Report of the Cabinet Member for Finance & Strategy

Council – 17 December 2015

TREASURY MANAGEMENT - MID YEAR REVIEW REPORT 2015/16

Purpose:	To receive and note the Treasury Management Mid Year Review Report 2015/16
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FOR INFORMATION	

1 Background

1.1 This report is presented in line with the recommendations contained within the The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management which requires a six month review of TM operations to be presented to Council

2 Introduction

2.1 Treasury Management is defined as:

"The management of the local authority's 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. " A glossary of terms is at Appendix 1.

2.2 The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management (revised November 2009) was adopted by this Council in February 2010.

The primary requirements of the Code are as follows:

1. Creation and maintenance of a Treasury Management Policy Statement which sets out the policies and objectives of the Council's Treasury Management activities.

2. Creation and maintenance of Treasury Management Practices which set out the manner in which the Council will seek to achieve those policies and objectives.
3. Receipt by the full Council of an annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement - including the Annual Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy - for the year ahead; a Mid-year Review Report and an Annual Report covering activities during the previous year.
4. Delegation by the Council of responsibilities for implementing and monitoring Treasury Management policies and practices and for the execution and administration of Treasury Management decisions.
5. Delegation by the Council of the role of scrutiny of Treasury Management strategy and policies to a specific named body. For this Council the delegated body is the Improvement and Budget Performance Panel

This Mid-year Review Report has been prepared in compliance with CIPFA's Code of Practice, and covers the following:

- An economic update for the first six months of 2015/16
- A review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy
- A review of the Council's investment portfolio for 2015/16
- A review of the Council's borrowing strategy for 2015/16
- A review of any debt rescheduling undertaken during 2015/16
- A review of compliance with Treasury and Prudential Limits for 2015/16

3 Economic Update

3.1 *Treasury Management Advisors' View of the Global Economy*

UK. UK GDP growth rates in 2013 of 2.2% and 2.9% in 2014 were the strongest growth rates of any G7 country; the 2014 growth rate was also the strongest UK rate since 2006 and the 2015 growth rate is likely to be a leading rate in the G7 again, possibly being equal to that of the US. However, quarter 1 of 2015 was weak at +0.4% (+2.9% y/y) though there was a rebound in quarter 2 to +0.7% (+2.4% y/y). Growth is expected to weaken to about +0.5% in quarter 3 as the economy faces headwinds for exporters from the appreciation of Sterling against the Euro and weak growth in the EU, China and emerging markets, plus the dampening effect of the Government's continuing austerity programme, although the pace of reductions was eased in the May Budget. Despite these headwinds, the Bank of England August Inflation Report had included a forecast for growth to remain around 2.4 – 2.8% over the next three years, driven mainly by strong consumer demand as the squeeze on the disposable incomes of consumers has been reversed by a recovery in wage inflation at the same time that CPI inflation has fallen to, or near to, zero over the last quarter. Investment expenditure is also expected to support growth. However, since the report was issued, the Purchasing

Manager's Index, (PMI), for services on 5 October would indicate a further decline in the growth rate to only +0.3% in Q4, which would be the lowest rate since the end of 2012. In addition, worldwide economic statistics and UK consumer and business confidence have distinctly weakened so it would therefore not be a surprise if the next Inflation Report in November were to cut those forecasts in August.

The August Bank of England Inflation Report forecast was notably subdued in respect of inflation which was forecast to barely get back up to the 2% target within the 2-3 year time horizon. However, with the price of oil taking a fresh downward direction and Iran expected to soon rejoin the world oil market after the impending lifting of sanctions, there could be several more months of low inflation still to come, especially as world commodity prices have generally been depressed by the Chinese economic downturn.

There are therefore considerable risks around whether inflation will rise in the near future as strongly as had previously been expected; this will make it more difficult for the central banks of both the US and the UK to raise rates as soon as was being forecast until recently, especially given the recent major concerns around the slowdown in Chinese growth, the knock on impact on the earnings of emerging countries from falling oil and commodity prices, and the volatility we have seen in equity and bond markets in 2015 so far, which could potentially spill over to impact the real economies rather than just financial markets.

USA. The American economy made a strong comeback after a weak first quarter's growth at +0.6% (annualised), to grow by no less than 3.9% in quarter 2 of 2015. While there had been confident expectations during the summer that the Fed. could start increasing rates at its meeting on 17 September, or if not by the end of 2015, the recent downbeat news about Chinese and Japanese growth and the knock on impact on emerging countries that are major suppliers of commodities, was cited as the main reason for the Fed's decision to pull back from making that start. The nonfarm payrolls figures for September and revised August, issued on 2 October, were disappointingly weak and confirmed concerns that US growth is likely to weaken. This has pushed back expectations of a first rate increase from 2015 into 2016. **EZ.** In the Eurozone, the ECB fired its big bazooka in January 2015 in unleashing a massive €1.1 trillion programme of quantitative easing to buy up high credit quality government and other debt of selected EZ countries. This programme of €60bn of monthly purchases started in March 2015 and it is intended to run initially to September 2016. This already appears to have had a positive effect in helping a recovery in consumer and business confidence and a start to a significant improvement in economic growth. GDP growth rose to 0.5% in quarter 1 2015 (1.0% y/y) but came in at +0.4% (+1.5% y/y) in quarter 2 and looks as if it may maintain this pace in quarter 3. However, the recent downbeat Chinese and Japanese news has raised questions as to whether the ECB will need to boost its QE programme if it is to succeed in significantly improving growth in the EZ and getting inflation up from the current level of around zero to its target of 2%.

3.2 *Treasury Advisor's View for the remainder of 2015/16*

The Treasury Advisors undertook its last review of interest rate forecasts on 11 August shortly after the quarterly Bank of England Inflation Report. Later in August, fears around the slowdown in China and Japan caused major volatility in equities and bonds and sparked a flight from equities into safe havens like gilts and so caused PWLB rates to fall below the above forecasts for quarter 4 2015. However, there is much volatility in rates as news ebbs and flows in negative or positive ways and news in September in respect of Volkswagen, and other corporates, has compounded downward pressure on equity prices. This latest forecast includes a first increase in Bank Rate in quarter 2 of 2016.

Despite market turbulence since late August causing a sharp downturn in PWLB rates, the overall trend in the longer term will be for gilt yields and PWLB rates to rise when economic recovery is firmly established accompanied by rising inflation and consequent increases in Bank Rate, and the eventual unwinding of QE. Increasing investor confidence in eventual world economic recovery is also likely to compound this effect as recovery will encourage investors to switch from bonds to equities.

The overall balance of risks to economic recovery in the UK is currently evenly balanced. Only time will tell just how long this current period of strong economic growth will last; it also remains exposed to vulnerabilities in a number of key areas.

The disappointing US nonfarm payrolls figures and UK PMI services figures at the beginning of October have served to reinforce a trend of increasing concerns that growth is likely to be significantly weaker than had previously been expected. This, therefore, has markedly increased concerns, both in the US and UK, that growth is only being achieved by monetary policy being highly aggressive with central rates at near zero and huge QE in place. In turn, this is also causing an increasing debate as to how realistic it will be for central banks to start on reversing such aggressive monetary policy until such time as strong growth rates are more firmly established and confidence increases that inflation is going to get back to around 2% within a 2-3 year time horizon. Market expectations in October for the first Bank Rate increase have therefore shifted back sharply into the second half of 2016.

Downside risks to current forecasts for UK gilt yields and PWLB rates currently include:

- Geopolitical risks in Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Asia, increasing safe haven flows.
- UK economic growth turns significantly weaker than we currently anticipate.
- Weak growth or recession in the UK's main trading partners - the EU,

US and China.

- A resurgence of the Eurozone sovereign debt crisis.
- Recapitalisation of European banks requiring more government financial support.
- Emerging country economies, currencies and corporates destabilised by falling commodity prices and / or the start of Fed. rate increases, causing a flight to safe havens

The potential for upside risks to current forecasts for UK gilt yields and PWLB rates, especially for longer term PWLB rates include: -

- Uncertainty around the risk of a UK exit from the EU.
- The ECB severely disappointing financial markets with a programme of asset purchases which proves insufficient to significantly stimulate growth in the EZ.
- The commencement by the US Federal Reserve of increases in the Fed. funds rate causing a fundamental reassessment by investors of the relative risks of holding bonds as opposed to equities and leading to a major flight from bonds to equities.
- UK inflation returning to significantly higher levels than in the wider EU and US, causing an increase in the inflation premium inherent to gilt yields.

Our advisors' interest rate forecast is :

	Dec-15	Mar-16	Jun-16	Sep-16	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17	Sep-17	Dec-17	Mar-18	Jun-18
Bank rate	0.50%	0.50%	0.75%	0.75%	1.00%	1.00%	1.25%	1.50%	1.50%	1.75%	1.75%
5yr PWLB rate	2.40%	2.50%	2.60%	2.80%	2.90%	3.00%	3.10%	3.20%	3.30%	3.40%	3.50%
10yr PWLB rate	3.00%	3.20%	3.30%	3.40%	3.50%	3.70%	3.80%	3.90%	4.00%	4.10%	4.20%
25yr PWLB rate	3.60%	3.80%	3.90%	4.00%	4.10%	4.20%	4.30%	4.40%	4.50%	4.60%	4.60%
50yr PWLB rate	3.60%	3.80%	3.90%	4.00%	4.10%	4.20%	4.30%	4.40%	4.50%	4.60%	4.60%

4 Review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Investment Strategy

4.1 The Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2015/16 was approved by Council in February 2015. The Council's Annual Investment Strategy, which is incorporated in the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, outlines the Council's investment priorities as follows:

- Security of capital
- Liquidity

then

- Yield

4.2 The Council will also aim to achieve the optimum return (yield) on investments commensurate with the proper levels of security and liquidity. In the current economic climate it is considered only appropriate to invest with highly credit rated financial institutions, using our advisor's suggested creditworthiness approach, including sovereign credit rating and credit default swap (CDS) overlay information.

Borrowing rates have been low during the first six months of 2015/16. Our cautious approach to investments has continued. This has meant that the number of acceptable borrowers continues to be heavily constrained.

Investments and borrowing during the first six months of the year have been in line with the agreed strategy, and there have been no deviations from the strategy.

As outlined in Section 3 above, there is still considerable uncertainty and volatility in financial and banking markets, both globally and in the UK. In this context, it is considered that the strategy approved in February 2015 is still appropriate in the current economic climate but will be reviewed in formulating the strategy for 2015/16 as funding for capital and cashflow requirements dictate.

5 Review of Investment Portfolio 2015/16

5.1 In accordance with the Code, it is the Council's priority to ensure security of capital and liquidity, and to obtain an appropriate level of return which is consistent with the Council's risk appetite.

A full list of internally managed investments held as at 30th September 2015, is shown in Appendix 2. To 30th September 2015, the portfolio has returned 0.55% against a 7 day benchmark rate of 0.46%.

6 Review of New Borrowing Strategy

6.1 As outlined in the Treasury Management Strategy 2015/16, it was planned to use internal funds to finance capital borrowing requirements in 2015/16 unless there were opportunities to externally borrow advantageously. The benefits of this strategy are twofold i.e.

- The risk of borrower(counterparty) default is reduced
- There is an increased net yield on the sums available for investment

6.2 Notwithstanding the above- as reported to Council in December 2014, the Council (in respect of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA)) was required to enter into a financial transaction with Welsh Government and HM Treasury to buy itself out of the HRA Subsidy system in April 2015 effective in financial year 2015/16.

6.3 As such, borrowing in respect of the HRA of £73.580M was authorised and arranged on March 31st 2015 for receipt from PWLB and remitted to Welsh Government on April 2nd 2015

6.4 Forecast external debt as at 31st March 2016 is £384m at an average rate of 5.41% with a budgeted capital financing requirement of £503m

7 Review of Debt Rescheduling

7.1 Debt rescheduling opportunities have been limited in the current economic climate and consequent structure of interest rates. No debt rescheduling has been undertaken in 2015/16 to date.

8 Review of Compliance with Treasury & Prudential Limits

8.1 It is a statutory duty for the Council to determine and keep under review the "Affordable Borrowing Limits". The Council's approved Treasury and Prudential Indicators (affordability limits) are outlined in the approved Treasury Management Strategy Statement.

8.2 During the financial year to date the Council has operated within the Treasury limits and Prudential Indicators set out in the Council's Treasury Management Strategy Statement and in compliance with the Council's Treasury Management Practices. Compliance with the Prudential and Treasury Indicators are shown in appendices 3 and 4.

9 Financial Implications

9.1 The financial implications associated with this report have been reported at Council in February 2015 in the Revenue and Capital Budget Report 2015/16.

10 Legal Implications

10.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report

11 Equality and Engagement Implications

11.1 An EIA Screening has been completed and confirmed that there are no equality or engagement implications arising directly from the report

Background papers: The revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2009

The revised CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities 2009

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Glossary of terms
Appendix 2 – Schedule of investments
Appendix 3 – Total Debt Outstanding
Appendix 4 - Prudential Indicators

Appendix 1

Treasury Management – Glossary of Terms

Annualised Rate of Return	Represents the average return which was achieved each year.
Authorised Limit	The authorised limit must be set to establish the outer boundary of the local authority's borrowing based on a realistic assessment of risks. The authorised limit is not a limit that a Council will expect to borrow up to on a regular basis. It is crucial that it is not treated as an upper limit for borrowing for capital expenditure alone since it must also encompass borrowing for temporary purposes. It is the expected maximum borrowing need, with some headroom for unexpected requirements.
Bank Rate	The Official Bank rate paid on commercial bank reserves i.e. reserves placed by commercial banks with the Bank of England as part of the Bank's operations to reduce volatility in short term interest rates in the money markets.
Base Rate	Minimum lending rate of a bank or financial institution in the UK.
Borrowing	In the Code, borrowing refers to external borrowing. Borrowing is defined as both:- • Borrowing repayable with a period in excess of 12months • Borrowing repayable on demand or within 12months
Capital Expenditure	The definition of capital expenditure starts with all those items which can be capitalised in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP). To this must be added any items that have/will be capitalised in accordance with legislation that otherwise would not be capitalised. Prudential indicators for current and future years are calculated in a manner consistent with this definition.
Capital Financing Charges	These are the net costs of financing capital i.e. interest and principal, premia less interest discounts received.
Capital Financing Requirement	The Capital Financing Requirement is capital expenditure, which needs to financed from borrowing. It is essentially a measure of the Council's underlying

	borrowing need.
CIPFA	The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy. One of the leading professional accountancy bodies in the UK and the only one which specialises in the public services.
Counterparty	The organisations responsible for repaying the Council's investment upon maturity and for making interest payments.
CPI (Consumer Price Index)	The consumer price index (CPI) is a measure of the average price of consumer goods and services purchased by households. It is one of several price indices calculated by national statistical agencies. The percent change in the CPI is a measure of inflation.
Credit Rating	This is a scoring system that lenders use to determine how credit worthy borrowers are. The Credit Rating components are as follows: 1. The AAA ratings through to C/D are long-term rating definitions and generally cover maturities of up to five years, with the emphasis on the ongoing stability of the institution's prospective financial condition. AAA are the most highly rated, C/D are the lowest. This Council does not invest with institutions lower than AA - for investments over 364 days 2. F1/A1/P1 are short-term rating definitions used by Moody's, S&P and Fitch Ratings for banks and building societies based on their individual opinion on an institution's capacity to repay punctually its short-term debt obligations (which do not exceed one year). This Council does not invest with institutions lower than F1/A1/P1 for investments under 364 days.
Debt	For the purposes of the Code, debt refers to the sum of borrowing (see above) and other long-term liabilities (see below). It should be noted that the term borrowing used in the Act includes both borrowing as defined for the balance sheet and other long terms liabilities defined as credit arrangements through legislation.
Debt Management Office (DMO)	Government Agency responsible for the issuance of government borrowing and lending.

De- leveraging	Paying back borrowed sums of money
Discounts	Where the prevailing interest rate is higher than the fixed rate of a long-term loan, which is being repaid early, the lender can refund the borrower a discount. This is calculated on the difference between the two interest rates over the remaining years of the loan, discounted back to present value. The lender is able to offer the discount, as their investment will now earn more than when the original loan was taken out.
Financing Costs	The financing costs are an estimate of the aggregate of the following:- • Interest payable with respect to borrowing • Interest payable under other long-term liabilities • Gains and losses on the repurchase or early settlement of borrowing credited or charged to the amount to be met from government grants and local taxpayers (premiums and discounts) • Interest earned and investment income • Amounts required in respect of the minimum revenue provision plus any additional voluntary contributions plus any other amounts for depreciation/impairment that are charged to the amount to be met from government grants and local taxpayers
Financial Reporting Statements (FRSs)	These are standards set by governing bodies on how the financial statements should look.
Gilts	Gilts are bonds issued by the UK government. The term is of British origin, and refers to the securities certificates issued by the Bank of England, which had a gilt (or gilded) edge.
Investments	Investments are the aggregate of:- • Long term investments • Short term investments (within current assets) • Cash and bank balances including overdrawn balances
IMF	International Monetary Fund
Leverage	Borrowed sums of money
LOBO (Lender's Option/	Money Market instruments that have a fixed initial term (typically one to ten year) and then move to an

Borrower's Option)	arrangement whereby the lender can decide at pre-determined intervals to adjust the rate on the loan. At this stage the borrower has the option to repay the loan.
London Inter-Bank Bid Rate (LIBID)	The interest rate at which major banks in London are willing to borrow (bid for) funds from each other.
Managed Funds	<u>In-House Fund Management</u> Surplus cash can be managed either by external fund managers or by the Council's staff in-house. The in-house funds are invested in fixed deposits through the money markets. <u>Externally Managed Funds</u> Fund managers appointed by the Council invest surplus cash in liquid instruments such as bank certificates of deposit and government stocks. The fund managers' specialist knowledge should ensure a greater diversification of investments and higher expected returns
Maturity	The date when an investment is repaid or the period covered by a fixed term investment.
Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)	This is a body set up by the Government in 1997 to set the repo rate (commonly referred to as being base rate). Their primary target (as set by the Government) is to keep inflation within plus or minus 1% of a central target of 2% in two years time from the date of the monthly meeting of the Committee. Their secondary target is to support the Government in maintaining high and stable levels of growth and employment.
Money Market	Consists of financial institutions and deals in money and credit. The term applied to the institutions willing to trade in financial instruments. It is not a physical creation, but an electronic/telephone one.
Net Borrowing	For the purposes of the Code, net borrowing refers to borrowing (see above) net of investments (see above).
Net Revenue Stream	Estimates for net revenue stream for current and future years are the local authority's estimates of the amounts to be met from government grants and local taxpayers.
Operational	This is based on expectations of the maximum

Boundary	external debt of the authority according to probable not simply possible – events and being consistent with the maximum level of external debt projected by the estimates. It is not a limit and actual borrowing could vary around this boundary for short periods.
Other Long Term Liabilities	The definition of other long term liabilities is the sum of the amounts in the Council's accounts that are classified as liabilities that are for periods in excess of 12months, other than borrowing (see definition above).
Premature Repayment of Loans (debt restructuring/ rescheduling)	A facility for loans where the Council can repay loans prior to the original maturity date. If the loan repaid has a lower interest rate than the current rate for a loan of the same maturity period the Council can secure a cash discount on the repayment of the original loan. If the loan replaced has a higher rate of interest than the current rate for a loan of the same maturity period, a cash penalty is payable to the lender.
Premia	Where the prevailing current interest rate is lower than the fixed rate of a long term loan, which is being repaid early, the lender can charge the borrower a premium. This is calculated on the difference between the two interest rates over the remaining years of the loan, discounted back to present value. The lender may charge the premium, as their investment will now earn less than when the original loan was taken out.
Prudential Code	The Prudential Code is the largely self regulatory framework outlined by CIPFA for managing/monitoring capital investment in local government.
Public Works Loan Board (PWLB)	A Government agency which provides loans to local authorities. Each year, it issues a circular setting out the basis on which loans will be made available and a quota formula for the amount that can be borrowed. Loans can be either at a fixed rate or on a variable rate basis. They can be repaid on either an annuity, equal instalment of principal or maturity basis. The interest rate charged is linked to the cost at which the Government itself borrows.
Quantitive Easing	Extreme form of monetary policy used to stimulate an economy where interest rates are either at or close to zero. Normally a central bank stimulates the economy by lowering interest rates but when it cannot lower them further it can attempt to seed the system with new money by quantitive easing.

	In practical terms, the central bank purchases financial assets including government debt and corporate bonds from financial institutions using money it has created by increasing its own credit limits in its own bank accounts. Also know as 'printing money' although no extra physical cash is created.
Risk	<u>Credit /Counterparty Risk</u> The risk that counterparty defaults on its obligations. <u>Inflation Risk</u> The risk that growth in the Authority's investment income does not keep pace with the effects of inflation on its expenditure. <u>Interest Rate Risk</u> The risk that changes in rates of interest creates an unexpected or unbudgeted burden on the Council's finances. <u>Liquidity Risk</u> The risk that cash will not be available when it is needed. <u>Operational Risk</u> The risk of loss through fraud, error, corruption, system failure or other eventualities in treasury management dealings, and failure to maintain effective contingency management arrangements. <u>Refinancing Risk</u> The risk that the Authority is unable to replace its maturing funding arrangements on appropriate terms.
Set Aside Capital Receipts	A proportion of money received by the Council for the sale of fixed assets must be set aside to repay debt.
SORP	Statement of Recommended Practice, published by CIPFA (Local Authority Accounting Body). This sets out guidelines regarding the Council's financial matters.
Specified/Non Specified investments	Specified investments are sterling denominated investments for less than 364 days as identified in Appendix A in line with statutory investment regulations. Non-specified investments are all other investments identified in Appendix A in line with statutory investment regulations.
Supranational	These are bonds issued by institutions such as the

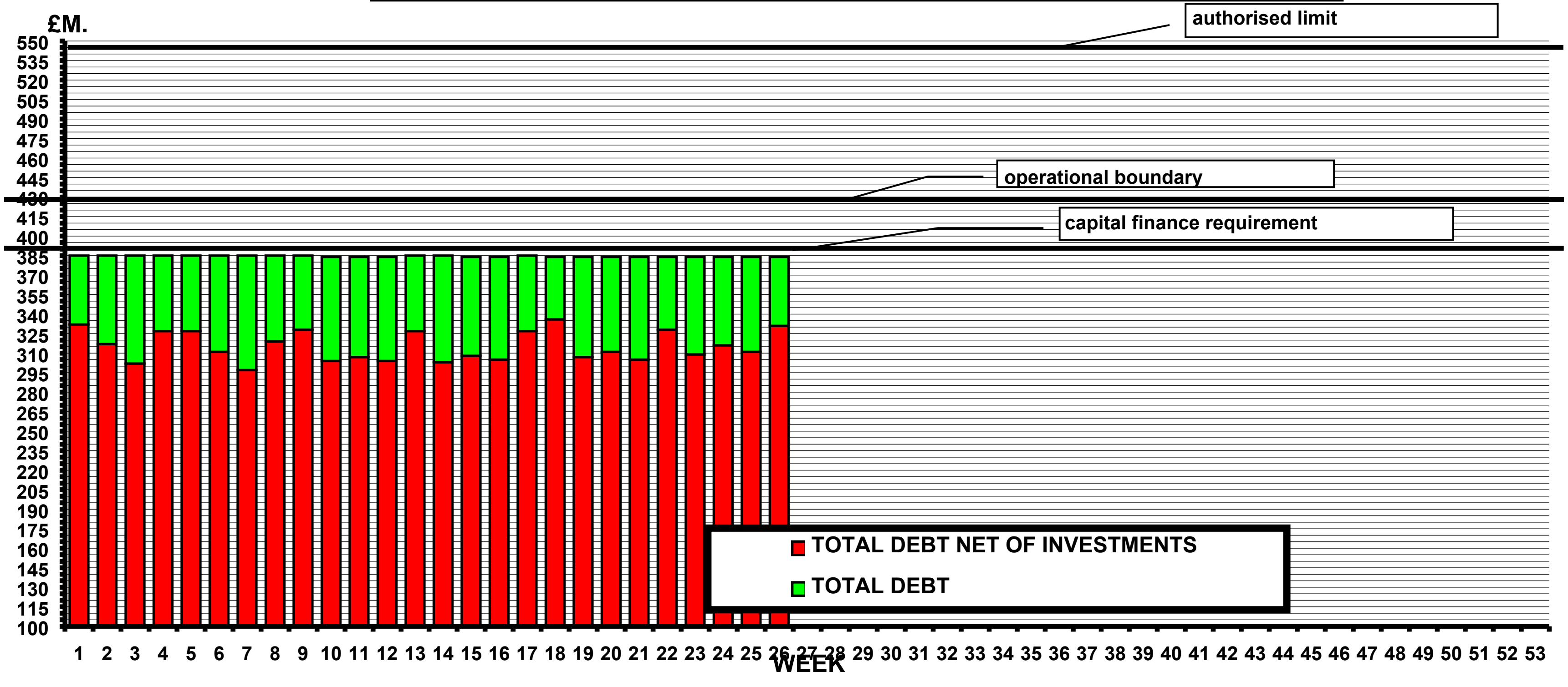
Bonds	European Investment Bank and World Bank. As with Government bonds (Gilts) they are regarded as the safest bond investments with a high credit rating.
Temporary Borrowing and Investment	Loans which are capable of being repaid within one year. The term of the loans will be negotiated from overnight to 364 days.
Treasury Management	Treasury management has the same definition as in CIPFA's code of Practice of Treasury Management in the Public Services. "The management of the organisation's 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."
Yield Curve	The line resulting from portraying interest rate graphically for a series of periods, e.g. 7days, 1month, 3, 6, 9, and 12months. When longer-term interest rates are higher than short-term rates the yield curve slopes upwards and is described as positive. When the opposite prevails the yield curve is referred to as inverse.

Appendix 2

Investments as at 30 September 2015

	£
Bank of Scotland	2,674,448
Coventry Building Society	3,000,000
Gloucester City Council	3,000,000
Goldman Sachs International Bank	2,000,000
Lloyds Bank	3,000,000
Nationwide Building Society	17,000,000
Santander Bank	10,900,000
Thurrock Borough Council	2,000,000
UBS (UK)	4,000,000
TOTAL	**47,574,448**

APPENDIX 3 -TOTAL DEBT OUTSTANDING - 2015/2016



APPENDIX 4

Prudential Indicators

Capital Prudential Indicators	2014/15	2015/16
	Outturn	**Original Estimate**
	£'000	**£'000**
Capital Expenditure		
GF	67,169	43,902
HRA	24,582	136,293
TOTAL	91,751	**180,195**
Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream	**%**	**%**
GF	7.96	7.00
HRA	8.01	13.39
Incremental Impact on Council Tax (Band D) or Council House Rent	**£**	**£**
GF	86.94	98.02
HRA	0.00	43.94
Capital Financing Requirement	**£'000**	**£'000**
GF	333,683	339,718
Credit Arrangements	2,472	1,436
HRA	63,485	160,561
TOTAL	399,640	501,715

Treasury Management Prudential Indicators		
	2014/15	**2015/16**
	Outturn	**Original Estimate**
	£'000 or %	**£'000 or %**
Authorised limit for external debt	312,230	£601,314
Operational boundary for external debt	312,230	£551,314
Upper limit for fixed interest rate exposure	68.61%/ £214,230	100%/ £601,314
Upper limit for variable interest rate exposure	31.39%/ £98,000	40%/ £240,526
Upper limit for total principal sums invested for over 364 days	0	40,000

Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate Borrowing in 2015/16			
	Upper Limit	**Lower Limit**	**Actual**
Under 12 months	50%	0%	15.74%
12 months and within 24 months	50%	0%	5.29%
24 months and within 5 years	50%	0%	7.56%
5 years and within 10 years	85%	0%	0.00%
10 years and above	95%	15%	71.41%

The treasury management prudential indicators identified above as:

- Upper limit for fixed interest rate exposure
- Upper limit for variable interest rate exposure
- Upper limit for total principal sums invested for over 364 days
- Maturity Structure of fixed rate borrowing in 2015/16

Above figures are as at 30th September 2015. None of the above limits were breached during the first half of 2015/16.