we:

- Responded to the government's Housing White Paper consultation outlining clearly the case for local government's central role in delivering the housing supply that London needs

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Responded to government consultation on capital finance regulations to make the case for allowing councils to retain Right to Buy receipts to invest in replacement homes.
- Demonstrated that allowing councils to retain 100 per cent of receipts would provide £450 million a year to invest in replacement homes.
- Called for red tape surrounding RTB receipts to be cut, to free up match funding opportunities.
- Appointed a contractor to help drive plans to boost housing across the capital by pooling skills and, where possible, resources to build more homes and maximise housing delivery through a Collaborative Delivery Vehicle.
- Lobbied against the introduction of 'pay to stay' proposals by government that would have adversely affected 28,000 London households. The government subsequently dropped pay to stay.
- Lobbied government throughout the passage of the Homelessness Reduction Bill, in particular that the costing estimates should be realistic and fully funded.
- Jointly with the Mayor of London pressed government to mitigate the impact of short term letting by ensuring short-term rentals comply with planning law. The market leader has now changed its terms in London to not allow users to flout the law.

Transport and Environment

London Councils works with boroughs and develops policy on a range of transport and environmental challenges affecting the capital, including strengthening local leadership for infrastructure investment and collaborating to allow boroughs to continue to provide services at current or improved levels at a time of ongoing fiscal constraint. In 2016/17, we:

- Established jointly with the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (Thames RFCC), the Environment Agency and local authorities in and outside London a new LLFA (Lead Local Flood Authority) Project Advisor Team fully funded by levy from the Thames RFCC. The team of five officers and a project leader will help councils deliver their existing schemes and help them secure further funding to better protect their communities from flooding.
- Influenced Defra's litter strategy and 25 year environment plan.
- Created opportunities for borough officers and members to influence mayoral strategies before consultation drafts were being published.
- Ensured that Local Implementation Plan (LIP) funding was protected for the current TfL Business Plan period until 2021.
- Achieved the re-classification of LIP funding from revenue to capital, ensuring greater flexibility of budgets for TfL and greater confidence in availability of funding for the boroughs.
- Undertook public polling on air quality issues, which has informed our understanding of Londoners perception and influenced our consultation responses.
- Gave evidence on the London bus network, congestion in London; and on the capital's green spaces.
- Supported and enabled the introduction of newly introduced fixed penalty notices for fly tipping at £400, the upper limit agreed by central government.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Secured a seconded officer to develop the Go Ultra Low City Scheme (GULCS) project proposals and invited expressions of interest from boroughs in installing chargepoints.

Produced a video on flood risk, raising awareness of the issue and what members of the public should do.

With regard to infrastructure in the London region, we improved joint working with the wider South East, including:

- Agreeing list of 13 transport projects for joint lobbying
- Holding a joint annual summit to discuss London's growth
- Sending a joint letter and subsequently meeting with the minister for housing and planning to discuss the barriers to housing delivery further
- Holding a successful event for boroughs highlighting the benefits of the wayleave toolkit developed by the City of London to speed up delivery of high speed broadband to businesses and homes
- Responding to the National Infrastructure Commission call for evidence on its National Infrastructure Assessment, reiterating, among other things, the importance of Crossrail 2 and other major transport infrastructure for London

Our Services

In addition to working on behalf of our member boroughs' interests across a range of areas, in some specific instances London Councils provides a number of direct services to Londoners and London organisations on behalf of member authorities.

Transport and Environment Services

London Councils works with London local authorities and others to support the provision of transport and environment services: In 2016/17 we:

- Secured the Local Implementation Plan funding settlement for boroughs to deliver transport priorities.
- Secured a reclassification of TfL funding for boroughs from revenue to capital, which enables TfL to pass on capital funding to boroughs.
- Provided a series of opportunities for boroughs to influence and 'co-create' policy for the new Mayoral transport and environment strategies.
- Undertook public polling research on air quality to inform our policy work.
- Secured a new officer resource working with the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee for London boroughs in developing capital projects to improve flood risk management.
- Secured a seconded officer to develop the Go Ultra Low City Scheme project proposals and invited expressions of interest from boroughs in installing chargepoints.
- Produced a short video explaining the risks of flooding for residents and businesses and how they can prepare.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Ensured boroughs' views are heard by Defra on its 25 year environment plan, the funding formula for new flood risk management capital projects, and littering penalties.
- Shared London's experience with Defra on littering from vehicles.
- Wrote to the Secretary of State for Transport supporting rail devolution.
- Contributed to the draft London Sustainable Drainage Action Plan.
- Responded to consultations on:
 - The Mayor's Phase 1 and 2 air quality consultations
 - Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee inquiry into disposable packaging
 - Department for Transport's Walking and Cycling Investment Strategy
 - Parliamentary Transport Select Committee inquiry into Urban Congestion
 - West End bus consultation
 - London Assembly Transport Committee investigation into bus networks and bus safety
 - Transport Select Committee Inquiry into the Rail Passenger Experience
 - London Assembly Transport Committee inquiry into Energy and fuel poverty
 - Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Heat Network Investment Project
 - Environmental Audit Committee call for evidence on Treasury policy on meeting recycling targets
 - London Assembly Transport Committee investigation into congestion in London
- Gave evidence to:
 - The London Assembly Environment Committee on green infrastructure and burst water mains
 - The London Assembly Transport Committee investigation on buses.

Freedom Pass

The Freedom Pass allows free travel across London and free bus journeys nationally for older and disabled Londoners. It has been funded by the boroughs since 1986 and is administered on their behalf by London Councils. In 2016/17, we:

- Negotiated and agreed the Freedom Pass settlement for the 2017/18 with Transport for London (TfL), successfully achieving an annual reduction in the settlement for the first time in the scheme's history.
- Successfully negotiated a further two year Freedom Pass settlement agreement with the Rail Delivery Group (RDG) until March 2019, subject to annual review and 6 months' notice, when RDG are ready to move to a journey-based model.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Negotiated and published the 2017/18 London Service Permit (LSP) Concessionary Scheme for Freedom Pass with local bus operators (non-TfL buses).
- Calculated and agreed the apportionment of 2017/18 Freedom Pass costs to boroughs.
- Completed the renewal of approximately 140,000 Freedom Passes which expired in March 2016.
- Implemented an online payment portal for replacement Freedom Passes.
- Retendered the Freedom Pass support services contract and agreed the award to the incumbent supplier.

Taxicard

The London Taxicard scheme provides subsidised door to door journeys in licensed taxis and private hire vehicles for London residents who have serious mobility or visual impairments. It is funded by the London boroughs and Transport for London and managed by London Councils on their behalf. In 2016/17, we:

- Implemented a charge of £10 for lost and damaged Taxicards and developed an online payment portal.
- Agreed TfL funding for Taxicard for 2017/18.
- Started the procurement process for the Taxicard delivery contract, working with TfL to jointly procure Taxi and PHV services for both Taxicard and Dial-a-Ride.
- As part of the joint procurement exercise and alignment of the schemes, carried out a consultation with all Taxicard members to help assess what changes might be made, receiving 15,000 responses (23 per cent).
- Responded to the London Assembly review of personal travel budgets for mobility schemes.

London Lorry Control Scheme

The London Lorry Control Scheme controls the movement of heavy goods vehicles over 18 tonnes maximum gross weight at night and at weekends. The scheme is in place to help minimise noise pollution in residential areas during unsocial hours through restricted use of these roads. In 2016/17, we:

- Continued to manage the London Lorry Control Scheme, issuing permits and enforcing to ensure compliance.
- Completed the retender of the back office case management computer system, which has involved the development of many system improvements and efficiencies.
- Commenced the most significant review of the London Lorry Control Scheme since its commencement over 30 years ago.
- As part of the review, formed a steering group and working group, held an operators' work shop event and completed an operator survey to help inform the review recommendations.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)**Traffic and Parking**

London Councils works to support the delivery of effective and consistent traffic and parking policies and operations in London. In 2016/17 we:

- Provided day-to-day advice and support to boroughs on a range of traffic and parking policy and enforcement issues, including the holding of relevant forums.
- Represented borough interests at the following groups and forums:
 - London Freight Forum and Freight Forum Steering Group
 - London Technical Advisors Group (LoTAG) Transport
 - TfL's Lane Rental Governance Committee
 - Local Authority Partnership
 - BPA – Local Authority Special Interest Group
 - London Tourist Coach Action Plan Group
 - London Automotive Forum
 - Urban Freight Working Group
- Worked on the updating of the parking code of practice for borough officers.
- Reviewed and updated the parking contravention codes list.
- Held Traffic Control Liaison Committee meetings between TfL and boroughs to discuss the implementation and maintenance of traffic signal and control equipment.
- Facilitated seminars, workshops and the sharing of good practice for the better coordination of Car Clubs across London.
- Led the Sharing Skilled Transport Staff initiative, helping to ensure better use of limited skilled resources across London.
- Helped facilitate discussions surrounding electric vehicle charging point agreements with boroughs.
- Provided debt registration services with the Traffic Enforcement Centre for the majority of London boroughs.
- Agreed the apportionment of traffic signal and control equipment maintenance costs to boroughs.
- Published a code of practice for the erection of traffic signs and lighting on buildings to allow boroughs and TfL to adopt new powers, which will make it easier for them to reduce street clutter.
- Worked with boroughs and the Source London contractor to ensure consistent contracts were agreed for the provision and maintenance of electric vehicle charging points across London.
- Worked with the GLA and TfL on the Go Ultra Low City Scheme (GULCS), which will significantly increase the number of on-street electric vehicle charge points in the capital.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Worked with the British Parking Association (BPA) to discuss the need for consistent open parking data standards.
- Lobbied for amendments to the proposed Parking Places (Variation of Charges) Bill, to minimise increased administrative burdens on London local authorities.
- Updated and published part 1 of the parking code of practice.
- Collated, analysed and published London-wide traffic and parking enforcement and appeals statistics.

Health Emergency Badge

The Health Emergency Badge (HEB) is for people involved in the delivery of primary healthcare attending medical emergencies in patients' homes. All London boroughs have agreed to the scheme, although it is not a mandatory provision and it is offered entirely at the discretion of London parking authorities. In 2016/17, we:

- Continued to operate the London Health Emergency Badge scheme, issuing parking waivers to eligible health workers to use in emergency situations.

TRACE

TRACE is online service for anyone whose vehicle may have been towed away for illegal parking by any council in London. The web service is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It is administered by London Councils on behalf of member authorities. In 2016/17, we:

- Continued to manage and operate the TRACE service, seeing a significant take up of the online portal rather than use the telephone service.

LEPT

The London European Partnership for Transport (LEPT) was established in 2006 to coordinate, disseminate and promote the sustainable transport and mobility agenda for London and London boroughs in Europe. One of LEPT's main roles is to identify, bid for and manage EU transport and mobility projects involving London boroughs which support their local priorities as well as fitting into the Mayor's Transport Strategy. In 2016/17, we:

- Submitted the final technical and financial reports for both STARS and PTP-Cycle projects in accordance with the contractual deadlines and received all final payments.
- Continued to monitor European funding and knowledge exchange opportunities, and briefed boroughs accordingly, disseminating six funding briefings (H2020, Interreg, Interreg NWE, LIFE, and URBACT & UIA).
- Coordinated a bid on digital personalised travel planning, entitled PTP-Commute, under the Horizon 2020 calls for proposals. The first stage bid was submitted on 25 January 2017. LEPT have since been informed that the first stage bid process was successful so work will continue into the second stage.
- Brokered a place for the London Borough of Croydon in H2020 calls for proposals. LEPT are awaiting a response in regards to whether the proposal was successful.
- Provided a letter of support as an associated partner of the ELeVATe project.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Gave briefings at nine sub regional partnership meetings, meaning 28 Boroughs updated in person by LEPT on ad hoc bidding and funding opportunities over the year.
- Attended EU workgroups, seminars and conferences on a wide variety of sustainable transport issues.
- Successfully applied for a seat on the POLIS (one of the EU's leading transport networks) Management Committee.

London Tribunals

London Tribunals (formerly the Parking and Traffic Appeals Service (PATAS)) was established by the Road Traffic Act 1991 to provide the administrative support to the Environment and Traffic Adjudicators. The service continues to provide this support under the Traffic Management Act 2004 and, since 2003, to the Road User Charging Adjudicators. London Tribunals also provides support for the hearing centre based at Chancery Exchange in Holborn. In 2016/17, we:

- Continued to provide the administrative support and infrastructure to the Environment and Traffic Adjudicators and Road User Charging Adjudicators to enable them to fulfil their statutory duties in relation to approximately 40,000 environment, parking and traffic appeals and 6,000 road user charging appeals.
- Completed the support service contract transition to ensure the new system and service provider are fully operational and meeting performance targets.
- Successfully retained the GLA contract for the provision of the RUCA service, following a competitive tender process.
- Restructured the administrative support services and appointed a new Head of Support Services to manage the day to day running of the tribunal support services.

London Boroughs Grants Programme

The London Councils Grants Programme, overseen by the Grants Committee, funds third sector organisations to deliver outcomes agreed by the boroughs

During 2016/17, the Grants Programme helped people affected by sexual and domestic violence to rebuild their lives:

- 629 sexual and domestic violence survivors were supported through emergency refuge provision and related outreach.
- 11,803 sexual and domestic violence survivors supported through counselling and advice.

The programme also helped homeless people and those at risk of homelessness:

- 10,873 young people at risk of homelessness were supported including 667 young people who were prevented from sleeping rough by accessing emergency accommodation.

2016/17 was the last year of the programme originally agreed in 2013. The performance of that programme was reviewed, based on a range of evidence sources and extensive consultation with boroughs and other stakeholders, as part of considering the future of the programme.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

Having carried out this evaluation, the Grants Committee recommended to the Leaders' Committee that there should be a new cycle of the Programme in 2017-21, that this should continue to address homelessness (priority 1), sexual and domestic violence (priority 2) and poverty - through employment (priority 3). It considered that capacity building in the third sector, priority 4 in the 2013-17 programme, could not be justified on value for money grounds for 2017-21, given the current severe constraints on local authorities' finances.

The Leaders' Committee agreed this recommendation and instructed officers to establish a new programme for 2017-21 on that basis.

Priority 3 (jointly funded by European Social Fund) was commissioned in summer 2016 and six projects are delivering in all boroughs in London.

Funding for priorities 1 and 2 was advertised in autumn 2016 and the Grants Committee made decisions on the awards to providers to start work in early 2017/18. London Councils is working with these providers to establish the new projects.

Reports on the performance of the Programme help proper scrutiny of services both at the London level and on a borough-by-borough basis. In addition, providers are expected to make their project visible to members and key officers in all boroughs.

In addition to priority 3, London Councils is establishing projects that are jointly funded by individual boroughs or partnerships of boroughs and ESF to help long-term unemployed and economically-inactive residents into employment and help people improve low skills. These are coming on stream in 2017.

London Care Services

London Care Services (LCS) is a subscription based scheme that negotiates the price of services for looked-after children and carries out due diligence checks on the providers. The services are then made available to subscribing boroughs through a single Model Contract. Currently, all 33 London boroughs and five other authorities subscribe. There are 76 providers and 123 services on the LCS Model Contract for 2017/18.

The Association of London Directors of Children's Services oversaw a review of LCS in 2016/17. This concluded that the bulk purchasing power of LCS was effective in providing value for money services for looked-after children to the boroughs. It decided that applications should be invited to potential new providers to join LCS. This will provide additional providers and services to subscribing authorities in 2017/18.

NOTIFY

NOTIFY is an IT system that enables boroughs to exchange information when one authority places a homeless household in temporary accommodation in another borough. Homeless households are at particular risk of missing out on health, education and social services and may at times have to be placed in temporary accommodation at some distance from their original home. NOTIFY can ensure that households receive the services they need by notifying the relevant agencies when they move into, between and out of temporary accommodation.

NOTIFY has been reviewed by boroughs and London Councils is currently making changes to ensure the service is up to date with legislation and fulfils boroughs' related needs.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)**Capital Ambition**

London Councils is home to the Capital Ambition programme that has its roots in the regional improvement and efficiency partnership for London that invested around £34 million in funding for projects in all London local authorities between 2008 and 2013.

Since then, Capital Ambition has continued to oversee and support a wide range of innovative projects, programmes and workstreams to support local government improve outcomes for Londoners. Over the past year the programme has concentrated on the delivery of a number of key work streams, with a particular focus on the second phase of the London Ventures innovation partnership that is powered by EY and delivered by London Councils. .

Some of the key London Ventures achievements over the past year include:

- The successful award of the London Ventures contract to EY. With a contract worth £1 million there is a renewed focus, vision and ambition for the programme with a particular emphasis on trying to directly tackle some of London public services' most significant challenges.
- The launch of an additional six new general venture partners offering a wide range of innovative products and services that can improve service delivery and outcomes.
- The roll out of the targeted ventures programme, a focused strand of London Ventures seeking to address some of the key challenges and issues facing London local government. The first iteration of targeted ventures is addressing homelessness, temporary accommodation and housing.

Through the homelessness, temporary accommodation and housing targeted ventures process there have been a number of think tank sessions engaging with central government, local government, third sector, housing providers and private sector innovators and investors. An inaugural 'hackathon' in March 2017, involved a broad cross section of participants working collaboratively to share ideas, knowledge and existing best practice to address specific challenges around temporary accommodation and homelessness. The best concepts will be supported through the programme.

In addition to this the Capital Ambition Board continues to support London's local authorities by:

1. Testing the application of behavioural sciences to manage citizen demand and reducing the pressure on public services through working with the Behavioural Insights Team.
2. Supporting health and social care integration across London.

London Ventures Case Studies:**London Counter Fraud Hub**

The most recent estimates show that councils were defrauded of £2.1 billion each year nationwide, including £133 million in council tax discount fraud. Around £57 million of this was in London.

The amount of money boroughs and communities stand to gain from successful fraud recovery and prevention therefore is considerable.

The London Fraud Prevention Hub is a pan-London data exchange to ensure local authorities are making maximum use of their own records to fight fraud such as procurement deception, council tax evasion and illegal council housing tenancy sub-lets.

The hub matches local authorities' data with records held throughout the capital to prevent fraud and identify losses for investigation and recovery.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

Following a procurement originated and led by Ealing Council, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) has been appointed to provide data analytics for the London Counter Fraud Hub. The hub received a Department for Communities and Local Government grant to support its initial development and the contract with CIPFA will operate on a payment-by-results basis.

The London Ventures programme supported the development of the hub, including coordinating the signing of the memorandum of understanding among all the boroughs, supporting the development of the DCLG grant application and ongoing communications support.

Fiscal Technology

FISCAL Technologies Ltd. is a UK based company with more than 240 international customers.

All councils are exposed to potentially high levels of losses through overpayments and fraud. AP Forensics® is a preventative software solution which enables the Council's Accounts Payable team to perform comprehensive checks prior to payment. The software analyses accounts systems and highlights potential overpayments, supplier fraud, process errors and compliance issues.

Fiscal Technologies has already saved more than £25 million across 15 London councils since 2013.

The London Ventures programme has helped to provide boroughs with access to preferential rates.

Xantura Children's Safeguarding Profiling

Xantura's Children's Predictive Safeguarding Model brings together data from multiple agencies to identify children who are most at risk of neglect or abuse, and who were not previously known to the local authority, to help social workers intervene early.

The model brings together data from multiple agencies and applies risks scores to predict, for children under two years old, the likelihood of them being neglected or abused by the age of five. The entire system is used to support the professional judgement of social workers – not to override it. In the longer term this model should strengthen safeguarding across London's local authorities, help more families to have greater independence from intervention, and improve families' quality of life, while also cutting costs. Some key outcomes include:

- Improved access to multi-agency data, leading to increased efficiency in safeguarding teams, equating to circa £148,000.
- Identification of families and children at an earlier point than currently, leading to more targeted, effective interventions and a potential reduction in the number of safeguarding cases. This could amount to cost avoidance of over £700,000.
- Increased identification of Troubled Families. One LA has already identified almost 400 additional families to receive support through their TF programme. These increased efficiencies should offer savings of circa £122,000 from increased efficiency in Trouble Families (TF) teams.
- In Hackney, Xantura's profiling model has a positive predicted value of 81.5 per cent
- The London Ventures programme has helped with the development of the Children's Safeguarding Profiling model by piloting the service with a number of London borough.

London Self Improvement Board

London Councils encourages and co-ordinates mutual challenge and support between boroughs designed to help further improve performance through supporting the London Self Improvement Board (SIB).

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

The Board provides Leaders' Committee and the Chief Executives London Committee (CELC) with advice on putting robust tools and techniques in place to identify areas of key risk to performance across London local government and seeks to drive improvement. This is intended to trigger remedial action both within a London context and, if necessary, in partnership nationally with the Local Government Association (LGA).

London Councils and the LGA work together to ensure that the package of self-improvement and leadership support on offer in London brings together a complementary balance, of the national picture with London specific issues.

Since 2013, SIB has identified key risk areas where it wishes to concentrate its efforts; Adult Social Care, Children's Social Services and the overall financial and corporate health of individual authorities. London Councils provides a bridge between the professional networks that exist in these service areas to political networks and the political leadership of London local government. The SIB meeting process has helped to strengthen relationships between chief executives playing lead theme roles and leading members of professional networks in London.

Under the Board's direction, London Councils has helped to develop, review and challenge some of the hard and soft tools available for gathering and analysing performance information. The London Authority Performance Solution (LAPS) and Chief Executive to Chief Executive (CE2CE) and Treasurer to Treasurer (T2T) peer challenge processes are part of these developments.

SIB believes it is valuable for the sector to demonstrate a consistent approach to self-improvement and that councils are inviting a level of challenge from their peers to show that they are open to identifying performance challenges and acting upon them. These are the principles behind the CE2CE and T2T peer review programmes that London Councils manages on behalf of SIB and which continue to be highly valued, with participation rates increasing in both programmes last year.

We also continued to provide a highly regarded HR Metrics Service to the London local government HR community – with an overall review rating of 96 per cent in a mini-survey of member boroughs. The service was also shortlisted for two national PPMA Awards for Partnership and Innovation.

Procurement

London boroughs spend around £8 billion on purchasing goods and services from third parties and the London Procurement Strategy Board (LPSB) was formed by Leaders in 2010 to assess what opportunities exist to achieve greater savings by exploiting the significant purchasing power of London local government.

The LPSB acts as the governance board (when required) for London-wide procurement projects; reviews existing, and proposals for new, framework structures across London in order to support the development of a consistent and coherent approach; and provides a forum for sharing expertise, learning and good practice between London local authorities.

The board draws on the expertise of its membership which includes representatives from London Councils, the Society of London Treasurers, the London Heads of Procurement Network and sub-regional shared services groupings. In 2016/17, we:

- Continued to share contract and spend data through the London contracts register and spend analytics tools.
- Encouraged Heads of procurement and staff to use the Society of Procurement Officers website in Local Government as a tool for information and exchange
- Provided support and advice for a number of pan-London procurement projects including: GLUCS Go Ultra Low City Scheme and the Apprenticeship Levy

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Updated internal procurement tool kit and processes

Adding Value for London's Boroughs

London Councils acts as host for a number of bodies which add value to the work of our member authorities by helping them co-ordinate their work with pan-London organisations. These include:

London Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB), representing London's councils in a broader partnership with police, health and other partners to promote child safeguarding across London.

London Young People's Education and Skills (YPES) Board – the lead strategic body for 14-19 education and training in the capital.

London Councils is the **Regional Employers' body for London local authorities**. Boroughs are members of the Greater London Employment Forum and are represented on the Greater London Provincial Council for the purposes of negotiations with trades unions.

Capital Ambition, London's improvement and efficiency partnership and sponsor of the innovative London Ventures programme.

London European Partnership for Transport (LEPT), which provides the London boroughs with support and access to European funding for transport projects.

London Councils was also instrumental in the creation of a new collective investment vehicle for Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) funds, the **London CIV**. The London CIV, established by London Councils and initially chaired by Mayor Jules Pipe, was created to help reduce costs and improve investment returns for LGPS funds across the capital. In November 2015 the London CIV became the first such scheme to be fully authorised in the UK by the Financial conduct Authority.

London Councils also provides a key interface between boroughs, the London Resilience Group, the Greater London Authority (GLA) and a range of services on issues around **city management and resilience**.

Events and Awards

The London Summit – Our annual flagship event is free to all London members and senior borough officers. Our 2016 Summit - held on Saturday 21 November at the City of London's Guildhall - saw hundreds of delegates - councillors of all political parties from the 32 London boroughs and the City of London, as well as representatives from the business, public and voluntary sectors - gather to engage in debate and share experiences from across the capital.

Awards – London Councils supports and organises the following awards on behalf of boroughs that highlight and share their successes:

The London Borough Apprenticeship Awards: Established in 2011 to showcase the value of apprenticeships to London boroughs, how borough staff have contributed to apprentices' success and how boroughs are helping to maximise apprenticeship opportunities with contractors and suppliers. The winners of the 2016 awards were announced at a ceremony at the Tallow Chandlers Hall on 16 September. The 2016 winners in the various categories were: Apprentice of the Year - Ryan Emmerson (Sutton); Best contribution by a new apprentice - Tom Torode-Sims (Bexley); Best progression by an apprentice - Shane Elliot (Ealing); Best manager or mentor - Davina Pandya (Hounslow); Best work with supply chains and/ or small businesses to create new apprenticeships – Southwark.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

The Small Business Friendly Awards - organised by London Councils and the London Region of The Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) the awards are an opportunity to celebrate projects or initiatives delivered by the London boroughs that have a positive impact on London's small business community. The Best All-Round Small Business Borough in 2016 was Wandsworth, recognised for its wide range of support for small businesses and start-ups in the borough, while Havering was highly commended in the same category. Other 2016 winners were: Merton - Best Small Business Procurement to Support Local Trade; Lambeth and Sutton (joint winners) – Best Programme of Support for Small Business; Cllr Brian Coleman, Hammersmith and Fulham – Best Small Business Champion (member); Jenni Asiana, Wandsworth – Best Small Business Champion (officer).

Keeping You Informed

Website – London Councils' website was visited by just under 1 million unique visitors and had 4.2 million page views in 2016/17.

Key Issues – our weekly e-newsletter, sent to more than 19,000 subscribers across the capital each Wednesday morning, provides a quick summary of the issues affecting London local government and the evolving policy landscape in the capital.

Member Briefings – our member briefing service provides members with timely policy analysis and information across all our main policy themes directly to their inbox. Improvements to our website enable members to edit and amend their preferences more easily than ever before. In 2016/17 we sent 71 policy briefings to subscribing members.

Parliamentary Briefings – we regularly brief MPs and Peers on government bills that affect London boroughs. In 2016/17 these included briefings in support of our lobbying work on several bills including the Local Government Finance Bill; Housing and Planning Bill and Homeless Reduction Bill.

Twitter – London Councils' Twitter account @londoncouncils has more than 18,000 followers who receive up-to-date news on all the latest developments in London local government as they happen.

London Government Directory – a free copy of our annual London Government Directory, sponsored by London Communication Agency, is sent to every member and senior officers in all 33 London local authorities. The Directory is also available to view online at www.directory.londoncouncils.gov.uk

Policy reports – London Councils publishes a comprehensive range of policy reports providing data, analysis and recommendations on key policy challenges in the capital.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2017/18

London Councils helps London local government to influence the development of London as a world city and to secure outcomes on behalf of individual localities across London. Specifically:

London Councils is the collective voice for London local government. It seeks to be an influential advocate for the interests of boroughs, promoting both councils' leadership of their places and of a broad range of public services on behalf of their localities. London Councils fights for the resources, powers and freedoms that boroughs need to play that role.

- London Councils is a hub for co-ordination and co-operation between boroughs collectively as well as a focus for mutual challenge and support designed to drive efficiency and future improvement on behalf of Londoners.
- London Councils is a focal point for brokering the collective relationship between London local government and partners and stakeholders nationally and within London, including Government, the Mayor and wider London public services.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- London Councils facilitates the development of shared London local government initiatives, campaigns and services. This includes the direct delivery of a defined range of services, as well as acting as an incubator for other shared activities.

Our over-arching themes for 2017/18 are as follows:

1) Resourcing London

In a period of acute financial retrenchment, we will continue to work alongside our member boroughs and partners to help manage the financial and wider public financing climate for London. We will:

- seek to lobby for London's interests in the distribution of funding/provide support on proposed changes in the basis of financing local government and promote greater fiscal devolution;
- work with boroughs and partners to develop means of trying to manage and mitigate the impact of financial reductions upon London boroughs;
- support councils as they seek to manage significant reductions in their funding base.

2) Shaping London and its localities

We will work with our member authorities and others to secure for them the tools, freedoms, powers and resources in order to help them shape their local places coherently and influence the development of London overall. We will:

- promote sustainable growth and seek to boost the supply of housing;
- influence the evolution of the London Plan and national planning policy in a way that reflects the importance of locally determined framework for shaping places;
- support moves to allow London to invest in its strategic and local infrastructure in a way that can support wider ambitions around sustainable growth.

3) Reforming London's Public Services

We will continue to highlight the strong London argument for boroughs, groups of boroughs and the Mayor to be at the heart of commissioning a broader range of integrated local public services. We will:

- work closely with the Mayor of London to continue to negotiate a further devolution settlement from London;
- continue to play a strong brokerage role to help develop opportunities that can be applied more broadly across London local government and, in particular, to support the implementation of the reforms that have been agreed in areas such as Skills, Employment and Health;
- support boroughs and groups of boroughs in their work to turn this into practice on the ground by providing shared learning and approaches and developing London frameworks that allow this devolution to take place at local level.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)**4) Supporting London to Deliver**

We will continue to both work on behalf of our member councils and support them in securing good quality, effective and efficient services for local people. We will:

- provide a defined range of direct services to Londoners and London organisations directly on the collective behalf of boroughs;
- act as a focal point for brokerage and co-ordination between different London public services, the GLA group and boroughs on key delivery issues;
- work with key political, professional and managerial groupings across London local government to help strengthen the capacity of our members to innovate, share, learn and deliver good quality and cost effective services.

5) Influencing and Strengthening London local government's wider contribution

We will seek to secure strong and positive influence for London local government nationally and regionally and with a range of stakeholders. We will:

- ensure that borough influence on national policy – with Government political parties generally and other national partners – is strong and credible;
- ensure that London local government secures a critical role in the governance of London overall and that its indispensable contribution to effective leadership of the City is reflected in evolving structures and ways of working;
- work with wider partners – including other major city areas – to develop a clearer understanding of the interdependence of London and other parts of the country and to see that reflected in the evolution of policy.

Directorate Work Programmes

Our Directorate Programmes detail the range of work that will support our overall objectives, all of which relate in some way to our over-arching themes of resourcing London, shaping London and its localities, reforming London's public services, supporting London to deliver and influencing and strengthening London local government's wider contribution. These work plans can be found on our website www.londoncouncils.gov.uk.

The way we work

Underpinning the way we work is the following set of principles:

- We are a cross party, politically led organisation motivated by our common commitment to the interests of London and London local government;
- We seek to harness the power that comes from the practice and the people of our member authorities – individually and in groupings of boroughs;
- We work closely with a range of public, private and third sector partners across London and more broadly to secure our aims;
- We work in partnership with the national Local Government Association and seek mutually to reinforce our respective work on local government's overall behalf;

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- We strive continuously to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our organisation on behalf of our member authorities and seek to make London Councils an attractive and challenging place for people to develop their careers.

Organisational Implications

In addition to the steps already taken to reflect the outcome of the London Councils Challenge, we shall continue to adapt the organisation and its way of working to reflect the findings. We will:

- develop our operational model and organisational development framework in a way which engages with staff;
- continue to manage our resources to drive on-going improvements in value for our member authorities, in a way which continues to meet their evolving needs over the next five years;
- further equip ourselves with the skills, knowledge and competences required to support London local government in this critical period;
- continue to create an environment in which we continue to attract talented people and challenge them to deliver outstanding performance;
- working with members to review other key operations, accountability and governance mechanisms to enable continued strong political leadership of our work that is transparent and rooted in clear legitimacy.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)**Financial Review**

This Statement of Accounts represents the consolidation of the accounts of the activities of London Councils Joint Committee, London Councils Grants Committee and London Councils Transport and Environment Committee. Due to the unique nature of the Committee's activities, a breakdown of the main headings contained in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are detailed in appendices A to C.

Financial information

The Director of Corporate Resources has pleasure in presenting the Consolidated Accounts which consist of the following:

- Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts (page 29);
- Consolidated Expenditure Funding Analysis (page 39)
- Consolidated Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (page 40);
- Consolidated Movement in Reserves Statement (pages 41);
- Consolidated Balance Sheet (page 42);
- Consolidated Cash Flow Statement (page 43); and
- Notes to the Consolidated Accounts (pages 44 – 72).

Revenue expenditure

Set out below is a comparison between the actual and budget for the year.

	Revised Budget	Actual	Variation
	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure	64,041	62,274	(1,767)
Income	(61,474)	(61,613)	(139)
Interest income and expenditure	(75)	770	845
Deficit for the year	2,492	1,431	(1,061)
Transfer from Reserves	(2,492)	(3,195)	(703)
Net Surplus for the year (including transfers from reserves)		(1,764)	(1,764)

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

The surplus of £1.978 million is split over the three funding streams as follows:

	Grants Committee	Transport, and Environment Committee	Joint Committee	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Total Expenditure	8,657	44,106	9,511	62,274
Total Income	(8,640)	(44,776)	(8,197)	(61,613)
Interest income and expenditure	29	248	493	770
Deficit/(Surplus) for the year	46	(422)	1,807	1,431
Transfer from Reserves	(563)	(293)	(2,339)	(3,195)
Net Surplus	(517)	(715)	(532)	(1,764)

Transport and Environment (TEC) and the Grants Committee (GC) are separate joint-committees that require separate accounts to be prepared (refer to Note 1, Item I on page 49 and Appendices A and B on pages 73 and 74).

Grants Committee

The surplus of £517,000 is attributable to a break even result in relation to London Councils main grants programme and a surplus of £517,000 in the European Social Fund (ESF) match funded grants programme.

The break even position on the main grants programme is attributable to:

- an underspend of £47,000 in relation to payments for commissioned services during 2016/17; and
- a net overspend of £47,000 in relation to grants administration expenditure attributable to overspends of £50,000 in respect of salary costs and £35,000 for general running costs and central recharges, offset by £17,000 from investment income received on Committee reserves, an underspend of £14,000 in respect of the London Funders Group subscription attributable to the ESF programme, plus an additional transfer from reserves of £6,000 to cover the cost of the post providing support to the Third Sector from the start of March 2017. The net overspend position is primarily attributable to work surrounding the reletting of the commissions in accordance with the priority themes agreed by the Leaders' Committee, with effect from 1 April 2017.

For the ESF/borough funded commissions, the surplus of £517,000 is attributable to the new 2016-18 ESF programme, which started in November 2016. Payments of £846,000 have been made to providers; however, all of these payments are treated as payments in advance and therefore do not impact on the 2016/17 outturn figures. Similarly, 50% of this amount (£423,000) that is funded out of the £1 million boroughs contributions levied during 2016/17 is treated as deferred income and equally has no impact on the provisional results for the year. Administrative costs, estimated to be in the region of £123,000, including the contribution of £14,000 to the London Funders Group, have been incurred in respect of the new programme, for which grant of £63,000 is expected to accrue.

Transport and Environment Committee

A surplus on revenue activities of £422,000 has been posted for 2016/17 which, after a net transfer of £293,000 from reserves has led to an overall surplus after net transfers from reserves of £715,000. The surplus is due to:

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- **Lorry Control Administration/PCN income (-£489,000)**

The administration of the London Lorry Control Scheme overspent the budget of £674,000 by £54,000. This is attributable to additional salary costs of £20,000, registering debt at the County Court of £10,000, additional contract payments of £9,000, plus additional central recharges of £53,000, offset by an underspend on general office costs of £2,000. These overspends were offset by an underspend of £36,000 in respect of the review of LLC Scheme, which commenced towards the end of the financial year.

However, there was a significant overachievement in the collection of PCN income of £571,000 above the budgetary provision of £750,000, due to continued effective performance of the outsourced enforcement function meaning that transaction volumes continue to increase, leading to higher levels of debt actually being raised and collected. In addition, the continued functionality of the Adaptis computer management system allows outstanding debt to be registered at the Court more quickly. Of the £1.293 million income due for the year, £171,000 has yet to be collected and has been registered with the County Court. A bad debt provision of £137,000 has been established in respect of this outstanding amount, in accordance with usual accounting practice. This is an increase of £28,000 on the bad debt provision of £109,000 as at 31 March 2016, so the net surplus income reduces to £543,000 for the year.

- **Freedom Pass non-TfL bus services (-£270,000)**

In December 2015, TEC approved a budgetary provision of £1.7 million for 2016/17 to cover the cost of payments to non-TfL bus operators under the national concessionary fares scheme, the overall cost of which is demand led by eligible bus users. Claims from operators amounting to £1.43 million have been received and accepted for 2016/17, which has led to an underspend of £270,000, or 16%. This is broadly attributable to a 6% overestimate of the estimated increase on the 2015/16 costs, a 9% fall in journey volumes and 1% attributable to a reimbursement agreement with new operators that took over the services from the existing operators, the terms of which were more favourable to London Councils. The 9% fall on journey volumes was partially due to changes in eligibility age (3.5%) and also as result of network restructure and withdrawn services. Six of the LSP operators ceased services between September 2016 and January 2017 following network reviews, after the 2016/17 budget had been set.

- **London Tribunals Administration (-£193,000)**

The appeals Hearing Centre underspent the budget of £2.824 million by £193,000, primarily attributable to ETA operations. Salaries overspent by £6,000, offset by savings on overall premises costs of £23,000 and legal costs of £23,000. There were savings of £124,000 on postage and administrative handling costs in respect of appeals that are now included in the unit cost pricing under the current contract arrangements, plus net savings of £28,000 in respect of general office running costs and central recharges.

- **IT Systems Developments (-£150,000)**

The budgetary provision of £150,000 was allocated in 2016/17 for IT developments within transport and mobility, with expressed intention of undertaking further developments to London Tribunals systems. These developments, which are still planned, did not take place in 2016/17. In large part, this was due to trialling a new approach to adjudicating statutory declarations and witness statements (the intended focus of the development work). This trial ended in April 2017 and London Councils intends to continue with the planned development work in 2017/18, which must be undertaken before full electronic data exchange, which will reduce processing work and costs, can be implemented for the benefit of Enforcing Authorities.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- **Net position on parking appeals (+£240,000)**

There is a net deficit of £240,000 in respect of parking and traffic appeals. The number of appeals and statutory declarations heard during the year was 41,855 against a budget of 52,885, generating income of £1.307 million, £321,000 less than the budget estimate of £1.632 million. However, this is offset by a significant reduction in adjudicator, contractor and administration costs of £233,000. The throughput of appeals was 2.5 appeals per hour, compared to a budget figure of 2.76 and an actual figure of 2.43 appeals per hour for 2015/16. There has been an adjustment to the adjudication fees in the 2016/17 accounts to correct the historic timing difference between the period that appeals are heard and the payment of adjudication fees. A year-end accrual for £152,000 for unpaid adjudication fees has been recognised in the accounts to bring the accounting treatment in line with UK GAAP.

- **Running Costs/Central Recharges (+£117,000)**

This overspend is primarily attributable to overspends of £21,000 for bank charges, additional central recharges of £28,000, general office expenses of £43,000, depreciation of £4,000 and £21,000 for rechargeable IT works for boroughs on parking systems.

- **Taxicard Administration (+£94,000)**

The administration of the taxicard scheme overspent the budget by £94,000. Additional salary costs of £33,000 were incurred, along with additional central costs of £79,000. These were offset by an underspend of £18,000 on general office costs.

- Residual variances of +£64,000.

Joint Committee

The surplus of £532,000 is attributable to:

- **Employee Costs (-£134,000)**

The headline position is an underspend of £84,000 on officer salary costs, which increases to £126,000 once a reimbursement of £42,000 for an outgoing secondment is taken into account. The maternity cover budget of £50,000 was not used during the year.

- **Commissioning (-£278,000)**

Expenditure on commissioning and other priority work amounted to £222,000 for the year, leading to an underspend of £278,000 against the approved budget of £500,000.

- **Central Recharges (-£468,000)**

Additional income in respect of central recharges of £468,000 has arisen, of which £162,000 related to the recharging of Southwark Street premises costs to the TEC and Grants funding streams and to externally funded projects and licenced tenants. Included within the £162,000 is a sum of £127,000 which relates to the estimated liability associated with the proposed rent increase for Southwark Street. A breakdown of the additional recharges broadly comprise of the following:

- Recharges for communications staffing and running costs of £66,000;
- Recharges for Corporate Governance functions, including that of the Chief Executive's Office of £55,000;
- Recharges for Corporate Resources staffing, SLAs with the City of London, External Audit and general office costs of £106,000 to TEC and the Grants Committee; and

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Recharges for Corporate Resources staffing, SLAs with the City of London, External Audit and general office costs of £79,000 to externally funded functions and licenced tenants.

- **Externally Funded Projects (+£333,000)**

There is a potential shortfall in funding in relation to the borough ESF funded programmes services that that was jointly funded by 26 participating boroughs over the period from 2008 to 2015. Work is continuing with funders to resolve the potential shortfall in income in respect of administrative costs, which has been revised down to £256,000, with the situation expecting to be concluded during the 2017/18 financial year. There is the risk of a similar position emerging in respect of the 2016-18 borough ESF programme, although as the programme, which started in November 2016, is on-going, there is greater scope to reduce administrative costs to minimise any potential loss. However, at this stage, it is prudent to establish a further provision of £77,000 to cover potential shortfalls in income in respect of the new programme, making a provision of £333,000 in total.

- Residual variances of £15,000.

Budget for 2017/18

On 6 December 2016, the Leaders' Committee approved a total expenditure budget for 2017/18 of £63.269 million, exclusive of the borough payments of £324.181 million to Transport for London (TfL) in respect of Concessionary Fares. Total income sources, including the use of existing balances of £2.372 million were also estimated to be £63.269 million, leaving a projected balanced budget for the year.

The Committee has arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of its resources.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Committee's Responsibilities

The Committee is required to:

- make arrangement for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Committee, that officer is the Director of Corporate Resources;
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets; and
- approve the Statement of Accounts.

The Director of Corporate Resources' Responsibilities

The Director of Corporate Resources is responsible for the preparation of the Committee's statement of accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ("the Code").

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Director of Corporate Resources has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent; and
- complied with the Code.

The Director of Corporate Resources has also:

- kept proper accounting records which were up to date; and
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Responsible Finance Officer's Certificate

I certify that the Statement of Accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Committee at 31 March 2017 and of its income and expenditure for the year ending 31 March 2017.



F Smith CPFA
Director of Corporate Resources

21 September 2017

APPROVAL CERTIFICATE

At a meeting of London Councils' Audit Committee held at 59½ Southwark Street, London, SE1 0AL on 21 September 2017, the statement of accounts were approved on behalf of the Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ron Ramsey'.

Cllr Roger Ramsey
Chair of London Councils' Audit Committee

21 September 2017

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

London Councils (the Committee) is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law, that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Committee is also responsible for securing continuous improvement in the way its functions are exercised.

In discharging this overall responsibility, the Committee is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, and which includes arrangements for the management of risk.

London Councils has approved and adopted a code of corporate governance in the form of a framework, which is consistent with the principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework Delivering Good Governance in Local Government. A copy of London Councils Corporate Governance Framework can be obtained from the Director of Corporate Governance at 59½ Southwark Street, London SE1 0AL. This statement explains how London Councils has applied this code.

The purpose of the governance framework

The governance framework comprises the systems, processes, culture and values by which the Committee is directed and controlled and such activities through which it accounts to, and engages with, its stakeholders. It enables the organisation to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate, cost-effective services.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risks of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Committee's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised, the impact should they be realised and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

The governance framework has been in place at London Councils for the year ended 31 March 2017 and up to the date of approval of the statement of accounts.

The governance framework

The key elements of the Committee's governance framework include:

- **Developing and communicating the Committee's vision** – The Committee produces an annual Corporate Business Plan which sets out its proposed purpose, themes, work programmes and services. The plan consists of two levels: a high level plan available for stakeholders and external audiences and detailed internal work plans developed for management purposes. This is informed by on-going liaison with key borough stakeholders including the Chair and all Executive portfolio holders. The Corporate Business Plan is submitted to the Leaders' Committee. There are a number of ways in which the Committee communicates with relevant stakeholders which include member briefings, committee and other meetings, briefings for senior managerial and professional colleagues in boroughs and events such as the London Councils' Summit.
- **Commitment to openness and acting in the public interest** – The Committee has adopted the Information Commissioners model publications scheme and follows the definition for joint authorities and boards. Details of the scheme and the information published are available on London Councils' website. The Committee's decisions are made by its elected members and the agendas, reports, background papers and minutes of meetings are published under this scheme.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

- **Measuring the performance of services** – The Committee produces an Annual Review at the end of each financial year which provides a summary of the key activities over the last year and highlights the key achievements. Data collected on the performance of activities and services during the year feeds into the production of a key achievements report at the year end. London Councils Corporate Management Board (CMB), the London Councils Executive and the Grants and Transport and Environment Committees receive regular financial management reports that monitor actual income and expenditure trends against approved budgets. London Councils operates a complaints procedure which provides an opportunity to put things right if an error is made and assists in the search to improve the quality of services to member authorities and to Londoners. There are also a number of internal management mechanisms, such as 1:1 review meetings and a fully embedded performance appraisal framework which monitor on-going progress against objectives.
- **Defining and documenting roles and responsibilities** – The London Councils Agreement sets out the main functions and obligations of London Councils and its member authorities. The Agreement includes the standing orders and financial regulations which provide details of the delegation arrangements in place. There is a scheme of delegations to officers in place which was last reviewed, updated and approved by the Leaders' Committee at its Annual General Meeting on 7 June 2016. There is an established protocol which provides guidance on the working relationships between elected members and officers. Additional information on the roles and responsibilities of London Councils Leaders' Committee, Executive, Grants Committee and Transport and Environment Committee are documented in their individual Terms of Reference. All London Councils officers are issued with a job description which confirms their duties within the organisation.
- **Developing, communicating and embedding codes of conduct** – All London Councils Staff have been made aware of the staff handbook which is located on the intranet site. The staff handbook sign posts staff to London Councils policies and procedures which are on the intranet. All staff are encouraged to refer to the intranet when they require guidance on London Councils policies and procedures. Reference to the staff handbook is also included in the induction training of all new staff joining London Councils with their attention specifically drawn to the financial regulations, the code of conduct, data protection and London Councils whistle blowing policy.
- **Reviewing the effectiveness of the Committee's decision-making framework** - The standing orders and financial regulations are included within the London Councils Agreement. The standing orders were last reviewed and the changes approved by Leaders' Committee on 7 June 2016. The financial regulations were also reviewed and the changes approved by the Leaders Committee on 2 June 2015. Minutes of Committee meetings are posted on London Councils website and provide an official record of decisions made.
- **Identifying and managing risks** - London Councils Risk Management Strategy and Framework was reviewed and approved by the Audit Committee in September 2016. London Councils Corporate Risk Register is primarily compiled from the Risk Registers for each of London Councils three Directorates. The Corporate Risk Register is reviewed in accordance with London Councils Risk Management Framework which includes an annual review by the Audit Committee and was last reviewed in September 2016. The Directorate Risk Registers are reviewed by the Audit Committee on a rolling basis. London Councils' Corporate Management Board ensures that the risk registers, both Directorate and Corporate, continue to support London Councils' corporate priorities, which provides members with assurance on how the risks identified are being managed.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

- **Anti-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements** – London Councils is committed to having an effective Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption strategy designed to promote standards of honest and fair conduct, prevent fraud and corruption, detect and investigate fraud and corruption, prosecute offenders, recover losses and maintain strong systems of internal control. There are two separate policies in place London Councils Whistle Blowing Policy which was last updated in July 2016 and London Councils Policy to Combat Fraud, Bribery and Corruption, which was agreed by London Councils Audit Committee in March 2014 and reviewed in February 2016. Both documents are available on London Councils' intranet and website.
- **Effective management of change and transformation** – London Councils has a framework for managing organisational change which is available to all staff on the intranet. The framework provides guidance on the statutory elements of managing change and issues that should be considered when implementing changes.
- **Financial management arrangements** – London Councils' financial management arrangements conform with the governance requirements of the CIPFA statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government.
- **Assurance arrangements** – London Councils' internal audit function is carried out by the City of London's internal audit team under a service level agreement for financial support services. These arrangements conform with the governance requirements of the CIPFA statement on the Role of the Head of Internal Audit in public service organisations and Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.
- **Discharge of the monitoring officer function** – • This is a statutory post under Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and as such is not applicable to London Councils which is a joint committee¹. However, legal advice is provided to London Councils by the City of London Corporation including governance advice and support which in a local authority would generally be provided by the borough solicitor and monitoring officer .
- **Discharge of the head of paid service function** – London Councils' Chief Executive is the head of paid service. As with all officers, the Chief Executive is issued with a job description which confirms his duties within the organisation. He is subject to appraisal arrangements with Group Leaders who assess his performance against agreed objectives.
- **Audit Committee** – London Councils' Audit Committee has its own comprehensive Terms of Reference. The Terms of Reference were reviewed by the Audit Committee on 24 September 2010. On 19 March 2015, the Audit Committee considered a revision to its Terms of Reference to include the responsibility to make a recommendation to Leaders' Committee on the appointment, reappointment and removal of the external auditor. The Audit Committee meets three times a year and is chaired by a leading member from a borough who can be a member of the Executive. The members of the Audit Committee will normally, but not necessarily, be members of London Councils Leaders' Committee and with the exception of its chair, are not members of the Executive.
- **Response to audit recommendations** – The Committee responds to information requests and queries received from its external auditor on a timely basis. External and internal audit findings and recommendations are considered by officers and appropriate responses which include implementation timescales are provided to the auditors. Audit reports, which include management responses, are presented to the Audit Committee to consider and are published along with the Committee papers on the website. The implementation of audit recommendations are monitored on a regular basis.

¹ London Councils is a joint committee of the authorities participating in the arrangements and constituted under sections 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 and section 9EB and 20 of the Local Government Act 2000, as relevant

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

- **Compliance with relevant laws and regulations** - London Councils has comprehensive financial regulations and a comprehensive set of human resources policies and procedures which are reviewed on a regular basis. These arrangements ensure compliance with all applicable statutes, regulations and other relevant statements of best practice in order to ensure that public funds are properly safeguarded and are used economically, efficiently and effectively and in accordance with the statutory and other authorities that govern their use.
- **Whistle-blowing** – London Councils has a whistle-blowing policy which is available to all staff on the intranet. The policy aims to encourage staff and others to feel confident in raising serious concerns by providing clear avenues through which those concerns can be raised and reassuring staff who raise concerns that they will not be victimised if they have a reasonable belief and the disclosure was made in good faith. It is also on the website and staff are encouraged to bring this policy and the policy to combat fraud, bribery and corruption to the attention of contractors and third parties.
- **Identifying the development needs of members and officers** – London Councils has access to a programme of training and development, which is available to all staff and can be found on the intranet. The aim of the programme is to assist in the achievement of the organisation's aims and objectives by providing opportunities for staff to gain the necessary skills and knowledge required to perform their tasks and duties effectively. London Councils also has a performance appraisal scheme which provides all staff with regular assessments of their performance and development needs in relation to their work objectives. Members have access to development opportunities in their own authorities. There is a member only section on London Councils' website which provides them with useful information, regular briefings in specific policy areas and a forum for information exchange.
- **Establishing clear channels of communication** – London Councils actively engages with relevant stakeholders when developing its work. All Committee meetings are open to the public and consultations are undertaken where relevant. London Councils issues member briefings and arranges a number of events, conferences and seminars that also provide opportunities for stakeholder engagement, as do regular meetings of officer networks. London Councils produces an Annual Review which provides a summary of the key achievements over the last year and annual statutory financial statements. Information on consultations, minutes of committee meetings and publications are posted on London Councils website www.londoncouncils.gov.uk. London Councils consults with Chief Officer groupings across boroughs in the development of its work.
- **Enhancing the accountability for service delivery and effectiveness of public service providers** - All working arrangements with public service providers are subject to signed agreements/contracts which set out the terms of the service provided. All agreements/contracts are reviewed to ensure that the roles and responsibilities of the parties involved are clearly defined and the terms are beneficial to London Councils and its member authorities. Key performance indicators are incorporated into agreements where appropriate and monitored regularly. Nominated officers are responsible for managing the outcomes of the service and establishing clear lines of communication with providers.
- **Partnership arrangements** – London Councils has a set protocol for staff to follow when working in partnership with outside bodies. A checklist is to be completed for each new partnership or project. Partnership arrangements are also subject to signed agreements which include objectives, roles and responsibilities. The performance of partnerships are monitored in the same manner as other service providers. London Councils does not currently have any material partnership arrangements.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**Review of effectiveness**

London Councils has responsibility for conducting at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the work of London Councils Corporate Management Board which has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment, the internal audit annual report and also by comments made by the external auditors in their annual audit letter and other reports. The review of the effectiveness of the governance framework includes:

- The work of Internal Audit, undertaken by the City of London under a service level agreement, and the annual opinion of the Head of Audit & Risk Management at the City of London. Internal Audit plays a central role in providing the required assurance on internal controls through its comprehensive risk-based audit of all auditable areas within a five-year planning cycle, – with key areas being reviewed annually. This is reinforced by consultation with London Councils Corporate Management Board and London Councils' Audit Committee on perceived risk and by a rigorous follow-up audit regime. The Internal Audit Section of the City of London operates, in all aspects, in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice and Public Sector Internal Audit Standards. An internal audit review of governance arrangements was carried out during 2012/13 with the outcome reported to the Audit Committee in March 2013.
- The Audit Committee's review of the governance arrangements in place during 2016/17.
- London Councils Corporate Management Board considers an annual report on Corporate Governance, which includes work completed during the current year and highlights work planned for the following year.

Areas for development during 2017/18

The review of the effectiveness of London Councils governance arrangements has revealed the following areas for development during 2017/18:

Information Governance and Security

A new legal framework on data protection will apply in the UK from 25 May 2018. The framework takes the form of a regulation called the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and replaces current legislation on data protection. Whilst the regulation has similarities with the existing Data Protection Act, it also places new obligations on organisations that hold personal and sensitive data. During 2017/18, London Councils will continue to improve its internal controls and procedures in relation to the governance and security of personal and sensitive data to ensure they are robust and comply with the new regulation. An internal audit review on information governance and security will be completed in 2016/17.

London Councils will take adequate steps over the coming year to address the above matter in order to further enhance its governance arrangements. London Councils is satisfied that these steps will address the improvement needs identified in the effectiveness review. London Councils will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

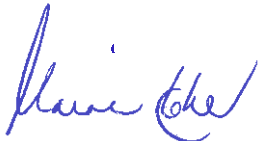
Significant governance issues

There are no significant governance issues.



John O'Brien
Chief Executive

21 September 2017



Cllr Claire Kober OBE
Chair of London Councils

21 September 2017

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LONDON COUNCILS JOINT COMMITTEE

We have audited the financial statements of London Councils Joint Committee (The Committee) for the year ended 31 March 2017 on pages 39 to 76. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17.

This report is made solely to the members of the Committee, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of the Committee, as a body, those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members of the Committee, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the Director of Corporate Resources and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities for the statement of accounts, the Director of Corporate Resources is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom and for being satisfied that the financial statements give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit, and express an opinion on, the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Committee's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Director of Corporate Resources; and the overall presentation of the financial statements.

In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Narrative Statement to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Committee as at 31 March 2017 and of the Committee's expenditure and income for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17.

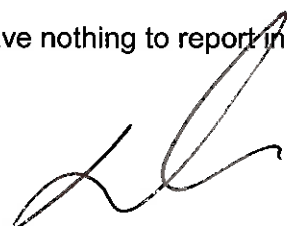
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LONDON COUNCILS JOINT COMMITTEE (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We to report to you if:

- the Annual Governance Statement set out on pages 31 to 36 does not reflect compliance with 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: a Framework' (CIPFA/SOLACE 2016 Edition); or
- the information given in the Narrative Statement for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is not consistent with the financial statements.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.



Neil Hewitson
For and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
15 Canada Square
London
E14 5GL

25 September 2017

CONSOLIDATED EXPENDITURE AND FUNDING ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by the Committee in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the various committees. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Consolidated Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

	2016/17	2016/17	2016/17	2015/16	2015/16	2015/16
	Net Expenditure Chargeable to Usable Reserves £000	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis £000	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £000	Net Expenditure Chargeable to Usable Reserves £000	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis £000	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £000
Cost of Services						
London Councils Grants Committee	(8)	25	17	(655)	35	(620)
London Councils Transport and Environment Committee	(805)	135	(670)	(723)	183	(540)
London Councils Joint Committee	1,033	281	1,314	312	422	734
Net Cost of Services	220	441	661	(1,066)	640	(426)
Financing and investment income and expenditure	(89)	859	770	(93)	851	758
Deficit / (Surplus)	131	1,300	1,431	(1,159)	1,491	332
Opening Usable Reserve Balance	(12,641)			(11,482)		
Deficit / (Surplus)	131			(1,159)		
Closing Usable Reserve Balance	(12,510)			(12,641)		

CONSOLIDATED COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.

	Notes	2016/17 Gross Expenditure £000	2016/17 Gross Income £000	2016/17 Net £000	2015/16 Gross Expenditure £000	2015/16 Gross Income £000	2015/16 Net £000
Cost of Services							
London Councils Grants Committee	Appx A	8,657	(8,640)	17	8,889	(9,509)	(620)
London Councils Transport and Environment Committee	Appx B	44,106	(44,776)	(670)	46,405	(46,945)	(540)
London Councils Joint Committee	Appx C	9,511	(8,197)	1,314	13,594	(12,860)	734
Net Cost of Services		62,274	(61,613)	661	68,888	(69,314)	(426)
Financing and investment income and expenditure	8	865	(95)	770	862	(104)	758
Deficit on Provision of Services		63,139	(61,708)	1,431	69,750	(69,418)	332
Actuarial (gain)/loss on pension assets/liabilities	9			5,646			(3,896)
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure				5,646			(3,896)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure				7,077			(3,564)

CONSOLIDATED MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Committee, analysed into usable reserves and unusable reserves. The surplus or deficit on the provision of services line shows the true economic cost of providing the Committee's services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

	2016/17			2015/16		
	Usable Reserves £000	Unusable Reserves £000	Total Committee Reserves £000	Usable Reserves (Restated) £000	Unusable Reserves (Restated) £000	Total Committee Reserves (Restated) £000
Balance at 1 April	12,641	(23,152)	(10,511)	11,482	(25,557)	(14,075)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(1,431)	(5,646)	(7,077)	(332)	3,896	3,564
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (note 7)	1,300	(1,300)	-	1,491	(1,491)	-
Increase/(Decrease)	(131)	(6,946)	(7,077)	1,159	2,405	3,564
Balance at 31 March	12,510	(30,098)	(17,588)	12,641	(23,152)	(10,511)

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2017

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Committee. The net assets or liabilities of the Committee (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Committee. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the Committee may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use. The second category of reserves is those that the authority is not able to use to provide services. This category includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses such as the Pension Reserve.

	Note	31 March 2017 £000	31 March 2016 (Restated) £000
Property, Plant and Equipment	10	1,525	1,722
Intangible Assets	11	13	1
Long Term Assets		1,538	1,723
Short Term Debtors	12	5,668	4,868
Cash and Cash Equivalent	13	16,817	16,852
Current Assets		22,485	21,720
Short Term Creditors	14	(10,472)	(9,904)
Provisions	15	(197)	(180)
Current Liabilities		(10,669)	(10,084)
Long Term Creditors	16	(507)	(490)
Provisions	15	(446)	(354)
Other Long Term Liabilities	9	(29,989)	(23,026)
Long Term Liabilities		(30,942)	(23,870)
Net Liabilities		(17,588)	(10,511)
Usable Reserves	17	12,510	12,641
Unusable Reserves	19	(30,098)	(23,152)
Total Reserves		(17,588)	(10,511)

The notes on pages 44 to 72 form part of the accounts.



F Smith CPFA
Director of Corporate Resources

21 September 2017

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Committee during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Committee generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing, and financing activities. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute towards the Committee's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the Committee.

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Net deficit on the provision of services	(1,431)	(332)
Adjustments to net deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements	1,522	(1,213)
Adjustments for items included in the net deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities.	(89)	(93)
Net cash flows from Operating Activities (note 20)	2	(1,638)
Investing Activities (note 21)	(37)	(727)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(35)	(2,365)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April	16,852	19,217
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March	16,817	16,852

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**1. Accounting Policies****a General Principles**

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Committee's transactions for the 2016/17 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2017. The Committee prepares its accounts in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17.

The Statement of Accounts have been prepared with the overriding requirement that it gives a 'true and fair' view of the financial position, performance and cash flows of the Committee.

The Statement of Accounts has been prepared with reference to:

- The objective of providing financial information about the reporting authority that is useful to existing and potential investors, lenders and other creditors in making decision about providing resources to it;
- The objective of providing information about the Committee's financial performance, financial position and cash flows that is useful to a wide range of users for assessing the stewardship of the Committee's management and for making economic decisions;
- The objective of meeting the common needs of most users focusing on the ability of the users to make economic decisions, the needs of public accountability and the stewardship of the Committee's resources;
- The accrual basis of accounting;
- The following underlying assumptions;
 - Going concern basis.
- The following qualitative characteristics:
 - Relevance;
 - Materiality; and
 - Faithful representation.
- The following enhancing qualitative characteristics:
 - Comparability;
 - Verifiability;
 - Timeliness; and
 - Understandability.

The accounting convention adopted in the Statement of Accounts is historical cost.

The accounting policies have been consistently applied.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)**b Accruals of Income and Expenditure**

The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis which means that income and expenditure are accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. In particular:

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Committee transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Committee;
- Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the Committee can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Committee;
- Expenses in relation to services received (including those services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when services are received, rather than when payments are made;
- Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract;
- Where income and expenditure has been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where it is doubtful that debts will be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected;
- Income and expenditure are credited and debited to the relevant category within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, unless they represent capital receipts or capital expenditure; and
- Creditors for grants outstanding to voluntary organisations at the year-end are included where approved by Committee, the circumstances of the voluntary organisation have not changed since approval, and evidence shows that expenditure in respect of the grant has been incurred. Creditors for ESF grants are recognised where grant claims received from voluntary organisations exceed payments made to the claimant.

c Allocation of Income

Income, where possible, is allocated to the specific service area to which it relates or offsets specific expenditure. Income that is not directly attributable to a particular service is apportioned to other expenditure categories based on actual expenditure.

d Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are investments that mature in three months or less from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Committee's cash management.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)**1. Accounting Policies (continued)****e Contingent Liabilities**

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the authority a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Committee. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably. Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts.

f Employee Benefits**Benefits Payable During Employment**

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled within 12 months of the year-end. They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits for current employees and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Committee. An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements (or any form of leave e.g. flexi leave) earned by employees but not taken before the year-end which employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable in the following accounting year, being the period in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services, but then reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement so that holiday benefits are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the holiday absence occurs.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Committee to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy and are charged on an accruals basis when the Committee is demonstrably committed to the termination of the employment of an officer or group of officers or making an offer to encourage voluntary redundancy.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Committee to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Post Employment Benefits

As part of the terms and conditions of employment, officers of the Committee are offered membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme administered by the London Pension Fund Authority (LPFA). The scheme provides defined benefits to its members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as officers work for the Committee.

This scheme is accounted for as a final salary defined benefit scheme:

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

- The liabilities of the pension fund attributable to the Committee are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, projected earnings of current employees etc.
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices using, a discount rate of 2.8% (2015/16: 3.8%).
- The assets of the pension fund attributable to the Committee are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:
 - Quoted securities – current bid price;
 - Unquoted securities – professional estimate;
 - Unutilised securities – current bid price; and
 - Property – market value.
- The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into six components:
 - Current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year debited to the Staff Costs line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked;
 - Past service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years debited to the Staff Costs line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement;
 - Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset), ie net interest expense for the Committee – the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability (asset) that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – this is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability (asset) at the beginning of the period – taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability (asset) during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments;
 - Return on plan assets – excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure;
 - Actuarial gains and losses – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure; and
 - Contributions paid to the pension fund – cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)**1. Accounting Policies (continued)**

In accordance with the Code of Practice, the General Reserve balance is charged with the actual amount payable by the Committee to the pension fund and not the amount calculated according to the accounting standard. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, there are transfers to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the impact of the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end. The negative balance that arises on the Pension Reserve measures the beneficial impact to the General Reserve of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits are earned by employees.

The actuarial gains and losses are charged to Other Comprehensive Income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement with a corresponding entry in the Pensions Reserve.

g Exceptional Items and Prior Period Adjustments

When items of income and expense are material, their nature and amount is disclosed separately, either on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement or in the notes to the accounts, depending on how significant the items are to an understanding of the Committee's financial performance.

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting estimates are accounted for prospectively, i.e. in the current and future years affected by the change and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effect of transactions, other events and conditions on the Committee's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively (unless stated otherwise) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied.

Material errors discovered in prior period figures are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the period.

h Financial Instruments**Financial Liabilities**

Financial liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Committee becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value and carried at amortised cost. Annual charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. The effective rate of interest is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments over the life of the instrument to the amount at which it was originally recognised.

Currently the Committee has no borrowings.

Financial Assets

Financial Assets are receivables that have fixed or determinable payments but are not quoted in an active market. The assets are initially measured at fair value, and subsequently measured at their amortised cost.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)**i Government Grants and Contributions**

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third party contributions are recognised as due to the Committee when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the Committee will comply with the conditions attached to the payments; and
- the grants will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the Committee are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

j Intangible Assets

Expenditure of £1,000 or more on non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are controlled by the Committee as a result of past events (e.g. software licences) is capitalised when it is expected that future economic benefits or service potential will flow from the intangible asset to the Committee. Intangible assets are measured initially at cost and amortised over the life of the asset.

k Interest Income

Interest is credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statements of the constituent committees based on average cash balances held by the City of London and invested in accordance with their Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy, which is approved by the City of London's Financial Investment Board.

l Interest in Companies and Other Entities

London Councils Joint Committee operates one subsidiary, London Councils Limited, a company limited by guarantee. London Councils Limited activities are consolidated within the Joint Committee statement of accounts. The company exists to record all transactions relating to the holding of property leases and the employment of the political advisers. London Councils' member boroughs are the members of the company and London Councils' Elected Officers are its Directors. London Councils benefits directly from the accommodation paid for by London Councils Limited and the services provided by the political advisers to members in their roles at London Councils.

The activities of London Councils Grants Committee and London Councils Transport and Environment Committee, which are carried out by London Councils Joint Committee, are incorporated into these group accounts. The activities of these associated committees and the main Joint Committee are detailed in appendices A to C.

Intragroup transactions are excluded from the Statement of Accounts on consolidation.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

m Leases

Finance leases

Lease arrangements for assets are treated as finance leases when substantially all the risks and rewards associated with the ownership of an asset are transferred to the Committee. Rentals payable are apportioned between:

- A charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property (recognised as a liability in the balance sheet at the start of the lease, matched with an asset within Property, Plant and Equipment – the liability is written down as the rent becomes payable); and
- A finance charge.

Property, plant and equipment recognised under finance leases are accounted for using the policies applied generally to such assets, subject to depreciation being charged over the life of the lease.

Operating leases

Leases that do not meet the definition of finance leases are accounted for as operating leases. Lease rentals payable are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on a straight line basis over the terms of the lease.

n Overheads

Central overhead costs identified as directly attributable to a particular funding stream are allocated in full to that funding stream. Where such costs are not directly attributable, they are re-charged across the funding streams using the most relevant apportionment basis, from the list below:

- Number of desk spaces;
- Full Time Equivalent units;
- Absolute value of transactions; and
- Volume of transactions.

o Property, Plant and Equipment

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, or for administrative purposes and that are expected to be used during more than one financial year are classified as Property, Plant and Equipment. Expenditure on the acquisition, creation, enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment subject to a de minimis level of £1,000, is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Committee and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (i.e. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

- the purchase price; and
- any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Assets are then carried in the Balance Sheet at their depreciated historical costs.

Assets are depreciated on a straight line basis, starting after the year of acquisition, over their economic useful life as follows:

- Leasehold Improvements – the lower of 10 years or the remaining period left on the lease;
- Furniture and Equipment:
 - Furniture and Fittings – 5 years;
 - Computer Hardware – 3 years.

Where an item of Property, Plant and Equipment has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item, the components are depreciated separately.

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposal (if any) are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

p Provisions

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Committee a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year that the Committee becomes aware of the obligation, and are measured at the best estimate at the balance sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties. When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year, where it becomes less than probable that a transfer of economic benefits will now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made), the provisions is reversed and credited back to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Provisions for dilapidations costs and works in connection with property leases are built up over the life of the lease on a straight line basis.

q Reserves

The Committee uses Specific Reserves to set aside funds earmarked for a specific purpose and money received from boroughs outside the main subscription, or from other public sector bodies, which is to be used for specific purposes. Reserves are created by transferring amounts from the General Reserve to the Specific Reserves on the Movement in Reserves Statement. When expenditure to be financed from a specific reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to score against the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and a transfer of funds from the specific reserve made to the General Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for retirement and employee benefits and do not represent usable resources for the Committee.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

r Value Added Tax

Value Added Tax (VAT) is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. VAT receivable is excluded from income.

2. Restatement of Comparatives

The 2016/17 Code has introduced a requirement to include a new Consolidated Expenditure and Funding Analysis in the financial statements and revise the format of the Consolidated Movement in Reserves Statement. These changes do not have a financial impact on the Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure or the Net Assets for the year.

The 2015/16 comparative of Short Term Creditors has been restated to more accurately reflect the payment profile of premises costs. The comparative figure for *Other local authorities* has been reanalysed by decreasing the amount due in less than one year by £490,000, with a corresponding adjustment in amounts due after one year. The restatement has led to a decrease in Current Liabilities from £10.574 million to £10.084 million and Long Term Liabilities has increased from £23.38 million to £23.87 million. There is no impact on the income and expenditure for that year or overall net liabilities.

3. Accounting Standards that have been Issued but not yet adopted

The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 (the Code) has introduced changes in accounting policies which will be required from 1 April 2017. If these had been adopted for the financial year 2016/17 there would be no material changes to the Committee's accounts as detailed below.

IAS17 Statement of Cash Flows – There has been a narrow scope amendment to this standard which require entities to provide a reconciliation of the amounts in the opening and closing Balance Sheet for each item for which cash flows have been, or would be, classified as financing activities and disclose matters that are relevant to understanding the entity's liquidity, such as restrictions that affect the decisions of an entity to use cash and cash equivalent balances. This amendment will not have a material impact on the Committee's accounts.

Amendments to IFRS10 Consolidated Financial Statements, IFRS 12 Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities, IAS 28 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures – The amendments confirm that the exemption from preparing consolidated financial statements for an intermediate parent entity is available to a parent entity that is a subsidiary of an investment entity, even if the investment entity measures all of its subsidiaries at fair value. These amendments do not apply to the Committee as it is not an investment entity.

4. Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies set out in note 1, the Committee has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events.

The critical judgements made in the Statement of Accounts are:

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)**4. Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies (continued)****Government Funding**

There is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government. However, the Committee has determined that this uncertainty is not sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the Committee might be impaired as a result of a need to reduce levels of service provision.

5. Assumptions Made about the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Committee about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the Committee's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2017 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Pensions

Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. Barnett Waddingham LLP, an independent firm of qualified actuaries, is engaged by the LPFA to provide the Committee with expert advice about the assumptions applied.

The effect on the net pensions liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured. For instance, a 0.1% increase in the discount rate assumption would result in a decrease in the pension liability of £1.678 million. However, the assumptions interact in complex ways. During 2016/17, Barnett Waddingham LLP advised that the net pensions liability had increased by £16.735 million as a result of a change in financial assumptions.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Assets are depreciated over useful lives that are dependent on assumptions about the level of repairs and maintenance that will be incurred in relation to individual assets. The current economic climate makes it uncertain that the Committee will be able to sustain its current spending on repairs and maintenance, bringing into doubt the useful lives assigned to assets.

If the useful life of assets is reduced, depreciation increases and the carrying amount of the assets falls. It is estimated that the annual depreciation charge for Leasehold Improvements would increase by £45,000 for every year that useful lives had to be reduced.

Provisions

The Committee has made a provision of £643,000 for its contractual obligations for dilapidations and periodic decoration included within its property leases. The provision is based on the most reasonable estimate of these future costs. An increase of 10% to the total value of these costs would have the effect of adding £21,000 to the annual contribution to the provision.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

5. Assumptions Made about the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty (continued)

Bad Debt Provision

At 31 March 2017, the Committee had a balance of accounts receivable debtors of £1.387 million. This amount excludes debts registered at the County Court. A review of these balances resulted in a calculation of a bad debt provision, based on historic loss experiences, of £14,000. However, in the current economic climate it is not certain that such an allowance would be sufficient. If collection rates were to deteriorate the provision will have to be increased accordingly.

6. Events After the Balance Sheet Date

The Statement of Accounts was authorised for issue by the Director of Corporate Resources on 21 September 2017. Events taking place after this date are not reflected in the accounts or notes. Where events taking place before this date provided information about conditions existing at 31 March 2017, the figures in the accounts and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information.

7. Note to the Consolidated Expenditure and Funding Analysis

This note provides a reconciliation of the main adjustments to the net expenditure chargeable to the General Reserve to arrive at the amounts in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The adjustments arise due to the difference in the accounting basis and funding basis under regulations.

Adjustments between funding and accounting basis during 2016/17:

Adjustments from General Reserves to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	Pension Adjustments £000	Accumulated Absence Adjustments £000	Total Adjustments £000
Grants Committee	26	(1)	25
Transport and Environment Committee	133	2	135
London Councils Core Joint Committee	299	(18)	281
Net Cost of Services	458	(17)	441
 Financing and investment income and expenditure	 859	 -	 859
 Difference between General Reserve and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statements (Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	 1,317	 (17)	 1,300

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

7. Note to the Consolidated Expenditure and Funding Analysis (continued)

Adjustments between funding and accounting basis during 2015/16:

Adjustments from General Reserves to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	Pension Adjustments £000	Accumulated Absence Adjustments £000	Total Adjustments £000
Grants Committee	34	1	35
Transport and Environment Committee	185	(2)	183
London Councils Core Joint Committee	403	19	422
Net Cost of Services	622	18	640
Financing and investment income and expenditure	851	-	851
Difference between General Reserve and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statements (Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	1,473	18	1,491

8. Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Interest Payable	6	11
Interest and Investment Income	(95)	(104)
Net Loss on Pension Scheme Assets/Liabilities (see note 9)	859	851
Total	770	758

9. Pensions

As part of their terms and conditions of employment, London Councils staff are eligible to participate in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) which is a defined benefit statutory scheme administered in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013. The scheme is contracted out of the State Second Pension and currently provides benefits based on final salary and length of service on retirement. Changes to the LGPS came into effect from 1 April 2014 and any benefits accrued from this date will be based on career average revalued salary, with various protections in place for those members in the scheme before the changes take effect.

The administering authority for the Fund is the London Pensions Fund Authority (LPFA). The LPFA Board oversees the management of the Fund whilst the day to day fund administration is undertaken by a number of teams within the administering authority. Where appropriate some functions are delegated to the Fund's professional advisers.

On 1 May 2000, London Councils staff transferred into the LPFA Scheme as London Councils was granted Admitted Body status. Prior to this date, the five predecessor bodies had different pension arrangements for staff. The accumulated benefits of staff from the previous pension schemes have been transferred to the LPFA scheme.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

9. Pensions (continued)

As administering authority to the Fund, the London Pensions Fund Authority, after consultation with the Fund Actuary and other relevant parties, is responsible for the preparation and maintenance of the Funding Strategy Statement and the Statement of Investment Principles. These should be amended when appropriate based on the Fund's performance and funding.

Employers' contributions are set every three years as a result of the actuarial valuation of the Fund required by the Regulations. The next actuarial valuation of the Fund will be carried out as at 31 March 2019 and will set contributions for the period from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2023. There are no minimum funding requirements in the LGPS but the contributions are generally set to target a funding level of 100% using the actuarial valuation assumptions. Based on the triennial valuation as at 31 March 2016, the employers' contribution towards the Future Service Rate was set at 12% of pensionable pay for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2020.

On the Employer's withdrawal from the plan, a cessation valuation will be carried out in accordance with Regulation 64 of the LGPS Regulations 2013 which will determine the termination contribution due by the Employer, on a set of assumptions deemed appropriate by the Fund Actuary.

In general, participating in a defined benefit pension scheme means that the Employer is exposed to a number of risks:

- Investment risk. The Fund holds investment in asset classes, such as equities, which have volatile market values and while these assets are expected to provide real returns over the long-term, the short-term volatility can cause additional funding to be required if a deficit emerges.
- Interest rate risk. The Fund's liabilities are assessed using market yields on high quality corporate bonds to discount future liability cashflows. As the Fund holds assets such as equities the value of the assets and liabilities may not move in the same way.
- Inflation risk. All of the benefits under the Fund are linked to inflation and so deficits may emerge to the extent that the assets are not linked to inflation.
- Longevity risk. In the event that the members live longer than assumed a deficit will emerge in the Fund. There are also other demographic risks.

In addition, as many unrelated employers participate in the London Pension Fund Authority Pension Fund, there is an orphan liability risk where employers leave the Fund but with insufficient assets to cover their pension obligations so that the difference may fall on the remaining employers.

All of the risks above may also benefit the Employer e.g. higher than expected investment returns or employers leaving the Fund with excess assets which eventually get inherited by the remaining employers.

The LPFA, as administering authority, provided Barnett Waddingham LLP, an independent firm of qualified actuaries with scheme membership information as at 31 March 2016 for all employees within London Councils as part of the triennial valuation. Assets were allocated within the LPFA Pension Fund based on these calculated liabilities. The triennial valuation as at 31 March 2016 was the starting point for the 'roll forward' IAS19 valuations. In order to assess the actuarial value of the LPFA Pension Fund's liabilities as at 31 March 2017 attributable to London Councils, scheme liabilities have been assessed by Barnett Waddingham LLP on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method, and estimate of pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels etc.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

9. Pensions (continued)

The individual committees' share of assets and liabilities of the pension scheme are not separable, therefore, all assets, liabilities, charges, returns and other costs have been allocated to each committee in accordance with the proportion of employer contributions paid by the committee as a percentage of the total paid by London Councils in the year. This approach results in an adjustment to the Defined Benefit Obligation and the Fair Value of Employer's Assets as a result of the difference between the percentage used to apportion the deficit at the start of the financial year and the percentage used at the end of the financial year.

Financial Assumptions

The financial assumptions as at 31 March 2017:

Assumptions as at:	31 March 2017 (% per annum)	31 March 2016 (% per annum)
RPI increases	3.6%	3.4%
CPI increases	2.7%	2.5%
Salary increases	4.2%	4.3%
Pension increases	2.7%	2.5%
Discount rate	2.8%	3.8%

These assumptions are set with reference to market conditions at 31 March 2017.

Our estimate of the duration of the Employer's liabilities is 22 years.

The discount rate is the annualised yield at the 22 year point on the Merrill Lynch AA rated corporate bond curve which has been chosen to meet the requirements of IAS19 and with consideration of the duration of the Employer's liabilities. This is consistent with the approach used at the last accounting date.

The RPI increase assumption is set based on the difference between conventional gilt yields and index-linked gilt yields at the accounting date using data published by the Bank of England, specifically the 22 year point on the BoE spot inflation curve. This is consistent with the approach used at the last accounting date.

As future pension increases are expected to be based on the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) rather than RPI, we have made a further assumption about CPI which is that it will be 0.9% p.a. below RPI i.e. 2.7% p.a. We believe that this is a reasonable estimate for the future differences in the indices, based on the different calculation methods and recent independent forecasts. This is consistent with the approach used at the last accounting date.

Salaries are then assumed to increase at 1.5% p.a. above CPI in addition to a promotional scale. However, a short-term overlay has been allowed from 31 March 2016 to 31 March 2020 for salaries to rise in line with inflation.

Demographic and Statistical Assumptions

A set of demographic assumptions that are consistent with those used for the funding valuation as at 31 March 2016 have been adopted. The post retirement mortality tables have been constructed based on Club Vita analysis. These base tables are then projected using the CMI 2015 Model, allowing for a long term rate of improvement of 1.5% per annum.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

9. Pensions (continued)

The assumed life expectations from age 65 are:

	31 March 2017	31 March 2016
Retiring today:		
Males	21.9	22.4
Females	24.5	25.4
Retiring in 20 years:		
Males	24.2	24.8
Females	26.8	27.7

The following assumptions have also been made:

- Members will exchange half of their commutable pension for cash at retirement;
- Members will retire at one retirement age for all tranches of benefit, which will be the pension weighted average tranche retirement age; and
- The proportion of membership that had taken up the 50:50 option at the previous valuation date will remain the same.

The fair value of the pension scheme assets attributable to the London Councils Joint Committee at 31 March 2017:

	At 31 March 2017		At 31 March 2016	
	£000	%	£000	%
Equities	29,904	59%	19,116	47%
LDI/Cashflow matching	-	-	4,172	10%
Target return portfolio	10,664	21%	8,754	21%
Infrastructure	2,657	5%	2,255	5%
Commodities	-	-	184	0%
Property	2,573	5%	1,469	4%
Cash	4,669	9%	5,203	13%
	50,467	100%	41,153	100%

Quoted securities included within the assets values above have been measured at their bid value in accordance with the Code. Under the Liability Driven Investment (LDI), RPI swaps are used to hedge 25% of the Funds cash flow liability against inflation.

Previously, synthetic equities, swaps and other Liability Driven Investment were included in the LDI/Cashflow matching category with any cash collateral included in the Cash category. This year, to reflect the way that the Local Pensions Partnership show this in their asset allocation, the synthetic equities have been grouped with traditional equities and the swaps and other Liability Driven Investment are grouped as Cash. In addition, the commodities and infrastructure asset classes have been combined as infrastructure this year.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

9. Pensions (continued)

The analysis of the net value of the pension scheme assets and liabilities recognised in the Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Fair value of employer assets	50,467	41,153
Present value of scheme liabilities	(80,378)	(64,107)
Net Liability	(29,911)	(22,954)
Present value of unfunded liabilities	(78)	(72)
Net Liability in Balance Sheet	(29,989)	(23,026)

The analysis of the amounts recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Service cost	1,256	1,464
Net interest on the defined liability	859	851
Administration expenses	53	62
Total	2,168	2,377

The reconciliation of the Defined Benefit Obligation at 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Opening Defined Benefit Obligation	(64,179)	(66,627)
Current service cost	(1,256)	(1,464)
Interest cost	(2,424)	(2,257)
Change in financial assumptions	(16,735)	5,623
Change in demographic assumptions	503	-
Experience loss on Defined Benefit Obligation	2,834	(1)
Estimated benefits paid net of transfers	1,227	987
Contributions by scheme participants	(431)	(445)
Unfunded pension payments	5	5
Closing Defined Benefit Obligation	(80,456)	(64,179)

The reconciliation of the Fair Value of Employer's Assets at 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Opening Fair Value of Employer's Assets	41,153	41,178
Interest on assets	1,565	1,406
Return on assets less interest	6,896	(1,726)
Other actuarial gains	856	-
Administration expenses	(53)	(62)
Contributions by employer	851	904
Contributions by scheme participants	431	445
Estimated benefits paid plus unfunded net of transfers in	(1,232)	(992)
Closing Fair Value of Employer's Assets	50,467	41,153

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

9. Pensions (continued)

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out above. The sensitivity analyses below have been determined based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period and assumes for each change that the assumption analysed changes while all the other assumptions remain constant. The assumptions in longevity, for example, assume that life expectancy increases or decreases for men and women. In practice, this is unlikely to occur, and changes in some of the assumptions may be interrelated. The estimations in the sensitivity analysis have followed the accounting policies for the scheme, ie on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method. The methods and types of assumptions used in preparing the sensitivity analysis below did not change from those used in the previous period.

Sensitivity analysis:

	£000	£000	£000
Adjustment to Discount Rate	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	78,778	80,456	82,172
Projected service cost	1,801	1,844	1,888
Adjustment to Long-term Salary Increases	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	80,659	80,456	80,254
Projected service cost	1,844	1,844	1,844
Adjustment to Pension Increases and Deferred Revaluation	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	81,968	80,456	78,976
Projected service cost	1,888	1,844	1,801
Adjustment to Mortality Age Rating Assumption	+1 year	None	-1 year
Present value of total obligation	83,334	80,456	77,680
Projected service cost	1,903	1,844	1,787

The analysis of the re-measurements in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Return on plan assets in excess of interest	6,896	(1,726)
Other actuarial gains	856	-
Change in financial assumptions	(16,735)	5,623
Change in demographic assumptions	503	-
Experience gain/(loss) on defined benefit obligation	2,834	(1)
Re-measurements	(5,646)	3,896

The projections for the year to 31 March 2018 is as follows:

	31 March 2018
	£000
Service cost	1,844
Net interest on the defined liability	831
Administration expenses	66
Total	2,741
Employers contribution	622

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

10. Property, Plant and Equipment

Movements in:

	Furniture and Equipment £000	Leasehold Improvements £000	Total £000
Cost			
At 1 April 2016	1,038	1,927	2,965
Additions	109	4	113
Disposals	(5)	-	(5)
At 31 March 2017	1,142	1,931	3,073
At 1 April 2016	864	379	1,243
Charge for the year	81	229	310
Charge relating to Disposals	(5)	-	(5)
At 31 March 2017	940	608	1,548
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2017	202	1,323	1,525
At 31 March 2016	174	1,548	1,722

Comparative movements in 2015/16:

	Furniture and Equipment £000	Leasehold Improvements £000	Total £000
Cost			
At 1 April 2015	1,141	1,853	2,994
Additions	18	802	820
Disposals	(121)	(728)	(849)
At 31 March 2016	1,038	1,927	2,965
Accumulated Depreciation			
At 1 April 2015	908	971	1,879
Charge for the year	77	136	213
Charge relating to Disposals	(121)	(728)	(849)
At 31 March 2016	864	379	1,243
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2016	174	1,548	1,722
At 31 March 2015	233	882	1,115

The capital expenditure on Property, Plant and Equipment will be funded from revenue budgets in line with the annual depreciation charge.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

10. Property, Plant and Equipment (continued)

There are no contractual commitments for the acquisition of Property, Plant and Equipment.

11. Intangible Assets

The intangible assets consist solely of purchased computer software. The Committee accounts for its software as intangible assets, to the extent that the software is not an integral part of a particular IT system and accounted for as part of the hardware item of Property, Plant and Equipment. The carrying amount of computer software, accounted for as intangible assets, are amortised on a straight line basis, starting after the year of acquisition, over the lower of 3 years or the length of the software licence.

The movement on Intangible Asset balances during the year is as follows:

	31 March 2017 £000	31 March 2016 £000
Balance at start of year:		
Gross carrying amount	22	22
Accumulated amortisation	(21)	(14)
Net carrying amount at start of year	1	8
Additions	13	-
Disposals	-	-
Amortisation for the period	(1)	(7)
Net carrying amount at end of year	13	1
Comprising:		
Gross carrying amount	35	22
Accumulated amortisation	(22)	(21)
	13	1

The capital expenditure on intangible assets will be funded from revenue budgets in line with the annual amortisation charge.

There are no contractual commitments for the acquisition of Intangible Assets.

12. Short Term Debtors

	31 March 2017 £000	31 March 2016 £000
Central government bodies	804	687
Other local authorities	2,683	2,660
NHS bodies	-	87
Public corporations and trading funds	754	698
Other entities and individuals	1,427	736
Total	5,668	4,868

Included within the debtor balances above are amounts due from member boroughs (excluding payments in advance and bad debt provision) of £2.67 million (2015/16: £2.634 million), payments in advance of £1.632 million (2015/16: £298,000), a bad debt provision of £152,000 (2015/16: £238,000) and other debtors of £1.518 million (2015/16: £2.174 million).

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

13. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	31 March 2017	31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Cash held by the Committee	1,807	66
Cash balances held by the City of London	15,010	16,786
Total	16,817	16,852

14. Short Term Creditors

	31 March 2017	31 March 2016 (Restated)
	£000	£000
Central government bodies	(8)	(34)
Other local authorities	(6,803)	(6,623)
NHS bodies	(367)	(299)
Public corporations and trading funds	(469)	(531)
Other entities and individuals	(2,825)	(2,417)
Total	(10,472)	(9,904)

Included within the creditor balances above are amounts due to member boroughs (excluding receipts in advance) of £3.103 million (2015/16: £3.154 million), receipts in advance of £3.966 million (2015/16: £3.807 million), accruals of £3.38 million (2015/16: £2.935 million) and other creditors of £23,000 (2015/16: £8,000).

15. Provisions

	Property Lease Provisions
	£000
Balance at 1 April 2016	(534)
Additional Provisions made in 2016/17	(103)
Unwinding of discount	(6)
Balance at 31 March 2017	(643)

Analysis of Total Provisions:

	£000
Current	(197)
Non-current	(446)
Total Provision	(643)

The Committee has established a provision for its contractual obligations included within its property leases. The lease for Southwark Street requires internal and external decoration works to be carried out in March 2016 and dilapidation works to be carried out in March 2021.

The lease for Chancery Exchange requires internal decoration work to be carried out every three years commencing from March 2018 and general dilapidation work to be carried out at the end of the lease in March 2025.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

16. Long Term Creditors

	31 March 2017	31 March 2016 (Restated)
	£000	£000
Other local authorities	(507)	(490)
Total	(507)	(490)

The creditor balances above have arisen due to the smoothing of property leases.

17. Usable Reserves

	31 March 2017	31 March 2016
	£000	£000
General Reserve	10,776	11,641
Specific Reserve	1,734	1,000
Total	12,510	12,641

18. Transfers to Specific Reserves

Transfers to the Specific Reserves during the year ended 31 March 2017:

	Balance at 1 April 2016 £000	Transfer out £000	Transfer In £000	Balance at 31 March 2017 £000
2020 Freedom Pass Re-issue Reserve	1,000	-	734	1,734
Total	1,000	-	734	1,734

Transfers to the Specific Reserves during the year ended 31 March 2016:

	Balance at 1 April 2015 £000	Transfer out £000	Transfer In £000	Balance at 31 March 2016 £000
2020 Freedom Pass Re-issue Reserve	-	-	1,000	1,000
Total	-	-	1,000	1,000

The 2020 Freedom Pass Re-issue Reserves was established by the Committee on 11 December 2014 to accumulate funds to meet the cost of the Freedom Pass reissue exercise.

19. Unusable Reserves

	31 March 2017	31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Pensions Reserve	(29,989)	(23,026)
Accumulated Absences Reserve	(109)	(126)
Total	(30,098)	(23,152)

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

19. Unusable Reserves (continued)

Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Committee accounts for post employment benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs. However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Committee makes employer's contribution to the pension fund or eventually pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pension Reserve therefore shows a substantial shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Committee has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

	2016/17		2015/16	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1 April		(23,026)		(25,449)
Actuarial (losses)/gains on pension assets and liabilities		(5,646)		3,896
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(2,173)		(2,382)	
Employer's pensions contribution and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	856	(1,317)	909	(1,473)
Balance at 31 March		(29,989)		(23,026)

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

19. Unusable Reserves (continued)

Accumulated Absences Reserve

The Accumulated Absences Reserve absorbs the differences that would otherwise arise on the General Reserve from accruing for compensated absences earned but not taken in the year, e.g. annual leave entitlement carried forward at 31 March. Statutory arrangements require that the impact on the General Reserve is neutralised by transfers to or from the Reserve.

	2016/17		2015/16	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1 April		(126)		(108)
Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	126		108	
Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	(109)		(126)	
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		17		(18)
Balance at 31 March		(109)		(126)

20. Cash Flow Statement – Operating Activities

	2016/17		2015/16	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Deficit on Provision of Services		(1,431)		(332)
Adjusted for:				
Current Service Cost Adjustment	458		622	
Depreciation	310		213	
Amortisation of Intangible Assets	1		7	
Net loss on Pension Scheme				
Assets/Liabilities	859		851	
Provision for liabilities and charges	109		(31)	
Decrease in Debtors	(800)		431	
(Decrease)/Increase in Creditors	585		(3,306)	
Adjustments for non-cash movements		1,522		(1,213)
Interest Payable	6		11	
Interest and Investment Income	(95)		(104)	
Adjustments for investing and financing activities		(89)		(93)
Net cash flows from Operating Activities		2		(1,638)

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

21. Cash Flow Statement – Investing Activities

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Interest Payable	(6)	(11)
Interest and Investment Income	95	104
Payment to Acquire Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible Assets	(126)	(820)
Total	(37)	(727)

22. Leases

Operating Leases

The Committee uses leased properties under the terms of operating leases. The amounts payable under these arrangements during the year amounted to £1,137,000 (2015/16: £886,000) and are included in Premises costs in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

	31 March 2017 £000	31 March 2016 £000
Not later than one year	1,221	777
Later than one year and not later than five years	4,096	3,641
Later than five years	888	1,185
Total	6,205	5,603

23. Intragroup Transactions

The intragroup transactions excluded from the Consolidated Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement during the year are as follows:

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
London Councils Limited recharge of Angel Square and Chancery Exchange costs to the Transport and Environment Committee:		
Expenditure	471	611
Income	(471)	(611)
London Councils Limited recharge of Southwark Street costs to London Councils Joint Committee:		
Expenditure	157	-
Income	(157)	-

24. Members' Allowances

The Committee paid the following amounts to members of its Committees during the year.

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Members' Allowances	197	201

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

25. Officers' Remuneration

The number of employees whose remuneration (including termination payments but excluding employer's pension contributions) was £50,000 or more in bands of £5,000 was:

Remuneration Bands	Number of Employees	
	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
£50,000 - £54,999	4	2
£55,000 - £59,999	6	9
£60,000 - £64,999	-	1
£65,000 - £69,999	2	3
£70,000 - £74,999	3	1
£75,000 - £79,999	4	2
£80,000 - £84,999	2	2
£85,000 - £89,999	1	2
£90,000 - £94,999	1	-
£95,000 - £99,999	-	4
£100,00 - £104,999	3	1
£105,000 - £109,999	1	1
£110,000 - £114,999	1	-
£120,000 - £124,999	1	2
£145,000 - £149,999	1	-
£150,000 - £154,999	-	1
£165,000 - £169,999	1	-

These amounts include payments made to Parking Adjudicators.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

25. Officers' Remuneration (continued)

The remuneration paid to the Committee's senior employees in 2016/17 is as follows:

Post Holder	Salary £	Bonus £	Compensation for Loss of Office £	Total Remuneration excluding Pension Contribution	Employer's Pension Contribution £	Total Remuneration including Pension Contribution £
Chief Executive	148,470	5,939	-	154,409	18,522	172,931
Corporate Director, Policy and Public Affairs						
Corporate Director, Services	124,169	-	-	124,169	14,900	139,069
Director, Corporate Governance	94,620	-	70,733	165,353	11,175	176,528
Director, Corporate Resources	100,373	-	-	100,373	12,045	112,418
Director, Transport and Mobility	100,373	-	-	100,373	12,045	112,418
Strategic Director, Young People Education and Skills, Community Services and Grants	109,198	-	-	109,198	13,104	122,302
Total	84,055	5,939	70,733	84,055	10,087	94,142
	761,258			837,930	91,878	929,808

The remuneration paid to the Committee's senior employees in 2015/16 is as follows:

Post Holder	Salary £	Bonus £	Compensation for Loss of Office £	Total Remuneration excluding Pension Contribution	Employer's Pension Contribution £	Total Remuneration including Pension Contribution £
Chief Executive	147,000	5,880	-	152,880	18,346	171,226
Corporate Director, Policy and Public Affairs						
Corporate Director, Services	122,940	-	-	122,940	14,753	137,693
Director, Corporate Governance	122,940	-	-	122,940	14,753	137,693
Director, Corporate Resources	99,379	-	-	99,379	11,925	111,304
Total	591,638	5,880	-	597,518	71,702	669,220

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

26. Termination Benefits

There were termination payments of £71,000 included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for 2016/17 (2015/16: £66,000).

27. External Audit Costs

The Committee incurred the following amounts in relation to the audit of the Statement of Accounts and Employers' Association Annual Return:

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Fees payable to KPMG LLP in respect of the audit of the Statement of Accounts:	36	36
Fees payable in respect of other services provided by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP during the year	- 36	23 59

Fees paid to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP in 2015/16 relate to residual charges for work carried out in connection with an objection to London Councils' 2012/13 to 2014/15 accounts.

28. Related Parties

The Committee is required to disclose material transactions with related parties – bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Committee or to be controlled or influenced by the Committee. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Committee might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have secured the ability to limit another party's ability to bargain with the Committee.

Member Boroughs

Member boroughs have direct control over the Committees activities through their membership of London Councils Leaders' Committee. The total value of income from subscriptions, contributions and other charges paid to London Councils by its member boroughs during 2016/17 was £47.009 million (2015/16: £52.494 million). The total value of expenditure on secondment fees, rent, rates, professional fees and the distribution of grants paid to member boroughs during 2016/17 was £4.063 million (2015/16: £3.821 million). On 31 March 2017, the value of debtor balances owed by member boroughs (including payments in advance) amounted to £2.406 million (2015/16: £2.642 million) and the value of creditor balances (including receipts in advance) owed to member boroughs amounted to £7.017 million (2015/16: £7.113 million).

Transport for London

A representative of Transport for London (TfL) sits on London Councils Transport and Environment Committee and therefore has influence over the activities of the Committee. The total value of income received from TfL in respect of subscriptions, contributions and charges during 2016/17 was £9.919 million (2015/16: £10.078 million). The total value of expenditure on charges during 2016/17 was £23,000 (2015/16: £21,000). On 31 March 2017, the value of debtor balances owed by TfL amounted to £174,000 (2015/16: £141,000) and the value of creditor balances owed to TfL (including receipts in advance) amounted to £301,000 (2015/16: £390,000).

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

28. Related Parties (continued)

Central Government

Central Government has effective control over the general operations of member boroughs as it is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the boroughs operate, provides the majority of their funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the boroughs have with other parties. The total value of expenditure on the registration of debts to HM Courts and Tribunal Services and other charges during 2016/17 amounted to £3.818 million (2015/16: £2.681 million). The total value of funding received from Central Government in 2016/17 amounted to £305,000 (2015/16: £408,000). On 31 March 2017, the value of debtor balances owed by central government bodies amounted to £520,000 (2015/16: £687,000) and the value of creditor balances owed to central government bodies (including receipts in advance) amounted to £7,000 (2015/16: £34,000).

British Parking Association

London Councils had a contract to run the Parking on Private Lands Appeals (POPLA) service which was funded by the British Parking Association (BPA). London Councils' former Director of Corporate Services was a Director of the British Parking Association. The Director of Corporate Services received no remuneration for his appointment with the BPA. The contract to run the POPLA service ceased in September 2015 and there were no charges in respect of the service in 2016/17 (2015/16: £499,000). The total value of expenditure paid to the BPA for subscriptions and other charges during 2016/17 was £850 (2015/16: £860). On 31 March 2017, the value of debtor balances in respect of a prepaid membership subscription amounted to £600 (2015/16: £317,000).

London Pensions Fund Authority (LPFA)

London Councils' pension scheme is administered by the LPFA and a member of London Councils Leaders Committee sits on the LPFA board. The total value of expenditure paid to the LPFA for pension payments and other charges during 2015/16 was £850,000 (2015/16: £853,000). On 31 March 2017, the value of creditor balances owed to the LPFA (including receipts in advance) amounted to £2,000 (2015/16: £1,000).

Greater London Authority

A member of London Councils Leaders' Committee was also a member of the Greater London Assembly. The total value of income received from the GLA for the operation of the Road User Charging Appeals service and other charges during 2016/17 was £804,000 (2015/16: £921,000). The total value of expenditure on contributions and other charges during 2016/17 was £106,000 (2015/16: £102,000). On 31 March 2017, the value of debtor balances owed by the GLA amounted to £284,000 (2015/16: £413,000) and the value of creditor balances owed to the GLA (including receipts in advance) amounted to £90,000 (2015/16: £89,000).

29. Grant Commitments

The value of commitments in 2017/18 is £8.053 million. Included within these amounts is £1.88 million in respect of the European Social Fund (ESF) Co-Financing Programme. The Committee will receive a contribution of £940,000 from ESF which represents 50% of the total grant expenditure under the co-financing programme.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)**28. Concessionary fares**

These accounts do not include the amount of £333.94 million (2015/16: £327.922 million) paid directly by member boroughs to Transport for London in respect of the Concessionary Fares scheme.

29. Segmental Reporting

The information in the accounts is set out in the segments based on the Committee's internal management reporting. Therefore, no further disclosures are required.

Appendix A – London Councils Grants Committee Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement 2016/17

	2016/17 Gross Expenditure £000	2016/17 Gross Income £000	2016/17 Net £000	2015/16 Gross Expenditure £000 (Restated)	2015/16 Gross Income £000 (Restated)	2015/16 Net £000 (Restated)
Cost of Services						
Borough commissioned services	7,458	(7,505)	(47)	7,304	(7,565)	(261)
ESF commissioned services	-	(517)	(517)	952	(1,416)	(464)
One off Payment to Boroughs	486	-	486	-	-	-
Cost of Services	7,944	(8,022)	(78)	8,256	(8,981)	(725)
Other Operating Expenditure	713	(618)	95	633	(528)	105
Financing and investment income and expenditure	46	(17)	29	46	(14)	32
Deficit/(Surplus) on Provision of Services	8,703	(8,657)	46	8,935	(9,523)	(588)
Re-measurement of the net defined liability			283			(397)
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			283			(397)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			329			(985)

Appendix B – London Councils Transport and Environment Committee Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement 2016/17

	2016/17 Gross Expenditure £000	2016/17 Gross Income £000	2016/17 Net £000	2015/16 Gross Expenditure £000 (Restated)	2015/16 Gross Income £000 (Restated)	2015/16 Net £000 (Restated)
Cost of Services						
Freedom Pass and Taxicard services	33,511	(34,531)	(1,020)	36,352	(37,316)	(964)
Direct Services	9,201	(10,004)	(803)	8,132	(8,601)	(469)
One off Payment to Boroughs	340	-	340	-	-	-
Cost of Services	43,052	(44,535)	(1,483)	44,484	(45,917)	(1,433)
Other Operating Expenditure	1,054	(241)	813	1,843	(950)	893
Financing and investment income and expenditure	249	(1)	248	252	(11)	241
Surplus on Provision of Services	44,355	(44,777)	(422)	46,579	(46,878)	(299)
Re-measurement of the net defined liability			1,510			(1,406)
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			1,510			(1,406)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			1,088			(1,705)

Appendix C – London Councils Joint Committee Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement 2016/17

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.

	2016/17 Gross Expenditure £000	2016/17 Gross Income £000	2016/17 Net £000	2015/16 Gross Expenditure £000 (Restated)	2015/16 Gross Income £000 (Restated)	2015/16 Net £000 (Restated)
Cost of Services						
Direct services	160	(160)	-	146	(146)	-
Externally Funded Projects	2,179	(1,845)	334	6,250	(6,250)	-
Improvement and Efficiency	178	(178)	-	196	(196)	-
Research and Commissioning	322	(322)	-	379	(379)	-
YPES Regional Activity	56	(180)	(124)	72	(72)	-
One-off Payment to Boroughs	825	-	825	825	-	825
Net Cost of Services	3,720	(2,685)	1,035	7,868	(7,043)	825
Other Operating Expenditure	6,420	(6,141)	279	6,337	(6,428)	(91)
Financing and investment income and expenditure	570	(77)	493	564	(79)	485
(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	10,710	(8,903)	1,807	14,769	(13,550)	1,219
Re-measurement of the net defined liability			3,853			(2,093)
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			3,853			(2,093)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			5,660			(874)

Appendix C – London Councils Joint Committee Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement 2016/17 (continued)

a. Consolidation Adjustments

Included within the Deficit on the Provision of Services is expenditure of £629,000 (2015/16: £611,000) and income of £629,000 (2015/16: £611,000) in respect of the premises costs of Southwark Street and Chancery Exchange which were incurred by London Councils Limited and recharged to the London Councils Joint Committee and London Councils Transport and Environment Committee. These amounts are removed on consolidation as follows:

	Gross Expenditure £000	Gross Income £000	Net £000	2015/16 Gross Expenditure £000	2015/16 Gross Income £000	2015/16 Net £000
Net Cost of Services	3,720	(2,685)	1,035	7,868	(7,043)	825
Other Operating Expenditure	6,420	(6,141)	279	6,337	(6,428)	(91)
	10,140	(8,826)	1,314	14,205	(13,471)	734
Recharge of premises costs	(629)	629	-	(611)	611	-
Amount included in Consolidated Income and Expenditure Statement	9,511	(8,197)	1,314	13,594	(12,860)	734

b. Other Operating Expenditure

Other Operating Expenditure consists of the following items:

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Staff costs	3,877	3,857
Premises costs	1,587	1,516
Other running costs	956	964
Total	6,420	6,337

GLOSSARY**Accounting Policies**

The specific principles, bases, conventions, rules and practices applied by the Council in preparing and presenting the accounts.

Accruals

The concept that income and expenditure are recognised as they are earned or incurred, not as money is received or paid.

Actuarial Gains and Losses

Changes in actuarial deficits or surpluses that arise because either actual experience or events have differed from the assumptions adopted at the previous valuation (experience gains or losses) or the actuarial assumptions have been changed.

Actuary

An independent consultant who advises on the financial position of the Pension Fund.

Balance Sheet

A statement showing the position of the Council's assets and liabilities as at 31 March in each year.

Budget

A forecast of the Committee's planned expenditure. Budgets are reviewed during the course of the financial year to take account of pay and price changes and other factors affecting the level or cost of services.

Capital Charges

A charge to service revenue accounts to reflect the cost of fixed assets used in the provision of services. The charge includes depreciation (intended to represent the cost of using the asset) and any impairment that may have occurred in the year of account.

Capital Expenditure

Expenditure on the acquisition of a fixed asset or expenditure which adds to and not merely maintains the value of an existing fixed asset.

Carrying amount

The amount at which an asset is recognised after deducting any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Change in Accounting Estimate

An adjustment of the carrying amount of an asset or a liability, or the amount of the periodic consumption of an asset, that results from the assessment of the present status of, and expected future benefits and obligations associated with, assets and liabilities. Changes in accounting estimates result from new information or new developments and, accordingly, are not correction of errors.

Consistency

The principle that the accounting treatment of like items within an accounting period and from one period to the next is the same.

Contingent

A condition which exists at the balance sheet date where the outcome will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the authority's control.

Creditors

Amounts owed by the Committee for goods received or services provided before the end of the accounting period but for which payments have not been made by the end of that accounting period.

GLOSSARY (continued)**Current Asset**

An asset that will be consumed or cease to have value within one year of the reporting date. Examples are inventories and debtors.

Current Expenditure

A general term for the direct running costs of local authority services, including employee costs and running expenses.

Current Liability

An amount which will become payable or could be called in within the next accounting period, examples are creditors and cash overdrawn.

Current Service Cost

The increase in the present value of a defined benefit obligation resulting from employee service in the current period.

Curtailments

Curtailments arise as a result of the early payment of accrued pensions on retirement on the grounds of efficiency, redundancy or where the employer has allowed employees to retire on unreduced benefits before they would otherwise have been able to do so.

Debtors

Amounts due to the Committee before the end of the accounting period but for which payments have not yet been received by the end of that accounting period.

Depreciation

The loss in value of a fixed asset due to age, wear and tear, deterioration or obsolescence.

Employee benefits

All forms of consideration given by an entity in exchange for service rendered by employees.

Events after the reporting period

Those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the accounts are authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified: a) those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period (adjusting events after the reporting period), and b) Those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period (non-adjusting events after the reporting period).

Fair Value

The amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction. In accounting terms, fair values are approximated by the present value of the cash flows that will take place over the remaining life of the financial instrument.

Fixed Assets

Tangible assets that yield benefit to the Committee and its services for a period of more than one year.

Historical Cost

This is the cost deemed to be the carrying amount of an asset as at 1 April 2007 (i.e. b/f from 31 March 2007) or at the date of acquisition, whichever date is the later, and adjusted for subsequent depreciation or impairment (if applicable).

Impairment

A reduction in the value of a fixed asset below its carrying amount on the balance sheet.

GLOSSARY (continued)**Intangible Assets**

An intangible asset is an identifiable non-monetary asset without physical substance. It must be controlled by the authority as a result of past events, and future economic or service benefits must be expected to flow from the intangible asset to the authority. The most common class of intangible asset in local government bodies is computer software.

Inventories

Assets that are: a) in the form of materials or supplies to be consumed in the production process b) in the form of materials or supplies to be consumed or distributed in the rendering of services c) held for sale or distribution in the ordinary course of operations, or d) in the process of production for sale or distribution.

Levies

A payment that a local authority is required to make to a particular body (a levying body) to meet specific services.

Material

Material omissions or misstatements of items are material if they could, individually or collectively, influence the decisions or assessments of users made on the basis of the accounts. Materiality depends on the nature or size of the omission or misstatement judged in the surrounding circumstances. The nature or size of the item, or a combination of both, could be the determining factor.

Net Realisable Value

The open market value of the asset in its existing use (or open market value in the case of non-operational assets), less the expenses to be incurred in realising the asset.

Operational Assets

Fixed assets held and occupied, used or consumed by the Committee in the direct delivery of services for which it has either a statutory or discretionary responsibility.

Past Service Cost

The increase in the present value of Pension Fund liabilities arising in the current year from previous years' service. Past service cost may be either positive (where benefits are introduced or improved) or negative (where existing benefits are reduced).

Pensions Interest Cost

The expected increase during a period in the present value of Pension Fund liabilities which arises because the benefits are due one year closer to settlement.

Post Balance Sheet Events

Those events, both favourable and unfavourable, which occur between the balance sheet date and the date on which the Statement of Accounts is signed by the responsible financial officer.

Post-Employment Benefits

Employee benefits (other than termination benefits) which are payable after the completion of employment.

Present Value of a Defined Benefit Obligation

The present value, without deducting any plan assets, of expected future payments required to settle the obligation resulting from employee service in the current and prior periods.

Provision

An amount set aside in the accounts for liabilities or losses which are certain or very likely to occur but uncertain as to the amounts involved or the dates on which they will arise.

GLOSSARY (continued)**Prudence**

The concept that revenue is not anticipated but is recognised only when realised in the form either of cash or other assets and full and proper allowance is made for all known and foreseeable losses and liabilities.

Recharges

The collective term for accounting entries representing transfers of (or to cover) costs initially debited elsewhere. They therefore comprise apportionments and charges.

Recoverable Amount

The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of fair value less costs to sell (i.e. net selling price) and its value in use.

Related Parties

Two or more parties are related parties when at any time during the financial period:

- (i) one party has direct or indirect control of the other party; or
- (ii) the parties are subject to common control from the same source; or
- (iii) one party has influence over the financial and operational policies of the other party to an extent that the other party might be inhibited from pursuing at all times its own separate interests; or
- (iv) the parties, in entering a transaction, are subject to influence from the same source to such an extent that one of the parties to the transaction has subordinated its own separate interest.

Related Party Transaction

A related party transaction is a transfer of resources or obligations between related parties, regardless of whether a price is charged. Related party transactions exclude transactions with any other entity that is a related party solely because of its economic dependence on the authority or the government of which it forms part.

Remuneration

All sums paid to or receivable by an employee and sums due by way of expense allowances (as far as those sums are chargeable to UK income tax) and the money value of any other benefits received other than in cash. Pension contributions payable by the employer are excluded.

Reserves

Sums set aside to finance future spending for purposes falling outside the definition of a provision. Reserves set aside for stated purposes are known as earmarked reserves. The remainder are unallocated reserves, often described as balances.

Residual Value

The residual value of an asset is the estimated amount that an entity would currently obtain from disposal of the asset, after deducting the estimated costs of disposal, if the asset were already of the age and in the condition expected at the end of its useful life.

Short-Term Employee Benefits

Employee benefits (other than termination benefits) that fall due wholly within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service.

Specific Grants

These are grants paid by various government departments outside the main formula. They include ring-fenced grants and specific formula grants.

Specific Reserves

Reserves set aside for a specific purpose or a particular service or type of expenditure.

GLOSSARY (continued)

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible assets that yield benefits to the Authority and the services it provides for a period of more than one year.

Useful Life

The period over which benefits will be derived from the use of a fixed asset.

VAT

An indirect tax levied on most business transactions and on many goods and some services. Input Tax is VAT charged on purchases. Output Tax is VAT charged in sales.

LONDON COUNCILS GRANTS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

LONDON COUNCILS – GRANTS COMMITTEE

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NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**REVIEW OF THE YEAR****Introduction**

London Councils is committed to fighting for more resources for the capital and getting the best possible deal for London's 33 local authorities.

Much of our work consists of lobbying the government and others on behalf of our member councils, not just for a fair share of resources, but also to protect and enhance council powers to enable them to do the best possible job for their residents and local businesses.

We develop policy and do all we can to help our boroughs improve the services they deliver. We also run a range of services ourselves, all designed to make life better for Londoners.

London Councils Grants Committee

The London Councils Grants Programme commissions voluntary organisations through grants to provide specified services. The Programme operates under the London Boroughs Grants Scheme, which was established under Section 48 of the Local Government Act 1985. Each London Borough and the City of London contribute to the costs of the Programme on a per-capita basis. The Programme is overseen by the London Councils Grants Committee. Each borough and the City have a representative on the Committee. The Committee meets regularly to make decisions on grants policies, awards of grants, and oversight of the delivery of the Programme to secure full value for money.

The Programme is accounted for separately from other activities of London Councils.

Under the legislation, the City of London is the "designated council" for the scheme, and has the responsibility under S.151 of the 1972 Local Government Act for adequate financial administration for the scheme.

The London Councils Leaders' Committee sets the overall strategy for grants and the budget.

Financial Year 2016/17

The financial year 2016/17 saw several developments. First, the Chair of the Grants Committee, Cllr Paul McGlone was re-elected for a fifth term. He oversaw:

- The delivery of the final year of the 2013/17 four-year Programme
- The Review of the 2013/17 Grants Programme.

The 2013/17 Programme has operated under the following principles and priorities set by the Leaders' Committee:

Principles

- Commissioning services that deliver effectively and can meet the outcomes specified by London Councils, rather than funding organisations
- Commissioning services where there is clear evidence of a need to complement existing provisions that support organisations deliver services
- Commissioning services where it is economical and efficient to deliver services on a London wide basis or where mobility is key to delivery of a service to secure personal safety

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Commissioning services that cannot reasonably be delivered locally, at a borough or sub-regional level
- Commissioning services that work with statutory and non-statutory partners and contribute to meeting the objectives of the Equality Act 2010.

Services which satisfied the principles outlined above had to operate within at least one of the following priority areas were they to be eligible for funding from the scheme:

Priorities

1. Tackling homelessness among individuals and households through direct services and/or developing new ways of working with partners to generate housing and accommodation and access services:
 - early intervention and prevention of homelessness
 - emergency accommodation and advice services
 - support services that promote new ways to prevent homelessness and access to accommodation
2. Preventing sexual; and domestic violence:
 - prevention
 - emergency accommodation and advice and support for people and organisations
 - services that support women and communities affected by forced marriage and harmful practice.
3. Tackling poverty by promoting access to employment and training drawing on opportunities for match funding provided by boroughs working with London Councils and the European Social Fund:
 - preparatory training and support to improve access to employment and further training opportunities for people not eligible for the Work Programme affected by long term conditions.
4. Providing support to London's voluntary organisations enabling those organisations gain access to funds, skills and resources to provide effective services to communities:
 - services that support voluntary organisations deliver effectively and including opportunities for front-line services to gain from funding opportunities
 - services that achieve efficiencies and improve stability through delivering services jointly through partnerships or mergers.

Review

The Review of the 2013/17 Grants Programme concluded that any successor programme should operate under the same principles (set out above). It considered substantial evidence gathered including two public consultations. The Leaders and Grants Committees decided that there would be a new, four-year Grants Programme from April 2017. This would have three priorities:

- Tackling homelessness
- Preventing and stopping sexual and domestic violence
- Tackling poverty through employment (jointly funded by the European Social Fund).

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

It was agreed that funded projects would be more tightly focused on outcomes, that there should be more project visibility in and sharper accountability to boroughs, and better joint work between providers in different priorities.

In its work, the Grants Committee is supported by the Grants and Community Services division of officers in London Councils. They managed the performance of the organisations involved in the 2013/17 programme which are currently being brought to a close. They defined the specifications for services under the priorities of the new 2017/21 programme, seeking applications from interested organisations, evaluating the applications and advising the Committee on which organisations to award commissions.

The Grants Committee made the awards to selected organisations. Officers have worked with these organisations to ensure they start operation in early 2017/18 and have advised the Committee on the performance management framework for the 2017/21 programme.

In addition, the Committee funded London Councils to deliver a work plan for Leadership in the Third Sector for the 2017/21 programme. This involves working with the City Bridge Trust and, where available, other independent funders, to ensure that local needs identified by boroughs are reflected in their decision making. It also involves working with London Funders and other stakeholders to take forward work on voluntary sector infrastructure which is mapped out in the *Way Ahead* report.

London Funders

London Councils works closely with London Funders, reflecting the challenges of delivering services efficiently and attracting other funding for voluntary organisations in London. London Councils provides an annual subscription of £60,000 to London Funders on behalf of the London boroughs.

European Social Fund

The European Social Fund (ESF) was set up to improve employment opportunities in the European Union and so help raise standards of living. It aims to help people fulfil their potential by giving them better skills and better job prospects. London Councils operates an ESF programme. This contains activities, outputs and results that contribute to the employment and skills priorities in the regional ESF framework.

Priority 3 of the Grants Committee's programme – tackling poverty through employment – is half funded by ESF. Six new projects were commissioned in the summer of 2016.

Looking forward to 2017/18

We look forward to continuing to tackle the priorities set by Leaders' and Grants Committees in the coming year. We will do this by investing in front-line projects on behalf of London boroughs, which are, in some relevant cases, also match funded by ESF. We will manage the performance of these commissions and report to the Committee on a regular basis. We will take forward work on Leadership in the Third Sector to ensure that boroughs' views on changes in voluntary sector infrastructure are clearly represented.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

Financial Review

The Committee's accounts for the 2016/17 financial year are set out over the following pages. They include:

- i) Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts (page 6);
- ii) Expenditure and Funding Analysis (page 16);
- iii) Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (page 17);
- iv) Movement in Reserves Statement (page 18);
- v) Balance Sheet (page 19);
- vi) Cash Flow Statement (page 20); and
- vii) Notes to the Accounts (page 21 - 41).

Revenue expenditure

The Leaders' Committee approved a gross expenditure budget for 2016/17 in December 2015 of £10.486 million, of which £9.385 million related to payments to commissioned services, with the residual budget of £615,000 relating to management and administration expenditure. The London boroughs gave agreement to the budget by the statutory two-thirds majority before the end of January 2016.

Set out below is a comparison between the actual and estimates for the year.

	Revised Budget £000	Actual £000	Variation £000
Expenditure	10,486	8,657	(1,829)
Income	(10,000)	(8,640)	1,360
Net cost of services	486	17	(469)
Interest Expense	-	29	29
Deficit for the year	486	46	(440)
Net Transfer from Reserves	(486)	(563)	(77)
Surplus for the year (including transfer from reserves)	-	(517)	(517)

The surplus of £517,000 is attributable to a break even result in relation to London Councils main grants programme and a surplus of £517,000 in the European Social Fund (ESF) match funded grants programme.

The break even position on the main grants programme is attributable to:

- an underspend of £47,000 in relation to payments for commissioned services during 2016/17; and
- a net overspend of £47,000 in relation to grants administration expenditure attributable to overspends of £50,000 in respect of salary costs and £35,000 for general running costs and central recharges, offset by £17,000 from investment income received on Committee reserves, an underspend of £14,000 in respect of the London Funders Group subscription attributable to the ESF programme, plus an additional transfer from reserves of £6,000 to cover the cost of the post providing support to the Third Sector from the start of March 2017. The net overspend position is primarily attributable to work surrounding the reletting of the commissions in accordance with the priority themes agreed by the Leaders' Committee, with effect from 1 April 2017.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

For the ESF/borough funded commissions, the surplus of £517,000 is attributable to the new 2016-18 ESF programme, which started in November 2016. Payments of £846,000 have been made to providers; however, all of these payments are treated as payments in advance and therefore do not impact on the 2016/17 outturn figures. Similarly, 50% of this amount (£423,000) that is funded out of the £1 million boroughs contributions levied during 2016/17 is treated as deferred income and equally has no impact on the provisional results for the year. Administrative costs, estimated to be in the region of £123,000, including the contribution of £14,000 to the London Funders Group, have been incurred in respect of the new programme, for which grant of £63,000 is expected to accrue.

The Balance Sheet shows that the General Fund reserve balance has increased from £1.993 million at the beginning of the year to £2.018 million at the year-end. A balance is held in the General Fund reserve for cash flow purposes.

The Committee has arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of its resources.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Committee's Responsibilities

The Committee is required to:

- make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Committee, that officer is the Chamberlain of the City of London;
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets; and
- approve the Statement of Accounts.

The Chamberlain of the City of London's Responsibilities

The Chamberlain of the City of London is responsible for the preparation of the Committee's statement of accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ("the Code").

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Chamberlain of the City of London has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent; and
- complied with the Code.

The Chamberlain of the City of London has also:

- kept proper accounting records which were up to date; and
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Responsible Finance Officer's Certificate

I certify that the Statement of Accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Committee at 31 March 2017 and of its income and expenditure for the year ending 31 March 2017.



Dr Peter Kane CPFA
The Chamberlain, City of London

21 September 2017

APPROVAL CERTIFICATE

At a meeting of London Councils' Audit Committee held at 59½ Southwark Street, London, SE1 0AL on 21 September 2017, the statement of accounts were approved on behalf of the Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roger Ramsey', is positioned above the printed name.

Cllr Roger Ramsey
Chair of London Councils' Audit Committee

21 September 2017

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

London Councils (the Committee) is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law, that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Committee is also responsible for securing continuous improvement in the way its functions are exercised.

In discharging this overall responsibility, the Committee is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, and which includes arrangements for the management of risk.

London Councils has approved and adopted a code of corporate governance in the form of a framework, which is consistent with the principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework Delivering Good Governance in Local Government. A copy of London Councils Corporate Governance Framework can be obtained from the Director of Corporate Governance at 59½ Southwark Street, London SE1 0AL. This statement explains how London Councils has applied this code.

The purpose of the governance framework

The governance framework comprises the systems, processes, culture and values by which the Committee is directed and controlled and such activities through which it accounts to, and engages with, its stakeholders. It enables the organisation to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate, cost-effective services.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risks of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Committee's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised, the impact should they be realised and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

The governance framework has been in place at London Councils for the year ended 31 March 2017 and up to the date of approval of the statement of accounts.

The governance framework

The key elements of the Committee's governance framework include:

- **Developing and communicating the Committee's vision** – The Committee produces an annual Corporate Business Plan which sets out its proposed purpose, themes, work programmes and services. The plan consists of two levels: a high level plan available for stakeholders and external audiences and detailed internal work plans developed for management purposes. This is informed by on-going liaison with key borough stakeholders including the Chair and all Executive portfolio holders. The Corporate Business Plan is submitted to the Leaders' Committee. There are a number of ways in which the Committee communicates with relevant stakeholders which include member briefings, committee and other meetings, briefings for senior managerial and professional colleagues in boroughs and events such as the London Councils' Summit.
- **Commitment to openness and acting in the public interest** – The Committee has adopted the Information Commissioners model publications scheme and follows the definition for joint authorities and boards. Details of the scheme and the information published are available on London Councils' website. The Committee's decisions are made by its elected members and the agendas, reports, background papers and minutes of meetings are published under this scheme.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

- **Measuring the performance of services** – The Committee produces an Annual Review at the end of each financial year which provides a summary of the key activities over the last year and highlights the key achievements. Data collected on the performance of activities and services during the year feeds into the production of a key achievements report at the year end. London Councils Corporate Management Board (CMB), the London Councils Executive and the Grants and Transport and Environment Committees receive regular financial management reports that monitor actual income and expenditure trends against approved budgets. London Councils operates a complaints procedure which provides an opportunity to put things right if an error is made and assists in the search to improve the quality of services to member authorities and to Londoners. There are also a number of internal management mechanisms, such as 1:1 review meetings and a fully embedded performance appraisal framework which monitor on-going progress against objectives.
- **Defining and documenting roles and responsibilities** – The London Councils Agreement sets out the main functions and obligations of London Councils and its member authorities. The Agreement includes the standing orders and financial regulations which provide details of the delegation arrangements in place. There is a scheme of delegations to officers in place which was last reviewed, updated and approved by the Leaders' Committee at its Annual General Meeting on 7 June 2016. There is an established protocol which provides guidance on the working relationships between elected members and officers. Additional information on the roles and responsibilities of London Councils Leaders' Committee, Executive, Grants Committee and Transport and Environment Committee are documented in their individual Terms of Reference. All London Councils officers are issued with a job description which confirms their duties within the organisation.
- **Developing, communicating and embedding codes of conduct** – All London Councils Staff have been made aware of the staff handbook which is located on the intranet site. The staff handbook sign posts staff to London Councils policies and procedures which are on the intranet. All staff are encouraged to refer to the intranet when they require guidance on London Councils policies and procedures. Reference to the staff handbook is also included in the induction training of all new staff joining London Councils with their attention specifically drawn to the financial regulations, the code of conduct, data protection and London Councils whistle blowing policy.
- **Reviewing the effectiveness of the Committee's decision-making framework** - The standing orders and financial regulations are included within the London Councils Agreement. The standing orders were last reviewed and the changes approved by Leaders' Committee on 7 June 2016. The financial regulations were also reviewed and the changes approved by the Leaders Committee on 2 June 2015. Minutes of Committee meetings are posted on London Councils website and provide an official record of decisions made.
- **Identifying and managing risks** - London Councils Risk Management Strategy and Framework was reviewed and approved by the Audit Committee in September 2016. London Councils Corporate Risk Register is primarily compiled from the Risk Registers for each of London Councils three Directorates. The Corporate Risk Register is reviewed in accordance with London Councils Risk Management Framework which includes an annual review by the Audit Committee and was last reviewed in September 2016. The Directorate Risk Registers are reviewed by the Audit Committee on a rolling basis. London Councils' Corporate Management Board ensures that the risk registers, both Directorate and Corporate, continue to support London Councils' corporate priorities, which provides members with assurance on how the risks identified are being managed.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

- **Anti-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements** – London Councils is committed to having an effective Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption strategy designed to promote standards of honest and fair conduct, prevent fraud and corruption, detect and investigate fraud and corruption, prosecute offenders, recover losses and maintain strong systems of internal control. There are two separate policies in place London Councils Whistle Blowing Policy which was last updated in July 2016 and London Councils Policy to Combat Fraud, Bribery and Corruption, which was agreed by London Councils Audit Committee in March 2014 and reviewed in February 2016. Both documents are available on London Councils' intranet and website.
- **Effective management of change and transformation** – London Councils has a framework for managing organisational change which is available to all staff on the intranet. The framework provides guidance on the statutory elements of managing change and issues that should be considered when implementing changes.
- **Financial management arrangements** – London Councils' financial management arrangements conform with the governance requirements of the CIPFA statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government.
- **Assurance arrangements** – London Councils' internal audit function is carried out by the City of London's internal audit team under a service level agreement for financial support services. These arrangements conform with the governance requirements of the CIPFA statement on the Role of the Head of Internal Audit in public service organisations and Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.
- **Discharge of the monitoring officer function** – • This is a statutory post under Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and as such is not applicable to London Councils which is a joint committee¹. However, legal advice is provided to London Councils by the City of London Corporation including governance advice and support which in a local authority would generally be provided by the borough solicitor and monitoring officer .
- **Discharge of the head of paid service function** – London Councils' Chief Executive is the head of paid service. As with all officers, the Chief Executive is issued with a job description which confirms his duties within the organisation. He is subject to appraisal arrangements with Group Leaders who assess his performance against agreed objectives.
- **Audit Committee** – London Councils' Audit Committee has its own comprehensive Terms of Reference. The Terms of Reference were reviewed by the Audit Committee on 24 September 2010. On 19 March 2015, the Audit Committee considered a revision to its Terms of Reference to include the responsibility to make a recommendation to Leaders' Committee on the appointment, reappointment and removal of the external auditor. The Audit Committee meets three times a year and is chaired by a leading member from a borough who can be a member of the Executive. The members of the Audit Committee will normally, but not necessarily, be members of London Councils Leaders' Committee and with the exception of its chair, are not members of the Executive.
- **Response to audit recommendations** – The Committee responds to information requests and queries received from its external auditor on a timely basis. External and internal audit findings and recommendations are considered by officers and appropriate responses which include implementation timescales are provided to the auditors. Audit reports, which include management responses, are presented to the Audit Committee to consider and are published along with the Committee papers on the website. The implementation of audit recommendations are monitored on a regular basis.

¹ London Councils is a joint committee of the authorities participating in the arrangements and constituted under sections 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 and section 9EB and 20 of the Local Government Act 2000, as relevant

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

- **Compliance with relevant laws and regulations** - London Councils has comprehensive financial regulations and a comprehensive set of human resources policies and procedures which are reviewed on a regular basis. These arrangements ensure compliance with all applicable statutes, regulations and other relevant statements of best practice in order to ensure that public funds are properly safeguarded and are used economically, efficiently and effectively and in accordance with the statutory and other authorities that govern their use.
- **Whistle-blowing** – London Councils has a whistle-blowing policy which is available to all staff on the intranet. The policy aims to encourage staff and others to feel confident in raising serious concerns by providing clear avenues through which those concerns can be raised and reassuring staff who raise concerns that they will not be victimised if they have a reasonable belief and the disclosure was made in good faith. It is also on the website and staff are encouraged to bring this policy and the policy to combat fraud, bribery and corruption to the attention of contractors and third parties.
- **Identifying the development needs of members and officers** – London Councils has access to a programme of training and development, which is available to all staff and can be found on the intranet. The aim of the programme is to assist in the achievement of the organisation's aims and objectives by providing opportunities for staff to gain the necessary skills and knowledge required to perform their tasks and duties effectively. London Councils also has a performance appraisal scheme which provides all staff with regular assessments of their performance and development needs in relation to their work objectives. Members have access to development opportunities in their own authorities. There is a member only section on London Councils' website which provides them with useful information, regular briefings in specific policy areas and a forum for information exchange.
- **Establishing clear channels of communication** – London Councils actively engages with relevant stakeholders when developing its work. All Committee meetings are open to the public and consultations are undertaken where relevant. London Councils issues member briefings and arranges a number of events, conferences and seminars that also provide opportunities for stakeholder engagement, as do regular meetings of officer networks. London Councils produces an Annual Review which provides a summary of the key achievements over the last year and annual statutory financial statements. Information on consultations, minutes of committee meetings and publications are posted on London Councils website www.londoncouncils.gov.uk. London Councils consults with Chief Officer groupings across boroughs in the development of its work.
- **Enhancing the accountability for service delivery and effectiveness of public service providers** - All working arrangements with public service providers are subject to signed agreements/contracts which set out the terms of the service provided. All agreements/contracts are reviewed to ensure that the roles and responsibilities of the parties involved are clearly defined and the terms are beneficial to London Councils and its member authorities. Key performance indicators are incorporated into agreements where appropriate and monitored regularly. Nominated officers are responsible for managing the outcomes of the service and establishing clear lines of communication with providers.
- **Partnership arrangements** – London Councils has a set protocol for staff to follow when working in partnership with outside bodies. A checklist is to be completed for each new partnership or project. Partnership arrangements are also subject to signed agreements which include objectives, roles and responsibilities. The performance of partnerships are monitored in the same manner as other service providers. London Councils does not currently have any material partnership arrangements.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**Review of effectiveness**

London Councils has responsibility for conducting at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the work of London Councils Corporate Management Board which has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment, the internal audit annual report and also by comments made by the external auditors in their annual audit letter and other reports. The review of the effectiveness of the governance framework includes:

- The work of Internal Audit, undertaken by the City of London under a service level agreement, and the annual opinion of the Head of Audit & Risk Management at the City of London. Internal Audit plays a central role in providing the required assurance on internal controls through its comprehensive risk-based audit of all auditable areas within a five-year planning cycle, – with key areas being reviewed annually. This is reinforced by consultation with London Councils Corporate Management Board and London Councils' Audit Committee on perceived risk and by a rigorous follow-up audit regime. The Internal Audit Section of the City of London operates, in all aspects, in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice and Public Sector Internal Audit Standards. An internal audit review of governance arrangements was carried out during 2012/13 with the outcome reported to the Audit Committee in March 2013.
- The Audit Committee's review of the governance arrangements in place during 2016/17.
- London Councils Corporate Management Board considers an annual report on Corporate Governance, which includes work completed during the current year and highlights work planned for the following year.

Areas for development during 2017/18

The review of the effectiveness of London Councils governance arrangements has revealed the following areas for development during 2017/18:

Information Governance and Security

A new legal framework on data protection will apply in the UK from 25 May 2018. The framework takes the form of a regulation called the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and replaces current legislation on data protection. Whilst the regulation has similarities with the existing Data Protection Act, it also places new obligations on organisations that hold personal and sensitive data. During 2017/18, London Councils will continue to improve its internal controls and procedures in relation to the governance and security of personal and sensitive data to ensure they are robust and comply with the new regulation. An internal audit review on information governance and security will be completed in 2016/17.

London Councils will take adequate steps over the coming year to address the above matter in order to further enhance its governance arrangements. London Councils is satisfied that these steps will address the improvement needs identified in the effectiveness review. London Councils will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

Significant governance issues

There are no significant governance issues.



John O'Brien
Chief Executive

21 September 2017



Cllr Claire Kober OBE
Chair of London Councils

21 September 2017

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LONDON COUNCILS GRANTS COMMITTEE

We have audited the financial statements of London Councils Grants Committee (The Committee) for the year ended 31 March 2017 on pages 16 to 41. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17.

This report is made solely to the members of the Committee, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of the Committee, as a body, those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members of the Committee, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the Chamberlain of the City of London and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities for the statement of accounts, the Chamberlain of the City of London is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom and for being satisfied that the financial statements give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit, and express an opinion on, the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Committee's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Chamberlain of the City of London; and the overall presentation of the financial statements.

In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Narrative Statement to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Committee as at 31 March 2017 and of the Committee's expenditure and income for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LONDON COUNCILS GRANTS COMMITTEE (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We to report to you if:

- the Annual Governance Statement set out on pages 8 to 13 does not reflect compliance with 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: a Framework' (CIPFA/SOLACE 2016 Edition); or
- the information given in the Narrative Statement for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is not consistent with the financial statements.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.



Neil Hewitson
For and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
15 Canada Square
London
E14 5GL

25 September 2017

EXPENDITURE AND FUNDING ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by the Committee in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Consolidated Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

	2016/17	2016/17	2016/17	2015/16	2015/16	2015/16
	Net Expenditure Chargeable to Usable Reserves £000	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis £000	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £000	Net Expenditure Chargeable to Usable Reserves £000	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis £000	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £000
Cost of Services						
Borough commissioned services	(47)	-	(47)	(261)	-	(261)
ESF commissioned services	(517)	-	(517)	(464)	-	(464)
One off Payment to Boroughs	486	-	486	-	-	-
Net Cost of Services	(78)	-	(78)	(725)	-	(725)
Other Operating Expenditure	70	25	95	70	35	105
Financing and investment income and expenditure	(17)	46	29	(14)	46	32
(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	(25)	71	46	(669)	81	(588)
Opening Usable Reserve Balance	(1,993)			(1,324)		
Surplus	(25)			(669)		
Closing Usable Reserve Balance	(2,018)			(1,993)		

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.

	Notes	2016/17 Gross Expenditure £000	2016/17 Gross Income £000	2016/17 Net £000	2015/16 Gross Expenditure £000 (Restated)	2015/16 Gross Income £000 (Restated)	2015/16 Net £000 (Restated)
Cost of Services							
Borough commissioned services		7,458	(7,505)	(47)	7,304	(7,565)	(261)
ESF commissioned services		-	(517)	(517)	952	(1,416)	(464)
One off Payment to Boroughs		486	-	486	-	-	-
Cost of Services		7,944	(8,022)	(78)	8,256	(8,981)	(725)
Other Operating Expenditure	8	713	(618)	95	633	(528)	105
Financing and investment income and expenditure	9	46	(17)	29	46	(14)	32
Deficit/(Surplus) on Provision of Services		8,703	(8,657)	46	8,935	(9,523)	(588)
Re-measurement of the net defined liability	10			283			(397)
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure				283			(397)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure				329			(985)

MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Committee, analysed into usable reserves and unusable reserves. The surplus or deficit on the provision of services line shows the true economic cost of providing the Committee's services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

	2016/17		2015/16		Total Committee Reserves
	Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Committee Reserves
	£000	£000	£000 (Restated)	£000 (Restated)	£000 (Restated)
Balance at 1 April	1,993	(1,252)	1,324	(1,568)	(244)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(46)	(283)	588	397	985
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (note 7)	71	(71)	81	(81)	-
Increase/(Decrease)	25	(354)	669	316	985
Balance at 31 March	2,018	(1,606)	1,993	(1,252)	741

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2017

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Committee. The net assets or liabilities of the Committee (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Committee. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the Committee may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use. The second category of reserves is those that the authority is not able to use to provide services. This category includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses such as the Pension Reserve.

	Note	31 March 2017 £000	31 March 2016 £000
Short Term Debtors	12	909	-
Cash and Cash Equivalents	13	2,288	2,303
Current Assets		3,197	2,303
Short Term Creditors	14	(1,187)	(319)
Current Liabilities		(1,187)	(319)
Other Long Term Liabilities	10	(1,598)	(1,243)
Long Term Liabilities		(1,598)	(1,243)
Net Assets		412	741
Usable Reserves		2,018	1,993
Unusable Reserves	15	(1,606)	(1,252)
Total Reserves		412	741

The notes on pages 21 to 41 form part of the accounts.



Dr Peter Kane CPFA
The Chamberlain, City of London

21 September 2017

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Committee during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Committee generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing, and financing activities. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute towards the Committee's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the Committee.

	2016/17	2015/16
	£000	£000
Net (deficit)/surplus on the provision of services	(46)	588
Adjustments to net (deficit)/surplus on the provision of services for non-cash movements	31	497
Adjustments for items included in the net (deficit)/surplus on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities	(17)	(14)
Net cash flows from Operating Activities (note 16)	(32)	1,071
Investing Activities (note 17)	17	14
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(15)	1,085
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April	2,303	1,218
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March	2,288	2,303

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**1. Accounting Policies****a General Principles**

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Committee's transactions for the 2016/17 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2017. The Committee prepares its accounts in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17.

The Statement of Accounts have been prepared with the overriding requirement that it gives a 'true and fair' view of the financial position, performance and cash flows of the Committee.

The Statement of Accounts has been prepared with reference to:

- The objective of providing financial information about the reporting authority that is useful to existing and potential investors, lenders and other creditors in making decision about providing resources to it;
- The objective of providing information about the Committee's financial performance, financial position and cash flows that is useful to a wide range of users for assessing the stewardship of the Committee's management and for making economic decisions;
- The objective of meeting the common needs of most users focusing on the ability of the users to make economic decisions, the needs of public accountability and the stewardship of the Committee's resources;
- The accrual basis of accounting;
- The following underlying assumptions;
 - Going concern basis.
- The following qualitative characteristics:
 - Relevance;
 - Materiality; and
 - Faithful representation.
- The following enhancing qualitative characteristics:
 - Comparability;
 - Verifiability;
 - Timeliness; and
 - Understandability.

The accounting convention adopted in the Statement of Accounts is historical cost.

The accounting policies have been consistently applied.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

b Accruals of Income and Expenditure

The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis which means that income and expenditure are accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. In particular:

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Committee transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Committee;
- Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the Committee can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Committee;
- Expenses in relation to services received (including those services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when services are received, rather than when payments are made;
- Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract;
- Where income and expenditure has been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where it is doubtful that debts will be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected;
- Income and expenditure are credited and debited to the relevant category within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, unless they represent capital receipts or capital expenditure; and
- Creditors for grants outstanding to voluntary organisations at the year-end are included where approved by Committee, the circumstances of the voluntary organisation have not changed since approval, and evidence shows that expenditure in respect of the grant has been incurred. Creditors for ESF grants are recognised where grant claims received from voluntary organisations exceed payments made to the claimant.

c Allocation of Income

Income, where possible, is allocated to the specific service area to which it relates or offsets specific expenditure. Income that is not directly attributable to a particular service is apportioned to other expenditure categories based on budgeted expenditure.

d Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are investments that mature in three months or less from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Committee's cash management.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

e Contingent Liabilities

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the authority a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Committee. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably. Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts.

f Employee Benefits

Benefits Payable During Employment

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled within 12 months of the year-end. They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits for current employees and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Committee. An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements (or any form of leave e.g. flexi leave) earned by employees but not taken before the year-end which employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable in the following accounting year, being the period in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services, but then reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement so that holiday benefits are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the holiday absence occurs.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Committee to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy and are charged on an accruals basis when the Committee is demonstrably committed to the termination of the employment of an officer or group of officers or making an offer to encourage voluntary redundancy.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Authority to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Post Employment Benefits

As part of the terms and conditions of employment, officers of the Committee are offered membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme administered by the London Pensions Fund Authority (LPFA). The scheme provides defined benefits to its members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as officers work for the Committee.

This scheme is accounted for as a final salary defined benefit scheme:

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

- The liabilities of the pension fund attributable to the Committee are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, projected earnings of current employees etc.
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices using, a discount rate of 2.8% (2015/16: 3.8%).
- The assets of the pension fund attributable to the Committee are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:
 - Quoted securities – current bid price;
 - Unquoted securities – professional estimate;
 - Unutilised securities – current bid price; and
 - Property – market value.
- The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into the following components:
 - Current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year debited to the Staff Costs line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked;
 - Past service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years debited to the Staff Costs line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement;
 - Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset), i.e. net interest expense for the Committee – the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability (asset) that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – this is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability (asset) at the beginning of the period – taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability (asset) during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments;
 - Return on plan assets – excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure;
 - Actuarial gains and losses – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure; and
 - Contributions paid to the pension fund – cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)**1. Accounting Policies (continued)**

In accordance with the Code of Practice, the General Reserve balance is charged with the actual amount payable by the Committee to the pension fund and not the amount calculated according to the accounting standard. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, there are transfers to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the impact of the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end. The negative balance that arises on the Pension Reserve measures the beneficial impact to the General Reserve of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits are earned by employees.

The actuarial gains and losses are charged to Other Comprehensive Income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement with a corresponding entry in the Pensions Reserve.

g Exceptional Items and Prior Period Adjustments

When items of income and expense are material, their nature and amount is disclosed separately, either on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement or in the notes to the accounts, depending on how significant the items are to an understanding of the Committee's financial performance.

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting estimates are accounted for prospectively, i.e. in the current and future years affected by the change and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effect of transactions, other events and conditions on the Committee's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively (unless stated otherwise) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied. Material errors discovered in prior period figures are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the period.

h Financial Instruments**Financial Liabilities**

Financial liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Committee becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value and carried at amortised cost. Annual charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. The effective rate of interest is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments over the life of the instrument to the amount at which it was originally recognised.

Currently the Committee has no borrowings.

Financial Assets

Financial Assets are receivables that have fixed or determinable payments but are not quoted in an active market. The assets are initially measured at fair value, and subsequently measured at their amortised cost.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)**i Government Grants and Contributions**

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third party contributions are recognised as due to the Committee when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the Committee will comply with the conditions attached to the payments; and
- the grants will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the Committee are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

j Intangible Assets

Expenditure of £1,000 or more on non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are controlled by the Committee as a result of past events (e.g. software licences) is capitalised when it is expected that future economic benefits or service potential will flow from the intangible asset to the Committee. Intangible assets are measured initially at cost and amortised over the life of the asset.

k Interest Income

Interest is credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statements of the constituent committees based on average cash balances held by the City of London and invested in accordance with their Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy, which is approved by the City of London's Financial Investment Board.

l Overheads

Central overhead costs identified as directly attributable to a particular funding stream are allocated in full to that funding stream. Where such costs are not directly attributable, they are re-charged across the funding streams using the most relevant apportionment basis, from the list below:

- Number of desk spaces;
- Full Time Equivalent units;
- Absolute value of transactions; and
- Volume of transactions.

m Property, Plant and Equipment

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, or for administrative purposes and that are expected to be used during more than one financial year are classified as Property, Plant and Equipment. Expenditure on the acquisition, creation, enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment subject to a de minimis level of £1,000, is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Committee and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (i.e. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)**1. Accounting Policies (continued)**

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

- the purchase price; and
- any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

Assets are then carried in the Balance Sheet at their depreciated historical costs.

Assets are depreciated on a straight line basis, starting after the year of acquisition, over their economic useful life as follows:

- Leasehold Improvements – the lower of 10 years or the remaining period left on the lease
- Furniture and Equipment:
 - Furniture and Fittings – 5 years;
 - Computer Hardware – 3 years.

Where an item of Property, Plant and Equipment has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item, the components are depreciated separately.

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposal (if any) are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

n Reserves

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for retirement and employee benefits and do not represent usable resources for the Committee.

o Value Added Tax

Value Added Tax (VAT) is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. VAT receivable is excluded from income.

2. Restatement of Comparatives

The comparatives of the Comprehensive income and Expenditure Statement have been restated to reflect the new requirement to include a segmental analysis that reports performance on the same basis that the Committee operates, monitors and manages its financial performance. The changes to the Code also require the inclusion of a new Expenditure and Funding Analysis as well as some minor changes to the format of the Movement in Reserves Statement. The changes do not have a financial impact on the Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure or the Net Assets for the year.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

3. Accounting Standards that have been Issued but not yet adopted

The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 (the Code) has introduced changes in accounting policies which will be required from 1 April 2017. If these had been adopted for the financial year 2016/17 there would be no material changes to the Committee's accounts as detailed below.

IAS17 Statement of Cash Flows – There has been a narrow scope amendment to this standard which require entities to provide a reconciliation of the amounts in the opening and closing Balance Sheet for each item for which cash flows have been, or would be, classified as financing activities and disclose matters that are relevant to understanding the entity's liquidity, such as restrictions that affect the decisions of an entity to use cash and cash equivalent balances. This amendment will not have a material impact on the Committee's accounts.

Amendments to IFRS10 Consolidated Financial Statements, IFRS 12 Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities, IAS 28 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures – The amendments confirm that the exemption from preparing consolidated financial statements for an intermediate parent entity is available to a parent entity that is a subsidiary of an investment entity, even if the investment entity measures all of its subsidiaries at fair value. These amendments do not apply to the Committee as it is not an investment entity.

4. Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies set out in note 1, the Committee has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events.

The only critical judgement made in the Statement of Accounts is:

There is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government. However, the Committee has determined that this uncertainty is not sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the Committee might be impaired as a result of a need to reduce levels of service provision.

5. Assumptions Made about the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Committee about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the Committee's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2017 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Pensions

Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. Barnett Waddingham LLP, an independent firm of qualified actuaries, is engaged by the LPFA to provide the Committee with expert advice about the assumptions applied.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

5. Assumptions Made about the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty (continued)

The effect on the net pensions liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured. For instance, a 0.1% increase in the discount rate assumption would result in a decrease in the pension liability of £89,000. However, the assumptions interact in complex ways. During 2016/17, Barnett Waddingham LLP advised that the net pensions liability had increased by £892,000 as a result of changes in the financial assumptions.

6. Events After the Balance Sheet Date

The Statement of Accounts will be authorised for issue by the Director of Corporate Resources on 21 September 2017. Events taking place after this date are not reflected in the accounts or notes. Where events taking place before this date provided information about conditions existing at 31 March 2017, the figures in the accounts and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information.

7. Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis

This note provides a reconciliation of the main adjustments to the net expenditure chargeable to the General Reserve to arrive at the amounts in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The adjustments arise due to the difference in the accounting basis and funding basis under regulations.

Adjustments between funding and accounting basis during 2016/17:

Adjustments from General Reserves to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	Pension Adjustments £000	Accumulated Absence Adjustments £000	Total Adjustments £000
Borough commissioned services	-	-	-
ESF commissioned services	-	-	-
One off Payment to Boroughs	-	-	-
Net Cost of Services	-	-	-
Other Operating Expenditure	26	(1)	25
Financing and investment income and expenditure	46	-	46
Difference between General Reserve and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statements (Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	72	(1)	71

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

7. Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis (continued)

Adjustments between funding and accounting basis during 2015/16:

Adjustments from General Reserves to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	Pension Adjustments £000	Accumulated Absence Adjustments £000	Total Adjustments £000
Borough commissioned services	-	-	-
ESF commissioned services	-	-	-
One off Payment to Boroughs	-	-	-
Net Cost of Services	-	-	-
Other Operating Expenditure	34	1	35
Financing and investment income and expenditure	46	-	46
Difference between General Reserve and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statements (Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	80	1	81

Pension adjustments – These adjustments relate to the removal of pension contributions and the addition of *IAS19 Employee Benefits* pension related expenditure and income as follows:

- **Other Operating Expenditure** – adjustments to remove the employer pension contributions made by the Committee as allowed by statute and the replacement with current service costs and past service costs; and
- **Financing and investment income and expenditure** – adjustment for the net interest on the defined benefit liability charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Accumulated Absence adjustments – This adjustment relates to the amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements.

8. Other Operating Expenditure

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Staff costs	519	474
Premises costs	69	45
Other running costs	125	114
Total	713	633

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

9. Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Interest and Investment Income	(17)	(14)
Net loss on Pension Scheme Assets/Liabilities (see note 10)	46	46
Total	29	32

10. Pensions

As part of their terms and conditions of employment, London Councils staff are eligible to participate in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) which is a defined benefit statutory scheme administered in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013. The scheme is contracted out of the State Second Pension and currently provides benefits based on final salary and length of service on retirement. Changes to the LGPS came into effect from 1 April 2014 and any benefits accrued from this date will be based on career average revalued salary, with various protections in place for those members in the scheme before the changes take effect.

The administering authority for the Fund is the London Pensions Fund Authority (LPFA). The LPFA Board oversees the management of the Fund whilst the day to day fund administration is undertaken by a number of teams within the administering authority. Where appropriate some functions are delegated to the Fund's professional advisers.

On 1 May 2000, London Councils staff transferred into the LPFA Scheme as London Councils was granted Admitted Body status. Prior to this date, the five predecessor bodies had different pension arrangements for staff. The accumulated benefits of staff from the previous pension schemes have been transferred to the LPFA scheme.

As administering authority to the Fund, the London Pensions Fund Authority, after consultation with the Fund Actuary and other relevant parties, is responsible for the preparation and maintenance of the Funding Strategy Statement and the Statement of Investment Principles. These should be amended when appropriate based on the Fund's performance and funding.

Employers' contributions are set every three years as a result of the actuarial valuation of the Fund required by the Regulations. The next actuarial valuation of the Fund will be carried out as at 31 March 2019 and will set contributions for the period from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2023. There are no minimum funding requirements in the LGPS but the contributions are generally set to target a funding level of 100% using the actuarial valuation assumptions. Based on the triennial valuation as at 31 March 2016, the employers' contribution towards the Future Service Rate was set at 12% of pensionable pay for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2020.

On the Employer's withdrawal from the plan, a cessation valuation will be carried out in accordance with Regulation 64 of the LGPS Regulations 2013 which will determine the termination contribution due by the Employer, on a set of assumptions deemed appropriate by the Fund Actuary.

In general, participating in a defined benefit pension scheme means that the Employer is exposed to a number of risks:

- Investment risk. The Fund holds investment in asset classes, such as equities, which have volatile market values and while these assets are expected to provide real returns over the long-term, the short-term volatility can cause additional funding to be required if a deficit emerges;

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

10. Pensions (continued)

- Interest rate risk. The Fund's liabilities are assessed using market yields on high quality corporate bonds to discount the future liability cashflows. As the Fund holds assets such as equities the value of the assets and liabilities may not move in the same way;
- Inflation risk. All of the benefits under the Fund are linked to inflation and so deficits may emerge to the extent that the assets are not linked to inflation; and
- Longevity risk. In the event that the members live longer than assumed a deficit will emerge in the Fund. There are also other demographic risks.

In addition, as many unrelated employers participate in the London Pensions Fund Authority Pension Fund, there is an orphan liability risk where employers leave the Fund but with insufficient assets to cover their pension obligations so that the difference may fall on the remaining employers.

All of the risks above may also benefit the Employer e.g. higher than expected investment returns or employers leaving the Fund with excess assets which eventually get inherited by the remaining employers.

The LPFA, as administering authority, provided Barnett Waddingham LLP, an independent firm of qualified actuaries with scheme membership information as at 31 March 2016 for all employees within London Councils as part of the triennial valuation. Assets were allocated within the LPFA Pension Fund based on these calculated liabilities. The triennial valuation as at 31 March 2016 was the starting point for the 'roll forward' IAS 19 valuations. In order to assess the actuarial value of the LPFA Pension Fund's liabilities as at 31 March 2017 attributable to London Councils, scheme liabilities have been assessed by Barnett Waddingham LLP on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method, and estimate of pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels etc.

The individual committees' share of assets and liabilities of the pension scheme are not separable, therefore, all assets, liabilities, charges, returns and other costs have been allocated to each committee in accordance with the proportion of employer contributions paid by the committee as a percentage of the total paid by London Councils in the year. This approach results in an adjustment to the Defined Benefit Obligation and the Fair Value of Employer's Assets as a result of the difference between the percentage used to apportion the deficit at the start of the financial year and the percentage used at the end of the financial year.

Financial Assumptions

The financial assumptions as at 31 March 2017:

Assumptions as at:	31 March 2016 (% per annum)	31 March 2016 (% per annum)
RPI increases	3.6%	3.4%
CPI increases	2.7%	2.5%
Salary increases	4.2%	4.3%
Pension increases	2.7%	2.5%
Discount rate	2.8%	3.8%

These assumptions are set with reference to market conditions at 31 March 2017.

Our estimate of the duration of the Employer's liabilities is 22 years.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

10. Pensions (continued)

The discount rate is the annualised yield at the 22 year point on the Merrill Lynch AA rated corporate bond curve which has been chosen to meet the requirements of IAS 19 and with consideration of the duration of the Employer's liabilities. This is consistent with the approach used at the last accounting date.

The RPI increase assumption is set based on the difference between conventional gilt yields and index-linked gilt yields at the accounting date using data published by the Bank of England, specifically the 22 year point on the BoE spot inflation curve. This is consistent with the approach used at the last accounting date.

As future pension increases are expected to be based on the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) rather than RPI, we have made a further assumption about CPI which is that it will be 0.9% p.a. below RPI i.e. 2.7% p.a. We believe that this is a reasonable estimate for the future differences in the indices, based on the different calculation methods and recent independent forecasts. This is consistent with the approach used at the last accounting date.

Salaries are then assumed to increase at 1.5% p.a. above CPI in addition to a promotional scale. However, a short-term overlay has been allowed from 31 March 2016 to 31 March 2020 for salaries to rise in line with inflation.

Demographic and Statistical Assumptions

A set of demographic assumptions that are consistent with those used for the funding valuation as at 31 March 2016 have been adopted. The post retirement mortality tables have been constructed based on Club Vita analysis. These base tables are then projected using the CMI 2015 Model, allowing for a long term rate of improvement of 1.5% per annum.

The assumed life expectations from age 65 are:

	31 March 2017	31 March 2016
Retiring today:		
Males	21.9	22.4
Females	24.5	25.4
Retiring in 20 years:		
Males	24.2	24.8
Females	26.8	27.7

The following assumptions have also been made:

- Members will exchange half of their commutable pension for cash at retirement;
- Members will retire at one retirement age for all tranches of benefit, which will be the pension weighted average tranche retirement age; and
- The proportion of membership that had taken up the 50:50 option at the previous valuation date will remain the same.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

10. Pensions (continued)

The fair value of the pension scheme assets attributable to the Grants Committee at 31 March 2017:

	At 31 March 2017		At 31 March 2016	
	£000	%	£000	%
Equities	1,594	59%	1,032	47%
LDI/Cashflow matching	-	-	225	10%
Target return portfolio	568	21%	473	21%
Infrastructure	142	5%	122	5%
Commodities	-	-	10	0%
Property	137	5%	79	4%
Cash	249	9%	281	13%
	2,690	100%	2,222	100%

Quoted securities included within the assets values above have been measured at their bid value in accordance with the Code. Under the Liability Driven Investment (LDI), RPI swaps are used to hedge 25% of the Funds cashflow liability against inflation.

Previously, synthetic equities, swaps and other Liability Driven Investment were included in the LDI/Cashflow matching category with any cash collateral included in the Cash category. This year, to reflect the way that the Local Pensions Partnership show this in their asset allocation, the synthetic equities have been grouped with traditional equities and the swaps and other Liability Driven Investment are grouped as Cash. In addition, the commodities and infrastructure asset classes have been combined as infrastructure this year.

The analysis of the net value of the pension scheme assets and liabilities recognised in the Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Fair value of employer assets	2,690	2,222
Present value of scheme liabilities	(4,284)	(3,462)
Net Liability	(1,594)	(1,240)
Present value of unfunded liabilities	(4)	(3)
Net Liability in Balance Sheet	(1,598)	(1,243)

The analysis of the amounts recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Service cost	67	79
Net interest on the defined liability	46	46
Administration expenses	3	3
Total	116	128

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

10. Pensions (continued)

The reconciliation of the Defined Benefit Obligation at 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Opening Defined Benefit Obligation	(3,465)	(4,084)
Current service cost	(67)	(79)
Interest cost	(129)	(122)
Change in financial assumptions	(892)	304
Change in demographic assumptions	27	-
Experience gain on defined benefit obligation	151	-
Estimated benefits paid net of transfers	65	53
Contributions by scheme participants	(23)	(24)
Adjustment arising from apportionment of pension liability	45	487
Closing Defined Benefit Obligation	(4,288)	(3,465)

The reconciliation of the Fair Value of Employer's Assets at 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Opening Fair Value of Employer's Assets	2,222	2,524
Interest on assets	83	76
Return on assets less interest	368	(93)
Other actuarial gains	46	-
Administration expenses	(3)	(3)
Contributions by employer	45	49
Contributions by scheme participants	23	24
Estimated benefits paid plus unfunded net of transfers in	(66)	(54)
Adjustment arising from apportionment of pension liability	(28)	(301)
Closing Fair Value of Employer's Assets	2,690	2,222

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out above. The sensitivity analyses below have been determined based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period and assumes for each change that the assumption analysed changes while all the other assumptions remain constant. The assumptions in longevity, for example, assume that life expectancy increases or decreases for men and women. In practice, this is unlikely to occur, and changes in some of the assumptions may be interrelated. The estimations in the sensitivity analysis have followed the accounting policies for the scheme, ie on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method. The methods and types of assumptions used in preparing the sensitivity analysis below did not change from those used in the previous period.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

10. Pensions (continued)

Sensitivity analysis:

	£000	£000	£000
Adjustment to Discount Rate	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	4,199	4,288	4,380
Projected service cost	96	98	101
Adjustment to Long-term Salary Increases	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	4,299	4,288	4,278
Projected service cost	98	98	98
Adjustment to Pension Increases and Deferred Revaluation	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	4,369	4,288	4,209
Projected service cost	101	98	96
Adjustment to Mortality Age Rating Assumption	+1 year	None	-1 year
Present value of total obligation	4,422	4,288	4,140
Projected service cost	101	98	95

The analysis of the re-measurements in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Return on plan assets less interest	368	(93)
Other actuarial gains on assets	46	-
Change in financial assumptions	(892)	304
Change in demographic assumptions	27	-
Experience gain on defined benefit obligation	151	-
Adjustment arising from apportionment of pension liability	17	186
Re-measurements	(283)	397

The projections for the year to 31 March 2018 is as follows:

	2017/18
	£000
Service cost	98
Net interest on the defined liability	44
Administration expenses	4
Total	146
Employers contribution	33

11. Capital Commitments

There are no contractual commitments for expenditure on Property, Plant and Equipment or Intangible Assets.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

12. Short Term Debtors

	31 March 2017	31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Public corporations and trading funds	63	-
Other entities and individuals	846	-
Total	909	-

Included within the debtor balances above are payments in advance of £846,000 (2015/16: Nil) and other debtors of £63,000 (2015/16: Nil).

13. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	31 March 2017	31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Cash balances held by the City of London	2,288	2,303
Total	2,288	2,303

14. Short Term Creditors

	31 March 2017	31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Other local authorities	(423)	-
Public corporations and trading funds	-	-
Other entities and individuals	(764)	(319)
Total	(1,187)	(319)

Included within the creditor balances above are accruals of £764,000 (2015/16: £319,000) and receipts in advance of 423,000 (2015/16: Nil).

15. Unusable Reserves

	31 March 2017	31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Pensions Reserve	(1,598)	(1,243)
Accumulated Absences Reserve	(8)	(9)
Total	(1,606)	(1,252)

Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Committee accounts for post employment benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs. However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Committee makes employer's contribution to the pension fund or eventually pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pension Reserve therefore shows a substantial shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Committee has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

15. Unusable Reserves (continued)

	2016/17		2015/16	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1 April		(1,243)		(1,560)
Actuarial (loss)/gain on pension assets and liabilities		(283)		397
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(117)		(129)	
Employer's pensions contribution and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	45	(72)	49	(80)
Balance at 31 March		(1,598)		(1,243)

Accumulated Absences Reserve

The Accumulated Absences Reserve absorbs the differences that would otherwise arise on the General Reserve from accruing for compensated absences earned but not taken in the year, e.g. annual leave entitlement carried forward at 31 March. Statutory arrangements require that the impact on the General Reserve is neutralised by transfers to or from the Reserve.

	2016/17		2015/16	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1 April		(9)		(8)
Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	9		8	
Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	(8)		(9)	
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		1		(1)
Balance at 31 March		(8)		(9)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

16. Cash Flow Statement – Operating Activities

	2016/17 £000	£000	2015/16 £000	£000
Surplus/(Deficit) on Provision of Services		(46)		588
Adjusted for:				
Current service cost adjustment	26		34	
Amortisation of intangible assets	-		1	
Net loss on pension scheme assets/liabilities	46		46	
Increase/(Decrease) in debtors	(909)		433	
Decrease in creditors	868		(17)	
Adjustments for non-cash movements		31		497
Interest and Investment Income	(17)		(14)	
Adjustments for investing and financing activities		(17)		(14)
Net cash flows from Operating Activities		(32)		1,071

17. Cash Flow Statement – Investing Activities

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Interest and Investment Income	17	14
Total	17	14

18. Members' Allowances

The Committee paid the following amounts to members of its Committees during the year.

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Members Allowances	19	19

19. Officers' Remuneration

There are no employees whose remuneration (including termination payments but excluding employer's pension contributions) was £50,000 or more (2015/16: Nil).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

19. Officers' Remuneration (continued)

The salaries of the senior officers disclosed above are allocated between London Councils Joint Committee, Grants Committee and Transport and Environment Committee. The allocation of their salary costs to the Grants Committee are as follows:

- Corporate Director, Services – 14% (2015/16: 25%)
- Director, Corporate Governance – 5% (2015/16: 5%)
- Strategic Director, Young People Education and Skills, Community Services and Grants – 16% (2015/16: Nil) from 5 December 2016

Senior officers remuneration during 2016/17

Post Holder	Salary £	Compensation for Loss of Office £	Pension Contributions £	Total Remuneration £
Corporate Director – Services	13,503	10,101	1,596	25,200
Director – Corporate Governance	5,019	-	602	5,621
Strategic Director, Young People Education and Skills, Community Services and Grants	4,229	-	507	4,736
Total	22,751	10,101	2,705	35,557

Senior officers remuneration during 2015/16

Post Holder	Salary £	Compensation for Loss of Office £	Pension Contributions £	Total Remuneration £
Corporate Director – Services	30,735	-	3,688	34,423
Director – Corporate Governance	4,969	-	596	5,565
Total	35,704	-	4,284	39,988

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

20. Termination Benefits

There were termination payments of £10,000 (2015/16 £3,000) included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for 2016/17.

21. External Audit Costs

The Committee incurred the following amounts in relation to the audit of the Statement of Accounts:

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Fees payable in respect of the audit of the Statement of Accounts:		
Fees payable to KPMG LLP	2	3
	2	3

22. Related Parties

The Committee is required to disclose material transactions with related parties – bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Committee or to be controlled or influenced by the Committee. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Committee might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have secured the ability to limit another party's ability to bargain with the Committee.

Member Boroughs

Member boroughs have direct control over the Committees activities through their membership of London Councils Leaders' and Grants Committees. The total value of income from subscriptions recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement from member boroughs during 2016/17 was £8.578 million (2015/16: £9.014 million). The total value of the one-off payment to boroughs during 2016/17 was £486,000 (2015/16: Nil). On 31 March 2017, there were no debtor balances owed by member boroughs (2015/16: Nil) and the value of creditor balances owed to member boroughs (including receipts in advance) amounted to £423,000 (2015/16: Nil).

23. Grant Commitments

The value of commitments in 2017/18 is £8.053 million. Included within these amounts is £1.88 million in respect of the European Social Fund (ESF) Co-Financing Programme. The Committee will receive a contribution of £940,000 from ESF which represents 50% of the total grant expenditure under the co-financing programme.

24. Consolidated Accounts

These accounts form part of the consolidated accounts for London Councils. A copy of the consolidated accounts for 2016/17 can be obtained from the Director of Corporate Resources, 59½ Southwark Street, London, SE1 0AL.

25. Segmental Reporting

The information in the accounts is set out in the segments based on the Committee's internal management reporting. Therefore, no further disclosures are required.

GLOSSARY**Accounting Policies**

The specific principles, bases, conventions, rules and practices applied by the Council in preparing and presenting the accounts.

Accruals

The concept that income and expenditure are recognised as they are earned or incurred, not as money is received or paid.

Actuarial Gains and Losses

Changes in actuarial deficits or surpluses that arise because either actual experience or events have differed from the assumptions adopted at the previous valuation (experience gains or losses) or the actuarial assumptions have been changed.

Actuary

An independent consultant who advises on the financial position of the Pension Fund.

Balance Sheet

A statement showing the position of the Council's assets and liabilities as at 31 March in each year.

Budget

A forecast of the Committee's planned expenditure. Budgets are reviewed during the course of the financial year to take account of pay and price changes and other factors affecting the level or cost of services.

Capital Charges

A charge to service revenue accounts to reflect the cost of fixed assets used in the provision of services. The charge includes depreciation (intended to represent the cost of using the asset) and any impairment that may have occurred in the year of account.

Capital Expenditure

Expenditure on the acquisition of a fixed asset or expenditure which adds to and not merely maintains the value of an existing fixed asset.

Carrying amount

The amount at which an asset is recognised after deducting any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Change in Accounting Estimate

An adjustment of the carrying amount of an asset or a liability, or the amount of the periodic consumption of an asset, that results from the assessment of the present status of, and expected future benefits and obligations associated with, assets and liabilities. Changes in accounting estimates result from new information or new developments and, accordingly, are not correction of errors.

Consistency

The principle that the accounting treatment of like items within an accounting period and from one period to the next is the same.

Contingent

A condition which exists at the balance sheet date where the outcome will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the authority's control.

GLOSSARY (continued)**Creditors**

Amounts owed by the Committee for goods received or services provided before the end of the accounting period but for which payments have not been made by the end of that accounting period.

Current Asset

An asset that will be consumed or cease to have value within one year of the reporting date. Examples are inventories and debtors.

Current Expenditure

A general term for the direct running costs of local authority services, including employee costs and running expenses.

Current Liability

An amount which will become payable or could be called in within the next accounting period, examples are creditors and cash overdrawn.

Current Service Cost

The increase in the present value of a defined benefit obligation resulting from employee service in the current period.

Curtailments

Curtailments arise as a result of the early payment of accrued pensions on retirement on the grounds of efficiency, redundancy or where the employer has allowed employees to retire on unreduced benefits before they would otherwise have been able to do so.

Debtors

Amounts due to the Committee before the end of the accounting period but for which payments have not yet been received by the end of that accounting period.

Depreciation

The loss in value of a fixed asset due to age, wear and tear, deterioration or obsolescence.

Employee benefits

All forms of consideration given by an entity in exchange for service rendered by employees.

Events after the reporting period

Those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the accounts are authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified: a) those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period (adjusting events after the reporting period), and b) Those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period (non-adjusting events after the reporting period).

Fair Value

The amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction. In accounting terms, fair values are approximated by the present value of the cash flows that will take place over the remaining life of the financial instrument.

Fixed Assets

Tangible assets that yield benefit to the Committee and its services for a period of more than one year.

Historical Cost

This is the cost deemed to be the carrying amount of an asset as at 1 April 2007 (i.e. b/f from 31 March 2007) or at the date of acquisition, whichever date is the later, and adjusted for subsequent depreciation or impairment (if applicable).

GLOSSARY (continued)**Impairment**

A reduction in the value of a fixed asset below its carrying amount on the balance sheet.

Intangible Assets

An intangible asset is an identifiable non-monetary asset without physical substance. It must be controlled by the authority as a result of past events, and future economic or service benefits must be expected to flow from the intangible asset to the authority. The most common class of intangible asset in local government bodies is computer software.

Inventories

Assets that are: a) in the form of materials or supplies to be consumed in the production process b) in the form of materials or supplies to be consumed or distributed in the rendering of services c) held for sale or distribution in the ordinary course of operations, or d) in the process of production for sale or distribution.

Levies

A payment that a local authority is required to make to a particular body (a levying body) to meet specific services.

Material

Material omissions or misstatements of items are material if they could, individually or collectively, influence the decisions or assessments of users made on the basis of the accounts. Materiality depends on the nature or size of the omission or misstatement judged in the surrounding circumstances. The nature or size of the item, or a combination of both, could be the determining factor.

Net Realisable Value

The open market value of the asset in its existing use (or open market value in the case of non-operational assets), less the expenses to be incurred in realising the asset.

Operational Assets

Fixed assets held and occupied, used or consumed by the Committee in the direct delivery of services for which it has either a statutory or discretionary responsibility.

Past Service Cost

The increase in the present value of Pension Fund liabilities arising in the current year from previous years' service. Past service cost may be either positive (where benefits are introduced or improved) or negative (where existing benefits are reduced).

Pensions Interest Cost

The expected increase during a period in the present value of Pension Fund liabilities which arises because the benefits are due one year closer to settlement.

Post Balance Sheet Events

Those events, both favourable and unfavourable, which occur between the balance sheet date and the date on which the Statement of Accounts is signed by the responsible financial officer.

Post-Employment Benefits

Employee benefits (other than termination benefits) which are payable after the completion of employment.

Present Value of a Defined Benefit Obligation

The present value, without deducting any plan assets, of expected future payments required to settle the obligation resulting from employee service in the current and prior periods.

Provision

An amount set aside in the accounts for liabilities or losses which are certain or very likely to occur but uncertain as to the amounts involved or the dates on which they will arise.

GLOSSARY (continued)**Prudence**

The concept that revenue is not anticipated but is recognised only when realised in the form either of cash or other assets and full and proper allowance is made for all known and foreseeable losses and liabilities.

Recharges

The collective term for accounting entries representing transfers of (or to cover) costs initially debited elsewhere. They therefore comprise apportionments and charges.

Recoverable Amount

The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of fair value less costs to sell (i.e. net selling price) and its value in use.

Related Parties

Two or more parties are related parties when at any time during the financial period:

- (i) one party has direct or indirect control of the other party; or
- (ii) the parties are subject to common control from the same source; or
- (iii) one party has influence over the financial and operational policies of the other party to an extent that the other party might be inhibited from pursuing at all times its own separate interests; or
- (iv) the parties, in entering a transaction, are subject to influence from the same source to such an extent that one of the parties to the transaction has subordinated its own separate interest.

Related Party Transaction

A related party transaction is a transfer of resources or obligations between related parties, regardless of whether a price is charged. Related party transactions exclude transactions with any other entity that is a related party solely because of its economic dependence on the authority or the government of which it forms part.

Remuneration

All sums paid to or receivable by an employee and sums due by way of expense allowances (as far as those sums are chargeable to UK income tax) and the money value of any other benefits received other than in cash. Pension contributions payable by the employer are excluded.

Reserves

Sums set aside to finance future spending for purposes falling outside the definition of a provision.

Reserves set aside for stated purposes are known as earmarked reserves. The remainder are unallocated reserves, often described as balances.

Residual Value

The residual value of an asset is the estimated amount that an entity would currently obtain from disposal of the asset, after deducting the estimated costs of disposal, if the asset were already of the age and in the condition expected at the end of its useful life.

Short-Term Employee Benefits

Employee benefits (other than termination benefits) that fall due wholly within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service.

Specific Grants

These are grants paid by various government departments outside the main formula. They include ring-fenced grants and specific formula grants.

Specific Reserves

Reserves set aside for a specific purpose or a particular service or type of expenditure.

GLOSSARY (continued)

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible assets that yield benefits to the Authority and the services it provides for a period of more than one year.

Useful Life

The period over which benefits will be derived from the use of a fixed asset.

VAT

An indirect tax levied on most business transactions and on many goods and some services. Input Tax is VAT charged on purchases. Output Tax is VAT charged in sales.

**LONDON COUNCILS
TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

LONDON COUNCILS - TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

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NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**REVIEW OF THE YEAR****Introduction**

London Councils Transport and Environment Committee (TEC) was formed on 1 April 2000 and first met on 20 June 2000. The responsibilities of TEC are as follows:

In the field of accessible transport, TEC is responsible for:

- negotiating and operating London's concessionary fares scheme for older and disabled people (Freedom Pass), giving free travel on London's TfL run services, such as Tube, bus and tram and most train services;
- operating the London Taxicard scheme, which provides subsidised taxi and private hire travel for people with mobility problems or who are severely visually impaired; and
- providing general, London-wide policies on accessible transport.

In the field of traffic and parking services, TEC brings together a number of functions, including:

- a statutory responsibility to set decriminalised traffic and parking penalties and other additional parking charges within London;
- a statutory responsibility to operate the Environment and Traffic Adjudicators (ETA) through London Tribunals (formerly PATAS), which allows individuals to appeal to an independent adjudicator over decriminalised environment, traffic and parking penalties and, under contract to the Greater London Authority (GLA), to provide the same service for the Road User Charging Adjudicators (RUCA);
- the operation of the Towing, Removal and Clamping Enforcement (TRACE) service, which provides 24 hour information on the recovery of towed-away vehicles;
- electronic link services between the London local authorities and the Traffic Enforcement Centre for the registration of traffic and parking enforcement debts;
- the operation of the Health Emergency Badge scheme, giving front line medical staff parking privileges when attending emergencies;
- general co-ordination of traffic and parking regulations and enforcement policies including the publication and maintenance of London-wide Codes of Practice;
- provision of advice and information on traffic and parking regulation and enforcement;
- operation and enforcement of the London Lorry Control Scheme, which controls use of residential roads by Heavy Goods Vehicles at night-time and weekends; and
- statutory responsibility under London Local Authorities Acts 2004 and 2007 for setting the level of a number of fixed penalties for some environmental, highways and public realm offences.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

TEC also aims to ensure that London boroughs' concerns and best practice are taken fully into account in the development and implementation of the whole range of transport and environment policies – in particular those developed by Government departments and the Mayor of London. It deals with a wide array of policy issues including those relating to rail, tube, buses, roads, walking and cycling, waste management, climate change, local environmental quality, energy and fuel poverty, air quality and flood risk management. London Councils' Leaders' Committee and its Executive consider transport and environment policy matters of strategic importance and the TEC Chair liaises closely with the Portfolio Holder for Infrastructure.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW**Mobility**

Around 1.2 million older and disabled London residents hold a Freedom Pass giving free travel on almost all London's public transport. London Councils is responsible for running the Freedom Pass scheme on behalf of the London local authorities.

On behalf of TEC during 2016/17 London Councils:

- Negotiated and agreed the Freedom Pass settlement for the 2017/18 with Transport for London (TfL), successfully achieving an annual reduction in the settlement for the first time in the scheme's history.
- Successfully negotiated a further two year Freedom Pass settlement agreement with the Rail Delivery Group (RDG) until March 2019, subject to annual review and 6 months' notice, when RDG are ready to move to a journey-based model.
- Negotiated and published the 2017/18 London Service Permit (LSP) Concessionary Scheme for Freedom Pass with local bus operators (non-TfL buses).
- Calculated and agreed the apportionment of 2017/18 Freedom Pass costs to boroughs.
- Completed the renewal of c.140,000 Freedom Passes which expired in March 2016.
- Implemented an online payment portal for replacement Freedom Passes.
- Retendered the Freedom Pass support services contract and agreed the award to the incumbent supplier.

On behalf of the boroughs, London Councils runs the Taxicard service to approximately 65,000 people with severe mobility and visual impairments, offering subsidised taxi and private hire vehicle journeys.

On behalf of TEC during 2016/17, London Councils has:

- Implemented a charge of £10 for lost and damaged Taxicards and developed an online payment portal.
- Agreed TfL funding for Taxicard for 2017/18.
- Started the procurement process for the Taxicard delivery contract, working with TfL to jointly procure Taxi and PHV services for both Taxicard and Dial-a-ride.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- As part of the joint procurement excise and alignment of the schemes, carried out a consultation with all Taxicard members to help assess what changes might be made, receiving 15,000 responses (23%).
- Responded to the London Assembly review of personal travel budgets for mobility schemes.

Parking and Traffic

The London Lorry Control Scheme continued to provide environmental benefits, particularly protection for residents' quality of sleep by controlling the movement of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) on residential roads at night-time and at the weekend. Improvements to administrative and enforcement processes has helped see further efficiencies in the running of the service, ensuring the scheme continues to be operated at no cost to the boroughs.

In 2016/17 on behalf of TEC, London Councils has:

- Continued to manage the London Lorry Control Scheme, issuing permits and enforcing to ensure compliance.
- Completed the retender of the back office case management computer system, which has involved the development of many system improvements and efficiencies.
- Commenced the most significant review of the London Lorry Control Scheme since its commencement over 30 years ago.
- As part of the review, formed a steering group and working group, held an operators work shop event and completed an operator survey to help inform the review recommendations.

More broadly, London Councils has helped deliver effective and consistent traffic and parking policies and operations in London on behalf of TEC during 2016/17:

- Provided day-to-day advice and support to boroughs on a range of traffic and parking policy and enforcement issues, including the holding of relevant forums.
- Represented borough interests at the following groups and forums:
 - London Freight Forum and Freight Forum Steering Group
 - London Technical Advisors Group (LoTAG) Transport
 - TfL's Lane Rental Governance Committee
 - Local Authority Partnership
 - BPA – Local Authority Special Interest Group
 - London Tourist Coach Action Plan Group
 - London Automotive Forum
 - Urban Freight Working Group

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Worked on the updating of the parking code of practice for borough officers.
- Reviewed and updated the parking contravention codes list.
- Held Traffic Control Liaison Committee meetings between TfL and boroughs to discuss the implementation and maintenance of traffic signal and control equipment.
- Facilitated seminars, workshops and the sharing of good practice for the better coordination of Car Clubs across London.
- Led the Sharing Skilled Transport Staff initiative, helping to ensure better use of limited skilled resources across London.
- Helped facilitate discussions surrounding electric vehicle charging point agreements with boroughs.
- Provided debt registration services with the Traffic Enforcement Centre for the majority of London boroughs.
- Agree the apportionment of traffic signal and control equipment maintenance costs to boroughs.
- Published a code of practice for the erection of traffic signs and lighting on buildings to allow boroughs and TfL to adopt new powers, which will make it easier for them to reduce street clutter.
- Worked with boroughs and the Source London contractor to ensure consistent contracts were agreed for the provision and maintenance of electric vehicle charging points across London.
- Worked with the GLA and TfL on the Go Ultra Low City Scheme (GULCS), which will significantly increase the number of on-street electric vehicle charge points in the Capital.
- Worked with the British Parking Association (BPA) to discuss the need for consistent open parking data standards.
- Lobbied for amendments to the proposed Parking Places (Variation of Charges) Bill, to minimise increased administrative burdens on London local authorities.
- Updated and published part 1 of the parking code of practice.
- Collated, analysed and published London-wide traffic and parking enforcement and appeals statistics.

The TRACE service provides information on the whereabouts of towed vehicles to thousands of motorists across London. On behalf of TEC London Councils continues to manage and operate the TRACE service, seeing a significant take up of the online portal rather than use the telephone service.

London Councils also continue to operate the London Health Emergency Badge scheme, issuing parking waivers to eligible health workers to use in emergency situations.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)**London Tribunals**

On behalf of TEC, London Councils has:

- Continued to provide the administrative support and infrastructure to the Environment and Traffic Adjudicators and Road User Charging Adjudicators to enable them to fulfil their statutory duties in relation to approximately 40,000 environment, parking and traffic appeals and 6,000 road user charging appeals.
- Completed the support service contract transition to ensure the new system and service provider are fully operational and meeting performance targets.
- Successfully retained the GLA contract for the provision of the RUCA service, following a competitive tender process.
- Restructured the administrative support services and appointed a new Head of Support Services to manage the day to day running of the tribunal support services.

The London European Partnership for Transport (LEPT)

The London European Partnership for Transport (LEPT) helps boroughs access European funding for transport projects. In 2016/17 we have:

- Submitted the final technical and financial reports for both STARS and PTP-Cycle projects in accordance with the contractual deadlines and received all final payments.
- Continued to monitor European funding and knowledge exchange opportunities, and briefed boroughs accordingly, disseminating six funding briefings (H2020, Interreg, Interreg NWE, LIFE, and URBACT & UIA).
- Coordinated a bid on digital personalised travel planning, entitled PTP-Commute, under the Horizon 2020 calls for proposals. The first stage bid was submitted on 25 January 2017. LEPT have since been informed that the first stage bid process was successful so work will continue into the second stage.
- Brokered a place for the London Borough of Croydon in H2020 calls for proposals. LEPT are awaiting a response in regards to whether the proposal was successful.
- Provided a letter of support and are an associated partner of the ELeVATe project.
- Gave briefings at 9 Sub Regional Partnership meetings, meaning 28 Boroughs updated in person by LEPT on ad hoc bidding and funding opportunities over the year.
- Attended EU workgroups, seminars and conferences on a wide variety of sustainable transport issues.
- Successfully applied for a seat on the POLIS (one of the EU's leading transport networks) Management Committee.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)**Transport and Environment Policy**

The Committee considered and progressed a range of significant policy issues for the boroughs, including:

- Secured the Local Implementation Plan funding settlement for boroughs to deliver transport priorities;
- Secured a reclassification of TfL funding for boroughs from revenue to capital, which enables TfL to pass on capital funding to boroughs;
- Provided a series of opportunities for boroughs to influence and 'co-create' policy for the new Mayoral transport and environment strategies;
- Undertook public polling research on air quality;
- Secured a new officer resource working with the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee for London boroughs in developing capital projects to improve flood risk management;
- Secured a seconded officer to develop the Go Ultra Low City Scheme project proposals and invited expressions of interest from boroughs in installing charge points;
- Produced a short video explaining the risks of flooding for residents and businesses and how they can prepare;
- Ensured boroughs views were heard by Defra on its 25 year environment plan and the funding formula for new flood risk management capital projects;
- Shared London's experience with Defra on littering from vehicles;
- Wrote to the Secretary of State for Transport supporting rail devolution;
- Contributed to the draft London Sustainable Drainage Action Plan;
- Responded to:
 - Mayor's Phase 1 and 2 air quality consultations;
 - Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee inquiry into disposable packaging;
 - Department for Transport's Walking and Cycling Investment Strategy;
 - Parliamentary Transport Select Committee inquiry into Urban Congestion;
 - West End bus consultation;
 - London Assembly Transport Committee investigation into bus networks and bus safety;

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Transport Select Committee Inquiry into the Rail Passenger Experience;
- London Assembly Transport Committee inquiry into Energy and fuel poverty;
- Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Heat Network Investment Project
- Environmental Audit Committee call for evidence on Treasury policy on meeting recycling targets;
- London Assembly Transport Committee investigation into congestion in London;
- Gave evidence to:
 - The London Assembly Environment Committee on green infrastructure and burst water mains;
 - The London Assembly Transport Committee investigation on buses.

The Committee engaged with key stakeholders, including:

- the Mayor, Deputy Mayor for Transport and Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy throughout the year including at Leader's Congress, attendance at TEC and through joint lobbying to government on behalf of London on a range of policy areas;
- the London Assembly Transport and Environment Committees;
- TfL throughout the year on key issues for London local government, including through regular scheduled meetings between the TfL Commissioner and TEC leads;
- Thames RFCC and the Environment Agency on the six year programme of flood defences and alleviation schemes benefitting London; and
- Government departments throughout the year including DfT, Defra and DCLG.

TEC oversaw the production of a wide range of member briefings across the full range of transport and environment policy TEC covers.

Looking forward to 2017/18

On behalf of TEC, London Councils will:

- Enhance borough influence on Mayoral strategies, particularly the Mayor's Transport Strategy, London Environment Strategy and London Plan, making interventions supported by media engagement;
- Map out the rail franchising process and work with government to get greater influence for boroughs over rail services in their areas.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- Engage TfL to ensure that new LIP Guidance that delivers the new Mayor's Transport Strategy will be collaborative in nature and not a return to a top down approach by TfL;
- Strengthen the sub-regional strategic partnerships, and support greater collaboration by boroughs on sub-regional schemes, such as cycle ways and bus routes to ensure the best transport outcome for Londoners is achieved;
- Highlight the proactive role of boroughs in tackling poor air quality and its health impacts in London, including through lobbying government and the Mayor;
- Ensure boroughs are able to efficiently fulfil statutory requirements for monitoring, action planning and reporting on air quality;
- Enable TEC to support and facilitate the roll out of electric vehicles across London;
- Develop a focus on energy and heat policy.

The Freedom Pass team will:

- Commence the new Freedom Pass support services contract in October.
- Negotiate the Freedom Pass annual settlements with TfL and other bus operators.
- Calculate and agree the apportionment of Freedom Pass costs to boroughs.
- Investigate data sharing agreements with boroughs to help streamline future Freedom pass renewals and improve the day-to-day management of Freedom Pass (and Taxicard).
- Conduct a mid-term review of passholders issued with 2020 passes to check continued eligibility for the scheme and avoid costs.
- Review customer service provision to consider options for more channel shift towards digital and online services.
- Complete two National Fraud Initiative reviews to cancel deceased members' cards to prevent fraudulent use by others.
- Investigate the business case for increasing the frequency of the National Fraud Initiative reviews.
- Plan for the renewal of 2018 expiry passes.
- Implement an online portal for disabled person Freedom Pass applications.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

The Taxicard team will:

- Complete the joint procurement of Taxicard and Dial-a-Ride taxi services with TfL, making recommendations for tender approach to TEC in June.
- Explore the possibility of a three year Taxicard S159 funding agreement with TfL, including the potential introduction of a consistent minimum borough trip limit provision, subject to borough consultation.
- Develop further co-ordination of Taxicard and Dial-a-ride schemes with TfL, including consideration of joint reporting of KPIs, complaints handling, application processing, and a single on-line portal.
- Develop and implement a new online Taxicard application portal and process, with a more consistent approach across all boroughs and maximising the efficiencies through greater data sharing.
- Introduce an on-line application portal for the Taxicard scheme.

A review of the London Lorry Control Scheme will be completed, with recommendations made to TEC for potential changes and improvements. We will work with TfL, boroughs, the freight industry and key stakeholders to continue improve the management of road freight movements in London and ensure as far as possible the alignment of the LLCS with other schemes and legislation.

On traffic and parking policies and operations, we will:

- Continue to provide highly valued advice and support to boroughs and represent their interests at relevant forums and meetings.
- Hold Traffic Control Liaison Committee meetings between TfL and boroughs as necessary and ensure boroughs are informed early of the apportionment of traffic signal and control equipment maintenance costs before agreement.
- Review and update the parking contravention codes list as necessary.
- Continue to provide debt registration services with the Traffic Enforcement Centre for the majority of London boroughs.
- React quickly to any new policy or legislative proposals, ensuring that boroughs are consulted and proactively lobby for change where necessary.
- Continue to work with the GLA and TfL to manage and implement residential and car club electric vehicle charge points as part of the Go Ultra Low City Scheme (GULCS).
- Collate, analyse and publish London-wide parking and appeals statistics.
- Continue to work with the BPA and EPA regarding open parking data standards.

The Health Emergency Badge scheme will be reviewed, to ensure the service is delivered as effectively and efficiently as possible. This will include consideration of: fraud and misuse; application processing and eligibility criteria; permits (virtual vs physical); costs and potential efficiencies; technological applications; communications and promotion; and integration with wider schemes (e.g. car clubs).

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

Take up of the online TRACE facility will continue to be monitored and promoted, as well as promoting electronic real time data transfer with all authority pounds where appropriate.

In 2017/18 the LEPT service will:

- Continuing to monitor European funding and knowledge exchange opportunities, and briefing Boroughs accordingly.
- Leading further bids on behalf of Boroughs, where resources allow, and finding appropriate bidding consortia for Boroughs.
- Monitor the progress of Brexit negotiations and the implications for the future of the LEPT.
- Liaise with TfL to secure funding for 2018/19, this will allow LEPT to operate up until BREXIT.
- Provide promotional services for boroughs and raise awareness of London best practice and current EU transport projects.
- Represent London boroughs on the POLIS management committee.
- Continue to harness the benefits of the POLIS network and other European forums (e.g. CIVITAS, ECF, ELTIS, Velo-City, EPOMM) developing stakeholder contacts for use in bidding consortia and best practice provision to boroughs.
- Attend sub regional partnership panels and meetings in order to analyse borough and sub regional priorities and link with EU project, best practice and funding opportunities.
- Develop and submit the second stage bid proposal for the PTP-Commute project proposal under the EU Horizon 2020 funding programme.

The London Tribunals support service team will continue to provide the administrative support and infrastructure to the Environment and Traffic Adjudicators and Road User Charging Adjudicators. We will monitor and review systems and processes, implementing improvements and enhancements where necessary and providing training and support accordingly; and promote greater levels of channel shift to fully electronic online appeals.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)**Financial Review**

The Director of Corporate Resources has pleasure in presenting the accounts for 2016/17. The accounts consist of the following:

- Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts (page 14)
- Expenditure and Funding Analysis (page 24)
- Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (page 25);
- Movement in Reserves Statement (page 26);
- Balance Sheet (page 27);
- Cash Flow Statement (page 28); and
- Notes to the Accounts (page 29 - 55).

Revenue expenditure

Set out below is a comparison between the actual income and expenditure and the approved budget for the year.

	Budget £000	Actual £000	Variation £000
Expenditure	43,717	44,106	389
Income	(43,074)	(44,776)	(1,702)
Interest income and expenditure	-	248	248
Deficit/(Surplus) for the year	643	(422)	(1,065)
Transfer from/to Reserves	(643)	(293)	350
Surplus for the year including transfer from reserves	-	(715)	(715)

A surplus on revenue activities of £422,000 has been posted for 2016/17 which, after a net transfer of £293,000 from reserves has led to an overall surplus after net transfers from reserves of £715,000. The surplus is due to:

- **Lorry Control Administration/PCN income (-£489,000)**

The administration of the London Lorry Control Scheme overspent the budget of £674,000 by £54,000. This is attributable to additional salary costs of £20,000, registering debt at the County Court of £10,000, additional contract payments of £9,000, plus additional central recharges of £53,000, offset by an underspend on general office costs of £2,000. These overspends were offset by an underspend of £36,000 in respect of the review of LLC Scheme, which commenced towards the end of the financial year.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

However, there was a significant overachievement in the collection of PCN income of £571,000 above the budgetary provision of £750,000, due to continued effective performance of the outsourced enforcement function meaning that transaction volumes continue to increase, leading to higher levels of debt actually being raised and collected. In addition, the continued functionality of the Adaptis computer management system allows outstanding debt to be registered at the Court more quickly. Of the £1.293 million income due for the year, £171,000 has yet to be collected and has been registered with the County Court. A bad debt provision of £137,000 has been established in respect of this outstanding amount, in accordance with usual accounting practice. This is an increase of £28,000 on the bad debt provision of £109,000 as at 31 March 2016, so the net surplus income reduces to £543,000 for the year.

- **Freedom Pass non-TfL bus services (-£270,000)**

In December 2015, TEC approved a budgetary provision of £1.7 million for 2016/17 to cover the cost of payments to non-TfL bus operators under the national concessionary fares scheme, the overall cost of which is demand led by eligible bus users. Claims from operators amounting to £1.43 million have been received and accepted for 2016/17, which has led to an underspend of £270,000, or 16%. This is broadly attributable to a 6% overestimate of the estimated increase on the 2015/16 costs, a 9% fall in journey volumes and 1% attributable to a reimbursement agreement with new operators that took over the services from the existing operators, the terms of which were more favourable to London Councils. The 9% fall on journey volumes was partially due to changes in eligibility age (3.5%) and also as result of network restructure and withdrawn services. Six of the LSP operators ceased services between September 2016 and January 2017 following network reviews, after the 2016/17 budget had been set.

- **London Tribunals Administration (-£193,000)**

The appeals Hearing Centre underspent the budget of £2.824 million by £193,000, primarily attributable to ETA operations. Salaries overspent by £6,000, offset by savings on overall premises costs of £23,000 and legal costs of £23,000. There were savings of £124,000 on postage and administrative handling costs in respect of appeals that are now included in the unit cost pricing under the current contract arrangements, plus net savings of £28,000 in respect of general office running costs and central recharges.

- **IT Systems Developments (-£150,000)**

The budgetary provision of £150,000 was allocated in 2016/17 for IT developments within transport and mobility, with expressed intention of undertaking further developments to London Tribunals systems. These developments, which are still planned, did not take place in 2016/17. In large part, this was due to trialling a new approach to adjudicating statutory declarations and witness statements (the intended focus of the development work). This trial ended in April 2017 and London Councils intends to continue with the planned development work in 2017/18, which must be undertaken before full electronic data exchange, which will reduce processing work and costs, can be implemented for the benefit of Enforcing Authorities.

NARRATIVE REPORT TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (continued)

- **Net position on parking appeals (+£240,000)**

There is a net deficit of £240,000 in respect of parking and traffic appeals. The number of appeals and statutory declarations heard during the year was 41,855 against a budget of 52,885, generating income of £1.307 million, £321,000 less than the budget estimate of £1.632 million. However, this is offset by a significant reduction in adjudicator, contractor and administration costs of £233,000. The throughput of appeals was 2.5 appeals per hour, compared to a budget figure of 2.76 and an actual figure of 2.43 appeals per hour for 2015/16. There has been an adjustment to the adjudication fees in the 2016/17 accounts to correct the historic timing difference between the period that appeals are heard and the payment of adjudication fees. A year-end accrual for £152,000 for unpaid adjudication fees has been recognised in the accounts to bring the accounting treatment in line with UK GAAP.

- **Running Costs/Central Recharges (+£117,000)**

This overspend is primarily attributable to overspends of £21,000 for bank charges, additional central recharges of £28,000, general office expenses of £43,000, depreciation of £4,000 and £21,000 for rechargeable IT works for boroughs on parking systems.

- **Taxicard Administration (+£94,000)**

The administration of the taxicard scheme overspent the budget by £94,000. Additional salary costs of £33,000 were incurred, along with additional central costs of £79,000. These were offset by an underspend of £18,000 on general office costs.

- Residual variances of +£64,000.

Budget for 2017/18

On 8 December 2016, the full TEC Committee approved a total expenditure budget for 2017/18 of £44.894 million, exclusive of the borough payment of £324.181 million to Transport for London (TfL) in respect of Concessionary Fares. Total income sources were estimated to be £44.894 million.

The Committee has arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of its resources.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**The Committee's Responsibilities**

The Committee is required to:

- make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Committee, that officer is the Director of Corporate Resources;
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets; and
- approve the Statement of Accounts.

The Director of Corporate Resources' Responsibilities

The Director of Corporate Resources is responsible for the preparation of the Committee's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ("the Code").

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Director of Corporate Resources has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent; and
- complied with the Code.

The Director of Corporate Resources has also:

- kept proper accounting records which were up to date; and
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Responsible Finance Officer's Certificate

I certify that the Statement of Accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Committee at 31 March 2017 and of its income and expenditure for the year ending 31 March 2017.



F Smith CPFA
Director of Corporate Resources

21 September 2017

APPROVAL CERTIFICATE

At a meeting of London Councils' Audit Committee held at 59½ Southwark Street, London, SE1 0AL on 21 September 2017, the statement of accounts were approved on behalf of the Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roger Ramsey', is positioned above the printed name and title.

Cllr Roger Ramsey
Chair of London Councils' Audit Committee

21 September 2017

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

London Councils (the Committee) is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law, that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Committee is also responsible for securing continuous improvement in the way its functions are exercised.

In discharging this overall responsibility, the Committee is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, and which includes arrangements for the management of risk.

London Councils has approved and adopted a code of corporate governance in the form of a framework, which is consistent with the principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework Delivering Good Governance in Local Government. A copy of London Councils Corporate Governance Framework can be obtained from the Director of Corporate Governance at 59½ Southwark Street, London SE1 0AL. This statement explains how London Councils has applied this code.

The purpose of the governance framework

The governance framework comprises the systems, processes, culture and values by which the Committee is directed and controlled and such activities through which it accounts to, and engages with, its stakeholders. It enables the organisation to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate, cost-effective services.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risks of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Committee's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised, the impact should they be realised and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

The governance framework has been in place at London Councils for the year ended 31 March 2017 and up to the date of approval of the statement of accounts.

The governance framework

The key elements of the Committee's governance framework include:

- **Developing and communicating the Committee's vision** – The Committee produces an annual Corporate Business Plan which sets out its proposed purpose, themes, work programmes and services. The plan consists of two levels: a high level plan available for stakeholders and external audiences and detailed internal work plans developed for management purposes. This is informed by on-going liaison with key borough stakeholders including the Chair and all Executive portfolio holders. The Corporate Business Plan is submitted to the Leaders' Committee. There are a number of ways in which the Committee communicates with relevant stakeholders which include member briefings, committee and other meetings, briefings for senior managerial and professional colleagues in boroughs and events such as the London Councils' Summit.
- **Commitment to openness and acting in the public interest** – The Committee has adopted the Information Commissioners model publications scheme and follows the definition for joint authorities and boards. Details of the scheme and the information published are available on London Councils' website. The Committee's decisions are made by its elected members and the agendas, reports, background papers and minutes of meetings are published under this scheme.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

- **Measuring the performance of services** – The Committee produces an Annual Review at the end of each financial year which provides a summary of the key activities over the last year and highlights the key achievements. Data collected on the performance of activities and services during the year feeds into the production of a key achievements report at the year end. London Councils Corporate Management Board (CMB), the London Councils Executive and the Grants and Transport and Environment Committees receive regular financial management reports that monitor actual income and expenditure trends against approved budgets. London Councils operates a complaints procedure which provides an opportunity to put things right if an error is made and assists in the search to improve the quality of services to member authorities and to Londoners. There are also a number of internal management mechanisms, such as 1:1 review meetings and a fully embedded performance appraisal framework which monitor on-going progress against objectives.
- **Defining and documenting roles and responsibilities** – The London Councils Agreement sets out the main functions and obligations of London Councils and its member authorities. The Agreement includes the standing orders and financial regulations which provide details of the delegation arrangements in place. There is a scheme of delegations to officers in place which was last reviewed, updated and approved by the Leaders' Committee at its Annual General Meeting on 7 June 2016. There is an established protocol which provides guidance on the working relationships between elected members and officers. Additional information on the roles and responsibilities of London Councils Leaders' Committee, Executive, Grants Committee and Transport and Environment Committee are documented in their individual Terms of Reference. All London Councils officers are issued with a job description which confirms their duties within the organisation.
- **Developing, communicating and embedding codes of conduct** – All London Councils Staff have been made aware of the staff handbook which is located on the intranet site. The staff handbook sign posts staff to London Councils policies and procedures which are on the intranet. All staff are encouraged to refer to the intranet when they require guidance on London Councils policies and procedures. Reference to the staff handbook is also included in the induction training of all new staff joining London Councils with their attention specifically drawn to the financial regulations, the code of conduct, data protection and London Councils whistle blowing policy.
- **Reviewing the effectiveness of the Committee's decision-making framework** - The standing orders and financial regulations are included within the London Councils Agreement. The standing orders were last reviewed and the changes approved by Leaders' Committee on 7 June 2016. The financial regulations were also reviewed and the changes approved by the Leaders Committee on 2 June 2015. Minutes of Committee meetings are posted on London Councils website and provide an official record of decisions made.
- **Identifying and managing risks** - London Councils Risk Management Strategy and Framework was reviewed and approved by the Audit Committee in September 2016. London Councils Corporate Risk Register is primarily compiled from the Risk Registers for each of London Councils three Directorates. The Corporate Risk Register is reviewed in accordance with London Councils Risk Management Framework which includes an annual review by the Audit Committee and was last reviewed in September 2016. The Directorate Risk Registers are reviewed by the Audit Committee on a rolling basis. London Councils' Corporate Management Board ensures that the risk registers, both Directorate and Corporate, continue to support London Councils' corporate priorities, which provides members with assurance on how the risks identified are being managed.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

- **Anti-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements** – London Councils is committed to having an effective Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption strategy designed to promote standards of honest and fair conduct, prevent fraud and corruption, detect and investigate fraud and corruption, prosecute offenders, recover losses and maintain strong systems of internal control. There are two separate policies in place London Councils Whistle Blowing Policy which was last updated in July 2016 and London Councils Policy to Combat Fraud, Bribery and Corruption, which was agreed by London Councils Audit Committee in March 2014 and reviewed in February 2016. Both documents are available on London Councils' intranet and website.
- **Effective management of change and transformation** – London Councils has a framework for managing organisational change which is available to all staff on the intranet. The framework provides guidance on the statutory elements of managing change and issues that should be considered when implementing changes.
- **Financial management arrangements** – London Councils' financial management arrangements conform with the governance requirements of the CIPFA statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government.
- **Assurance arrangements** – London Councils' internal audit function is carried out by the City of London's internal audit team under a service level agreement for financial support services. These arrangements conform with the governance requirements of the CIPFA statement on the Role of the Head of Internal Audit in public service organisations and Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.
- **Discharge of the monitoring officer function** – • This is a statutory post under Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and as such is not applicable to London Councils which is a joint committee¹. However, legal advice is provided to London Councils by the City of London Corporation including governance advice and support which in a local authority would generally be provided by the borough solicitor and monitoring officer .
- **Discharge of the head of paid service function** – London Councils' Chief Executive is the head of paid service. As with all officers, the Chief Executive is issued with a job description which confirms his duties within the organisation. He is subject to appraisal arrangements with Group Leaders who assess his performance against agreed objectives.
- **Audit Committee** – London Councils' Audit Committee has its own comprehensive Terms of Reference. The Terms of Reference were reviewed by the Audit Committee on 24 September 2010. On 19 March 2015, the Audit Committee considered a revision to its Terms of Reference to include the responsibility to make a recommendation to Leaders' Committee on the appointment, reappointment and removal of the external auditor. The Audit Committee meets three times a year and is chaired by a leading member from a borough who can be a member of the Executive. The members of the Audit Committee will normally, but not necessarily, be members of London Councils Leaders' Committee and with the exception of its chair, are not members of the Executive.
- **Response to audit recommendations** – The Committee responds to information requests and queries received from its external auditor on a timely basis. External and internal audit findings and recommendations are considered by officers and appropriate responses which include implementation timescales are provided to the auditors. Audit reports, which include management responses, are presented to the Audit Committee to consider and are published along with the Committee papers on the website. The implementation of audit recommendations are monitored on a regular basis.

¹ London Councils is a joint committee of the authorities participating in the arrangements and constituted under sections 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 and section 9EB and 20 of the Local Government Act 2000, as relevant

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

- **Compliance with relevant laws and regulations** - London Councils has comprehensive financial regulations and a comprehensive set of human resources policies and procedures which are reviewed on a regular basis. These arrangements ensure compliance with all applicable statutes, regulations and other relevant statements of best practice in order to ensure that public funds are properly safeguarded and are used economically, efficiently and effectively and in accordance with the statutory and other authorities that govern their use.
- **Whistle-blowing** – London Councils has a whistle-blowing policy which is available to all staff on the intranet. The policy aims to encourage staff and others to feel confident in raising serious concerns by providing clear avenues through which those concerns can be raised and reassuring staff who raise concerns that they will not be victimised if they have a reasonable belief and the disclosure was made in good faith. It is also on the website and staff are encouraged to bring this policy and the policy to combat fraud, bribery and corruption to the attention of contractors and third parties.
- **Identifying the development needs of members and officers** – London Councils has access to a programme of training and development, which is available to all staff and can be found on the intranet. The aim of the programme is to assist in the achievement of the organisation's aims and objectives by providing opportunities for staff to gain the necessary skills and knowledge required to perform their tasks and duties effectively. London Councils also has a performance appraisal scheme which provides all staff with regular assessments of their performance and development needs in relation to their work objectives. Members have access to development opportunities in their own authorities. There is a member only section on London Councils' website which provides them with useful information, regular briefings in specific policy areas and a forum for information exchange.
- **Establishing clear channels of communication** – London Councils actively engages with relevant stakeholders when developing its work. All Committee meetings are open to the public and consultations are undertaken where relevant. London Councils issues member briefings and arranges a number of events, conferences and seminars that also provide opportunities for stakeholder engagement, as do regular meetings of officer networks. London Councils produces an Annual Review which provides a summary of the key achievements over the last year and annual statutory financial statements. Information on consultations, minutes of committee meetings and publications are posted on London Councils website www.londoncouncils.gov.uk. London Councils consults with Chief Officer groupings across boroughs in the development of its work.
- **Enhancing the accountability for service delivery and effectiveness of public service providers** - All working arrangements with public service providers are subject to signed agreements/contracts which set out the terms of the service provided. All agreements/contracts are reviewed to ensure that the roles and responsibilities of the parties involved are clearly defined and the terms are beneficial to London Councils and its member authorities. Key performance indicators are incorporated into agreements where appropriate and monitored regularly. Nominated officers are responsible for managing the outcomes of the service and establishing clear lines of communication with providers.
- **Partnership arrangements** – London Councils has a set protocol for staff to follow when working in partnership with outside bodies. A checklist is to be completed for each new partnership or project. Partnership arrangements are also subject to signed agreements which include objectives, roles and responsibilities. The performance of partnerships are monitored in the same manner as other service providers. London Councils does not currently have any material partnership arrangements.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**Review of effectiveness**

London Councils has responsibility for conducting at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the work of London Councils Corporate Management Board which has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment, the internal audit annual report and also by comments made by the external auditors in their annual audit letter and other reports. The review of the effectiveness of the governance framework includes:

- The work of Internal Audit, undertaken by the City of London under a service level agreement, and the annual opinion of the Head of Audit & Risk Management at the City of London. Internal Audit plays a central role in providing the required assurance on internal controls through its comprehensive risk-based audit of all auditable areas within a five-year planning cycle, – with key areas being reviewed annually. This is reinforced by consultation with London Councils Corporate Management Board and London Councils' Audit Committee on perceived risk and by a rigorous follow-up audit regime. The Internal Audit Section of the City of London operates, in all aspects, in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice and Public Sector Internal Audit Standards. An internal audit review of governance arrangements was carried out during 2012/13 with the outcome reported to the Audit Committee in March 2013.
- The Audit Committee's review of the governance arrangements in place during 2016/17.
- London Councils Corporate Management Board considers an annual report on Corporate Governance, which includes work completed during the current year and highlights work planned for the following year.

Areas for development during 2017/18

The review of the effectiveness of London Councils governance arrangements has revealed the following areas for development during 2017/18:

Information Governance and Security

A new legal framework on data protection will apply in the UK from 25 May 2018. The framework takes the form of a regulation called the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and replaces current legislation on data protection. Whilst the regulation has similarities with the existing Data Protection Act, it also places new obligations on organisations that hold personal and sensitive data. During 2017/18, London Councils will continue to improve its internal controls and procedures in relation to the governance and security of personal and sensitive data to ensure they are robust and comply with the new regulation. An internal audit review on information governance and security will be completed in 2016/17.

London Councils will take adequate steps over the coming year to address the above matter in order to further enhance its governance arrangements. London Councils is satisfied that these steps will address the improvement needs identified in the effectiveness review. London Councils will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

Significant governance issues

There are no significant governance issues.



John O'Brien
Chief Executive

21 September 2017



Cllr Claire Kober OBE
Chair of London Councils

21 September 2017

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LONDON COUNCILS TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

We have audited the financial statements of London Councils Transport and Environment Committee (The Committee) for the year ended 31 March 2017 on pages 24 to 55. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17.

This report is made solely to the members of the Committee, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of the Committee, as a body, those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members of the Committee, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the Director of Corporate Resources and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities for the statement of accounts, the Director of Corporate Resources is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom and for being satisfied that the financial statements give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit, and express an opinion on, the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Committee's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Director of Corporate Resources; and the overall presentation of the financial statements.

In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Narrative Statement to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Committee as at 31 March 2017 and of the Committee's expenditure and income for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LONDON COUNCILS TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We to report to you if:

- the Annual Governance Statement set out on pages 16 to 21 does not reflect compliance with 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: a Framework' (CIPFA/SOLACE 2016 Edition); or and
- the information given in the Narrative Statement for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is not consistent with the financial statements.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.



Neil Hewitson
For and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
15 Canada Square
London
E14 5GL

25 September 2017

EXPENDITURE AND FUNDING ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by the Committee in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Consolidated Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

	2016/17	2016/17	2016/17	2015/16	2015/16	2015/16
	Net Expenditure Chargeable to Usable Reserves £000	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis £000	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £000	Net Expenditure Chargeable to Usable Reserves £000	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis £000	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £000
Cost of Services						
Freedom Pass and Taxicard services	(1,059)	39	(1,020)	(1,007)	43	(964)
Direct Services	(854)	51	(803)	(527)	58	(469)
One off Payment to Boroughs	340	-	340			
Cost of Services	(1,573)	90	(1,483)	(1,534)	101	(1,433)
Other Operating Expenditure	768	45	813	811	82	893
Financing and investment income and expenditure	(1)	249	248	(11)	252	241
Surplus on Provision of Services	(806)	384	(422)	(734)	435	(299)
Opening Usable Reserve Balance	(4,269)			(3,535)		
Surplus or Deficit	(806)			(734)		
Closing Usable Reserve Balance	(5,075)			(4,269)		

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.

	Notes	2016/17 Gross Expenditure £000	2016/17 Gross Income £000	2016/17 Net £000	2015/16 Gross Expenditure £000 (Restated)	2015/16 Gross Income £000 (Restated)	2015/16 Net £000 (Restated)
Cost of Services							
Freedom Pass and Taxicard services		33,511	(34,531)	(1,020)	36,352	(37,316)	(964)
Direct Services		9,201	(10,004)	(803)	8,132	(8,601)	(469)
One off Payment to Boroughs		340	-	340	-	-	-
Cost of Services		43,052	(44,535)	(1,483)	44,484	(45,917)	(1,433)
Other Operating Expenditure	8	1,054	(241)	813	1,843	(950)	893
Financing and investment income and expenditure	9	249	(1)	248	252	(11)	241
Surplus on Provision of Services		44,355	(44,777)	(422)	46,579	(46,878)	(299)
Re-measurement of the net defined liability	10			1,510			(1,406)
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure				1,510			(1,406)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure				1,088			(1,705)

MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Committee, analysed into usable reserves and unusable reserves. The surplus or deficit on the provision of services line shows the true economic cost of providing the Committee's services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

	2016/17			2015/16		
	Usable Reserves £000	Unusable Reserves £000	Total Committee Reserves £000	Usable Reserves £000 (Restated)	Unusable Reserves £000 (Restated)	Total Committee Reserves £000 (Restated)
Balance at 1 April	4,269	(6,855)	(2,586)	3,535	(7,826)	(4,291)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	422	(1,510)	(1,088)	299	1,406	1,705
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (note 7)	384	(384)	-	435	(435)	-
Increase/(Decrease)	806	(1,894)	(1,088)	734	971	1,705
Balance at 31 March	5,075	(8,749)	(3,674)	4,269	(6,855)	(2,586)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2017

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Committee. The net assets or liabilities of the Committee (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Committee. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the Committee may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use. The second category of reserves is those that the authority is not able to use to provide services. This category includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses such as the Pension Reserve.

	Notes	31 March 2017 £000	31 March 2016 £000
Property, Plant and Equipment	11	827	927
Long Term Assets		827	927
Short Term Debtors	12	3,716	3,774
Cash and Cash Equivalents	13	4,221	3,542
Current Assets		7,937	7,316
Short Term Creditors	15	(3,723)	(4,006)
Current liabilities		(3,723)	(4,006)
Other Long Term Liabilities	10	(8,715)	(6,823)
Long Term Liabilities		(8,715)	(6,823)
Net Liabilities		(3,674)	(2,586)
Usable Reserves	16	5,075	4,269
Unusable Reserves	18	(8,749)	(6,855)
Total Reserves		(3,674)	(2,586)

The notes on pages 29 to 55 form part of the accounts.



F Smith CPFA
Director of Corporate Resources

21 September 2017

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Committee during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Committee generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing, and financing activities. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute towards the Committee's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the Committee.

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Net surplus on the provision of services	422	299
Adjustments to net surplus on the provision of services for non-cash movements	263	(715)
Adjustments for items included in the net surplus on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities	(1)	(11)
Net cash flows from Operating Activities (note 19)	684	(427)
Investing Activities (note 20)	(5)	(761)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	679	(1,188)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April	3,542	4,730
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March	4,221	3,542

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

1. Accounting Policies**a General Principles**

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Committee's transactions for the 2016/17 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2017. The Committee prepares its accounts in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2016/17.

The Statement of Accounts have been prepared with the overriding requirement that it gives a 'true and fair' view of the financial position, performance and cash flows of the Committee.

The Statement of Accounts has been prepared with reference to:

- The objective of providing financial information about the reporting authority that is useful to existing and potential investors, lenders and other creditors in making decision about providing resources to it;
- The objective of providing information about the Committee's financial performance, financial position and cash flows that is useful to a wide range of users for assessing the stewardship of the Committee's management and for making economic decisions;
- The objective of meeting the common needs of most users focusing on the ability of the users to make economic decisions, the needs of public accountability and the stewardship of the Committee's resources;
- The accrual basis of accounting;
- The following underlying assumptions;
 - Going concern basis.
- The following qualitative characteristics:
 - Relevance;
 - Materiality; and
 - Faithful representation.
- The following enhancing qualitative characteristics:
 - Comparability;
 - Verifiability;
 - Timeliness; and
 - Understandability.

The accounting convention adopted in the Statement of Accounts is historical cost.

The accounting policies have been consistently applied.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)**1. Accounting Policies (continued)****b Accruals of Income and Expenditure**

The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis which means that income and expenditure are accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. In particular:

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Committee transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Committee;
- Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the Committee can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Committee;
- Expenses in relation to services received (including those services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when services are received, rather than when payments are made;
- Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract;
- Where income and expenditure has been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where it is doubtful that debts will be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected;
- Income and expenditure are credited and debited to the relevant category within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, unless they represent capital receipts or capital expenditure; and
- Creditors for grants outstanding to voluntary organisations at the year-end are included where approved by Committee, the circumstances of the voluntary organisation have not changed since approval, and evidence shows that expenditure in respect of the grant has been incurred. Creditors for ESF grants are recognised where grant claims received from voluntary organisations exceed payments made to the claimant.

c Allocation of Income

Income, where possible, is allocated to the specific service area to which it relates or offsets specific expenditure. Income that is not directly attributable to a particular service is apportioned to other expenditure categories based on actual expenditure.

d Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are investments that mature in three months or less from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Committee's cash management.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)**1. Accounting Policies (continued)****e Contingent Liabilities**

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the authority a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Committee. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably. Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts.

f Employee Benefits**Benefits Payable During Employment**

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled within 12 months of the year-end. They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits for current employees and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Committee. An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements (or any form of leave e.g. flexi leave) earned by employees but not taken before the year-end which employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable in the following accounting year, being the period in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services, but then reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement so that holiday benefits are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the holiday absence occurs.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Committee to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy and are charged on an accruals basis when the Committee is demonstrably committed to the termination of the employment of an officer or group of officers or making an offer to encourage voluntary redundancy.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Authority to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Post Employment Benefits

As part of the terms and conditions of employment, officers of the Committee are offered membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme administered by the London Pension Fund Authority (LPFA). The scheme provides defined benefits to its members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as officers work for the Committee.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

This scheme is accounted for as a final salary defined benefit scheme:

- The liabilities of the pension fund attributable to the Committee are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, projected earnings of current employees etc.
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices using, a discount rate of 2.8% (2015/16: 3.8%).
- The assets of the pension fund attributable to the Committee are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:
 - Quoted securities – current bid price;
 - Unquoted securities – professional estimate;
 - Unutilised securities – current bid price; and
 - Property – market value.
- The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into six components:
 - Current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year debited to the Staff Costs line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked;
 - Past service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years debited to the Staff Costs line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement;
 - Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset), ie net interest expense for the Committee – the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability (asset) that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – this is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability (asset) at the beginning of the period – taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability (asset) during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments;
 - Return on plan assets – excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure;
 - Actuarial gains and losses – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure; and
 - Contributions paid to the pension fund – cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)**1. Accounting Policies (continued)**

In accordance with the Code of Practice, the General Reserve balance is charged with the actual amount payable by the Committee to the pension fund and not the amount calculated according to the accounting standard. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, there are transfers to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the impact of the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end. The negative balance that arises on the Pension Reserve measures the beneficial impact to the General Reserve of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits are earned by employees.

The actuarial gains and losses are charged to Other Comprehensive Income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement with a corresponding entry in the Pensions Reserve.

g Exceptional Items and Prior Period Adjustments

When items of income and expense are material, their nature and amount is disclosed separately, either on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement or in the notes to the accounts, depending on how significant the items are to an understanding of the Committee's financial performance.

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting estimates are accounted for prospectively, i.e. in the current and future years affected by the change and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effect of transactions, other events and conditions on the Committee's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively (unless stated otherwise) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied.

Material errors discovered in prior period figures are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the period.

h Financial Instruments**Financial Liabilities**

Financial liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Committee becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value and carried at amortised cost. Annual charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. The effective rate of interest is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments over the life of the instrument to the amount at which it was originally recognised.

Currently the Committee has no borrowings.

Financial Assets

Financial Assets are receivables that have fixed or determinable payments but are not quoted in an active market. The assets are initially measured at fair value, and subsequently measured at their amortised cost.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)**1. Accounting Policies (continued)****i Government Grants and Contributions**

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third party contributions are recognised as due to the Committee when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the Committee will comply with the conditions attached to the payments; and
- the grants will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the Committee are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

j Intangible Assets

Expenditure of £1,000 or more on non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are controlled by the Committee as a result of past events (e.g. software licences) is capitalised when it is expected that future economic benefits or service potential will flow from the intangible asset to the Committee. Intangible assets are measured initially at cost and amortised over the life of the asset.

k Interest Income

Interest is credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statements of the constituent committees based on average cash balances held by the City of London and invested in accordance with their Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy, which is approved by the City of London's Financial Investment Board.

l Leases**Finance leases**

Lease arrangements for assets are treated as finance leases when substantially all the risks and rewards associated with the ownership of an asset are transferred to the Committee. Rentals payable are apportioned between:

- A charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property (recognised as a liability in the balance sheet at the start of the lease, matched with an asset within Property, Plant and Equipment – the liability is written down as the rent becomes payable); and
- A finance charge.

Property, plant and equipment recognised under finance leases are accounted for using the policies applied generally to such assets, subject to depreciation being charged over the life of the lease.

Operating leases

Leases that do not meet the definition of finance leases are accounted for as operating leases. Lease rentals payable are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on a straight line basis over the terms of the lease.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

m Overheads

Central overhead costs identified as directly attributable to a particular funding stream are allocated in full to that funding stream. Where such costs are not directly attributable, they are re-charged across the funding streams using the most relevant apportionment basis, from the list below:

- Number of desk spaces;
- Full Time Equivalent units;
- Absolute value of transactions; and
- Volume of transactions.

n Property, Plant and Equipment

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, or for administrative purposes and that are expected to be used during more than one financial year are classified as Property, Plant and Equipment. Expenditure on the acquisition, creation, enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment subject to a de minimis level of £1,000, is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Committee and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (i.e. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

- the purchase price; and
- any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

Assets are then carried in the Balance Sheet at their depreciated historical costs.

Assets are depreciated on a straight line basis, starting after the year of acquisition, over their economic useful life as follows:

- Leasehold Improvements – the lower of 10 years or the remaining period left on the lease;
- Furniture and Equipment:
 - Furniture and Fittings – 5 years;
 - Computer Hardware – 3 years.

Where an item of Property, Plant and Equipment has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item, the components are depreciated separately.

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposal (if any) are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

1. Accounting Policies (continued)**o Reserves**

The Committee uses Specific Reserves to set aside funds earmarked for a specific purpose and money received from boroughs outside the main subscription, or from other public sector bodies, which is to be used for specific purposes. Reserves are created by transferring amounts from the General Reserve to the Specific Reserves on the Movement in Reserves Statement. When expenditure to be financed from a specific reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to score against the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and a transfer of funds from the Specific Reserve made to the General Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for retirement and employee benefits and do not represent usable resources for the Committee.

p Value Added Tax

Value Added Tax (VAT) is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. VAT receivable is excluded from income.

2. Restatement of Comparatives

The comparatives of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement have been restated to reflect the new requirement to include a segmental analysis that reports performance on the same basis that the Committee operates, monitors and manages its financial performance. The changes to the Code also require the inclusion of a new Expenditure and Funding Analysis as well as some minor changes to the format of the Movement in Reserves Statement. The changes do not have a financial impact on the Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure or the Net Assets for the year.

3. Accounting Standards that have been Issued but not yet adopted

The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 (the Code) has introduced changes in accounting policies which will be required from 1 April 2017. If these had been adopted for the financial year 2016/17 there would be no material changes to the Committee's accounts as detailed below.

IAS17 Statement of Cash Flows – There has been a narrow scope amendment to this standard which require entities to provide a reconciliation of the amounts in the opening and closing Balance Sheet for each item for which cash flows have been, or would be, classified as financing activities and disclose matters that are relevant to understanding the entity's liquidity, such as restrictions that affect the decisions of an entity to use cash and cash equivalent balances. This amendment will not have a material impact on the Committee's accounts.

Amendments to IFRS10 Consolidated Financial Statements, IFRS 12 Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities, IAS 28 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures – The amendments confirm that the exemption from preparing consolidated financial statements for an intermediate parent entity is available to a parent entity that is a subsidiary of an investment entity, even if the investment entity measures all of its subsidiaries at fair value. These amendments do not apply to the Committee as it is not an investment entity.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)**4. Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies**

In applying the accounting policies set out in note 1, the Committee has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events.

The critical judgement made in the Statement of Accounts are:

Government Funding

There is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government. However, the Committee has determined that this uncertainty is not sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the Committee might be impaired as a result of a need to reduce levels of service provision.

5. Assumptions Made about the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Committee about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the Committee's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2017 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Pensions

Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. Barnett Waddingham LLP, an independent firm of qualified actuaries, is engaged by the LPFA to provide the Committee with expert advice about the assumptions applied.

The effect on the net pensions liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured. For instance, a 0.1% increase in the discount rate assumption would result in a decrease in the pension liability of £488,000. However, the assumptions interact in complex ways. During 2016/17, Barnett Waddingham LLP advised that the net pensions liability had increased by £4.863 million as a result of a change in financial assumptions.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Assets are depreciated over useful lives that are dependent on assumptions about the level of repairs and maintenance that will be incurred in relation to individual assets. The current economic climate makes it uncertain that the Committee will be able to sustain its current spending on repairs and maintenance, bringing into doubt the useful lives assigned to assets.

If the useful life of assets is reduced, depreciation increases and the carrying amount of the assets falls. It is estimated that the annual depreciation charge for Leasehold Improvements would increase by £13,000 for every year that useful lives had to be reduced.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

6. Events After the Balance Sheet Date

The Statement of Accounts was authorised for issue by the Director of Corporate Resources on 21 September 2017. Events taking place after this date are not reflected in the accounts or notes. Where events taking place before this date provided information about conditions existing at 31 March 2017, the figures in the accounts and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information.

7. Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis

This note provides a reconciliation of the main adjustments to the net expenditure chargeable to the General Reserve to arrive at the amounts in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The adjustments arise due to the difference in the accounting basis and funding basis under regulations.

Adjustments between funding and accounting basis during 2016/17:

Adjustments from General Reserves to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	Pension Adjustments £000	Accumulated Absence Adjustments £000	Total Adjustments £000
Freedom Pass and Taxicard services	37	2	39
Direct Services	52	(1)	51
One off Payment to Boroughs	-	-	-
Net Cost of Services	89	1	90
Other Operating Expenditure	44	1	45
Financing and investment income and expenditure	249	-	249
Difference between General Reserve and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statements Surplus on Provision of Services	382	2	384

Adjustments between funding and accounting basis during 2015/16:

Adjustments from General Reserves to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	Pension Adjustments £000	Accumulated Absence Adjustments £000	Total Adjustments £000
Freedom Pass and Taxicard services	43	-	43
Direct Services	59	(1)	58
One off Payment to Boroughs	-	-	-
Net Cost of Services	102	(1)	101
Other Operating Expenditure	82	-	82
Financing and investment income and expenditure	252	-	252
Difference between General Reserve and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statements Surplus on Provision of Services	436	(1)	435

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

7. Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis (continued)

Pension adjustments – These adjustments relate to the removal of pension contributions and the addition of *IAS19 Employee Benefits* pension related expenditure and income as follows:

- **Freedom Pass and Taxicard services/Direct Services/Other Operating Expenditure** – adjustments to remove the employer pension contributions made by the Committee as allowed by statute and the replacement with current service costs and past service costs; and
- **Financing and investment income and expenditure** – adjustment for the net interest on the defined benefit liability charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Accumulated Absence adjustments – This adjustment relates to the amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements.

8. Other Operating Expenditure

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Staff costs	827	1,296
Premises costs	89	91
Other running costs	138	456
Total	1,054	1,843

9. Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Interest and Investment Income	(1)	(11)
Net Loss on Pension Scheme Assets/Liabilities (see note 10)	249	252
Total	248	241

10. Pensions

As part of their terms and conditions of employment, London Councils staff are eligible to participate in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) which is a defined benefit statutory scheme administered in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013. The scheme is contracted out of the State Second Pension and currently provides benefits based on final salary and length of service on retirement. Changes to the LGPS came into effect from 1 April 2014 and any benefits accrued from this date will be based on career average revalued salary, with various protections in place for those members in the scheme before the changes take effect.

The administering authority for the Fund is the London Pensions Fund Authority (LPFA). The LPFA Board oversees the management of the Fund whilst the day to day fund administration is undertaken by a number of teams within the administering authority. Where appropriate some functions are delegated to the Fund's professional advisers.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

10. Pensions (continued)

On 1 May 2000, London Councils staff transferred into the LPFA Scheme as London Councils was granted Admitted Body status. Prior to this date, the five predecessor bodies had different pension arrangements for staff. The accumulated benefits of staff from the previous pension schemes have been transferred to the LPFA scheme.

As administering authority to the Fund, the London Pensions Fund Authority, after consultation with the Fund Actuary and other relevant parties, is responsible for the preparation and maintenance of the Funding Strategy Statement and the Statement of Investment Principles. These should be amended when appropriate based on the Fund's performance and funding.

Employers' contributions are set every three years as a result of the actuarial valuation of the Fund required by the Regulations. The next actuarial valuation of the Fund will be carried out as at 31 March 2019 and will set contributions for the period from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2023. There are no minimum funding requirements in the LGPS but the contributions are generally set to target a funding level of 100% using the actuarial valuation assumptions. Based on the triennial valuation as at 31 March 2016, the employers' contribution towards the Future Service Rate was set at 12% of pensionable pay for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2020.

On the Employer's withdrawal from the plan, a cessation valuation will be carried out in accordance with Regulation 64 of the LGPS Regulations 2013 which will determine the termination contribution due by the Employer, on a set of assumptions deemed appropriate by the Fund Actuary.

In general, participating in a defined benefit pension scheme means that the Employer is exposed to a number of risks:

- Investment risk. The Fund holds investment in asset classes, such as equities, which have volatile market values and while these assets are expected to provide real returns over the long-term, the short-term volatility can cause additional funding to be required if a deficit emerges.
- Interest rate risk. The Fund's liabilities are assessed using market yields on high quality corporate bonds to discount future liability cashflows. As the Fund holds assets such as equities the value of the assets and liabilities may not move in the same way.
- Inflation risk. All of the benefits under the Fund are linked to inflation and so deficits may emerge to the extent that the assets are not linked to inflation.
- Longevity risk. In the event that the members live longer than assumed a deficit will emerge in the Fund. There are also other demographic risks.

In addition, as many unrelated employers participate in the London Pension Fund Authority Pension Fund, there is an orphan liability risk where employers leave the Fund but with insufficient assets to cover their pension obligations so that the difference may fall on the remaining employers.

All of the risks above may also benefit the Employer e.g. higher than expected investment returns or employers leaving the Fund with excess assets which eventually get inherited by the remaining employers.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

10. Pensions (continued)

The LPFA, as administering authority, provided Barnett Waddingham LLP, an independent firm of qualified actuaries with scheme membership information as at 31 March 2016 for all employees within London Councils as part of the triennial valuation. Assets were allocated within the LPFA Pension Fund based on these calculated liabilities. The triennial valuation as at 31 March 2016 was the starting point for the 'roll forward' IAS19 valuations. In order to assess the actuarial value of the LPFA Pension Fund's liabilities as at 31 March 2017 attributable to London Councils, scheme liabilities have been assessed by Barnett Waddingham LLP on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method, and estimate of pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels etc.

The individual committees' share of assets and liabilities of the pension scheme are not separable, therefore, all assets, liabilities, charges, returns and other costs have been allocated to each committee in accordance with the proportion of employer contributions paid by the committee as a percentage of the total paid by London Councils in the year. This approach results in an adjustment to the Defined Benefit Obligation and the Fair Value of Employer's Assets as a result of the difference between the percentage used to apportion the deficit at the start of the financial year and the percentage used at the end of the financial year.

Financial Assumptions

The financial assumptions as at 31 March 2017:

Assumptions as at:	31 March 2017 (% per annum)	31 March 2016 (% per annum)
RPI increases	3.6%	3.4%
CPI increases	2.7%	2.5%
Salary increases	4.2%	4.3%
Pension increases	2.7%	2.5%
Discount rate	2.8%	3.8%

These assumptions are set with reference to market conditions at 31 March 2017.

Our estimate of the duration of the Employer's liabilities is 22 years.

The discount rate is the annualised yield at the 22 year point on the Merrill Lynch AA rated corporate bond curve which has been chosen to meet the requirements of IAS19 and with consideration of the duration of the Employer's liabilities. This is consistent with the approach used at the last accounting date.

The RPI increase assumption is set based on the difference between conventional gilt yields and index-linked gilt yields at the accounting date using data published by the Bank of England, specifically the 22 year point on the BoE spot inflation curve. This is consistent with the approach used at the last accounting date.

As future pension increases are expected to be based on the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) rather than RPI, we have made a further assumption about CPI which is that it will be 0.9% p.a. below RPI i.e. 2.7% p.a. We believe that this is a reasonable estimate for the future differences in the indices, based on the different calculation methods and recent independent forecasts. This is consistent with the approach used at the last accounting date..

Salaries are then assumed to increase at 1.5% p.a. above CPI in addition to a promotional scale. However, a short-term overlay has been allowed from 31 March 2016 to 31 March 2020 for salaries to rise in line with inflation.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

10. Pensions (continued)

Demographic and Statistical Assumptions

A set of demographic assumptions that are consistent with those used for the funding valuation as at 31 March 2016 have been adopted. The post retirement mortality tables have been constructed based on Club Vita analysis. These base tables are then projected using the CMI 2015 Model, allowing for a long term rate of improvement of 1.5% per annum.

The assumed life expectations from age 65 are:

	31 March 2017	31 March 2016
Retiring today:		
Males	21.9	22.4
Females	24.5	25.4
Retiring in 20 years:		
Males	24.2	24.8
Females	26.8	27.7

The following assumptions have also been made:

- Members will exchange half of their commutable pension for cash at retirement;
- Members will retire at one retirement age for all tranches of benefit, which will be the pension weighted average tranche retirement age; and
- The proportion of membership that had taken up the 50:50 option at the previous valuation date will remain the same.

The fair value of the pension scheme assets attributable to the Transport and Environment Committee at 31 March 2017:

	At 31 March 2017		At 31 March 2016	
	£000	%	£000	%
Equities	8,690	59%	5,664	47%
LDI/Cashflow matching	-	-	1,236	10%
Target return portfolio	3,099	21%	2,594	21%
Infrastructure	772	5%	668	5%
Commodities	-	-	55	0%
Property	748	5%	435	4%
Cash	1,357	9%	1,542	13%
	14,666	100%	12,194	100%

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

10. Pensions (continued)

Quoted securities included within the assets values above have been measured at their bid value in accordance with the Code. Under the Liability Driven Investment (LDI), RPI swaps are used to hedge 25% of the Funds cashflow liability against inflation.

Previously, synthetic equities, swaps and other Liability Driven Investment were included in the LDI/Cashflow matching category with any cash collateral included in the Cash category. This year, to reflect the way that the Local Pensions Partnership show this in their asset allocation, the synthetic equities have been grouped with traditional equities and the swaps and other Liability Driven Investment are grouped as Cash. In addition, the commodities and infrastructure asset classes have been combined as infrastructure this year.

The analysis of the net value of the pension scheme assets and liabilities recognised in the Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Fair value of employer assets	14,666	12,194
Present value of scheme liabilities	(23,358)	(18,995)
fNet Liability	(8,692)	(6,801)
Present value of unfunded liabilities	(23)	(22)
Net Liability in Balance Sheet	(8,715)	(6,823)

The analysis of the amounts recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Service cost	365	434
Net interest on the defined liability	249	252
Administration expenses	15	18
Total	629	704

The reconciliation of the Defined Benefit Obligation at 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Opening Defined Benefit Obligation	(19,017)	(20,401)
Current service cost	(365)	(434)
Interest cost	(704)	(669)
Change in financial assumptions	(4,863)	1,666
Change in demographic assumptions	146	-
Experience gain on defined benefit obligation	824	-
Estimated benefits paid net of transfers	357	292
Contributions by scheme participants	(125)	(132)
Unfunded pension payments	1	1
Adjustment arising from apportionment of pension liability	365	660
Closing Defined Benefit Obligation	(23,381)	(19,017)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

10. Pensions (continued)

The reconciliation of the Fair Value of Employer's Assets at 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Opening Fair Value of Employer's Assets	12,194	12,609
Interest on assets	455	417
Return on assets less interest	2,004	(511)
Other actuarial gains	249	-
Administration expenses	(15)	(18)
Contributions by employer	247	268
Contributions by scheme participants	125	132
Estimated benefits paid plus unfunded net of transfers in	(358)	(294)
Adjustment arising from apportionment of pension liability	(235)	(409)
Closing Fair Value of Employer's Assets	14,666	12,194

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out above. The sensitivity analyses below have been determined based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period and assumes for each change that the assumption analysed changes while all the other assumptions remain constant.

The assumptions in longevity, for example, assume that life expectancy increases or decreases for men and women. In practice, this is unlikely to occur, and changes in some of the assumptions may be interrelated. The estimations in the sensitivity analysis have followed the accounting policies for the scheme, ie on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method. The methods and types of assumptions used in preparing the sensitivity analysis below did not change from those used in the previous period.

Sensitivity analysis:

	£000	£000	£000
Adjustment to Discount Rate	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	22,893	23,381	23,879
Projected service cost	523	536	549
Adjustment to Long-term Salary Increases	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	23,440	23,381	23,322
Projected service cost	536	536	536
Adjustment to Pension Increases and Deferred Revaluation	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	23,820	23,381	22,950
Projected service cost	549	536	523
Adjustment to Mortality Age Rating Assumption	+1 year	None	-1 year
Present value of total obligation	24,217	23,381	22,574
Projected service cost	553	536	519

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

10. Pensions (continued)

The analysis of the re-measurements in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2017 is as follows:

	At 31 March 2017	At 31 March 2016
	£000	£000
Return on plan assets in excess of interest	2,004	(511)
Other actuarial gains on assets	249	-
Change in financial assumptions	(4,863)	1,666
Change in demographic assumptions	146	-
Experience gain on defined benefit obligation	824	-
Adjustment arising from apportionment of pension liability	130	251
Re-measurements	(1,510)	1,406

The projections for the year to 31 March 2018 is as follows:

	31 March 2018
	£000
Service cost	536
Net interest on the defined liability	241
Administration expenses	19
Total	796
Employers contribution	181

11. Property, Plant and Equipment

	Furniture and Equipment £000	Leasehold Improvements £000	Total £000
Cost			
At 1 April 2016	17	927	944
Additions	3	3	6
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2017	20	930	950
 At 1 April 2016	 17	 17	 17
Charge for the year	5	101	106
Charge relating to Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2017	5	118	123
 Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2017	15	812	827
 At 31 March 2016	 17	 910	 927

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

11. Property, Plant and Equipment (continued)

Comparative movements in 2015/16:

	Furniture and Equipment £000	Leasehold Improvements £000	Total £000
Cost			
At 1 April 2015	122	901	1,023
Additions	17	755	772
Disposals	(122)	(729)	(851)
At 31 March 2016	17	927	944
Accumulated Depreciation			
At 1 April 2015	122	729	851
Charge for the year	-	17	17
Charge relating to Disposals	(122)	(729)	(851)
At 31 March 2016	-	17	17
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2016	17	910	927
At 31 March 2015	-	172	172

There are no contractual commitments for the acquisition of Property, Plant and Equipment.

12. Short Term Debtors

	31 March 2017 £000	31 March 2016 £000
Central government bodies	542	548
Other local authorities	2,557	2,244
Public corporations and trading funds	455	642
Other entities and individuals	162	340
Total	3,716	3,774

Included within the debtor balances above are amounts due from member boroughs (excluding payments in advance and bad debt provision) of £2.557 million (2015/16: £2.244 million), payments in advance of £379,000 (2015/16: £192,000), a bad debt provision of £139,000 (2015/16: £210,000) and other debtors of £688,000 (2015/16: £1.548 million).

13. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	31 March 2017 £000	31 March 2016 £000
Cash held by the Committee	1,731	65
Cash balances held by the City of London	2,490	3,477
Total	4,221	3,542

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

14. Leases

Operating Leases

The Committee uses leased properties under the terms of operating leases. The amounts paid under these arrangements during the year amounted to £260,000 (2015/16: £357,000) and are included in Premises costs in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

	31 March 2017 £000	31 March 2016 £000 (Restated)
Not later than one year	246	148
Later than one year and not later than five years	1,187	1,136
Later than five years	888	1,185
Total	2,321	2,469

15. Short Term Creditors

	31 March 2017 £000	31 March 2016 £000
Central government bodies	(1)	(1)
Other local authorities	(1,794)	(1,820)
Public corporations and trading funds	(391)	(479)
Other entities and individuals	(1,537)	(1,706)
Total	(3,723)	(4,006)

Included within the creditor balances above are amounts due to member boroughs (excluding receipts in advance) of £1.075 million (2015/16: £1.14 million), receipts in advance of £250,000 (2015/16: £115,000), accruals of £2.201 million (2015/16: £2.748 million) and other creditors of £197,000 (2015/16: £3,000).

16. Usable Reserves

	31 March 2017 £000	31 March 2016 £000
General Reserve	3,341	3,269
2020 Freedom Pass Re-issue Reserve	1,734	1,000
Total	5,075	4,269

17. Transfers to Specific Reserves

Transfers to the Specific Reserves during the year ended 31 March 2017:

	Balance at 1 April 2015 £000	Transfer out £000	Transfer In £000	Balance at 31 March 2016 £000
2020 Freedom Pass Re-issue Reserve	1,000	-	734	1,734
Total	1,000		734	1,734

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

17. Transfers (from)/to Specific Reserves (continued)

Transfers to the Specific Reserves during the year ended 31 March 2016.

	Balance at 1 April 2015 £000	Transfer out £000	Transfer In £000	Balance at 31 March 2016 £000
2020 Freedom Pass Re-issue Reserve	-	-	1,000	1,000
Total	-	-	1,000	1,000

The 2020 Freedom Pass Re-issue Reserves was established by the Committee on 11 December 2014 to accumulate funds to meet the cost of the Freedom Pass reissue exercise.

18. Unusable Reserves

	31 March 2017 £000	31 March 2016 £000
Pensions Reserve	(8,715)	(6,823)
Accumulated Absences Reserve	(34)	(32)
Total	(8,749)	(6,855)

Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Committee accounts for post employment benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs. However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Committee makes employer's contribution to the pension fund or eventually pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pension Reserve therefore shows a substantial shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Committee has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

18. Unusable Reserves (continued)

	2016/17		2015/16	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
			(Restated)	(Restated)
Balance at 1 April		(6,823)		(7,792)
Actuarial gains or losses on pension assets and liabilities		(1,510)		1,406
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(629)		(705)	
Employer's pensions contribution and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	247	(382)	268	(437)
Balance at 31 March		(8,715)		(6,823)

Accumulated Absences Reserve

The Accumulated Absences Reserve absorbs the differences that would otherwise arise on the General Reserve from accruing for compensated absences earned but not taken in the year, e.g. annual leave entitlement carried forward at 31 March. Statutory arrangements require that the impact on the General Reserve is neutralised by transfers to or from the Reserve.

	2016/17		2015/16	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
		(32)		(34)
Balance at 1 April				
Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	32		34	
Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	(34)		(32)	
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		(2)		2
Balance at 31 March		(34)		(32)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

19. Cash Flow Statement – Operating Activities

	2016/17 £000	£000	2015/16 £000	£000
Surplus on Provision of Services		422		299
Adjusted for:				
Current Service Cost Adjustment	133		185	
Depreciation	106		17	
Net return on Pension Scheme				
Assets/Liabilities	249		252	
(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors	58		(489)	
Decrease in Creditors	(283)		(680)	
Adjustments for non-cash movements		263		(715)
Interest and Investment Income	(1)		(11)	
Adjustments for investing and financing activities		(1)		(11)
Net cash flows from Operating Activities		684		(427)

20. Cash Flow Statement – Investing Activities

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Interest and Investment Income	1	11
Payment to Acquire Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible Assets	(6)	(772)
Total	(5)	(761)

21. Members' Allowances

The Committee paid the following amounts to members of its Committees during the year.

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Members' Allowances	19	18

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

22. Officers' Remuneration

The number of employees whose remuneration (including termination payments but excluding employer's pension contributions) was £50,000 or more in bands of £5,000 was:

Remuneration Bands	Number of Employees	
	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
£50,000 - £54,999	-	1
£55,000 - £59,999	2	3
£60,000 - £64,999	-	2
£65,000 - £69,999	1	1
£70,000 - £74,999	2	-
£75,000 - £79,999	3	1
£80,000 - £84,999	1	2
£85,000 - £89,999	-	2
£90,000 - £94,999	1	-
£95,000 - £99,999	-	1
£100,000 - £104,999	-	1
£105,000 - £109,999	1	1
£110,000 - £114,999	1	-

These amounts include payments made to Parking Adjudicators.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

22. Officers' Remuneration (continued)

The salaries of the senior officers disclosed above are allocated between London Councils Joint Committee, Grants Committee and Transport and Environment Committee. The allocation of their salary costs to the Transport and Environment Committee are as follows:

- Corporate Director, Policy and Public Affairs – 25% (2015/16: 25%)
- Corporate Director, Services – 50% (2015/16: 50%)
- Director, Transport and Mobility 100% (2015/16: 100%)
- Director, Corporate Governance – 20% (2015/16: 5%)

Senior officers remuneration during 2016/17

Post Holder	Salary £	Compensation for Loss of Office £	Pension Contributions £	Total Remuneration £
Corporate Director, Policy and Public Affairs	31,042	-	3,725	34,767
Corporate Director, Services	47,280	35,367	5,588	88,235
Director, Transport and Mobility	109,198	-	13,104	122,302
Director, Corporate Governance	20,074	-	2,409	22,483
Total	207,594	35,367	24,826	267,787

Senior officers remuneration during 2015/16

Post Holder	Salary £	Compensation for Loss of Office £	Pension Contributions £	Total Remuneration £
Corporate Director, Policy and Public Affairs	30,735	-	3,688	34,423
Corporate Director, Services	61,470	-	7,376	68,846
Director, Corporate Governance	4,969	-	596	5,565
Total	97,174	-	11,660	108,834

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

23. Termination Benefits

There were termination payments of £35,000 included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for 2016/17 (2015/16: £52,000).

24. External Audit Costs

The Committee incurred the following amounts in relation to the audit of the Statement of Accounts and Employers' Association Annual Return:

	2016/17 £000	2015/16 £000
Fees payable in respect of the audit of the Statement of Accounts to KPMG LLP:	22	25
Fees payable in respect of other services provided by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP during the year	-	23
	22	48

Fees paid to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP in 2015/16 relate to residual charges for work carried out in connection with an objection to London Councils' 2012/13 to 2014/15 accounts.

25. Related Parties

The Committee is required to disclose material transactions with related parties – bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Committee or to be controlled or influenced by the Committee. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Committee might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have secured the ability to limit another party's ability to bargain with the Committee.

Member Boroughs

Member boroughs have direct control over the Committees activities through their membership of London Councils Transport and Environment Committee. The total value of income from subscriptions, contributions and other charges paid to London Councils by its member boroughs during 2016/17 was £31.571 million (2015/16: £33.612 million). The total value of expenditure paid to member boroughs during 2016/17, including the one-off payment from reserves, was £338,000 (2015/16: £5,000). On 31 March 2017, the value of debtor balances owed by member boroughs amounted to £2.361 million (2015/16: £2.244 million) and the value of creditor balances owed to member boroughs (including receipts in advance) amounted to £1.043 million (2015/16: £1.209 million).

Transport for London

A representative of Transport for London (TfL) sits on London Councils Transport and Environment Committee and therefore has influence over the activities of the Committee. The total value of income received from TfL in respect of subscriptions, contributions and charges during 2016/17 was £9.908 million (2015/16: £10.076 million). The total value of expenditure on charges and reimbursement of Penalty Charge Notices during 2016/17 was £23,000 (2015/16: £21,000). On 31 March 2017, the value of debtor balances owed by TfL amounted to £174,000 (2015/16: £140,000) and the value of creditor balances owed to TfL (including receipts in advance) amounted to £301,000 (2015/16: £390,000).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

24. Related Parties (continued)**Central Government**

Central Government has effective control over the general operations of member boroughs as it is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the boroughs operate, provides the majority of their funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the boroughs have with other parties. The total value of expenditure on the registration of debts to HM Courts and Tribunal Services and other charges during 2016/17 amounted to £3.818 million (2015/16: £2.681 million). On 31 March 2017, the value of debtor balances owed by central government bodies amounted to £312,000 (2015/16: £548,000) and the value of creditor balances owed to central government bodies (including receipts in advance) amounted to £1,000 (2015/16: £34,000).

British Parking Association

London Councils had a contract to run the Parking on Private Lands Appeals (POPLA) service which was funded by the British Parking Association (BPA). London Councils' former Director of Corporate Services was a Director of the British Parking Association. The Director of Corporate Services received no remuneration for his appointment with the BPA. The contract to run the POPLA service ceased in September 2015 and there were no charges in respect of the service in 2016/17 (2015/16: £499,000). The total value of expenditure paid to the BPA for subscriptions and other charges during 2016/17 was £850 (2015/16: £860). On 31 March 2017, the value of debtor balances in respect of a prepaid membership subscription amounted to £600 (2015/16: £317,000).

Greater London Authority

A member of London Councils Leaders' Committee was also a member of the Greater London Assembly. The total value of income received from the GLA for the operation of the Road User Charging Appeals service and other charges during 2016/17 was £803,000 (2015/16: £783,000). On 31 March 2017, the value of debtor balances owed by the GLA amounted to £284,000 (2015/16: £413,000) and the value of creditor balances owed to the GLA (including receipts in advance) amounted to £90,000 (2015/16: £89,000).

London Councils Limited

London Councils Limited is a wholly controlled subsidiary of London Councils. The Committee was recharged an amount of £471,000 (2015/16: £611,000) in respect of the premises cost of London Tribunals' hearing centres. On 31 March 2017, the value of creditor balances owed to the group company was £471,000 (2015/16: £611,000).

25. Concessionary Fares

These accounts do not include the amount of £333.94 million (2015/16: £327.922 million) paid directly by member boroughs to Transport for London in respect of the Concessionary Fares scheme.

26. Consolidated Accounts

These accounts form part of the consolidated accounts for London Councils from 1 April 2000. A copy of the consolidated accounts for 2016/17 can be obtained from the Director of Corporate Resources, 59½ Southwark Street, London, SE1 0AL.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017 (continued)

27. Segmental Reporting

The information in the accounts is set out in the segments based on the Committee's internal management reporting. Therefore, no further disclosures are required.

GLOSSARY**Accounting Policies**

The specific principles, bases, conventions, rules and practices applied by the Council in preparing and presenting the accounts.

Accruals

The concept that income and expenditure are recognised as they are earned or incurred, not as money is received or paid.

Actuarial Gains and Losses

Changes in actuarial deficits or surpluses that arise because either actual experience or events have differed from the assumptions adopted at the previous valuation (experience gains or losses) or the actuarial assumptions have been changed.

Actuary

An independent consultant who advises on the financial position of the Pension Fund.

Balance Sheet

A statement showing the position of the Council's assets and liabilities as at 31 March in each year.

Budget

A forecast of the Committee's planned expenditure. Budgets are reviewed during the course of the financial year to take account of pay and price changes and other factors affecting the level or cost of services.

Capital Charges

A charge to service revenue accounts to reflect the cost of fixed assets used in the provision of services. The charge includes depreciation (intended to represent the cost of using the asset) and any impairment that may have occurred in the year of account.

Capital Expenditure

Expenditure on the acquisition of a fixed asset or expenditure which adds to and not merely maintains the value of an existing fixed asset.

Carrying amount

The amount at which an asset is recognised after deducting any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Change in Accounting Estimate

An adjustment of the carrying amount of an asset or a liability, or the amount of the periodic consumption of an asset, that results from the assessment of the present status of, and expected future benefits and obligations associated with, assets and liabilities. Changes in accounting estimates result from new information or new developments and, accordingly, are not correction of errors.

Consistency

The principle that the accounting treatment of like items within an accounting period and from one period to the next is the same.

Contingent

A condition which exists at the balance sheet date where the outcome will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the authority's control.

Creditors

Amounts owed by the Committee for goods received or services provided before the end of the accounting period but for which payments have not been made by the end of that accounting period.

GLOSSARY (continued)**Current Asset**

An asset that will be consumed or cease to have value within one year of the reporting date. Examples are inventories and debtors.

Current Expenditure

A general term for the direct running costs of local authority services, including employee costs and running expenses.

Current Liability

An amount which will become payable or could be called in within the next accounting period, examples are creditors and cash overdrawn.

Current Service Cost

The increase in the present value of a defined benefit obligation resulting from employee service in the current period.

Curtailments

Curtailments arise as a result of the early payment of accrued pensions on retirement on the grounds of efficiency, redundancy or where the employer has allowed employees to retire on unreduced benefits before they would otherwise have been able to do so.

Debtors

Amounts due to the Committee before the end of the accounting period but for which payments have not yet been received by the end of that accounting period.

Depreciation

The loss in value of a fixed asset due to age, wear and tear, deterioration or obsolescence.

Employee benefits

All forms of consideration given by an entity in exchange for service rendered by employees.

Events after the reporting period

Those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the accounts are authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified: a) those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period (adjusting events after the reporting period), and b) those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period (non-adjusting events after the reporting period).

Fair Value

The amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction. In accounting terms, fair values are approximated by the present value of the cash flows that will take place over the remaining life of the financial instrument.

Fixed Assets

Tangible assets that yield benefit to the Committee and its services for a period of more than one year.

Historical Cost

This is the cost deemed to be the carrying amount of an asset as at 1 April 2007 (i.e. b/f from 31 March 2007) or at the date of acquisition, whichever date is the later, and adjusted for subsequent depreciation or impairment (if applicable).

Impairment

A reduction in the value of a fixed asset below its carrying amount on the balance sheet.

GLOSSARY (continued)**Intangible Assets**

An intangible asset is an identifiable non-monetary asset without physical substance. It must be controlled by the authority as a result of past events, and future economic or service benefits must be expected to flow from the intangible asset to the authority. The most common class of intangible asset in local government bodies is computer software.

Inventories

Assets that are: a) in the form of materials or supplies to be consumed in the production process b) in the form of materials or supplies to be consumed or distributed in the rendering of services c) held for sale or distribution in the ordinary course of operations, or d) in the process of production for sale or distribution.

Levies

A payment that a local authority is required to make to a particular body (a levying body) to meet specific services.

Material

Material omissions or misstatements of items are material if they could, individually or collectively, influence the decisions or assessments of users made on the basis of the accounts. Materiality depends on the nature or size of the omission or misstatement judged in the surrounding circumstances. The nature or size of the item, or a combination of both, could be the determining factor.

Net Realisable Value

The open market value of the asset in its existing use (or open market value in the case of non-operational assets), less the expenses to be incurred in realising the asset.

Operational Assets

Fixed assets held and occupied, used or consumed by the Committee in the direct delivery of services for which it has either a statutory or discretionary responsibility.

Past Service Cost

The increase in the present value of Pension Fund liabilities arising in the current year from previous years' service. Past service cost may be either positive (where benefits are introduced or improved) or negative (where existing benefits are reduced).

Pensions Interest Cost

The expected increase during a period in the present value of Pension Fund liabilities which arises because the benefits are due one year closer to settlement.

Post Balance Sheet Events

Those events, both favourable and unfavourable, which occur between the balance sheet date and the date on which the Statement of Accounts is signed by the responsible financial officer.

Post-Employment Benefits

Employee benefits (other than termination benefits) which are payable after the completion of employment.

Present Value of a Defined Benefit Obligation

The present value, without deducting any plan assets, of expected future payments required to settle the obligation resulting from employee service in the current and prior periods.

Provision

An amount set aside in the accounts for liabilities or losses which are certain or very likely to occur but uncertain as to the amounts involved or the dates on which they will arise.

GLOSSARY (continued)**Prudence**

The concept that revenue is not anticipated but is recognised only when realised in the form either of cash or other assets and full and proper allowance is made for all known and foreseeable losses and liabilities.

Recharges

The collective term for accounting entries representing transfers of (or to cover) costs initially debited elsewhere. They therefore comprise apportionments and charges.

Recoverable Amount

The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of fair value less costs to sell (i.e. net selling price) and its value in use.

Related Parties

Two or more parties are related parties when at any time during the financial period:

- (i) one party has direct or indirect control of the other party; or
- (ii) the parties are subject to common control from the same source; or
- (iii) one party has influence over the financial and operational policies of the other party to an extent that the other party might be inhibited from pursuing at all times its own separate interests; or
- (iv) the parties, in entering a transaction, are subject to influence from the same source to such an extent that one of the parties to the transaction has subordinated its own separate interest.

Related Party Transaction

A related party transaction is a transfer of resources or obligations between related parties, regardless of whether a price is charged. Related party transactions exclude transactions with any other entity that is a related party solely because of its economic dependence on the authority or the government of which it forms part.

Remuneration

All sums paid to or receivable by an employee and sums due by way of expense allowances (as far as those sums are chargeable to UK income tax) and the money value of any other benefits received other than in cash. Pension contributions payable by the employer are excluded.

Reserves

Sums set aside to finance future spending for purposes falling outside the definition of a provision.

Reserves set aside for stated purposes are known as earmarked reserves. The remainder are unallocated reserves, often described as balances.

Residual Value

The residual value of an asset is the estimated amount that an entity would currently obtain from disposal of the asset, after deducting the estimated costs of disposal, if the asset were already of the age and in the condition expected at the end of its useful life.

Short-Term Employee Benefits

Employee benefits (other than termination benefits) that fall due wholly within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service.

Specific Grants

These are grants paid by various government departments outside the main formula. They include ring-fenced grants and specific formula grants.

Specific Reserves

Reserves set aside for a specific purpose or a particular service or type of expenditure.

GLOSSARY (continued)

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible assets that yield benefits to the Authority and the services it provides for a period of more than one year.

Useful Life

The period over which benefits will be derived from the use of a fixed asset.

VAT

An indirect tax levied on most business transactions and on many goods and some services. Input Tax is VAT charged on purchases. Output Tax is VAT charged in sales.

Executive

Month 6 Revenue Forecast 2017/18

Item no: 8

Report by: Frank Smith **Job title:** Director of Corporate Resources
Date: 14 November 2017
Contact Officer: Frank Smith
Telephone: 020 7934 9700 **Email:** frank.smith@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Summary

This report summarises actual income and expenditure recorded in the accounts as at 30 September 2017 (Month 6), provides a projected outturn figure for the year and highlights any significant forecast variances against the approved budget. A separate forecast is provided for each of London Councils three funding streams. The Executive is also provided with an update on London Councils reserves. The summary forecast outturn position is as follows:

	M6 Actual	Budget	Forecast	Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Total expenditure	189,162	388,087	386,472	(1,615)
Total income	(191,954)	(385,459)	(386,146)	(687)
Use of reserves	-	(2,628)	(2,628)	-
Net deficit/(surplus)	(2,792)	-	(2,302)	(2,302)
Net expenditure by Committee				
Grants	(11)	-	(541)	(541)
Transport and Environment	154	-	(1,001)	(1,001)
Joint	(2,935)	-	(761)	(761)
Net deficit/(surplus)	(2,792)	-	(2,302)	(2,302)

Recommendations

The Executive is asked to note the overall forecast surplus as at 30 September 2017 (Month 3) of £2.302 million and note the position on reserves as detailed in paragraphs 16-17.

Month 6 Revenue Forecast 2017/18

Introduction

1. London Councils revenue expenditure budget for 2017/18, as approved by the Leaders' Committee in December 2016 was £387.45 million. The budget was then adjusted by £637,000 to reflect the decision of this Committee to bring forward the £29,000 underspend in respect of NOTIFY into 2017/18 and TECs decision to bring forward underspends of £227,000 that arose in 2016/17 into the current year. In addition, the budget was increased by a further £222,000 on confirmation of the finalised funding available from boroughs and TfL for the Taxicard Scheme in 2017/18. Finally, the budgets for the HR Metrics Service and London Care Placements were increased by £16,000 and £143,000 respectively to reflect revised service levels, the latter following a meeting the ALDCS in March 2017, making a revised expenditure budget for 2016/17 of £388.087 million.
2. The corresponding revenue income budget approved by the Leaders' Committee in December 2016 was £387.45 million, which included an approved transfer of £2.372 million from reserves; £826,000 of which related to a further return of funds to boroughs from reserves. Additional transfers from reserves of £256,000 were made to cover carry forward expenditure (see paragraph 1), plus additional Taxicard funding from the boroughs of £95,000 and from TfL of £127,000. Additional contributions from funders for the HR Metrics Service and London Care Placements of £16,000 and £143,000 respectively were also added to the budget in line with current service levels. Total revised income, therefore, is budgeted to be £388.087 million, of which £2.628 million is an approved transfer from reserves to produce a balanced budget for the year.
3. This report analyses actual income and expenditure at the half-year stage of the current financial year and highlights any significant variances emerging against the approved budget.

4. Table 1 below details the overall forecast position, with Tables 2-4 showing the position for the three separate funding streams.

Table 1 – Summary Income and Expenditure Forecast 2017/18, as at 30 September 2017.

	M6 Actual	Budget	Forecast	Variance
Expenditure	£000	£000	£000	£000
Employee Costs	2,515	5,618	5,332	(286)
Running Costs	645	3,376	3,647	271
Central Recharges	0	616	616	-
Total Operating Expenditure	3,160	9,610	9,595	(15)
Direct Services	3,729	8,277	8,991	714
Payments in respect of Freedom Pass and Taxicard	177,720	359,781	358,472	(1,309)
Commissioned grants services	2,945	6,173	6,173	-
London Funders Group	-	60	60	-
ESF commissions	936	1,880	1,643	(237)
One-off borough payments	486	826	826	-
Improvement and Efficiency work	25	265	169	(96)
YPES Regional/Provider Activities	29	50	50	-
Challenge Implementation Fund	-	525	103	(422)
Commissioning and Research	132	640	390	(250)
Total Expenditure	189,162	388,087	386,472	(1,615)
Income				
Contributions in respect of Freedom Pass and Taxicard	(178,514)	(359,838)	(359,207)	631
Borough contribution towards grant payments	(4,040)	(7,173)	(7,596)	(423)
Borough contribution towards YPES payments	(180)	(180)	(180)	-
Income for direct services	(3,153)	(8,748)	(9,782)	(1,034)
Core Member Subscriptions	(5,432)	(5,706)	(5,710)	(4)
Borough contribution towards LCP payments	(462)	(496)	(496)	-
Government Grants	-	(1,000)	(882)	118
Interest on Investments	(46)	(75)	(78)	(3)
Other Income	(137)	(273)	(245)	28
Central Recharges	-	(1,970)	(1,970)	-
Transfer from Reserves	-	(2,628)	(2,628)	-
Total Income	(191,954)	(388,087)	(388,774)	(687)
Net Expenditure	(2,792)	-	(2,302)	(2,302)
Applied to Funding Streams				
Grants Committee	(11)	-	(541)	(541)
Transport and Environment Committee	154	-	(1,001)	(1,001)
Joint Committee Functions	(2,935)	-	(761)	(761)
Net Expenditure	(2,792)	-	(2,302)	(2,302)

Revenue Forecast Position as at 30 September 2017 – Grants Committee

5. Table 2 below summarises the forecast outturn position for the Grants Committee:

Table 2 – Summary Forecast – Grants Committee

	M6 Actual	Budget	Forecast	Variance
Expenditure	£000	£000	£000	£000
Employee Costs	202	423	431	8
Running Costs	14	18	18	-
Central Recharges	-	189	189	-
Total Operating Expenditure	216	630	638	8
Commissioned grants services	2,945	6,173	6,173	-
London Funders Group	-	60	60	-
ESF commissions – 2016+	936	1,880	1,643	(237)
One-off payment to boroughs	156	156	156	-
Total Expenditure	4,253	8,899	8,670	(229)
Income				
Borough contributions towards commissioned services	(4,040)	(7,173)	(7,596)	(423)
Borough contributions towards the administration of commissions	(217)	(495)	(495)	-
ESF Grant	-	(1,000)	(882)	118
Interest on Investments	(7)	-	(7)	(7)
Other Income	-	-	-	-
Transfer from Reserves	-	(231)	(231)	-
Total Income	(4,264)	(8,899)	(9,151)	(252)
Net Expenditure	(11)	-	(541)	(541)

6. The projected surplus of £541,000, is broadly split between the following:

- A projected breakeven position in respect of S.48 borough funded commissioned services relating to 2017/18;
- A projected net surplus position of £542,000 in respect of anticipated payments made in respect of the S.48 ESF programme, after taking into account borough contributions and ESF grant; and
- A projected marginal overspend position of £1,000 in respect of the overall administration of all commissions.

7. In addition, liabilities of £754,576 relating to 25 outstanding payments due to commissions in respect of 2016/17 were set up during the accounts closure process. Payments of £605,329 have been released to date during 2017/18, and with no further payments anticipated, a sum of £119,010 will be recycled back through revenue to S.48 reserves.

Revenue Forecast Position as at 30 September 2017 – Transport and Environment Committee

8. Table 3 below summarises the forecast outturn position for the Transport and Environment Committee:

Table 3 – Summary Forecast – Transport and Environment Committee

	M6 Actual	Budget	Forecast	Variance
Expenditure	£000	£000	£000	£000
Employee Costs	312	675	622	(53)
Running Costs	134	387	387	-
Central Recharges	-	90	90	-
Total Operating Expenditure	446	1,152	1,099	(53)
Direct Services	3,713	8,211	8,974	763
Research	-	40	40	-
Payments in respect of Freedom Pass and Taxicard	177,720	359,781	358,472	(1,309)
One-off payment to boroughs	-	340	340	-
Total Expenditure	181,879	369,524	368,924	(600)
Income				
Contributions in respect of Freedom Pass and Taxicard	(178,504)	(359,838)	(359,207)	631
Income for direct services	(3,064)	(8,650)	(9,684)	(1,034)
Core Member Subscriptions	(97)	(97)	(97)	-
Government Grants	-	-	-	-
Interest on Investments	(7)	-	(7)	(7)
Other Income	(52)	(84)	(75)	9
Transfer from Reserves	-	(855)	(855)	-
Total Income	(181,724)	(369,524)	(369,925)	(401)
Net Expenditure	155	-	(1,001)	(1,001)

9. The projected surplus of £1.001 million is made up of the following:
- A projected overall surplus of £246,000 in respect of TEC parking traded services, after considering an estimate of the level of borough/TfL/GLA usage volumes during the year to date. This is attributable to a number of areas.
 - Firstly, there is a projected net surplus of £229,000 in respect of parking and traffic appeals. The estimated number of notice of appeals and statutory declarations received to date amounts to 17,199, giving a projected number for the year of 41,278, 692 more than the budgeted figure of 40,586. The current indicative throughput of appeals is 3.8 appeals per hour, compared to a budget figure of 2.7.
 - Secondly, the transaction volumes for other parking systems used by boroughs and TfL to date are projected to result in a net deficit of £23,000; and

- Finally, the fixed cost element of the RUCA contract with the GLA/TfL is projected to generate additional income of £42,000, due to an increased share of the rechargeable costs of Chancery Exchange attributable to RUCA activities.
- A projected marginal overspend of £6,000 in respect of employee costs. The cost of staff providing direct services (included within the direct services administration charge) is estimated to overspend by £30,000, although this is offset by an underspend on staffing costs attributable to non-operational and policy staff of £24,000. In addition, the maternity cover budget is estimated to be underspent by £30,000.
- A reduction of £34,000 in respect of the estimated Business Rates payable in respect of the hearing centre at Chancery Exchange, arising from the actual bill for 2017/18 being less than the projected increase calculated at the budget setting stage in November 2016.
- A projected underspend of £400,000 in respect of the £1.7 million budget for payments to independent bus operators, which is based on claims to date and a forecast of 4% increase on average fares. In addition, four of the current operators are new and although there is an assumed 1% increase in journeys on these routes, it is difficult to accurately predict future trends as it takes time for the new operators to build up patronage. However, there is an overall underlying reduction in bus ridership that contributes to smaller claims from operators.
- A projected underspend of £120,000 in respect of the £1.518 million budget for the issuing/reissuing costs of Freedom Passes and undertaking the mid-term review during 2017/18.
- Based on income collected to date, receipts from Lorry Control PCN income are forecast to breakeven against the budget of £800,000.
- Based on income collected to date, income receipts from replacement Freedom Passes are forecast to exceed the budget of £600,000 by £183,000. For replacement Taxicards, there is a projected deficit on the £24,000 income budget of £5,000 for the year.

Revenue Forecast Position as at 30 September 2017 – Joint Committee Core Functions

10. Table 4 below summarises the forecast outturn position for the Joint Committee core functions:

Table 4 – Summary Forecast – Joint Committee core functions

	M6 Actual	Budget	Forecast	Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure				
Employee Costs	2,001	4,520	4,279	(241)
Running Costs	497	2,971	3,242	271
Central Recharges	-	337	337	-
Total Operating Expenditure	2,498	7,828	7,858	30
Direct Services	17	66	17	(49)
Commissioning and Research	132	600	350	(250)
Improvement and Efficiency work	25	265	169	(96)
YPES Regional/Provider Activities	29	50	50	-
Challenge Implementation Fund	-	525	103	(422)
One-off borough payment	330	330	330	-
Total Expenditure	3,031	9,664	8,877	(787)
Income				
Income for direct services	(89)	(98)	(98)	-
Core Member Subscriptions	(5,118)	(5,114)	(5,118)	(4)
Borough contribution towards YPES payments	(180)	(180)	(180)	-
Borough contribution towards LCP payments	(462)	(496)	(496)	-
Government Grants	-	-	-	-
Interest on Investments	(32)	(75)	(64)	11
Other Income	(85)	(189)	(170)	19
Central Recharges	-	(1,970)	(1,970)	-
Transfer from Reserves	-	(1,542)	(1,542)	-
Total Income	(5,966)	(9,664)	(9,638)	26
Net Expenditure	(2,935)	-	(761)	(761)

11. A projected surplus of £761,000 is forecast in respect of the joint committee core functions, attributable to:

- Employee costs are projected to underspend by £241,000, primarily due to high staff turnover and holding off recruiting to certain current vacant posts;
- There is a projected deficit of £373,000 in respect of the estimated rent increase at the Southwark Street site, in accordance with the Heads of Terms agreed by the Executive in April 2011. This sum is offset by £102,000 excess budget relating to the estimated business rates increase for the site effective from the start of the year and
- The Access Europe contract ceased on 31 July 2017, leading to an underspend of £49,000.

- In addition, from transactions processed in the year to date, there are forecast underspends of £250,000 in respect of the commissioning budget, £96,000 in respect of improvement and efficiency work and £422,000 in respect of the Challenge Implementation Fund.

12. All of these areas are subject to developing proposals following a direction of travel set by members during the course of the year. These costs are, therefore, liable to fluctuate as the year progresses as new priorities are identified and come on stream, thereby incurring in-year costs. As stated in the report on the proposed revenue budget and borough subscriptions and charges for 2018/19, which is subject to a separate report on this agenda, any underspend in respect of the Challenge Implementation Fund will reduce the call on the proposed use of reserves in 2018/19.

13. The underspend outlined above are offset by a projected shortfall of £11,000 in respect of investment income and £19,000 in respect of other income.

Externally Funded Projects

14. The externally funded projects are estimated to have matched income and expenditure of just over £3.56 million for 2017/18, including funding for the borough (non S.48) ESF programme. This is based on a review of the indicative budget plans held at London Councils by the designated project officers, which confirms that there is no projected net cost to London Councils for running these projects during 2017/18.

Reserves

15. The forecast reserves position for each of the three funding streams for the current year and beyond is illustrated in Table 6 below:

Table 6 – Forecast reserves after all current commitments

	Transport and Environment Committee (£000)	Joint Committee (£000)	Grants Committee (£000)	Total (£000)
General Reserve at 1 April 2017	3,341	5,417	443	9,748
Specific/ESF Reserve at 1 April 2017	1,734	-	1,575	3,308
Total reserves at 1 April 2017	5,075	5,417	2,018	12,510
Committed in setting 2017/18 budget	(488)	(1,183)	(75)	(1,746)
One-off payment to boroughs 2017/18	(340)	(330)	(156)	(826)
Balances c/f into 2017/18	(227)	(29)	-	(256)
Potential ESF grants commitments in 2017/18 - 2019/20	-	-	(2,117)	(2,117)
Freedom Pass reissue exercise 2018/19 - 2019/20	(2,837)	-	-	(2,837)
Write back of 2016/17 grants liabilities	-	-	119	119
Forecast surplus/(deficit) 2017/18	1,001	761	541	2,303
Uncommitted reserves	2,184	4,436	330	7,150

16. The current level of commitments from reserves, as detailed in Table 6, come to £7.782 million over the short-medium term and are detailed in Table 7 below:

Table 7 – Commitments from Reserves 2017-2020

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balances b/f from 2016/17	256	-	-	256
Approved transfer from JC general reserves	164	-	-	164
Approved transfer from TEC general reserves	288	-	-	288
Accumulated YPES funds	293	-	-	293
Slippage of ESG grants funding	-	1,000	1,117	2,117
One-off repayment to boroughs	826	-	-	826
Challenge Implementation Fund	525	-	-	525
Support to the health transition process	201	-	-	201
2020 Freedom Pass reissue	-	534	2,303	2,837
TEC priority projects	200	-	-	200
Support to 3 rd sector via City Bridge Trust	75	-	-	75
Totals	2,828	1,534	3,420	7,782

Conclusions

17. This report highlights the projected outturn position for the current year, based on transactions undertaken up until 30 September 2017 (month 6), together with known future developments. At this point, a forecast underspend of £2.302 million is projected for 2017/18, across the three funding streams. Uncommitted reserves are currently projected to be just over £7 million by the end of the current financial year.
18. The next forecast will be presented to the Executive in February 2018, which will highlight the projected position at the three-quarter year stage of the 2017/18 financial year.

Recommendations

19. The Executive is asked to note the overall forecast surplus as at 30 September 2017 (Month 6) of £2.302 million and note the position on reserves as detailed in paragraphs 16-17.

Financial Implications for London Councils

No additional implications other than detailed in the body of the report.

Legal Implications for London Councils

None

Equalities Implications for London Councils

None

Appendices

None

Background Papers

London Councils Revenue Forecast File 2017/18

Executive

Proposed Revenue Budget and Borough Item no: 9 Subscriptions and Charges 2018/19

Report by: Frank Smith **Job title:** Director of Corporate Resources
Date: 14 November 2017
Contact Officer: Frank Smith
Telephone: 020 7934 9700 **Email:** frank.smith@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Summary

Following discussions with the Chair of London Councils, this report proposes the level of boroughs subscriptions and charges to be levied in 2018/19, together with the consolidated revenue income and expenditure budget for 2018/19. The report also updates the Executive on the current level of London Councils reserves after considering all current and proposed commitments and the timetable for the overall budget approval process. Following consideration by this meeting, proposals will be submitted to the Leaders' Committee meeting on 5 December for final consideration and approval.

These proposals involve:

- Containing all budgetary pressures in 2018/19, including the rent review at Southwark Street, the officer pay award, GDPR preparatory work and other contract and general running cost increases, from within the 2017/18 approved budgetary resources, which will allow the three core subscriptions to remain at the current year's level;
- A £1 million reduction in the borough contribution towards the S.48 ESF programme as the three-year borough funding commitment expires at the end of 2017/18. However, as the programme has slipped by roughly 16 months, accumulated funds held in Grants Committee reserves will be applied to fund the programme, along with ESF grant, up until the current stated project end-date of March 2019; and
- The continuation of the Challenge Implementation Fund of £525,000, funded from any underspent funds carried forward from the current year, replenished by uncommitted joint committee reserves.

Recommendations The Executive is asked to recommend that the Leaders' Committee approve at their meeting on 5 December 2017 the following borough subscription and charges:

- The proposed Joint Committee subscription for boroughs of £161,958 per borough for 2018/19, no change on the charge of £161,958 for 2017/18 (paragraph 12);
- The proposed Joint Committee subscription for the MOPAC and the LFEPA of £15,410 for 2018/19, no change on the charge of £15,410 for 2017/18 (paragraph 13);
- An overall level of expenditure of £8.668 million for the Grants Scheme in 2018/19 (inclusive of £2 million gross ESF programme), the same level as for 2017/18; and
- That taking into account the application of £1 million ESF grant and £1 million from earmarked Grants Committee reserves, net borough contributions for 2018/19 should be £6.668 million, compared to £7.668 million for 2017/18 (paragraphs 14-17).

The Executive is also asked to recommend that the Leaders' Committee endorse the following subscription and charges for 2018/19 for TEC, which will be considered by the TEC Executive Sub-Committee on 16 November, before being presented to the main meeting of TEC on 7 December for final approval:

- The Parking Core Administration Charge of £1,500 per borough and for TfL (2017/18 - £1,500) (paragraph 18);
- No charge to boroughs in respect of the Freedom Pass Administration Charge, which is covered by replacement Freedom Pass income (2017/18 – no charge) (paragraph 20);
- The net Taxicard Administration Charge to boroughs of £338,182 in total (2017/18 - £338,182); (paragraph 21);
- No charge to boroughs and TfL in respect of the Lorry Control Administration Charge, which is fully covered by estimated PCN income (2017/18 – no charge) (paragraph 22);
- The Parking Enforcement Service Charge of £0.4226 per PCN, which will be distributed to boroughs and TfL in accordance with the number of PCNs issued in 2016/17 (2017/18 - £0.4915 per PCN; paragraphs 25-26);
- The Parking and Traffic Appeals Charge of £30.63 per appeal or £27.02 per appeal where electronic evidence is provided by the enforcing authority (2017/18 - £32.00/£28.50 per appeal). For hearing Statutory Declarations, a charge of £25.21 for hard copy submissions and £23.53 for electronic submissions (2017/18 - £26.74/£26.06 per SD) (paragraphs 27-28);

- Congestion Charging Appeals – to be recovered on a full cost recovery basis, as for 2017/18, under the new contract arrangement with the GLA (paragraph 29);
- The TRACE (Electronic) Charge of £7.53 per transaction (2017/18 - £7.31) (paragraphs 30-32);
- The TRACE (Fax) Charge of £7.70 per transaction (2017/18 - £7.48) (paragraphs 30-32); and
- The PEC Charge of £0.175 per transaction (2017/18 - £0.17) (paragraphs 30-32).

On the basis of the above proposed level of subscriptions and charges, the Executive is asked to recommend to the Leaders' Committee:

- The provisional consolidated revenue expenditure budget for 2018/19 for London Councils of £386.609 million, as per Table 4 at paragraph 33 and Appendix A of this report;
- The provisional consolidated revenue income budget for 2018/19 for London Councils of £384.313 million, also as per Table 4 at paragraph 33 and Appendix B;
- Within the total income requirement, the use of London Council reserves of £2.296 million in 2018/19, as detailed in Table 12 at paragraph 53.

The Executive is also asked to recommend that the Leaders' Committee note:

- The position in respect of forecast uncommitted London Council reserves as at 31 March 2018, as detailed at paragraphs 51-57; and
 - The positive statement on the adequacy of the residual London Councils reserves issued by the Director of Corporate Resources, as detailed in paragraphs 58-59.
-

Proposed Revenue Budget and Borough Subscriptions and Charges 2018/19

Introduction

1. The forthcoming financial year, 2018/19, was scheduled to be the first year of a new three-year financial strategy period, covering the period 2018/19 to 2020/21. It also represents the second year of the current four-year Grants Programme from April 2017 to March 2021, as agreed by the Leaders' Committee in March 2016 following recommendations from the Grants Committee.
2. The work agreed by the London Councils Executive on 13 September 2016 to progress the London Councils Challenge process has extended into the current financial year, with key work planned to continue over the remainder of the year. Given that the budget needs to be approved in December, it is hard to reflect that emerging picture fully in what is put forward for 2018/19.
3. Therefore, it would seem sensible to align a new three year planning period with priorities that emerge following the May 2018 London borough elections. That plan can then cover the remaining three years running in to the 2022 London borough elections. This would, therefore, make the 2018/19 budget a single year, stand-alone budget.

Budgetary pressures

4. There are a number of significant budgetary pressures that will impact on the London Councils revenue budget for 2018/19. These are:
 - The rent review for the Southwark Street premises, in accordance with the Heads of Terms signed off by the Executive in April 2011 and is effective from March 2016, is likely to lead to additional annual payments of between £350,000 and £375,000. This is still subject to on-going negotiations with the City of London;
 - The likely officer pay award from April 2018 will add roughly £65,000 per one percentage point increase to the overall salaries bill for London Councils;
 - Auto-enrolment to the pension scheme may increase the total employers pension contributions paid; more specifically for TEC, parking adjudicators are now entitled to be provided with access to a pension scheme and this will have implications for the unit cost of parking appeal charges to boroughs and other

users. Take up cannot currently be quantified, but the employers contribution to the scheme for adjudicators who wish to enrol will be 2% from April 2018;

- Additional resources to meet the requirements of the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), which becomes effective in May 2018. There is a mandatory requirement for public authorities to appoint a Data Protection Officer to fully meet the requirements of the new legislation. The cost is estimated to be between £50,000 to £55,000 per annum;
- CPI in the year to September 2017 is now running at 3%, there will be increased pressure on overall contract prices and in respect of cost of the four SLAs for support services provided by the City of London, which has not been experienced in recent years; and
- Costs relating to the YPES and health related functions of the Joint Committee, that were previously partly funded through a transfer from JC reserves, will need to be accommodated within the JC salary cost budget to reduce the permanent call on JC reserves.

5. Some savings/efficiencies have been identified from within existing approved resources to mitigate the overall effect of the above cost pressures. These include:

- The elimination of the provision for an annual payment of past service pension costs to the LPFA, estimated to save around £200,000;
- An over provision for Southwark Street business rates projected for the current year, estimated to be around £100,000;
- Savings in staffing costs as a result of agreed changes of around £115,000; and
- Full year savings from the cessation of the Access Europe contract of £66,000.

6. This report, therefore, proposes the level of borough subscriptions and charges to be levied in 2018/19, together with the indicative consolidated revenue income and expenditure budget for 2018/19. The proposals include:

- A Joint Committee core subscription of £161,958 per borough, the same level as for 2017/18;
- A TEC parking core administration charge of £1,500 per borough, the same level as for 2017/18;

- Total S.48 grants administration costs (excluding ESF) of £435,000, equating to an average cost of £13,182 per borough, the same level as for 2017/18;
- A reduction in the borough contribution of £1 million toward the pan-London S.48 ESF grants budget;
- The continuation of the Challenge Implementation Fund of £525,000, funded from 2017/18 unspent funds carried forward, replenished by uncommitted joint committee reserves; and
- A reduction in the level of the proposed transfer from reserves of £535,000 (to a maximum of £1.007 million in total) to fund specific areas of expenditure.

7. The timetable for the approval of the budget for 2018/19 following this meeting is as follows:

- 16 November - TEC Executive Sub-Committee considered the indicative budget and borough charges for 2018/19 and make recommendations to the main TEC Committee meeting on 7 December for approval;
- 22 November – Grants Committee considers and agrees the indicative grants budget and borough contributions for 2018/19, and makes recommendations to the Leaders' Committee meeting on 5 December for approval;
- 5 December - Leaders' Committee considers this report on the indicative consolidated budget and borough charges for 2018/19 (as amended by this meeting), and a separate report seeking approval of the grants budget and borough contributions for 2018/19. This report will include the indicative budget and borough charges for TEC which the Leaders' Committee is asked to endorse; and
- 7 December – main TEC Committee – considers recommendations of TEC Executive Sub-Committee and any views arising from the Leaders' Committee and approves final budget and charges for 2018/19. The views of the Leaders' Committee will be reported orally to the main TEC meeting.

Current position on core subscriptions and other charges

8. Members are reminded that since 2010/11 (covering the seven-year period between 2011/12 and 2017/18):
- The Joint Committee core subscription has been reduced by £96,005 or 37%, with the total accumulated benefit to boroughs over this period being £19.8 million;
 - The TEC core parking subscription has been reduced by £500 or 25%, with the total accumulated benefit to boroughs over this period being £116,000;

- Payments for commissioned services funded by the Grants Committee have reduced from an annual average of £754,545 per borough to £218,424, an annual average reduction of £536,121 per borough or 71%, with the total average accumulated benefit to boroughs over this period being £109 million;
 - Payments for the administration of commissioned services have reduced from an average of £43,333 per borough to an average of £13,939, an average reduction of £29,394 per borough or 67.8%, with the total average accumulated benefit to boroughs over this period being £6 million; and
 - The three main TEC administrations charges for direct services – Freedom Pass, Taxicard and Lorry Control, have reduced by between 4% and 100%, with the total accumulated benefit to boroughs over this period being £5 million.
9. In addition, a further sum of £8.7 million has been repaid to member boroughs from uncommitted reserves over the period 2011/12 to 2017/18. The total accumulated benefit to boroughs, therefore, arising from the reduction in the main borough subscriptions and from charges for direct service charges since 2010/11, plus one-off repayments to date, equates to £42 million, with an additional overall reduction of £109 million that relates to payments to commissions funded by the Grants Committee, an average of £4.577 million per borough. In addition, staffing numbers have reduced by 39% over this period.
10. The proposals contained in this report for 2018/19, if agreed, will increase the total accumulated benefit to boroughs since 2010/11 to £47.6 million, which a further £128 million relating to payments to commissions made by the Grants Committee, equating to £5.32 million per borough.

Proposed borough subscriptions and charges

11. The following paragraphs detail the proposed borough subscriptions and charges for 2018/19.

Joint Committee Core Subscription

12. As detailed in the first bullet point of paragraph six above, the proposed amount to be levied on member boroughs in respect of the JC core and associated functions in 2018/19 is £161,958, the same level as for 2017/18. This includes a sum of £5,455 per borough as a contribution towards the funding of the YPES.

13. In line with the overall standstill position, it is proposed that the Joint Committee subscription for the MOPAC and the LFEPA for 2018/19 is £15,410, the same level as for the current year. LFEPA have given formal notice of withdrawal in respect of its membership of London Councils, to be effective from the date of the new governance arrangements for the fire service; however, it is unclear at this stage what the actual effective date will be.

Commissioned services funded by the Grants Committee 2018/19

14. The overall budget for commissioned services for the current year, as agreed by the Leaders' Committee in December 2016, is £8.899 million, inclusive of gross ESF expenditure of £2 million and a repatriation of resources to boroughs from reserves of £156,000, plus a transfer of £75,000 from reserves to fund support to the third sector. At its meeting on 22 November 2017, the Grants Committee will be asked to agree to a S.48 borough funded grants programme of £6.668 million for 2018/19, which is the second year of the four-year programme of commissioned services agreed by the Leaders' Committee in March 2016, following recommendations by the Grants Committee.
15. In addition, the S.48 ESF programme of £2 million will continue until the current scheduled end date of March 2019. However, from 2018/19, the boroughs will no longer make an annual contribution of £1 million towards this element of the programme, as the total agreed borough contribution of £3 million has been collected over the preceding three financial years (2015/16 – 2017/18). Due to slippage in the programme, a significant sum relating to these borough contributions is held in Grants Committee reserves. The £2 million programme in 2018/19 will, therefore, be funded from a transfer from reserves of £1 million, matched by ESF funding of £1 million.
16. Following consideration by the Grants Committee at its meeting on 22 November, the Leaders' Committee will be asked to approve the budget for the Grants Committee for 2018/19 and the effect of a proposed £6.668 million borough funded grants programme plus an ESF grants programme of £2 million is shown in the Table 1 below:

Table 1 – Indicative Grants Budget 2018/19

	2018/19 Indicative £000	2017/18 Actual £000	Variance £000
LC S.48 grants programme	6,233	6,233	-
ESF grants programme	1,880	1,880	-
City Bridge Trust liaison	-	75	(75)
Sub-Total	8,113	8,188	(75)
Grants Administration – LC S.48	435	435	-
Grants Administration – LC S.48	120	120	-
Proposed repayment to boroughs	-	156	(156)
Total expenditure	8,668	8,899	(231)
Financed by:			
Borough contributions to grant payment	(6,173)	(7,173)	1,000
Borough contributions to grants administration	(495)	(495)	-
Total borough contributions	(6,668)	(7,668)	1,000
ESF grant	(1,000)	(1,000)	-
Total Income	(7,668)	(8,668)	1,000
Transfer from Reserves	(1,000)	(231)	(769)
Net expenditure	-	-	-

17. The key features of the proposed budget in Table 1 are :

- A core, pan-London scheme of commissioned services to meet service priorities agreed by the Grants Committee of £6.233 million, which includes the membership subscriptions for boroughs for London Funders of £60,000;
- An additional gross sum of £1.88 million relating to a continuation of the current S.48/ESF commissioned services;
- An indicative gross commissions payments budget, therefore, of £8.113 million;
- A provision for grants administration of £555,000. This comprises of a sum of £435,000, or 6.5% (or 4.2% excluding central recharges of £155,000) for the S.48 borough programme of £6.668 million, reflecting the actual cost of the current contract letting, management and monitoring arrangements for commissions, plus 5.99% of the £2 million gross S.48/ESF commissions, amounting to £120,000 (which reflects the more complex monitoring arrangements of the ESF commissions); and
- Borough contribution of £6.668 million, ESF grant income of £1 million plus a £1 million transfer from uncommitted reserves to fund the total expenditure requirement of £8.668 million; the borough contribution of £6.668 million will be apportioned in accordance with the ONS 2016 mid-year population data.

TEC Core Parking Subscription

18. This subscription is currently £1,500 per borough and there is little scope to reduce this minimal charge to boroughs, so, as agreed by the Leaders' Committee in November 2010, efforts continue to be concentrated on further efficiencies in the overhead cost for TEC direct services, which are explored below.

TEC Direct Services

19. TEC currently provides three direct services on behalf of boroughs, one of which is also provided to TfL, which are recouped by an annual administration fee – the Freedom Pass, Taxicard and the London Lorry Control Scheme (LLCS). In overall terms, a sum of £338,182 needs to be recouped from boroughs in 2018/19, the same as for the current year. The proposed level of charge for each direct service, compared to those for the current year are detailed in Table 2 below:

Table 2 – Proposed TEC Direct Services Administration Charge 2018/19

Charge	Basis	2018/19 (£)	2017/18 (£)	Variance (£)	%
Freedom Pass	Per borough	Nil	Nil	-	-
Taxicard	Total	338,182	338,182	-	-
Lorry Control	Average	Nil	Nil	-	-

20. The **administration of the Freedom Pass** covers London Councils costs in negotiating the annual settlements and managing the relationships with transport operators and other contractors. After considering the overall income requirement for TEC, the proposed charge for 2018/19 remains at zero per borough, as the cost of administering the scheme continues to be met from income collected in respect of lost and damaged freedom passes. This position will be reviewed annually to ensure forecast income streams continue to cover the costs of administering the scheme. Since 2010/11, this charge to boroughs has reduced by £14,231 per borough, or 100%.

21. The **administration of the Taxicard Scheme** covers London Councils costs in processing and issuing passes to members and managing the relationships with various contractors. After considering the overall income requirement for TEC, the proposed net cost to be charged to boroughs in 2018/19 is £338,182, no change on the total charge for 2017/18. The Taxicard membership data as at 30 September 2017 has increased by 2,633 from 64,611 to 67,244 and this increase in the spreading base has reduced the

underlying unit cost of a permit to from £5.24 to £5.03 per member. Since 2010/11, the overall amount recharged to boroughs has reduced by £127,000, or 27.3%.

22. The **Lorry Control administration charge** is calculated in the same manner as the Freedom Pass and Taxicard administration charge; although it is apportioned to boroughs in accordance with the ONS mid-year population figures. In the case of 2018/19, the population data for 2016 is used. The total cost of administering the scheme is estimated to be £706,738 in 2018/19, compared to £672,708 in 2017/18. This figure includes a sum of £50,000 that has been retained in anticipation of further development of the scheme in 2018/19. After consideration of projected income of £800,000 from the enforcement of the scheme in 2018/19, it is proposed that there will be no borough or TfL contribution to the scheme in 2018/19, as for the current year. Again, this position will be reviewed annually to ensure forecast income streams continue to cover the costs of administering the scheme. Since 2010/11, this charge to boroughs has reduced by an average sum of £14,524 per borough and for TfL, or 100%.

TEC Traded Services

23. A further range of services provided by TEC relate to various parking and traffic activities, primarily the London Tribunals (LT). A unit charge for each of these 'traded' services is made to the users, which covers the marginal costs of these services. The volumes of these transactions are solely generated by each borough; London Councils has no influence on the levels generated. In addition, an amount apportioned by the number of PCNs issued by each borough and TfL, covers the fixed costs of the parking related services - principally the LT- covering the actual cost of the appeals hearing centre and the fixed cost of the parking managed services contract.
24. The proposed level of charge for each traded service, compared to those for the current year is detailed in Table 3 below:

Table 3 – Proposed TEC Traded Services Unit Charges 2018/19

Charge	2018/19 (£)	2017/18 (£)	Variance (£)	%
Parking Enforcement Service Charge (total charge)	0.4226	0.4915	(0.0689)	(14.0)
Environment and Traffic Adjudicators (ETA) Appeals (Hard Copy)	30.63	32.00	(1.37)	(4.29)
ETA Appeals (Electronic)	27.02	28.50	(1.48)	(5.19)
ETA Statutory Declarations (Hard Copy)	25.21	26.74	(1.53)	(5.71)
ETA Statutory Declarations (Electronic)	24.49	26.06	(1.57)	(6.01)
TRACE Electronic	7.53	7.31	0.22	3.0
TRACE Fax	7.70	7.48	0.22	3.0
TEC	0.175	0.17	0.005	3.0

25. The **Parking Enforcement Service Charge** is allocated to users in accordance with the number of PCNs issued. For 2018/19, expenditure of £2.663 million needs to be recouped, compared to £2.769 million for 2017/18. The reduction is primarily due to the a reduction in the overall level of premises and general office expenditure, plus some marginal staffing reductions.

26. After top-slicing this amount for the estimated fixed costs of £497,000 attributable to the contract with the GLA/TfL in respect of road user charging appeals (RUCA), a total of £2.166 million remains to be apportioned through the 5.126 million PCN's issued by boroughs and TfL in 2016/17 in respect of parking, bus lane and moving traffic offences, compared to 4.713 million issued in 2015/16. The increase in the number of PCNs issued over the two comparative years increases the cost spreading base, which together with the projected reduction in costs leads to a reduction in the actual unit charge to boroughs and TfL of £0.0689 per PCN, or 14%, from £0.4915 to £0.4266 per PCN for 2018/19. In addition, under the terms of the contract with Northgate, there is a separate fixed cost identified in respect of the use of the TRACE and TEC systems. For 2017/18, this sum was £89,000 and is estimated to increase to £92,000 in 2018/19. This sum will be apportioned to boroughs in accordance with volumes of transaction generated on each system.

27. The estimated volume of Environment and Traffic Adjudicators (ETA) appeals for 2018/19, based on indicative volumes to date in 2017/18, is 41,278, compared to the budgeted figure of 40,586 for the current year. The actual number of appeals heard in 2016/17 was 41,855 including Statutory Declarations, Moving Traffic Offences and Lorry Ban Appeals.

28. The average throughput of appeals for to date for the current year was 3.14 appeals heard per hour, compared to 2.7 appeals per hour when the current year's budget was set in December 2016. This average figure takes account of all adjudicator time spent on postal and personal appeal hearing and also non-appeal 'duty adjudicator' activities. The increase in throughput is attributable to system and service improvements introduced during 2016/17 that is now feeding through into the processing figures. Based on this forecast figure, it is proposed that the indicative hard copy unit ETA appeal cost for 2018/19 is £30.63, a reduction of £1.37 or 4.29% on the charge of £32.00 for 2017/18. For appeals where electronic evidence is provided by an enforcing authority, it is proposed that the unit cost will reduce by £1.48 to £27.02. The lower charge to boroughs recognises the reduced charge from the contractor for processing electronic appeals, demonstrating that there remains a clear financial incentive for boroughs to move towards submitting electronic evidence under the current contract arrangements. As for 2017/18, boroughs will pay a differential charge for the processing of ETA statutory declarations. For hard copy statutory declarations, the proposed unit charge will be £25.21 compared to the charge of £26.74 for the current year, which represents a reduction of £1.53, or 5.71%. For electronic statutory declarations, the proposed unit charge will be £24.49, a reduction of £1.57, or 6.01% on the electronic appeal unit charge for the current year.
29. For RUCA Appeals, the estimated volume of appeals for 2018/19, based on current trends, is 7,800, compared to the budgeted figure of 6,348 for the current year. The actual number of RUCA Appeals dealt with in 2016/17, including Statutory Declarations, was 6,602. This estimate is based on forecasting done with the GLA and reflects an increase to take into account more effective enforcement and a likely increase in appeal numbers following the implementation of the emissions surcharge in October 2017. Under the terms of the contract, TfL/GLA will reimburse London Councils on a cost-recovery basis for the variable cost of RUCA appeals, ensuring that a break even position continues in respect of these variable transactions. The rechargeable level of fixed costs is £497,000 for 2018/19; a £43,000 increase on the budgeted level of £454,000 for 2017/18.
30. In respect of **all other parking traded services**, the variable charges form part of the parking managed service contract provided by the contractor, Northgate, the volumes of which are again not controlled by London Councils; the individual boroughs are

responsible for using such facilities. The volumes are based on those currently being processed by the contractor and are recharged to the boroughs, TfL and the GLA as part of the unit cost charge. Current trends during the first half of 2017/18 suggest that transaction volumes appear to be reducing of the use of the TRACE Fax system, but are increasing for the use of the TRACE electronic and TEC systems.

31. The estimated increase in expenditure between 2017/18 and 2018/19, due to the projected transaction volumes and contract price changes, is £6,063. However, the corresponding estimated effect on income, between 2017/18 and 2018/19, based on the current projected transaction volumes for 2018/19 and a proposed 3% increase in charges to users, is an increase of £14,943, leading to a net overall increase in budgeted income of £8,880.
32. The charging structure historically approved by TEC for the provision of the variable parking services (excluding appeals) includes a contribution to overheads in each of the charges made to boroughs and other users for these services. The charges to boroughs have not been reviewed since 2010/11 and with increases of up to 3% expected at the next contract anniversary date in July 2018, the TEC Executive Sub-Committee has been asked to consider recommending that the main TEC Committee approve the unit charges for the parking service it provides, as detailed in Table 3 above, at its meeting on 7 December.

Proposed revenue budget for 2018/19

33. Based on the proposed level of subscription and charges, as detailed in paragraphs 12-32 above, the proposed revenue budget position for 2018/19, is summarised in Table 4 below. A detailed breakdown of proposed expenditure and income is shown at Appendices A and B to this report.

Table 4 – Proposed revenue budget 2018/19

	Joint Committee	Grants Committee	TEC	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Indicative Expenditure	8,979	8,509	368,664	386,152
Central Recharges	187	159	111	457
Total Expenditure	9,166	8,668	368,775	386,609
Indicative Income	(6,190)	(7,668)	(368,486)	(382,344)
Use of Reserves	(1,007)	(1,000)	(289)	(2,296)
Sub-total	(7,197)	(8,668)	(368,775)	(384,640)
Central Recharges	(1,969)	-	-	(1,969)
Total Income	(9,166)	(8,668)	(368,775)	(386,609)
Indicative Net Position	-	-	-	-

34. The detailed breakdown of the proposed budgets for the Joint Committee, Grants Committee and TEC funding streams for 2018/19 is outlined in paragraphs 35-49 below.

Grants Committee

35. The provisional position for the Grants Committee for 2018/19 is as follows:

Table 5 – Indicative Grants Committee budget movements for 2018/19

	£000
Expenditure:	
Revised budget 2017/18	8,899
Proposed budget 2018/19	8,668
Budget Movement	(231)
Income	
Revised budget 2017/18	(8,899)
Proposed budget 2018/19	(8,668)
Budget Movement	231
Net Budget Movement	-
Developments - expenditure:	
Funding of City Bridge Trust support	(75)
Reduction in repayment to boroughs	(156)
Total	(231)
Developments - income:	
Reduction in borough subscription toward S.48 ESF programme	1,000
Increase in transfer from reserves	(769)
Total	231
Net Budget Movement	-

36. Paragraph 17 above outlines the proposed budget breakdown for 2018/19 in detail.

Transport and Environment Committee

37. Excluding the position for the payments to transport operators in respect of the Freedom Pass and Taxicard, which are dealt with in paragraphs 39-47 below, the provisional position for TEC for 2018/19 is detailed in Table 6 below:

Table 6 – Indicative TEC budget movements for 2018/19

Expenditure:	£000
Revised budget 2017/18	12,272
Proposed budget 2018/19	11,705
Budget Movement	567
Income	
Revised budget 2017/18	(12,272)
Proposed budget 2018/19	(11,705)
Budget Movement	(567)
Net Budget Movement	-
Developments – expenditure:	
Removal of budgets carried forward from 2016/17	(227)
Reduction in borough repayment	(340)
Decrease in Freedom Pass administration	(5)
Increase in Taxicard administration	10
Increase in Lorry Control administration	34
Reduction in London Tribunals administration	(105)
Increase in Health Emergency Badge administration	2
Increase in non-operational staffing costs	4
Volumes changes – adjudicators fees	(89)
Volume changes – Northgate variable costs	20
Increase in other running costs	53
Increase in central recharges	21
Sub-Total	(622)
Inflation:	
Salary costs	37
Northgate contract costs	18
Other	0
Budget Movement on expenditure	(567)
Developments – income:	
Volumes changes – appeals income	(10)
Volume changes – other parking services income	(16)
Increase in income for replacement Freedom Passes	(84)
Reduction in income for replacement Taxicards	3
Reduction in income for fixed parking costs	102
Other adjustments	5

Proposed reduction in transfer from general reserve	567
Budget Movement on income	567
Net Budget Movement	-

38. The proposals for the level of subscription and charges for TEC related services in 2018/19, which are detailed in paragraphs 18-32 above, provide the rationale for the majority of the budget movements detailed in Table 6.

Freedom Pass

39. The main settlement with TfL for concessionary travel on its service is estimated to be £323.316 million, representing a provisional reduction of £865,000, or 0.27%, on the figure of £324.181 million for 2017/18.

40. The budget in respect of the Rail Delivery Group (formerly ATOC) has been provisionally increased by £681,000 to £19.553 million to take into account the anticipated settlement for 2018/19, an increase of 3.61 % (July 2017 RPI +1.75%) on the figure of £18.872 million for the current year.

41. The budget for payments to other bus operators for local journeys originating in London has been reduced by £200,000 to £1.5 million, following projections for 2018/19, based on the 2016/17 outturn position plus taking into consideration a wider decline in bus ridership.

42. The budget for the freedom pass issuing costs was £1.518 million for 2017/18. For 2018/19, it is proposed that the budget remains at this level to allow the new contract rates approved by TEC in March 2017 to be accommodated and provide a resource to undertake any additional development work to be carried out on the Freedom Pass website and the customer services relationship management system.

43. For income in respect of replacement Freedom Passes, subject to specific member approval from TEC, it is proposed to increase the unit cost of a replacement pass by £2 from £10 to £12 from 1 April 2018. However, it is estimated that there will be a 5% falloff in overall income arising from behavioural change due to the price increase, so the net increase in income will be £84,000, increasing the budget to £684,000. As stated in

paragraph 20, the estimated cost of the Freedom Pass administration scheme will be fully funded by this income stream in 2018/19.

44. As agreed by TEC in December 2014, any annual surplus arising from both the freedom pass issuing costs budget of £1.518 million (paragraph 42 above) and replacement freedom passes income budget of £684,000 (paragraph 43 above) will be transferred to a specific reserves to accumulate funds to offset the cost of the next pass reissue exercise scheduled for 2020. The current balance on the specific reserve is £2.837 million (after considering a projected surplus of £303,000 in respect of the current year), as detailed in Table 10 at paragraph 51.
45. Final negotiations on the actual amounts payable to operators will be completed in time for the meeting of the main TEC Committee on 7 December and any late variations to these provisional figures will be tabled at this meeting.
46. A summary of the provisional freedom pass costs for 2018/19, compared to the current year, can be summarised in Table 7 below. The total cost of the scheme is fully funded by boroughs and the estimated cost payable by boroughs in 2018/19 is £345.887 million, compared to £346.271 million payable for 2017/18. This represents a reduction of £384,000 or 0.11%.

Table 7 – Comparative cost of Freedom Pass 2018/19 and 2017/18

Estimated Cost of Freedom Pass	2018/19(£000)	2017/18(£000)
TfL Settlement	323,316	324,181
ATOC Settlement	19,553	18,872
Non TfL Bus Operators Settlement	1,500	1,700
Freedom Pass Issue Costs	1,518	1,518
Total Cost	345,887	346,271

Taxicard

47. TfL will provide an estimated fixed contribution of £10.292 million, inclusive of an assumed annual Taxicard tariff inflation of £202,000 (2%), compared to £10.09 million for 2017/18. At this stage, the total borough contribution towards the Taxicard scheme in 2018/19 is estimated to be £2.409 million, the same as for the current year, although the decision on boroughs' contributions is a matter for boroughs to take individually and will be confirmed in February 2018. The indicative budgetary provision for the taxicard trips contract with CityFleet Networks Limited, will, therefore, be an amalgam of the TFL and

borough funding, equating to £12.701 million for 2018/19, a provisional increase of £202,000 on the revised budget of £12.499 million for the current year.

Joint Committee

48. The provisional position for the Joint Committee for 2018/19 is as follows:

Table 8 – Indicative Joint Committee budget movements for 2018/19

	£000
Expenditure:	
Revised budget 2017/18	9,664
Proposed budget 2018/19	9,166
Budget Movement	(498)
Income	
Revised budget 2017/18	(9,664)
Proposed budget 2018/19	(9,166)
Budget Movement	498
Net Budget Movement	-
Developments - expenditure:	
Removal of budgets carried forward from 2016/17	(29)
Reduction in borough repayment	(330)
Net reduction in salary costs	(280)
Cessation of Access Europe contract	(66)
Net increase in Southwark Street premises related costs	250
Reduction in central recharges charged to JC functions	(150)
Sub-total	(605)
Inflation	
Salary costs	60
Other	47
Budget Movement on expenditure	(498)
Developments - income:	
Reduction in use of reserves	535
Adjustment to borough subscription income	(38)
Adjustment to central recharge income	1
Total	498
Net Budget Movement	-

49. The key elements included within the net budget movement are detailed below:

- **Reduction in salary cost** - this covers the following salary related costs of the Joint Committee:
 - Senior staffing savings of £115,000 arising from changes in the composition of CMB ;
 - The elimination of the provision for an annual payment of past service pension costs to the LPFA, estimated to save £142,000;
 - Other employee cost adjustments, primarily for YPES staff and health related work, saving £55,000; offset by
 - Additional resources of £33,000 required to fund a Data Protection Officer following the introduction of GDPR in May 2018; and
 - An assumed 1½ pay award for 2018/19, which will add on £60,000 to total salary costs.

- **Cessation of Access Europe contract** – the current contract with Access Europe to provide advice to boroughs in respect of European Funding issues expired on 31 July 2017.

- **Increase in Southwark Street premises costs** – this covers the following premises related expenditure:
 - A provisional assessment of the rent review of the Southwark Street site, in accordance with the Heads of Terms for the lease agreed by the executive in April 2011, indicates that a potential annual increase of £373,000 could become payable; offset by
 - An over provision for Southwark Street business rates projected for the current year, estimated to be around £100,000; and
 - A reduction in the depreciation provisions work previously capitalised works at Southwark Street of £21,000.

- **Reduction in central recharges made to JC functions** - following the mainstreaming of the YPES and health work within the JC functions, there will be a reduction in the level of central overheads recharges to these work areas.

- **Reduction in proposed use of reserves** – the proposed transfer from Joint Committee reserves for 2018/19 is £1.007 million, a £535,000 reduction on the figure of £1.542 million for the current year.

Externally Funded Projects

50. In addition to the proposed expenditure of £386.609 million for largely borough funded activity, expenditure on activities financed through external contributions is currently projected to be in excess of £4 million in 2018/19, with funding being received through various external sources to fully fund the projects, ensuring no cost to boroughs. Once confirmation of continued funding into 2018/19 is received from funders over the coming months, budget plans for expenditure will be revised accordingly to ensure that they match the available funding.

Updated position on Reserves

51. The current position on the overall level of London Councils reserves is detailed in Table 10 below, which includes the forecast outturn position for the current year at the half-year stage:

Table 10 – Current Uncommitted Reserves

	Transport and Environment Committee (£000)	Joint Committee (£000)	Grants Committee (£000)	Total (£000)
General Reserve at 1 April 2017	3,341	5,417	443	9,748
Specific/ESF Reserve at 1 April 2017	1,734	-	1,575	3,308
Total reserves at 1 April 2017	5,075	5,417	2,018	12,510
Committed in setting 2017/18 budget	(488)	(1,183)	(75)	(1,746)
One-off payment to boroughs 2017/18	(340)	(330)	(156)	(826)
Balances c/f into 2017/18	(227)	(29)	-	(256)
Potential ESF grants commitments in 2018/19 and 2019/20	-	-	(1,117)	(1,117)
Freedom Pass reissue exercise 2018/19 - 2019/20	(2,837)	-	-	(2,837)
Write back of 2016/17 grants liabilities	-	-	119	119
Forecast surplus/(deficit) 2017/18	1,001	761	541	2,302
Uncommitted reserves	2,184	4,636	1,330	8,150

52. The current level of commitments from reserves, as detailed in Table 10, come to £6.782 million and are detailed in full in Table 11 below:

Table 11– Current Commitments from Reserves

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balances b/f from 2016/17	256	-	-	256
Approved transfer from JC general reserves	164	-	-	164
Approved transfer from TEC general reserves	288	-	-	288
Accumulated YPES funds	293	-	-	293
Slippage of ESG grants funding	-	-	1,117	1,117
One-off repayment to boroughs	826	-	-	826
Challenge Implementation Fund	525	-	-	525
Support to the health transition process	201	-	-	201
2020 Freedom Pass reissue	-	534	2,303	2,837
TEC priority projects	200	-	-	200
Support to 3 rd sector via City Bridge Trust	75	-	-	75
Totals	2,828	534	3,420	6,782

53. After taking into account the budget proposals outlined in this report and the recommended use of reserves of £2.296 million, the level of uncommitted reserves reduces to £5.854 million, as detailed in Table 12 below:

Table 12 - Estimated Uncommitted Reserves as at 1 April 2018

	Transport and Environment Committee (£000)		Joint Committee (£000)	Grants Committee (£000)		Total (£000)
	General	Specific	General	S.48	ESF	
Projected uncommitted reserves (Table 10)	2,184	-	4,636	330	1,000	8,150
Proposal included in 2018/19 budget figures	(289)	-	(1,007)	-	(1,000)	(2,296)
Transfer to Specific Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-
Estimated residual uncommitted reserves	1,895	-	3,629	330	-	5,854

54. For the Grants Committee, the Grants Executive in September 2013 agreed that the level of reserves to cover the S.48 borough funded commissions should be set at 3.75% of the budget, which will equate to £250,000 in respect of a proposed budget of £6.668 million for 2018/19. The forecast level of uncommitted reserves of £330,000 is, therefore, in excess of this benchmark at 4.94% of the proposed budget. For ESF/borough funded commissions, accumulated reserves of £2.117 million relate to the delayed start of the

2015-18 ESF programme and will be used in full up until the current project end date of 31 March 2019. A sum of £1 million is recommended for transfer to the revenue account in 2018/19 to jointly fund this continuing expenditure, matched by ESF grant.

55. For TEC, forecast uncommitted reserves of £2.184 million as at 31 March 2018 reflects the forecast surplus of £1.001 million for the current year.
56. After taking into account the proposed use of general reserves of £289,000 in setting the 2018/19 budget (all, subject to agreement of main TEC meeting on 7 December), uncommitted general reserves are forecast reduce to £1.895 million, or 16.2% of proposed operating and trading expenditure of £11.705 million. This figure equates to slightly beyond the higher end of TEC's formal policy on reserves, agreed in November 2015, that reserves should equate to between 10-15% of annual operating and trading expenditure.
57. For the Joint Committee functions, uncommitted general reserves are projected to be £3.629 million if the proposals in this report are approved. In a period of continuing financial constraint for London local government, and as demonstrated in the recent past, there is continued value in holding a reasonable level of reserves as a contingency to fund further one-off incidences of expenditure and to explore additional key priorities identified by members during the course of the year, such as the outcome of the London Councils Challenge Process, Business Rates reform as well as continuing work on devolution and public sector reform and on the health, skills and housing agendas.
58. Under existing CIPFA guidance, the Chief Financial Officer of an organisation is advised to make an annual statement on the adequacy of the level of an organisation's reserves. This is achieved by expressing the total level of estimated uncommitted reserves as a percentage of operating costs.
59. If the Leaders' Committee/TEC approves the use of uncommitted reserves of £2.296 million for 2018/19, as detailed in this report, residual uncommitted reserves would reduce to £5.854 million. This would represent 26.7% of total operating and trading expenditure in 2018/19 of £21.951 million. The comparable figures reported to the Executive 12 month ago was uncommitted reserves of £4.705 million, which equated to 19.9% of provisional operating and trading expenditure of £23.643 million for 2017/18. This improvement mirrors the desire expressed at recent meetings of the Executive for a

strengthening of the reserves position, particularly in the current economic climate. The Director of Corporate Resources is, therefore, content to issue a positive statement on the adequacy of the residual London Councils reserves for 2018/19.

Conclusions

60. Following discussions with the Chair of London Councils, this report proposes the level of boroughs subscriptions and charges to be levied in 2018/19, together with the consolidated revenue income and expenditure budget for 2018/19. The report also updates the Executive on the current level of London Councils reserves after considering all current and proposed commitments and the timetable for the overall budget approval process. Following consideration by this meeting, proposals will be submitted to the Leaders' Committee meeting on 5 December for final consideration and approval.

Summary

61. This report proposes the level of boroughs subscriptions and charges to be levied in 2018/19, together with the consolidated revenue income and expenditure budget for 2018/19.

62. The subscription and budget proposals for 2018/19 relating to the Grants Committee, as contained in this report, will be considered by the Grants Committee at its meeting on 22 November. The Grants Committee will be asked to recommend that the Leaders' Committee approve the proposals as laid out in this report.

63. The subscription and budget proposals for 2017/18 relating to the Transport and Environment Committee will be considered by the TEC Executive Sub-Committee at its meeting on 16 November and will be put before the main TEC meeting on 7 December for final approval. The Leaders' Committee is, therefore, asked to endorse the provisional TEC figures as laid out in this report.

Recommendations

64. The Executive is asked to recommend that the Leaders' Committee approve at their meeting on 5 December 2017 the following borough subscription and charges:

- The proposed Joint Committee subscription for boroughs of £161,958 per borough for 2018/19, no change on the charge of £161,958 for 2017/18. (paragraph 12);

- The proposed Joint Committee subscription for the MOPAC and the LFEPA of £15,410 for 2018/19, no change on the charge of £15,410 for 2017/18 (paragraph 13);
- An overall level of expenditure of £8.668 million for the Grants Scheme in 2018/19 (inclusive of £2 million gross ESF programme), the same level as for 2016/17; and
- That taking into account the application of £1 million ESF grant and £1 million from earmarked Grants Committee reserves, net borough contributions for 2018/19 should be £6.668 million, compared to £7.668 million for 2017/18 (paragraphs 14-17).

65. The Executive is also asked to recommend that the Leaders' Committee endorse the following subscription and charges for 2018/19 for TEC, which will be considered by the TEC Executive Sub-Committee on 16 November, before being presented to the main meeting of TEC on 7 December for final approval:

- The Parking Core Administration Charge of £1,500 per borough and for TfL (2017/18 - £1,500) (paragraph 18);
- No charge to boroughs in respect of the Freedom Pass Administration Charge, which is covered by replacement Freedom Pass income (2017/18 – no charge) (paragraph 20);
- The net Taxicard Administration Charge to boroughs of £338,182 in total (2017/18 - £338,182); (paragraph 21);
- No charge to boroughs and TfL in respect of the Lorry Control Administration Charge, which is fully covered by estimated PCN income (2017/18 – no charge) (paragraph 22);
- The Parking Enforcement Service Charge of £0.4226 per PCN, which will be distributed to boroughs and TfL in accordance with the number of PCNs issued in 2016/17 (2017/18 - £0.4915 per PCN; paragraphs 25-26);
- The Parking and Traffic Appeals Charge of £30.63 per appeal or £27.02 per appeal where electronic evidence is provided by the enforcing authority (2017/18 - £32.00/£28.50 per appeal). For hearing Statutory Declarations, a charge of £25.21 for hard copy submissions and £23.53 for electronic submissions (2017/18 - £26.74/£26.06 per SD) (paragraphs 27-28);
- Congestion Charging Appeals – to be recovered on a full cost recovery basis, as for 2017/18, under the new contract arrangement with the GLA (paragraph 29);

- The TRACE (Electronic) Charge of £7.58 per transaction (2017/18 - £7.31) (paragraphs 30-32);
- The TRACE (Fax) Charge of £7.70 per transaction (2017/18 - £7.48) (paragraphs 30-32); and
- The PEC Charge of £0.175 per transaction (2017/18 - £0.17) (paragraphs 30-32).

66. On the basis of the above proposed level of subscriptions and charges, the Executive is asked to recommend to the Leaders' Committee:

- The provisional consolidated revenue expenditure budget for 2018/19 for London Councils of £386.609 million, as per Table 4 at paragraph 33 and Appendix A of this report;
- The provisional consolidated revenue income budget for 2018/19 for London Councils of £384.313 million, also as per Table 4 at paragraph 33 and Appendix B;
- Within the total income requirement, the use of London Council reserves of £2.296 million in 2018/19, as detailed in Table 12 at paragraph 53.

67. The Executive is also asked to recommend that the Leaders' Committee note:

- The position in respect of forecast uncommitted London Council reserves as at 31 March 2018, as detailed at paragraphs 51-57; and
- The positive statement on the adequacy of the residual London Councils reserves issued by the Director of Corporate Resources, as detailed in paragraphs 58-59.

Financial Implications for London Councils

As detailed in the body of the report.

Legal Implications for London Councils

None

Equalities Implications for London Councils

None

Appendices

- Appendix A – the provisional consolidated revenue expenditure budget for London Councils for 2018/19;
- Appendix B – the provisional consolidated revenue income budget for London Councils for 2018/19.

Background Papers

London Councils budget working papers 2010/11 to 2018/19