



Report To:	South Holland District Council
Date:	Wednesday, 23 July 2025
Subject:	Treasury Annual Report 2024/25
Purpose:	To provide Members with the Annual Treasury Report 2024/25 in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Code of Practice on Treasury Management to ensure best practice is maintained.
Key Decision:	No
Portfolio Holder:	Portfolio Holder for Finance.
Report Of:	Brendan Arnold, Interim Director of Finance / Section 151 Officer.
Report Author:	Sean Howsam, Interim Treasury Manager (PSPSL).
Ward(s) Affected:	None directly.
Exempt Report:	No.

Summary

Attached at **Appendix 1** is the Treasury Annual Report detailing the Council's activities and actual prudential and treasury indicators for 2024/25. It covers the following areas;

- An economic update for the 2024/25 financial year;
- A review of the Council's investment portfolio for 2024/25;
- A review of the Council's borrowing strategy for 2024/25;
- Debt position;
- Compliance with Treasury and Prudential Indicators.

This Report refers to a key element of the Council's Governance Framework and represents an important contribution to the evidence trail in support of the Annual Governance Statement 2024/25.

Recommendations

That Council receives and approves the Treasury Annual Report 2024/25 at **Appendix 1** as required by the Local Government Act 2003 following scrutiny by the Governance and Audit Committee at their meeting on 10 July 2025.

Reasons for Recommendations

The Council is required to produce a Treasury Annual Report after the end of each financial year in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Code of Practice on Treasury Management.

Other Options Considered

As this is an update report there are no other further options for consideration.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Council approved its Treasury Management Strategy for 2024/25 on 29 February 2024. This report now provides the Treasury Annual Report 2024/25 (**Appendix 1**) for approval following review and scrutiny by the Governance and Audit Committee at their meeting on 10 July 2025.

2. Report

- 2.1 General Fund capital expenditure for 2024/25 was £4.830m which was financed from grants and contributions, capital reserves and direct revenue financing. £1.427m of the expenditure was unfinanced and increased the Councils Capital Financing Requirement (underlying need to borrow). Housing Revenue Account capital expenditure for 2024/25 was £14.816m which was fully financed from capital receipts, the major repairs reserve, grants and contributions and direct revenue financing.
- 2.2 As at 31 March 2025, treasury investment balances were £25.609m compared with £28.611m the previous year and non-treasury investment balances were £12.624m compared with £11.103m the previous year. All treasury investments will mature in less than one year. The non treasury investments are long term equity investments in South Holland Local Housing Community Interest Company and Welland Homes and loans to Welland Homes which are classified in the financial statements as long term debtors.
- 2.3 The following table provides an analysis of the net treasury position for 2024/25:

Category	2024/25 Original Budget £	2024/25 Outturn £	2024/25 Variance £
GF Interest Received	(1,032,700)	(1,600,170)	(567,470)
HRA Interest Received	(511,400)	(389,713)	121,687
HRA Interest Paid	<u>2,847,469</u>	<u>2,347,469</u>	<u>(500,000)</u>
HRA Net Position	2,336,069	1,957,756	(378,313)
Total Net Position	1,303,369	357,586	(945,783)

At 31 March 2025 there was a combined favourable variance of £945,783.

- 2.4** The rate of return on the Council's treasury investments averaged 5.41% for the 2024/25 financial year and Welland Homes loans achieved an average rate of 4.32%. This gave a combined rate for all investments of 5.23%.
- 2.5** A full review of the economy and interest rates is detailed in Section 8 of **Appendix '1'**.
- 2.6** The Council's Investment Policy and Strategy is kept under constant review with the aim of balancing risk and reward. The investment criteria agreed for 2024/25 permitted investments with banks whose parent bank originates from a country with a sovereign rating of A+ or higher and meets MUFG's counterparty investment criteria.
- 2.7** The Council's 2024/25 accounts are subject to external audit which may result in some amendments to the figures being reported in this Annual Report.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1** This report provides a review of treasury management performance for the financial year 2024/25 to Members to ensure best practice is maintained as required by the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management.

Implications

South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

None

Corporate Priorities

None

Staffing

None

Workforce Capacity Implications

None

Constitutional and Legal Implications

The General Power of Competence in the Localism Act 2011 allows Councils a broad freedom in their operations.

Councils have the general power to borrow under Section 1 of the Local Government Act 2003.

The power to invest is set out in the Local Government Act 2003, Section 12, which gives the Council the power to invest for any purpose relevant to its functions under any enactment, or for the purposes of the prudent management of its financial affairs.

The power that allows councils to spend for capital purposes is included in the Local Government Act 2003.

Data Protection

None

Financial

The financial implications are covered in detail in **Appendix 1** to this report and in section 2 above.

By making the investment criteria relating to financial institutions stringent, the Council receives lower rates of return. The Council therefore aims to strike a balance between risk and reward when considering its portfolio of investments. Treasury Management is a key financial consideration for the Authority especially in respect of its investment returns and Capital Programme.

Risk Management

The Code of Practice sets out the framework for controlling the risks associated with treasury management decisions for borrowing and investing. Ultimately investment and borrowing decisions are made in accordance with the Council's Treasury Management Strategy. The overriding priority is that the security of a deposit takes precedence over a return on investment.

The Prudential and Treasury Indicators control the limits for investing and borrowing, to ensure that any borrowing is affordable and sustainable and long term borrowing is for capital purposes only.

Stakeholder / Consultation / Timescales

The Portfolio Holder for Finance is briefed on treasury performance on a regular basis.

Reputation

The security of investments is the Council's main priority when investing surplus cash.

Contracts

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Equality and Diversity / Human Rights / Safeguarding

None

Health and Wellbeing

None

Climate Change and Environmental Implications

None

Acronyms

CFR – Capital Financing Requirement

CIPFA - Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

CPI - Consumer Price Index

DLUHC - Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

EZ - Eurozone

FOMC – Federal Open Market Committee

GDP – Gross Domestic Product

MHCLG - Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

MRP – Minimum Revenue Provision

MUFG – External Treasury Advisors (previously Link)

PWLB - Public Works Loan Board

SONIA – Sterling Overnight Index Average

VRP – Voluntary Revenue Provision

y/y – year on year

Appendices

Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report:

Appendix 1 – Treasury Annual Report 2024/25

Background Papers

Background papers used in the production of this report are listed below: -

Document title.

Where the document can be viewed.

Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management.	CIPFA Website
SHDC Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2024/25	<u>(Public Pack)Agenda Document for South Holland District Council, 29/02/2024 18:30</u>

Chronological History of this Report

This report was considered by the Governance and Audit Committee on 10 July 2025 prior to its submission to Council.

Report Approval

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Approved for publication: Portfolio Holder for Finance.