

# Summarised Statement of Accounts 2008/09





## INTRODUCTION

This summary of accounts briefly outlines the Council's financial activities during 2008/09 and its financial position as at 31 March 2009. If you want more information the full Statement of Accounts is published on the Council's website at [www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/statement-of-accounts-2008-to-2009.pdf](http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/statement-of-accounts-2008-to-2009.pdf)

The figures in this summary were compiled having regard to proper accounting practices. The 2008/09 full Statement of Accounts has been audited by Phil Sharman, the District Auditor appointed by the Audit Commission.

The Council has prepared this summary to help you gain a better understanding of the Council's finances. If you have any comments or suggestions for future publications please contact:

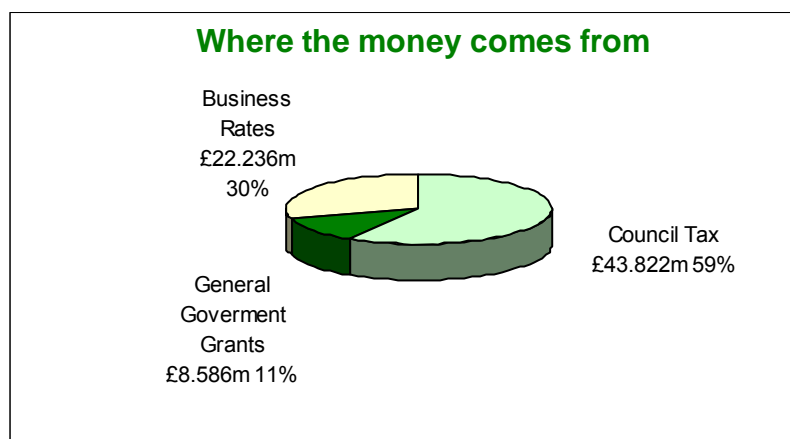
Arthur Parker  
Chief Accountant  
Bracknell Forest Council  
Easthampstead House  
Town Square  
Bracknell  
RG12 1AQ  
arthur.parker@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

## WHAT DID WE SPEND THE MONEY ON

We show the costs of running our services in the Income & Expenditure Account. This account shows the total spending by the Council to provide services and the amount left to be financed from Council Tax and Government Support. The following table reflects the Council's departmental structure during 2008/09, which is the basis for the internal management of performance against budgets.

<b>DAY TO DAY SPENDING</b>	<b>Net Expenditure 2008/09 £'000</b>
Corporate Services (including Chief Executive's)	16,598
Social Care and Learning	56,112
Environment, Culture & Communities	40,937
Other Miscellaneous Services	2,930
Discontinued Operation (Housing Revenue Account)	115
<b>Net Costs of Services</b>	<b>116,692</b>
Less: Internal capital charge reversed out (including impairments)	(34,230)
Less: Income from cash investments	(3,710)
Add: Money taken from reserves (including earmarked reserves)	(3,890)
<b>Cost of local services met by Council Tax and Government Support</b>	<b>74,862</b>

## HOW WE PAID FOR SERVICES



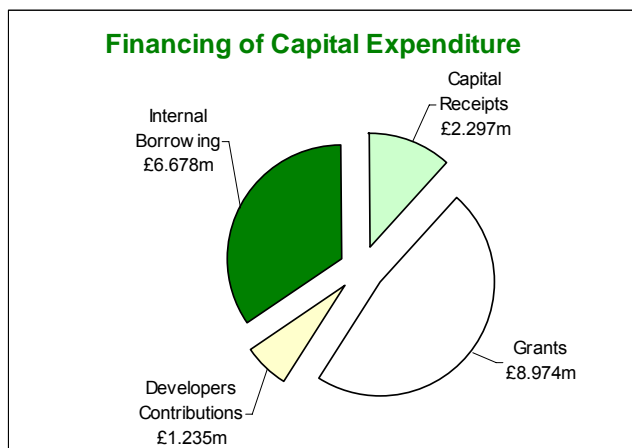
We spent slightly more (£74.9m) than we received (£74.7m) resulting in £0.2m being taken from general reserves rather than the planned use of £2.1m. This means that more resources are available to assist the Council with its aim of using reserves in a prudent and planned way moving towards matching expenditure to income levels in the medium term. This is the 11th consecutive year that the Council has contained net expenditure within budget.

## CAPITAL SPENDING

The Council invests for the future in its buildings infrastructure, equipment and by acquiring assets by means of capital expenditure. We have to account for this type of spending separately from the running costs of day to day services.

<b>CAPITAL SPENDING</b>	<b>2008/09</b>
	<b>£'000</b>
Chief Executive/Corporate Services	1,380
Social Care and Learning	10,919
Environment Culture and Communities	6,885
<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>19,184</b>

£6.9m of the total was spent on the Garth Hill School rebuild and a number of projects at Brakenhale School. The capital programme was funded as follows:



Overall the Council was debt free at 31 March 2009 and did not need to borrow externally to finance capital expenditure during 2008/09.

## WHAT WE ARE WORTH

At the end of each financial year, we draw up a balance sheet that represents how much the Council's assets are worth, what is owed to us, what we owe others and how much cash we have.

<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>	<b>2008/09</b>
	<b>£'000</b>
Value of Capital Assets	386,021
Cash in Bank and Cash Investments	57,346
Money owed to the Council	19,336
Money owed by the Council	(159,469)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>303,234</b>
The Council's reserves:	
Accounting Reserves:	
-Revaluation Reserve	41,452
-Capital Adjustment Account	312,132
-Pension Reserve	(68,439)
-Other	1,048
Earmarked & Other Reserves	6,666
Working Balances – General Fund	10,375
<b>NET RESERVES</b>	<b>303,234</b>

## CASHFLOW

This shows the amount of money that has moved in and out of the Council's bank account over the course of the year:

<b>Cash Flow Statement</b>		<b>£'000</b>
→	<b>Cash @ 1 April 2008</b>	<b>81,483</b>
↑	Cash Paid In	306,720
↓	Cash Paid Out	(330,857)
→	<b>Cash @ 31 March 2009</b>	<b>57,346</b>

## HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

The Council is required to maintain a separate landlord account (the Housing Revenue Account or HRA) which sets out the expenditure and income arising from the provision of housing to Council tenants. On 11 February 2008 the Council transferred 5,598 council dwellings to a new Registered Social Landlord (Bracknell Forest Homes). The Council retained some housing stock and consent was granted on the 22nd of January 2008 to transfer the remaining properties to the General Fund as at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008. Following this on the 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009 consent was given that the HRA could be closed from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.

There were only two transactions within the HRA for 2008/09. An additional payment of £115,000 to the Department of Communities and Local Government and income of £250,000 relating to notional interest on the average HRA Balance in 2008/09.

<b>HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT SUMMARY</b>	<b>2008/09</b>
	<b>£'000</b>
Transfer of assumed surplus to Central Government	115
<b>Net Cost of Service</b>	<b>115</b>
Investment Income	(250)
<b>Surplus for the Year</b>	<b>(135)</b>

The HRA Balance of £4.8m was transferred to the General Fund on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.

## THE COLLECTION FUND

The Council is responsible for the billing and collection of both council tax and business rates from tax payers in the Borough. The Council also collects on behalf of the Thames Valley Police Authority, Berkshire Fire Authority and Local Parishes

and Town Councils. The Collection Fund is a statutory account used to record these transactions.

- **Total income collectable from business rate payers £53.155m**
- **Total income collectable from council tax payers £50.282m**
- **Total business rates paid over to Central Government £53.007m**
- **Total precept paid to Thames Valley Police £6.216m**
- **Total precept paid to Royal Berkshire Fire Authority £2.256m**
- **Total parish precepts £2.499m**
- **Total precept required by Bracknell Forest Borough Council to fund services was £43.481m**
- **The deficit for the year on the Collection Fund was £0.364m**

The council tax at Band D of £1012.59 set in 2008/09 was one of the lowest set by any mainland Unitary Council.