APPENDIX A

TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT 2018/19

1. Introduction

1.1 Treasury management is defined as:

"The management of the local authority's borrowing, investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks. "

1.2 **Reporting requirements –** The Council is required to receive and approve, as a minimum, three main reports each year, which incorporate a variety of polices, estimates and actuals.

1.3 **Prudential and treasury indicators and treasury strategy** (this report) - The first, and most important report covers:

- the capital plans (including prudential indicators);
- a minimum revenue provision (MRP) policy (how residual capital expenditure is charged to revenue over time);
- the treasury management strategy (how the investments and borrowings are to be organised) including treasury indicators;
- an investment strategy (the parameters on how investments are to be managed); and
- a capital strategy.

1.4 **A Mid Year Treasury Management Report –** This will update members with the progress of the capital position, amending prudential indicators as necessary, and whether the treasury strategy is meeting the strategy or whether any policies require revision. In addition the Executive will receive quarterly update reports.

1.5 **An Annual Treasury Report** – This provides details of a selection of actual prudential and treasury indicators and actual treasury operations compared to the estimates within the strategy.

1.6 **Scrutiny** – The above reports are required to be adequately scrutinised by committee before being recommended to the Council. This role is undertaken by the Executive.

1.7 The suggested Treasury Management Strategy for 2018/19 covers the two main areas:

Capital issues
- the capital plans and the prudential indicators;
- the minimum revenue provision (MRP) policy.

Treasury management issues
- the current treasury position;
- treasury indicators which limit the treasury risk and activities of the Council;

- prospects for interest rates;
- the borrowing strategy;
- policy on borrowing in advance of need;
- debt rescheduling;
- the investment strategy;
- creditworthiness policy; and
- policy on use of external service providers.

These elements cover the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003, the CIPFA Prudential Code, CLG MRP Guidance, the CIPFA Treasury Management Code and CLG Investment Guidance.

1.8 The CIPFA Code requires the Chief Finance Officer to ensure that members with responsibility for treasury management, particularly those with responsibility for scrutiny, receive adequate training in treasury management. Training has been provided to members by Link Asset Services and further training will be arranged as required.

1.9 The Council uses Link Asset Services, Treasury Solutions as it external treasury management advisors.

1.10 The Council recognises that responsibility for treasury management decisions remains with the organisation at all times and will ensure that undue reliance is not placed upon our external service providers. (Treasury Management Practice 11)

APPENDIX B

MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY STATEMENT 2018/19

1. Introduction

1.1 The statutory requirement for local authorities to charge the revenue account each year with a specific sum for debt repayment is governed by statutory guidance issued under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and Statutory instrument 2008 no 414. The statutory duty requires that the Council shall determine for the financial year an amount of minimum revenue provision (MRP) that it considers prudent, with responsibility being placed upon the Council to approve an annual MRP policy statement.

2. Minimum Revenue Provision Policy

2.1 In May 2008 the Council set its MRP policy. It is therefore appropriate that the annual review of the MRP policy is undertaken as part of this Annual Treasury Management Strategy.

2.2 The Council's MRP policy is based on the Governments Statutory Guidance and following a review no further changes are considered necessary and the policy for 2018/19 is therefore as follows:

(a) For all **Capital expenditure incurred before 1 April 2008** which formed the General Fund Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) that is capital expenditure funded through borrowing will be charged at 4% of the outstanding balance each year.

The exception to this is for the 2006/07 Public Conveniences Capital Project. The public conveniences scheme is charged over 15 years, which was agreed as part of the funding for the refurbishment programme, in line with the asset life method.

(b) For **locally agreed Prudential Borrowing on capital expenditure incurred after 1 April 2008**, MRP will be calculated based either on equal annual instalments over the estimated useful life of the asset for which the borrowing is undertaken; or the annuity method where MRP is linked to the flow of benefits from an asset where the benefits are expected to increase in later years, Where additional voluntary provision is made in any year it may be matched by an appropriate reduction in a subsequent year's MRP.

Should any expenditure incurred by the Council not be capable of being related to an asset because for example it is a grant to another organisation's capital project then an asset life will be assessed on a basis which most reasonably reflects the anticipated period of benefit that arises from the expenditure.

In the case of long term debtors from loans or other types of capital expenditure, the amounts paid out are classed as capital expenditure for capital financing purposes. The expenditure is therefore included in the calculation of the Council's Capital Financing Requirement. When the Council receives the repayment of an amount loaned, the income will be classified as a capital receipt. Where the capital receipts will be applied to reduce the Capital Financing Requirement, there will be no revenue provision made for the repayment of the debt liability (i.e. unless the eventual receipt is expected to fall short of the amount expended).

Where expenditure is incurred to acquire and/or develop properties for resale, the Capital Financing Requirement will increase by the amount expended. Where the County Council will subsequently recoup the amount expended via the sale of an asset, the income will be classified as a capital receipt. Where the capital receipts will be applied to reduce the Capital Financing Requirement, there will be no revenue provision made for the repayment of the debt liability (i.e. unless the fair value of the properties falls below the amount expended).

Where expenditure is incurred to acquire properties meeting the accounting definition of investment properties, the Capital Financing Requirement will increase by the amount expended. Where the Council will subsequently recoup the amount expended (e.g. via the sale of an asset), the income will be classified as a capital receipt. Where the capital receipts will be applied to reduce the Capital Financing Requirement, there will be no revenue provision made for the repayment of the debt liability (i.e. unless the fair value of the properties falls below the amount expended).

The Council does not charge MRP on its non-operational assets i.e. those currently under construction. This option is in line with the principle that MRP should only be charged when assets are completed / become operational.

(c) Any **finance lease** that comes onto the balance sheet via the requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards will already have taken capital financing into account as part of their revenue charges. For this reason they will be excluded from MRP calculations. Repayments included in finance leases are applied as MRP.

2.3 Total General Fund MRP for 2018/19 is £0.278m (£0.183m internal borrowing, and £0.074 for leases).

2.4 Previously no revenue charge was required for the HRA. However under HRA reform the HRA is required to charge depreciation on its assets,as the 5 year transitional arrangements ended in 2016/17. The Council has already adopted this requirement and will therefore not have a revenue impact. The council also charges voluntary MRP is relation to the self-financing debt, of £1.26m per year.

APPENDIX C

THE CAPITAL PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2018/19 – 2020/21

1. Introduction

1.1 The 'Prudential Code' provides Council's with a regime of self-regulation for borrowing money for capital purposes. A local authority can borrow as much as it wishes as long as it can afford the repayments. The Code outlines four key objectives relating to the capital investment plans and treasury management procedures of local authorities. To demonstrate that these objectives are being fulfilled the Prudential Code sets out the indicators that must be used, and the factors that must be taken into account.

1.2 The Code prescribes how the issue of affordability is measured using a set of prudential indicators. The four key objectives of the Code are to ensure that capital investment plans of local authorities are affordable, prudent and sustainable, and to ensure that treasury management decisions are taken in accordance with good professional practice. The indicators are mandatory but the figures used in the calculations are a matter for each local authority.

1.3 The prudential indicators required by the Code are designed to support and record local decision-making. They are not designed to be comparative performance indicators and the use of them in this way would be likely to be misleading and counter productive.

1.4 The Council's capital expenditure plans are the key driver of treasury management activity. The output of the capital expenditure plans is reflected in prudential indicators, which are designed to assist members' overview and confirm capital expenditure plans.

2. Capital Expenditure:

2.1 This prudential Indicator is a summary of the Council's capital expenditure plans. Members are asked to approve the capital expenditure forecasts summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: Capital Expenditure

Capital Expenditure	2016/17 Actual £'000	2017/18 Estimate £'000	2018/19 Estimate £'000	2019/20 Estimate £'000	2020/21 Estimate £'000
General Fund	1,161	6,135	4,934	1,134	1,007
HRA	3,107	5,167	5,459	6,320	4,190

2.2 Other long term liabilities. The above financing need excludes other long term liabilities, such as leasing arrangements which already include borrowing instruments (this includes the leases the councils contractors have for vehicles and equipment within the Street Scene and Leisure Contracts). Table 2 below includes these costs.

2.3 As part of our aspirations for Selby District the Council has approved a 'Programme for Growth' which includes a number of revenue and capital initiatives aimed at stimulating activity associated with jobs, housing, infrastructure, retail and leisure. While these strategic initiatives have been included in the capital expenditure plans shown in Table 1, any changes may require the Council to reconsider its borrowing requirements, depending on the external resources it is able to lever towards the programme.

2.4 An updated Housing Delivery Programme is currently in progress for approval which sets out ambitions to extend the programme for both the Council and Selby & District Housing Trust. The forecast capital spend and loans to the Trust are included in Capital estimates shown in Table 1.

2.5 Capital expenditure plans do not, at present, include Alternative Investments. However, in order to improve treasury returns, achieve revenue savings and support the Council's wider objectives, proposals for Alternative Investments will be developed alongside the Treasury Management Strategy as part of a wider investment management approach. A separate paper will be brought forward with detailed proposals.

Table 2: Financing of Capital Expenditure

2.5 Table 2 summarises the above capital expenditure plans and how these plans are being financed by capital or revenue resources. Any shortfall of resources results in a funding need (borrowing).

Capital Expenditure	2016/7 Actual £'000	2017/18 Estimate £'000	2018/19 Estimate £'000	2019/20 Estimate £'000	2020/21 Estimate £'000
General Fund	1,161	6,135	4,934	1,135	1,007
HRA	3,107	5,167	5,459	6,320	4,190
Total	**4,268**	**11,302**	**10,393**	**7,455**	**5,197**
Financed By:					
Revenue & Reserves	-599	-2,236	-1,704	-1,148	-811
Capital Receipts	-84	-159	-750	-370	-340
Grants	-277	-380	-527	-557	-557
Major Repairs Reserve	-2,150	-2,574	-3,409	-4,160	-3,490
Borrowing - Debt	-1,158	-5,954	-4,003	-1,220	0
Borrowing - Leases					
Total	**-4,268**	**-11,302**	**-10,393**	**-7,455**	**-5,197**

3. The Council's Borrowing Need (the Capital Financing Requirement):

3.1 The second prudential indicator is the Council's Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). The CFR is simply the total historic outstanding capital expenditure which has not yet been paid for from either revenue or capital resources. It is essentially a measure of the Council's underlying borrowing need. Any capital expenditure above, which has not immediately been paid for, will increase the CFR. This is summarised in Table 3.

3.2 The CFR does not increase indefinitely, as the minimum revenue provision (MRP) is a statutory annual revenue charge which broadly reduces the borrowing need in line with each assets life.

Table 3: Capital Financing Requirement

	2016/17 Actual £'000	2017/18 Estimate £'000	2018/19 Estimate £'000	2019/20 Estimate £'000	2020/21 Estimate £'000
CFR General Fund	2,700	3,827	7,713	15,384	15,100
CFR GF Leases	323	228	154	78	0
Total CFR General Fund	**3,23**	**4,055**	**7,867**	**15,462**	**15,100**
CFR HRA	51,378	53,097	53,537	53,477	52,217
TOTAL CFR	**54,401**	**57,152**	**61,404**	**68,939**	**67,317**
Movement in CFR	-3,970	2,751	4,252	7,535	-1,623
Movement in CFR represented by					
Net Financing need for the year	1,158	4,289	5,769	9,053	-103
Less MRP & Other financing movements	-5,129	-1,538	-1,517	-1,518	-1,519
Movement in CFR	**-3,970**	**2,751**	**4,252**	**7,535**	**-1,623**

3.3 Following accounting changes the CFR includes any other long term liabilities (e.g. finance leases) brought onto the balance sheet. Whilst this increases the CFR, and therefore the Council's borrowing requirement, these types of scheme include a borrowing facility and so the Council is not required to separately borrow for these schemes. These are also shown in Table 3.

4. Affordability Prudential Indicators

4.1 The previous sections cover the overall capital and control of borrowing prudential indicators, but within this framework prudential indicators are required to assess the affordability of the capital investment plans. These provide an indication of the impact of the capital investment plans on the Council's overall finances. The Council is asked to approve the following indicators:

4.2 The indicator of actual and estimates of the ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream identifies the trend in the cost of capital (borrowing and other long term obligation costs net of investment income) against the net revenue stream. These are shown in Table 5. The estimates of financing costs include current commitments and the proposals in this report.

Table 5: Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream

	2016/17 Actual %	2017/18 Forecast %	2018/19 Estimate %	2019/20 Estimate %	2020/21 Estimate %
GF*	23.16	2.20	1.73	1.31	1.15
HRA **	34.05	33.75	32.56	31.13	28.38

* This is the impact of the additional £3.3m MRP contribution in 2017/18
** This is the impact of the HRA settlement. The Council no longer pays into the housing subsidy system and keeps all of its income stream to service the debt.

BORROWING STRATEGY 2018/19

1.1 The capital expenditure plans set out in Appendix D provide a summary of the service activity of the Council. The treasury management function ensures that the Council's cash is organised in accordance with relevant professional codes, so that sufficient cash is available to meet this service activity. This will involve both the organisation of the cash flow and, where capital plans require, the organisation of approporiate borrowing facilities. The strategy covers the relevant treasury / prudential indicators, the current and projected debt positions and the annual investment strategy.

Table 1: Current Treasury Portfolio at 31/12/17

		Principal £m	£m	Ave. rate %
Fixed rate funding	PWLB	53.8		
	Market	6.5	60.3	4.19
Variable Rate Funding	PWLB	0		
	Market	0	0	0
Other long term liabilities	Leases	0.3	0.3	4.51
TOTAL DEBT			**60.7**	**4.19**
TOTAL INVESTMENTS			**56**	**0.47**

1.2 The Council's treasury portfolio position as at 31 December 2017 is shown in Table 1 and the forecasted position at 31 March 2018, with forward projections summarised in Table 2. The table shows the actual external borrowing (the treasury management operations), against the capital borrowing need (the Capital Financing Requirement - CFR), highlighting any over or under borrowing.

Table 2: Forecasted Portfolio Position

	2016/17 Actual £'000	**2017/18** Estimate £'000	**2018/19** Estimate £'000	**2019/20** Estimate £'000	**2020/21** Estimate £'000
External borrowing					
Borrowing at 1 April	60,333	60,333	59,333	59,333	59,333
Expected Change in Borrowing	0	-1,000	0	0	0
Leases	323	228	154	78	0
Actual borrowing at 31 March	60,656	60,561	59,487	59,411	59,333
CFR – the borrowing need	54,401	57,152	61,404	68,939	67,317
Under / (over) borrowing	-6,255	-3,409	1,917	9,528	7,984
Investments					
Total Investments at 31 March	37,090	34,200	34,869	38,522	37,519
Investment Change	11,211	-2,890	669	3,653	-1,003
Net Borrowing	23,566	30,790	36,786	48,050	45,503

2. Treasury Limits for 2018/19 to 2020/21

2.1 Selby District Council has, at any point in time, a number of cash flows both positive and negative, and manages its treasury position in terms of its borrowings and investments in accordance with its approved treasury management strategy and practices. In day-to-day cash management, no distinction can be made between revenue and capital cash. External borrowing arises as a consequence of all the financial transactions of the authority and not simply those arising from capital spending.

2.2 CIPFA's Prudential code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities' includes the following key indicator of prudence;
"*In order to ensure that over the medium term net borrowing will only be for a capital purpose, the local authority should ensure that net external borrowing does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of capital financing requirement in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional capital financing requirement for the current and the next two financial years."*

2.3 The Chief Finance Officer reports that the authority (General Fund) had no difficulty meeting this requirement in 2016/17, nor are any difficulties envisaged for the current (2017/18) or future years (2018/19 – 2020/21). This view takes into account current commitments, existing plans and the proposals in the budget.

2.4 It is a statutory duty under Section 3 of the Local Government Act 2003 and supporting regulations, for the Council to determine and keep under review how much it can afford to borrow. The amount so determined is termed the "Affordable Borrowing Limit". In England and Wales the authorised limit represents the legislative limit specified in the Act.

2.5 The Council must have regard to the Prudential Code when setting the Authorised Limit, which essentially requires it to ensure that total capital investment remains within sustainable limits and, in particular, that the impact upon its future council tax and council rent levels is 'acceptable'. It reflects the level of external borrowing which, while not desired, could be afforded in the short term, but is not sustainable in the longer term.

2.6 Whilst termed an "Affordable Borrowing Limit", it incorporates the capital plans to be considered for inclusion in corporate financing by both external borrowing and other forms of liability, such as credit arrangements.

2.7 The Authorised Limit for external borrowing is a key prudential indicator and represents a control on the maximum level of borrowing. It is a limit beyond which external borrowing is prohibited, and this limit needs to be set or revised by the full Council on a rolling basis, for the forthcoming financial year and two successive financial years. This information is shown in table 3.

Table 3: Authorised Borrowing Limit

Authorised Limit for External Debt	**2016/17 £'000**	**2017/18 £'000**	**2018/19 £'000**	**2019/20 £'000**	**2020/21 £'000**
Borrowing	75,000	77,000	83,000	91,000	86,000
Other Long Term Liabilities	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total	**76,000**	**78,000**	**84,000**	**92,000**	**87,000**

2.8 The Operational Boundary is the limit beyond which external borrowing is not normally expected to exceed and within which officers will manage the Council's external debt position. In most cases, this would be a similar figure to the CFR, but may be lower or higher depending on the levels of actual borrowing. This information is shown in table 4.

Table 4: Operational Borrowing Limit

Operational Boundary	**2016/17 £'000**	**2017/18 £'000**	**2018/19 £'000**	**2019/20 £'000**	**2020/21 £'000**
Borrowing	70,000	72,000	78,000	86,000	81,000
Other Long Term Liabilities	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Operational Boundary Total	**71,000**	**73,000**	**79,000**	**87,000**	**82,000**

2.9 In respect of its external debt, table 3 details the proposed authorised limits for the Council's total external debt gross of investments for the next three financial years which councillors are recommended to approve. These limits separately identify borrowing from other long-term liabilities such as finance leases. The 2016/17 and 2017/18 figures shown above are for comparative purposes. It is also recommended that members continue to delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer, within the total limit for any individual year, to effect movement between the separately agreed limits for borrowing and other long term liabilities. Any such changes made will be reported to the Executive at its next meeting following the change.

2.10 The Chief Finance Officer reports that these authorised limits are consistent with the authority's current commitments, existing plans and the proposals in the budget for capital expenditure and financing, and with its approved treasury management policy statement and practices. The Chief Finance Officer confirms that they are based on the estimate of the most likely, prudent but not worst-case scenario, with in addition sufficient headroom over and above this to allow for operational management, for example unusual cash movements. Risk analysis and risk management strategies have been taken into account; as have plans for capital expenditure, estimates of the capital financing requirement and estimates of cash flow requirements for all purposes.

3. Prospects for Interest Rates

3.1 The Council appointed Link Asset Services as a treasury adviser to the Council and part of their service is to assist the Council to formulate a view on interest rates. Annex 1 draws together a number of current City forecasts for short term (bank rate) and longer fixed interest rates. Table 5 gives the Link central view.

Table 5: Link View interest rate forecast – January 2018

	Bank Rate	PWLB Borrowing Rates (including 0.2% discount)			
		5 year	10 year	25 year	50 year
	%	%	%	%	%
Mar 2018	0.50	1.60	2.20	2.90	2.60
Sept 2018	0.50	1.70	2.40	3.00	2.80
Mar 2019	0.75	1.80	2.50	3.10	2.90
Sept 2019	0.75	1.90	2.60	3.20	3.00
Mar 2020	1.00	2.10	2.70	3.40	3.20
Sept 2020	1.25	2.20	2.90	3.50	3.30
Mar 2021	1.25	2.30	3.00	3.60	3.40

4 Borrowing Requirement

4.1 The Council is currently maintaining a marginally over-borrowed position in 2017/18. This means that the Council's capital borrowing is slightly higher than the underlying need to borrow. As a result of the capital expenditure plans set out in **Appendix C, Table 1** the Council is expected to be in an under-borrowed position from 2018/19 onwards as shown in **Table 5** below. This is a prudent strategy as investment returns are low and counterparty risk is relatively high – this approach will be carefully monitored during 2018/19.

Under/(Over) Borrowing Position	**2016/17** **£'000**	**2017/18** **£'000**	**2018/19** **£'000**	**2019/20** **£'000**	**2020/21** **£'000**
General Fund	423	2,455	6,267	13,862	13,500
HRA	-6,355	-4,636	-4,196	-4,266	984
Overall Position	**-5,932**	**-2,181**	**2,071**	**9,606**	**14,484**

4.2 Against this background and the risks within the economic forecast, caution will be adopted with the 2018/19 treasury operations. The Chief Finance Officer will monitor interest rates in financial markets and adopt a pragmatic approach to changing circumstances.

4.3 If it was felt that there was a significant risk of a sharp fall in long and short term rates, e.g. due to a marked increase of risks around relapse into recession or of risks of deflation, then long term borrowings will be postponed, and potential rescheduling from fixed rate funding into short term borrowing will be considered.

4.4 If it was felt that there was a significant risk of a much sharper rise in long and short term rates than that currently forecast, perhaps arising from a greater than expected increase in the anticipated rate to US tapering of asset purchases, or in world economic activity or a sudden increase in inflation risks, then the portfolio position will be re-appraised with the likely action that fixed rate funding will be drawn whilst interest rates are still lower than they will be in the next few years.

4.5 Any decisions will be reported to the Executive at the next available opportunity.

4.6 The current capital programme funding forecasts for 2018/19 to 2020/21 shows that there is a borrowing requirement for both the General Fund and HRA. The borrowing needs for future years will be reviewed as the capital programmes are confirmed.

4.7 Maturity structure of borrowing. These gross limits are set to reduce the Council's exposure to large fixed rate sums falling due for refinancing, and are required for upper and lower limits.

Table 7 : Maturity Structure Fixed Rate Borrowing 2018/19

Maturity Structure New Borrowing 2018/19	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Under 12 Months	20%	0%
12 Months and within 2 Years	20%	0%
2 Years and within 5 Years	50%	0%
5 Years and within 10 Years	50%	0%
10 Years and within 15 Years	50%	0%
15 Years and over	90%	20%

4.8 The Council has a policy of borrowing from the Public Works Loans Board in the first instance (over periods up to 50 years) or the money markets (over periods up to 50 years) which ever reflects the best possible value for the Council at the time. Individual loans are taken out over varying periods depending on the relative value of interest rates at the time of borrowing need and to avoid wherever possible a distorted repayment profile.

4.9 The Council's current debt portfolio as shown in Table 1 is made up of £53.8m of PWLB debt and £6.5m of market debt. The portfolio will be kept under review for debt rescheduling options, however, opportunities for rescheduling have been limited.

4.10 As short term borrowing rates will be considerably cheaper than longer term fixed interest rates, there may be potential opportunities to generate savings by switching from long term debt to short term debt. However, these savings will need to be considered in the light of the current treasury position and the size of the cost of debt repayment (premiums incurred).

4.11 The reasons for any rescheduling to take place will include:

- the generation of cash savings at minimum risk;
- help fulfil the strategy outlined in paragraph 5 above; and
- enhance the balance of the portfolio (amend the maturity profile and/or the balance of volatility).

Consideration will also be given to identify if there is any potential for making savings by running down investment balances to repay debt prematurely as short term rates on investments are likely to be lower than rates paid on current debt

4.12 Any rescheduling of debt will be reported to Executive at the meeting following its action.

4.13 The Council will not borrow more than or in advance of its needs purely in order to profit from the investment of the extra sums borrowed. Any decision to borrow in advance will be within forward approved Capital Financing Requirement estimates, and will be considered carefully to ensure that value for money can be demonstrated and that the Council can ensure the security of such funds.

4.14 Risks associated with any borrowing in advance activity will be subject to prior appraisal and subsequent reporting through the mid-year or annual reporting mechanism.

APPENDIX E

ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT 2018/19

1. **Introduction**

1.1 Under the Local Government Act 2003 the Council is required to have regard to Government Guidance in respect of the investment of its cash funds. This Guidance was revised with effect from 1 April 2010. The Guidance leaves local authorities free to make their own investment decisions, subject to the fundamental requirement of an Annual Investment Strategy being approved by the Council before the start of the financial year.

1.2 This Annual Investment Strategy must define the investments the Council has approved for prudent management of its cash balances during the financial year under the headings of **specified investments** and **non-specified investments**.

1.3 The Council's day to day investments are managed as part of the overall investment pool operated by North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC). In order to enable investments to be managed through the investment pool the Council is required to adopt an Annual Investment Strategy and Approved Lending List in line with that of NYCC.

1.4 As part of the monitoring and review of investment options, Property Funds have been identified as a potential instrument for investment following discussions with the County Councils Treasury Management consultants. Property Funds are pooled investment vehicles investing in commercial property. As a result, Property Funds have been added to the schedule of Non Specified Investments at Schedule B of Appendix A. Appropriate due diligence will be undertaken before an investment of this type is undertaken. The County Council will also consult with The Council service prior to any investment, with an option to 'opt out'

2. Revisions to the Annual Investment Strategy

2.1 In addition to this **Investment Strategy**, which requires approval before the start of the financial year, a revised Strategy will be submitted to Council for consideration and approval under the following circumstances:

(a) significant changes in the risk assessment of a significant proportion of the Council's investments;

(b) any other significant development(s) that might impact on the Council's investments and existing strategy for managing those investments during 2018/19.

3. Investment Policy

3.1 The parameters of the Policy are as follows:

(a) the Council will have regard to the Government's Guidance on Local Government Investments as revised with effect from 1 April 2010, and the 2011 revised CIPFA Treasury Management in Public Services Code of Practice and Cross Sectorial Guidance Notes;

(b) the Council's investment policy has two fundamental objectives;

- the security of capital (protecting the capital sum from loss); and then

- the liquidity of its investments (keeping the money readily available for expenditure when needed)

(c) the Council will also aim to seek the highest return (yield) on its investments provided that proper levels of security and liquidity are achieved. The risk appetite of the Council is low in order to give priority to the security of its investments;

(d) the borrowing of monies purely to invest or lend and make a return is unlawful and the Council will not engage in such activity;

(e) investment instruments for use in the financial year listed under **specified** and **non-specified investment** categories (see **paragraph 5.1**);

4. Policy regarding loans to organisations in which the Council has an interest

4.1 (a) the Council's general investment powers under this Annual Treasury Management and Investment Strategy come from the Local Government Act 2003 (Section 12). Under this Act a local authority has the power to invest for any purpose relevant to its functions or for the purpose of the prudent management of its financial affairs

(b) in addition to investment, the Council has the power to provide loans and financial assistance to organisations under the Localisation Act 2011 (and also formally under the general power of wellbeing in the Local Government Act 2000) which introduced a general power of competence for authorities (to be exercised in accordance with their general public law duties)

(c) any such loans by the Council, will therefore be made under these powers. They will not however be classed as investments made by the Council and will not impact on this Investment Strategy. Instead they will be classed as capital expenditure by the Council under the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) Regulations 2003, and will be approved, financed and accounted for accordingly

(d) at present the Council has made several loans to the Selby District Housing Trust. The loan position to the Housing Trust is monitored and reviewed regularly.

5. Specified and non-specified Investments

5.1 Based on Government Guidance as updated from 1 April 2010.

(a) investment Instruments identified for use in the forthcoming financial year are listed in the Schedules attached to this Strategy under the **specified** and **non-specified** Investment categories;

(b) all **specified** Investments (see **Schedule A**) are defined by the Government as options with "relatively high security and high liquidity" requiring minimal reference in investment strategies. In this context, the Council has defined Specified Investments as being sterling denominated, with maturities up to a maximum of 1 year meeting the minimum high credit quality;

(c) **Non-specified** investments (see **Schedule B**) attract a greater potential of risk. As a result, a maximum local limit of 20% of "core cash" funds available for investment has been set which can be held in aggregate in such investments;

(d) for both specified and non-specified investments, the attached Schedules indicate for each type of investment:-

- the investment category
- minimum credit criteria
- circumstances of use
- why use the investment and associated risks
- maximum % age of total investments
- maximum maturity period

Non-Specified Only

(e) there are other instruments available as Specified and Non-Specified investments which the Council will NOT currently use. Examples of such investments are:-

Specified Investments	- Commercial Paper - Gilt funds and other Bond Funds - Treasury Bills
Non-Specified Investments	- Sovereign Bond issues - Corporate Bonds - Floating Rate notes - Equities - Open Ended Investment Companies - Derivatives

A proposal to use any of these instruments would require detailed assessment and be subject to approval by Members as part of this Strategy.

6. Creditworthiness Policy – Security of Capital and the use of credit ratings

6.1 The financial markets have experienced a period of considerable turmoil since 2008 and as a result attention has been focused on credit standings of counterparties with whom the Council can invest funds. It is paramount that the Council's money is managed in a way that balances risk with return, but with the overriding consideration being given to the security of the invested capital sum followed by the liquidity of the investment. The Approved Lending List will therefore reflect a prudent attitude towards organisations with whom funds may be deposited.

6.2 The rationale and purpose of distinguishing specified and non-specified investments is detailed in **paragraph 5.1** above. Part of the definition for a

Specified investment is that it is an investment made with a body which has been awarded a high credit rating with maturities of no longer than 365 days. It is, therefore, necessary to define what the Council considers to be a “high” credit rating in order to maintain the security of the invested capital sum.

6.3 The methodology and its application in practice will, therefore, be as follows:-

(a) the Council will rely on credit ratings published by the three credit rating agencies (Fitch, Moody’s and Standard & Poor’s) to establish the credit quality (ability to meet financial commitments) of counterparties (to whom the Council lends) and investment schemes. Each agency has its own credit rating components to complete their rating assessments. These are as follows:

Fitch Ratings

Long Term - generally cover maturities of over five years and acts as a measure of the capacity to service and repay debt obligations punctually. Ratings range from AAA (highest credit quality) to D (indicating an entity has defaulted on all of its financial obligations)

Short Term - cover obligations which have an original maturity not exceeding one year and place greater emphasis on the liquidity necessary to meet financial commitments. The ratings range from F1+ (the highest credit quality) to D (indicating an entity has defaulted on all of its financial obligations)

Moody’s Ratings

Long Term - an opinion of the relative credit risk of obligations with an original maturity of one year or more. They reflect both the likelihood of a default on contractually promised payments and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default. Ratings range from Aaa (highest quality, with minimal credit risk) to C (typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest)

Short Term - an opinion of the likelihood of a default on contractually promised payments with an original maturity of 13 months or less. Ratings range from P-1 (a superior ability to repay short-term debt obligations) to P-3 (an acceptable ability to repay short-term obligations)

Standard & Poor’s Ratings

Long Term - considers the likelihood of payment. Ratings range from AAA (best quality borrowers, reliable and stable) to D (has defaulted on obligations)

Short Term - generally assigned to those obligations considered short-term in the relevant market. Ratings range from A-1 (capacity to meet financial commitment is strong) to D (used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition).

In addition, all three credit rating agencies produce a Sovereign Rating which assesses a country's ability to support a financial institution should it get into difficulty. The ratings are the same as those used to measure long term credit.

(b) the Council will review the "ratings watch" and "outlook" notices issued by all three credit rating agencies referred to above. An agency will issue a "watch", (notification of likely change), or "outlook", (notification of a possible longer term change), when it anticipates that a change to a credit rating may occur in the forthcoming 6 to 24 months. The "watch" or "outlook" could reflect either a positive (increase in credit rating), negative (decrease in credit rating) or developing (uncertain whether a rating may go up or down) outcome;

(c) no combination of ratings can be viewed as entirely fail safe and all credit ratings, watches and outlooks are monitored on a daily basis. This is achieved through the use of Link Asset Services creditworthiness service. This employs a sophisticated modelling approach utilising credit ratings from the three main credit rating agencies. The credit ratings of counterparties are then supplemented with the following overlays;

- credit watches and credit outlooks from credit rating agencies
- CDS spreads to give early warning of likely changes in credit ratings
- sovereign ratings to select counterparties from only the most creditworthy countries

This modelling approach combines credit ratings, credit watches and credit outlooks in a weighted scoring system which is then combined with an overlay of CDS spreads for which the end product is a series of colour coded bands which indicate the relative creditworthiness of counterparties. These colour codes are used by the Council to determine the duration for investments. The Council will therefore use counterparties within the following durational bands:-

Colour	**Maximum Investment Duration**
Yellow	5 Years
Purple	2 Years
Orange	1 Year
Blue	1 Year (UK nationalised / semi nationalised banks only)
Red	6 Months
Green	100 Days
No Colour	No investments to be made

(d) given that a number of central banks/government have supported or are still supporting their banking industries in some way, the importance of the credit strength of the sovereign has become more important. The Council will therefore also take into account the Sovereign Rating for the country in which an organisation is domiciled. As a result, only an institution which is domiciled in a country with a minimum Sovereign Rating of AA- from Fitch or equivalent would be considered for inclusion on the Council's Approved Lending List (subject to them meeting the criteria above). Organisations which are domiciled in a Country whose Sovereign Rating has fallen below the minimum criteria will be suspended, regardless of their own individual score/colour. The list of countries that currently qualify using this credit criteria are shown in Schedule D. This list will be amended should ratings change, in accordance with this policy;

(e) in order to reflect current market sentiment regarding the credit worthiness of an institution the Council will also take into account current trends within the Credit Default Swap (CDS) Market. Since they are a traded instrument they reflect the market's current perception of an institution's credit quality, unlike credit ratings, which often focus on a longer term view. These trends will be monitored through the use of Link Asset Services creditworthiness service which compares the CDS Market position for each institution to the benchmark CDS Index. Should the deviation be great, then market sentiment suggests that there is a fear that an institution's credit quality will fall. Organisations with such deviations will be monitored and their standing reduced by one colour band (paragraph 12.8 (c)) as a precaution. Where the deviation is great, the organisation will be awarded 'no colour' until market sentiment improves. Where entities do not have an actively traded CDS spread, credit ratings are used in isolation;

(f) fully and part nationalised banks within the UK currently have credit ratings which are not as high as other institutions. This is the result of the banks having to have to accept external support from the UK Government However, due to this Central Government involvement, these institutions now effectively take on the credit worthiness of the Government itself (i.e. deposits made with them are effectively being made to the Government). This position is expected to take a number of years to unwind and would certainly not be done so without a considerable notice period. As a result, institutions which are significantly or fully owned by the UK Government will be assessed to have a high level of credit worthiness;

(g) all of the above will be monitored on a weekly basis through Link Asset Services creditworthiness service with additional information being received and monitored on a daily basis should credit ratings change and/or watch/outlook notices be issued. Sole reliance will not be placed on the information provided by Link Asset Services however. In addition the Council will also use market data and information available from other sources such as the financial press and other agencies and organisations;

(h) in addition, the Council will set maximum investment limits for each organisation which also reflect that institution's credit worthiness – the higher the credit quality, the greater the investment limit. These limits also reflect UK Government involvement (i.e. Government ownership or being part of the UK Government guarantee of liquidity). These limits are as follows:-

Maximum Investment Limit	**Criteria**
£85m	UK “nationalised / Part Nationalised” banks / UK banks with UK Central Government involvement
£20m to £75m	UK “Clearing Banks” and selected UK based Banks and Building Societies
£20m or £40m	High quality foreign banks

(i) should a score/colour awarded to a counterparty or investment scheme be amended during the year due to rating changes, market sentiment etc., the Council will take the following action:-

- reduce or increase the maximum investment term for an organisation dependent on the revised score / colour awarded (in line with the boundaries and colours set in paragraph 12.8(c))

- temporarily suspend the organisation from the Approved Lending List should their score fall outside boundary limits and not be awarded a colour

- seek to withdraw an investment as soon as possible, within the terms and conditions of the investment made, should an organisation be suspended from the Approved Lending List

- ensure all investments remain as liquid as possible, i.e. on instant access until sentiment improves.

(j) if a counterparty / investment scheme, not currently included on the Approved Lending List is subsequently upgraded, (resulting in a score which would fulfil the Council’s minimum criteria), the Chief Finance Officer has the delegated authority to include it on the Council’s Approved Lending List with immediate effect;

(k) a copy of the current Approved Lending List, showing maximum investment and time limits is attached at Schedule C. The Approved Lending List will be monitored on an on-going daily basis and changes made as appropriate. Given current market conditions, there continues to be a very limited number of organisations which fulfil the criteria for non specified investments. This situation will be monitored on an on-going basis with additional organisations added as appropriate with the approval of the Chief Finance Officer.

7. Investment Strategy

7.1 Recognising the categories of investment available and the rating criteria detailed above

(a) the Council’s investments are managed as part of the overall investment pool operated by NYCC.;

(b) on-going discussions are held with the Council's Treasury Management Advisor on whether to consider the appointment of an external fund manager(s) – any decision to appoint an external fund manager will be subject to Member approval;

(c) the Council's cash balances consist of two basic elements. The first element is cash flow derived (debtors/creditors/timing of income compared to expenditure profile). The second, core element, relates to specific funds (reserves, provisions, balances, capital receipts etc.);

(d) having given due consideration to the Council's estimated level of funds and balances over the next three financial years, the need for liquidity and day to day cash flow requirements it is forecast that a maximum of £20m of the overall balances can be prudently committed to longer term investments (e.g. between 1 and 3 years);

(e) investments will accordingly be made with reference to this core element and the Council's on-going cash flow requirements (which may change over time) and the outlook for short term interest rates (i.e. rates for investments up to 12 months);

(f) the County Council currently has one non-specified investment over 365 days.

(g) bank rate increased to 0.50% in November and underpins investment returns. Investment returns are expected to rise gently over the next 3 years

The Council will, therefore, avoid locking into long term deals while investment rates are down at historically low levels unless attractive rates are available with counterparties of particularly high creditworthiness which make longer term deals worthwhile and within a 'low risk' parameter. No trigger rates will be set for longer term deposits (two or three years) but this position will be kept under constant review and discussed with the Treasury Management Advisor on a regular basis.

(h) for its cash flow generated balances the Council will seek to utilise 'business reserve accounts' (deposits with certain banks and building societies), 15 and 30 day accounts and short dated deposits (overnight to three months) in order to benefit from the compounding of interest.

8. Investment Report to Members

8.1 Reporting to Members on investment matters will be as follows:

(a) in-year investment reports will be submitted to the Executive as part of the Quarterly Performance reports;

(b) at the end of the financial year a comprehensive report on the Council's investment activity will be submitted to Executive;

9. Treasury Management Training

9.1 The training needs of the Council's staff and those of NYCC involved in investment management are monitored, reviewed and addressed on an on-going basis and are discussed as part of the staff appraisal process. In practice most training needs are addressed through attendance at courses and seminars provided by CIPFA, the LGA and others on a regular on-going basis.

9.2 The CIPFA Code also requires that Members with responsibility for treasury management receive adequate training in treasury management. This especially applies to Members responsible for scrutiny (i.e. the Executive). An in-house training course for Members was previously provided by Link Asset Services – Treasury Solutions. Further training will be arranged as required.

10. Policy on the Use of External Service Providers

10.1 The Council uses Link Asset Services – Treasury Solutions as its external treasury management adviser. Link provide a source of contemporary information, advice and assistance over a wide range of Treasury Management areas but particularly in relation to investments and debt administration.

10.2 Whilst the Council recognises that there is value in employing external providers of treasury management services in order to acquire access to specialist skills and resources, it fully accepts that responsibility for Treasury Management decisions remains with the authority at all times and will ensure that undue reliance is not placed upon the advice of external service providers.

10.3 Following a quotation exercise Link Asset Services were appointed in September 2015 as a single provider of Treasury Management consultancy services for both the Selby District Council and North Yorkshire County Council. The appointment is for three years, with the option for a further two year extension. The value and quality of services being provided are monitored and reviewed on an ongoing basis.

11. The scheme of delegation and role of the Section 151 Officer in relation to Treasury Management

11.1 The Government's Investment Guidance (**paragraph 1.1**) requires that a local authority includes details of the Treasury Management schemes of delegation and the role of the Section 151 officer in the Annual Treasury Management/Investment Strategy.

11.2 The key elements of delegation in relation to Treasury Management are set out in the following Financial Procedure Rules (FPR):-

(a) This Council has adopted CIPFA's Treasury Management Code of Practice 2009 and will adopt any amendments/additions to that Code.

(b) A Treasury Management Policy Statement shall be adopted by the Council and thereafter its implementation and monitoring shall be delegated to the Executive Director with s.151 responsibilities.

(c) (i) All money in the hands of the Council shall be under the control of the Executive Director with s.151 responsibilities – the officer designated for the purposes of Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, referred to in the Code as the Chief Finance Officer.

(ii) The Executive Director with s.151 responsibilities shall report to the Executive not less than twice in each financial year on the activities of the treasury management operation and on the exercise of delegated treasury management powers. One such report shall comprise an annual report on treasury management for presentation by 30 September of the succeeding financial year.

(d) At or before the start of the financial year the Executive Director with s.151 responsibilities shall report to the Executive on the strategy for treasury management it is proposed to adopt for the coming financial year.

(e) All Executive decisions on borrowing, investment or financing shall be delegated to the Executive Director with s.151 responsibilities who shall be required to act in accordance with CIPFA's Treasury

11.3 In terms of the Treasury Management role of the Section 151 officer (the Corporate Director – Strategic Resources), the key areas of delegated responsibility are as follows

- recommending clauses, treasury management policies and practices for approval, reviewing the same regularly, and monitoring compliance
- submitting regular treasury management policy reports to Members
- submitting budgets and budget variations to Members
- receiving and reviewing management information reports
- reviewing the performance of the treasury management function
- ensuring the adequacy of treasury management resources and skills, and the effective division of responsibilities within the treasury management function
- ensuring the adequacy of internal audit, and liaising with external audit
- recommending the appointment of external service providers

12. Arrangements for Monitoring/Reporting to Members

12.1 Taking into account the matters referred to in this Strategy, the monitoring and reporting arrangements in place relating to Treasury Management activities are now as follows:

(a) an annual report to Executive and Council as part of the Budget process that sets out the Council's Treasury Management Strategy and Policy for the forthcoming financial year;

(b) an annual outturn report to the Executive for Treasury Management setting out full details of activities and performance during the preceding financial year.

(c) a quarterly report on Treasury Matters to Executive as part of the Quarterly Performance and Budget Monitoring report;

CAPITAL STRATEGY 2018/19

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 The purpose of the Capital Strategy is to demonstrate that the Council takes capital expenditure and investment decisions in line with Corporate and service objectives and properly takes account of stewardship, value for money, prudence, sustainability and affordability. It sets out the long term context in which capital expenditure and investment decisions are made and gives due consideration to both risk and reward and impact on the achievement of priority outcomes.

1.2 The Capital Strategy comprises a number of distinct, but inter-related, elements as follows:

(a) Capital expenditure (Section 2)

This section includes an overview of the governance process for approval and monitoring of capital expenditure, including the Council's policies on capitalisation, and an overview of its capital expenditure and financing plans.

(b) Capital financing and borrowing (Section 3)

This section provides a projection of the Council's capital financing requirement, how this will be funded and repaid. It therefore sets out the Council's borrowing strategy and explains how it will discharge its duty to make prudent revenue provision for the repayment of debt.

(d) Alternative investments (Section 4)

This section provides an overview of those of the Council's current and proposed **alternative investment activities** that count as capital expenditure, including processes, due diligence and defining the Council's risk appetite in respect of these, including proportionality in respect of overall resources.

(e) Chief Financial Officer's statement (Section 5)

This section contains the Chief Financial Officer's views on the deliverability, affordability and risk associated with the capital strategy

2.0 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Capitalisation Policy

2.1 Expenditure is classified as capital expenditure when it results in the acquisition or construction of an asset (e.g. land, buildings, roads and bridges, vehicles, plant and equipment etc.) that:

- Will be held for use in the delivery of services, for rental to others, investment or for administrative purposes; and
- Are of continuing benefit to the Council for a period extending beyond one financial year.

Subsequent expenditure on existing assets is also classified as capital expenditure if these two criteria are met.

2.2 There may be instances where expenditure does not meet this definition but would be treated as capital expenditure, including:

- Where the Council has no direct future control or benefit from the resulting assets, but would treat the expenditure as capital if it did control or benefit from the resulting assets; and
- Where statutory regulations require the Council to capitalise expenditure that would not otherwise have expenditure implications according to accounting rules

2.3 The Council operates de-minimis limits for capital expenditure. This means that items below these limits are charged to revenue rather than capital. The limits are currently as follows:

- **General Limit:** £10,000

Governance

2.4 The Executive shall, during each financial year and after consultation with the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee(s), approve a capital expenditure programme for the next following and subsequent 2 financial years. Such programmes shall be in a form and in accordance with deadlines approved by the Chief Finance Officer and in accordance with the Council's Financial Strategy. Such programmes shall be prepared by the respective Director, in conjunction with the Chief Finance Officer for submission to the Executive and then Council for approval.

2.5 The Council's Financial and Contract Procedure Rules provide a framework for the appropriate authorisations for individual schemes to proceed and facilitate the overall management of the Capital Plan within defined resource parameters.

Capital Expenditure and Funding Plans

2.6 Capital expenditure plans are set out in **Appendix C.**

2.7 When expenditure is classified as capital expenditure for capital financing purposes, this means that the Council is able to finance that expenditure from any of the following sources:

(a) **Capital grants and contributions** - amounts awarded to the Council in return for past or future compliance with certain stipulations.

(b) **Capital receipts** – amounts generated from the sale of assets and from the repayment of capital loans, grants or other financial assistance.

(c) **Revenue contributions** – amounts set aside from the revenue budget in the Reserve for Future Capital Funding.

(d) **Borrowing** - amounts that the Council does not need to fund immediately from cash resources, but instead charges to the revenue budget over a number of years into the future.

2.8 The implications of financing capital expenditure from 'borrowing' are explained in section 3 below.

3.0 CAPITAL FINANCING REQUIREMENT AND BORROWING

Context

3.1 The County Council is required to comply with the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (referred to as the 'Prudential Code') when assessing the affordability, prudence and sustainability of its capital investment plans.

3.2 Fundamental to the prudential framework is a requirement to set a series of prudential indicators. These indicators are intended to collectively build a picture that demonstrates the impact over time of the Council's capital expenditure plans upon the revenue budget and upon borrowing and investment levels, and explain the overall controls that will ensure that the activity remains affordable, prudent and sustainable.

3.3 A summary of the actual prudential indicators for 2016/17, and the estimates for 2017/18 through to 2020/21, are provided in Appendix C.

<u>Capital Financing Requirement</u>

3.4 When capital expenditure is funded from borrowing, this does not result in expenditure being funded immediately from cash resources, but is instead charged to the revenue budget over a number of years. It does this in accordance with its policy for the repayment of debt, which is set out in Appendix B.

3.5 The forward projections of the CFR reflect:

- Additional capital expenditure from borrowing or further credit arrangements resulting in an increase to the CFR and

- Revenue budget provision being made for the repayment of debt, which results in a reduction to the CFR).

3.6 The actual CFR for 2016/17 and forward projections for the current and forthcoming years are as follows:

	Borrowing £m	**Other Long Term Liabilities £m**	**Total £m**
31 March 2017 actual	51.4	3.0	54.4
31 March 2018 probable	53.1	4.1	57.2
31 March 2019 estimate	53.5	7.9	61.4
31 March 2020 estimate	53.5	15.4	68.9
31 March 2021 estimate	52.2	15.1	67.3

3.7 The forecast increase in the CFR is a result of the amount of capital expenditure that it is intended to be financed from borrowing based on the current capital programme up to 2020/21. This is primarily due to stepping up the Housing Delivery Programme over the next 3 years.

3.8 Currently, the Capital Plan does not include expenditure relating to alternative investments (other than loans to deliver the Housing Delivery Programme). As alternative investment plans are developed and approved the Capital Plan will be updated which may potentially impact on the Capital Financing Requirement.

External borrowing limits

3.9 The Council is only permitted to borrow externally (including via credit arrangements) up to the level implied by its Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). To ensure that external borrowing does not exceed the CFR, other than in the short term, limits are established for external debt, as follows:

- **Authorised limit** – this defines the maximum amount of external debt permitted by the Council, and represents the statutory limit determined under section 3 (1) of the Local Government Act 2003.

- **Operational boundary** – this is an estimate of the probable level of the Council's external debt, and provides the means by which external debt is managed to ensure that the 'authorised limit' is not breached.

3.10 The proposed limits, which are set out in Appendix D, make separate provision for external borrowing and other long-term liabilities, and are based upon an estimate of the most likely but not worst case scenarios. They allow sufficient headroom for fluctuations in the level of cash balances and in the level of the CFR.

3.11 Alternative investment activities are likely to be classed as capital expenditure. The Alternative Investments Strategy is still evolving though and, in the event that major initiatives are proposed, in excess of those already in the Capital Programme, it may be necessary to review the current borrowing limits.

3.12 The agreed **Operational Boundary** and **Authorised Limits** for external debt are as follows:

Operational Borrowing limit for External Debt	**2016/17 £000**	**2017/18 £000**	**2018/19 £000**	**2019/20 £000**	**2020/21 £000**
Borrowing	70,000	72,178	77,948	85,522	80,656
Other Long Term Liabilities	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total	**71,000**	**73,178**	**78,948**	**86,522**	**81,656**

Authorised limit for External Debt	**2016/17 £000**	**2017/18 £000**	**2018/19 £000**	**2019/20 £000**	**2020/21 £000**
Borrowing	75,000	77,178	82,948	90,522	85,656
Other Long Term Liabilities	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total	**76,000**	**78,178**	**83,948**	**91,522**	**86,656**

Borrowing strategy

3.13 The Councils Borrowing Strategy is set out in Appendix D.

3.14 The Council's capital borrowing is slightly higher than the underlying need to borrow. As a result of the capital expenditure plans the Council is expected to be in an under-borrowed position from 2018/19 onwards. This has been a prudent strategy as investment returns are low and counterparty risk is relatively high – this approach will be carefully monitored during 2018/19.

3.15 The use of internal borrowing has been an effective strategy in recent years as:

- Rising cash balances as a result of MRP set aside mean available cash for the medium to longer term;
- It has enabled the Council to avoid significant external borrowing costs; and
- It has mitigated significantly the risks associated with investing cash in what has often been a volatile and challenging market.

3.16 Further long term external borrowing may be undertaken, in excess of the current forecasts, in the event that it is not possible or desirable to sustain the anticipated internal borrowing position.

3.17 The external borrowing requirement will be kept under review long term external loans will be secured within the parameters established by the **authorised limit** and **operational boundary** for external debt (as set out within Appendix B).

3.18 Opportunities to generate savings by refinancing or prematurely repaying existing long term debt will also be kept under review. Potential savings will be considered in the light of the current treasury position and the costs associated with such actions.

Minimum Revenue Provision

3.19 The Council sets cash resources aside from the Revenue Budget each year to repay the borrowing. This practice is referred to as the minimum revenue provision (MRP) for the repayment of debt.

3.20 The Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) provides a measure of the amount of capital expenditure which has been financed from borrowing that the Council yet to fund from cash resources.

3.21 Statutory guidance requires MRP to be provided annually on a prudent basis. In accordance with the requirement to make a prudent 'revenue provision for the repayment of debt', the Council ensures that debt is repaid over a period that is commensurate with the period over which the capital expenditure provides benefit. This is achieved by applying the methodology set out in Appendix B. The revenue budget provision for MRP charges in 2018/19 has been compiled on a basis consistent with this policy.

4.0. Alternative Investments

Introduction

4.1 The prolonged low interest rate environment has resulted in reduced returns on treasury management investments. Moreover, the introduction of the general power of competence has given local authorities far more flexibility in the types of activity they can engage in. These changes in the economic and regulatory landscape, combined with significant financial challenges, have led many authorities to consider different and more innovative types of investment.

4.2 CIPFA recently issued an update to its Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross Sectoral Guidance Notes (the Treasury Management Code). One of the main changes introduced by the new Code is to require authorities to incorporate all of the financial and non-financial assets held for financial return in authorities' annual capital strategies.

4.3 Separately, the Department for Communities and Local Government has recently consulted on changes to its statutory Guidance on Local Authority Investments. At the time of writing this strategy, the revised statutory guidance had not been issued, but it is expected that the guidance will reinforce the need for commercial investment activity to be included in the annual Capital Strategy.

4.4 In advance of confirmation of the statutory requirements related to commercial investment activities, the following paragraphs provide an overview of the Council's current approach to commercial investment activity. This section of the Capital Strategy will need to be updated once the revised statutory Guidance on Local Authority Investments is published and/or as the Council's own agenda for commercial investments evolves.

4.5 It is worth highlighting that all commercial investment activities are subject to approval in accordance with the Council's governance framework for decision making.

Alternative Investment Objectives

4.6 The primary objectives of the commercial investment activities are:

- Security – to protect the capital sums invested from loss; and
- Liquidity – ensuring the funds invested are available for expenditure when needed.

4.7 The generation of **yield** is distinct from these prudential objectives. However, once proper levels of security and liquidity are determined, it is then reasonable to consider what yield can be obtained consistent with these priorities.

4.8 Non-core activities and investments are primarily undertaken by the Council in order to generate income to support the delivery of a balanced budget. Such investments are only entered following a full assessment of the risks and having secured expert external advice (i.e. where it is relevant to do so).

Investment Properties

4.9 Options are currently being considered for the acquisition of land and buildings for investment purposes rather than for the supply of goods or services or for administrative purposes. Such assets will be classified as Investment Properties..

4.10 Investment properties will be measured at their fair value annually (which will ensure the valuation reflects the market conditions at the end of each reporting period). The fair value measurement will enable the Council to assess whether the underlying assets provide security for capital investment. Where the fair value of the underlying assets is no longer sufficient to provide security against loss, mitigating actions will be considered, to ensure that appropriate action is taken to protect the capital sum invested.

4.11 The approach to the acquisition of an investment property portfolio is still being developed. An Investment Property Strategy is currently being formulated and will be submitted to Executive for approval.

Loans to Third Parties

4.12 Loans to third parties will be considered, as part of a wider strategy for local economic growth, in addition to the loans provided to further delivery of the Housing Delivery Programme. However they may not all be seen as prudent if adopting a narrow definition of prioritising security and liquidity.

4.13 Such loans will be considered when all of the following criteria are satisfied:

- The loan is given towards expenditure which would, if incurred by the Council, be capital expenditure;
- The purpose for which the loan is given is consistent with the Council's corporate / strategic objectives and priorities;
- Due diligence is carried out that confirms the Council's legal powers to make the loan, and that assesses the risk of loss over the loan term;
- A formal loan agreement is put in place which stipulates the loan period repayment terms and loan rate (which will be set at a level that seeks to mitigate any perceived risks of a loss being charged to the General Fund, and takes appropriate account of state aid rules) and any other terms that will protect the Council from loss;

Other alternative investments

4.14 At the time of writing this section of the Capital Strategy, other alternative investment activities are in the early stages of development. The Capital Strategy will be updated should further investment opportunities be developed during 2018/19 and/or in the event that the statutory Guidance on Local Authority Investments, when issued, requires further content to be included.

5.0 SECTION 151 OFFICER STATEMENT

Background

5.1 The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code) plays a key role in capital finance in local authorities. Local authorities determine their own programmes for investment that are central to the delivery of quality public services. The Prudential Code was developed by CIPFA as a professional code of practice to support local authorities in taking their decisions. Local authorities are required by regulation to have regard to the Prudential Code when carrying out their duties under Part 1 of the Local Government Act 2003.

5.2 In financing capital expenditure, local authorities are governed by legislative frameworks, including the requirement to have regard to CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes.

5.3 In order to demonstrate that capital expenditure and investment decisions are taken in line with service objectives and properly take account of stewardship, value for money, prudence, sustainability and affordability, the Prudential Code requires authorities to have in place a Capital Strategy that sets out the long term context in which capital expenditure and investment decisions are made, and gives due consideration to both risk and reward and impact on the achievement of priority outcomes.

5.4 The Prudential Code requires the Chief Financial Officer to report explicitly on the affordability and risk associated with the Capital Strategy. The following are specific responsibilities of the Section 151 Officer:

- recommending clauses, treasury management policy/practices for approval, reviewing regularly, and monitoring compliance;
- submitting quarterly treasury management reports;
- submitting quarterly capital budget update reports;
- reviewing the performance of the treasury management function;
- ensuring the adequacy of treasury management resources and skills, and the effective division of responsibilities within the treasury management function;
- ensuring the adequacy of internal audit, and liaising with external audit;
- recommending the appointment of external service providers.
- preparation of a capital strategy to include capital expenditure, capital financing, non-financial investments and treasury management
- ensuring that the capital strategy is prudent, sustainable, affordable and prudent in the long term and provides value for money
- ensuring that due diligence has been carried out on all treasury and non-financial investments and is in accordance with the risk appetite of the authority
- ensure that the authority has appropriate legal powers to undertake expenditure on non-financial assets and their financing

- ensuring the proportionality of all investments so that the authority does not undertake a level of investing which exposes the authority to an excessive level of risk compared to its financial resources

- ensuring that an adequate governance process is in place for the approval, monitoring and ongoing risk management of all non-financial investments and long term liabilities

- provision to members of a schedule of all non-treasury investments including material investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures, loans and financial guarantees

- ensuring that members are adequately informed and understand the risk exposures taken on by an authority

- ensuring that the authority has adequate expertise, either in house or externally provided

- creation of Treasury Management Practices which specifically deal with how non treasury investments will be carried out and managed

SCHEDULE A

SELBY DISTRICT COUNCIL ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2018/19 – SPECIFIED INVESTMENTS

Investment	Security / Minimum Credit Rating	Circumstances of Use
Term Deposits with the UK Government or with UK Local Authorities (as per Local Government Act 2003) with maturities up to 1 year	High security as backed by UK Government	In-house
Term Deposits with credit rated deposit takers (Banks and Building Societies), including callable deposits with maturities less than 1 year	Organisations assessed as having "high credit quality" plus a minimum Sovereign rating of AA- for the country in which the organisation is domiciled	In-house
Certificate of Deposits issued by credit rated deposit takers (Banks and Building Societies) up to 1 year		Fund Manager or In-house "buy and hold" after consultation with Treasury Management Advisor
Forward deals with credit rated Banks and Building Societies less than 1 year (i.e. negotiated deal plus period of deposit)		In-house
Money Market Funds i.e. collective investment scheme as defined in SI2004 No 534 (*These funds have no maturity date*)	Funds must be AAA rated	In-house After consultation with Treasury Management Advisor Limited to £20m
Gilts (with maturities of up to 1 year)	Government Backed	Fund Manager or In-house buy and hold after consultation with Treasury Management Advisor
Bonds issued by a financial institution that is guaranteed by the UK Government (as defined in SI 2004 No 534) with maturities under 12 months (*Custodial arrangements required prior to purchase*)	Government Backed	After consultation with Treasury Management Advisor

SCHEDULE B

SELBY DISTRICT COUNCIL ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2018/19 – NON-SPECIFIED INVESTMENTS

Investment	A) Why use it? B) Associated Risks?	Security / Minimum Credit Rating	Circumstances of Use	Max % of overall investments or cash limits in cash category	Maximum investment with any one counterparty	Maximum Maturity Period
Term Deposit with credit rated deposit takers (Banks & Building Societies), UK Government and other Local Authorities with maturities greater than 1 year	A) Certainty of return over period invested which could be useful for budget purposes B) Not Liquid, cannot be traded or repaid prior to maturity Return will be lower if interest rates rise after making deposit Credit risk as potential for greater deterioration of credit quality over a longer period	Organisations assessed as having "high credit quality" Plus Where non UK domiciled - a minimum Sovereign rating of AA- for the country in which an organisation is domiciled	In-house	100% of agreed maximum proportion (20%) of core cash funds that can be invested for more than 1 year (estimated £20m)	£5m	2 years subject to potential future review with a maximum of no longer than 5 years
Certificate of Deposit with credit rated deposit takers (Banks & Building Societies) with maturities greater than 1 year *Custodial arrangements prior to purchase*	A) Attractive rates of return over period invested and in theory tradable B) Interest rate risk; the yield is subject to movement during life of CD which could negatively impact on its price		Fund Manager or In-house "buy & hold" after consultation with Treasury Management Advisor	25% of agreed proportion (20%) of core cash funds that can be invested for more than 1 year (£5m)	£3m	
Callable Deposits with credit rated deposit takers	A) Enhanced Income – potentially higher return than using a term deposit with a similar maturity	Organisations assessed as having "high	To be used in-house after consultation with	50% of agreed proportion (20%) of core cash	£5m	2 years subject to potential

Investment	A) Why use it? B) Associated Risks?	Security / Minimum Credit Rating	Circumstances of Use	Max % of overall investments or cash limits in cash category	Maximum investment with any one counterparty	Maximum Maturity Period
(Banks & Building Societies) with maturities greater than 1 year	B) Not liquid – only borrower has the right to pay back the deposit; the lender does not have a similar call Period over which the investment will actually be held is not known at outset Interest rate risk; borrower will not pay back deposit if interest rates rise after the deposit is made	credit quality" Plus Where non UK domiciled - a minimum Sovereign rating of AA- for the country in which an organisation is domiciled	Treasury Management Advisor	balance that can be invested for more than 1 year (£12.5m)		future review with a maximum of no longer than 5 years
Forward Deposits with a credit rated Bank or Building Society > 1 year (i.e. negotiated deal period plus period of deposit)	A) Known rate of return over the period the monies are invested – aids forward planning B) Credit risk is over the whole period, not just when monies are invested Cannot renege on making the investment if credit quality falls or interest rates rise in the interim period	Organisations assessed as having "high credit quality" Plus Where no UK domiciled - a minimum Sovereign rating of AA- for the country in which an organisation is domiciled	To be used in-house after consultation with the Treasury Management Advisor	25% of greed proportion (20%) of core cash funds that can be invested for more than 1 year (£5m)	£3m	2 years subject to potential future review with a maximum of no longer than 5 years
Bonds issued by a financial institution that is guaranteed by the UK Government (as defined in SI2004 No534) with maturities in excess	A) Excellent credit quality Relatively Liquid If held to maturity, yield is known in advance Enhanced rate in comparisons to gilts B) Interest rate risk; yield subject to movement	AA or Government backed	In-house on a "buy and hold" basis after consultation with Treasury Management Advisor or use by Fund Managers		n/a	2 years subject to potential future review with a maximum of no longer than

Investment	A) Why use it? B) Associated Risks?	Security / Minimum Credit Rating	Circumstances of Use	Max % of overall investments or cash limits in cash category	Maximum investment with any one counterparty	Maximum Maturity Period
of 1 year Custodial arrangements required prior to purchase	during life off bond which could impact on price			25% of greed proportion (20%) of core cash funds that can be invested for more than 1 year (£5m)		5 years
Bonds issued by Multilateral development banks (as defined in SI2004 No534) with maturities in excess of 1 year Custodial arrangements required prior to purchase	A) Excellent credit quality Relatively Liquid If held to maturity, yield is known in advance Enhanced rate in comparison to gilts B) Interest rate risk; yield subject to movement during life off bond which could negatively impact on price				£3m	
UK Government Gilts with maturities in excess of 1 year Custodial arrangements required prior to purchase	A) Excellent credit quality Liquid - If held to maturity, yield is known in advance Liquid - If traded, potential for capital appreciation B) Interest rate risk; yield subject to movement during life if the bond which could impact on price	Government backed	Fund Manager	25% of greed proportion (20%) of core cash funds that can be invested for more than 1 year (£5m)	n/a	2 years subject to potential future review with a maximum of no longer than 5 years
Collateralised Deposit	A) Excellent credit quality B) Not liquid, cannot be traded or repaid prior to maturity Credit risk as potential for greater deterioration of credit quality over a longer period	Backed by collateral of AAA rated Local Authority LOBO's	In-house via money market broker or direct	100% of agreed proportion (20%) of core cash funds that can be invested for more than 1 year (£20m)	£5m	

Investment	A) Why use it? B) Associated Risks?	Security / Minimum Credit Rating	Circumstances of Use	Max % of overall investments or cash limits in cash category	Maximum investment with any one counterparty	Maximum Maturity Period
Property Funds	A) Attractive rates of return over period invested and in theory very liquid B) Period over which the investment will actually be held is not known at outset Credit risk as potential for greater deterioration of credit quality over a longer period	Organisations assessed as having "high credit quality"	To be used in-house after consultation with the Treasury Management Advisor	100% of agreed proportion (20%) of core cash funds that can be invested for more than 1 year (£20m)	£5m	5 years subject to potential future review with a maximum of 10 years

SCHEUDLE C

APPROVED LENDING LIST 2018/19

Maximum sum invested at any time (The overall total exposure figure covers both Specified and Non-Specified investments)

	Country	Specified Investments (up to 1 year)		Non-Specified Investments (> 1 year £20m limit)	
		Total Exposure £m	Time Limit *	Total Exposure £m	Time Limit *
UK "Nationalised" banks / UK banks with UK Central Government involvement					
Royal Bank of Scotland	GBR	75.0	364 days	-	-
Natwest Bank	GBR				
UK "Clearing Banks", other UK based banks and Building Societies					
Santander UK plc (includes Cater Allen)	GBR	40.0	6 months	-	-
Barclays Bank	GBR	75.0	6 months	-	-
Bank of Scotland	GBR	75.0	6 months	-	-
Lloyds	GBR				
HSBC	GBR	30.0	364 days		
Goldman Sachs International Bank	GBR	40.0	6 months		
Standard Chartered Bank	GBR	40.0	6 months	-	-
Nationwide Building Society	GBR	40.0	6 months	-	-
Leeds Building Society	GBR	20.0	6 months	-	-
High quality Foreign Banks					
National Australia Bank	AUS	20.0	364 days	-	-
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	AUS	20.0	364 days		
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce	CAN	20.0	364 days	-	-
Deutsche Bank	DEU	20.0	Temporarily suspended	-	-
Nordea Bank Finland	FIN	20.0	364 days	-	-
Credit Industriel et Commercial	FRA	20.0	6 months	-	-
BNP Paribas Fortis	FRA	20.0	6 months	-	-
Nordea Bank AB	SWE	20.0	364 days	-	-
Svenska Handelsbanken	SWE	40.0	364 days	-	-
Local Authorities					
County / Unitary / Metropolitan / District Councils		20.0	364 days	5.0	2 years
Police / Fire Authorities		20.0	364 days	5.0	2 years
National Park Authorities		20.0	364 days	5.0	2 years
Other Deposit Takers					
Money Market Funds		20.0	364 days	5.0	2 years
UK Debt Management Account		100.0	364 days	5.0	2 years

* Based on data as 31 December 2017

SCHEDULE D

APPROVED COUNTRIES FOR INVESTMENTS

Based on the lowest available rating

Sovereign Rating	**Country**
AAA	Australia Canada Denmark Germany Luxemburg Netherlands Norway Singapore Sweden Switzerland
AA+	Finland Hong Kong USA
AA	Abu Dhabi (UAE) France UK
AA-	Belgium Qatar