



8th October 2026

Dear Councillor,

I Hereby Summon You to attend a **Meeting** of the **Resources Committee at 6.00PM** on **Wednesday, 14th October 2026**. The meeting will be held at **Ferryhill Town Hall, Chapel Terrace, Ferryhill, Co Durham, DL17 8JL**

Elizabeth Gildersleeves
Acting Town Clerk

Membership: Councillor C Atkinson, L Fellows, T Hewitt, K Lloyd, J Quinn,

AGENDA

- 1. Election of Chairman**
- 2. Election of Vice-Chairman**
- 3. Apologies for Absence**

- 4. Declarations of Interest**

To invite members to declare any interest they may have.

- 5. Members' Dispensation**

To consider written requests for dispensations from members who have declared interests under Disclosable or Non-Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – Section 33 of the 2011 Localism Act.

- 6. Public Participation**

Members of the public are permitted to make representations, ask questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. Questions will not be received by the Council which are in furtherance of a person's individual circumstances or which are about a matter where there is a right of appeal to the courts, a tribunal or government minister. A question will not be received by the Council where the issue it concerns has been the subject of a decision of the Council in the last six months.



7. Statement of Accounts and Income

To approve the statement of accounts and income

8. Budgetary Control to 30 September 2026

To consider the report from the Acting Town Clerk

SUBJECT: BUDGETARY CONTROL TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

AUTHORS: ACTING TOWN CLERK

MEETING: RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: 14 OCTOBER 2026

1. **INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 It is recommended practice to report on the Council's finances to Members on a regular basis. External auditors suggest that this report should be submitted at least quarterly. A commitment was given to report on the Council's finances at least quarterly, and more frequently if circumstances require it.
- 1.2 This is the second budgetary control report for the financial year 2026/2027 and covers the six month period to the end of September 2026. It is still relatively early in the financial year and a large number of projected figures at 31 March 2027 are the same as the budgeted figure because there is no other information at this stage. Attached as Appendix A is a document that shows actual income and expenditure for the year to date and also a projection to 31 March 2027 for each cost centre.

2. **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2026**

Current Position

- 2.1 The report summarises expenditure and income to 30 September 2026. In simple terms this would suggest that around 50% of the budget should be spent at this stage. In reality, not all expenditure is incurred or income received evenly throughout the year. For example, the insurance premium for the full year amounting to £18,808 has already been paid. The situation is therefore slightly distorted and some of the actual figures are significantly more or less than 50% as a result.
- 2.2 The summary on page 1 shows that, as at 30 September 2026, net expenditure of £415,511 has been incurred and income from DCC Precept of £626,280 has been received.
- 2.3 The net expenditure projection for the year ended 31 March 2027 is shown as £730,782, which, taking into account projects funded from earmarked reserves and capital receipts, represents an **underspending of £5,620** at that date. The more significant issues influencing the projection at this stage are referred to below:
 - a) **Town Hall** (page 2) – an underspending of £1,340 is expected in this cost centre mainly due to an increase in rents for use of the Town Hall (£780), a reduction in mobile phones costs (£620) and various small under and overspends.
 - b) **Capital Finance** (page 3) – The projected overspend of £99,984 is in relation to costs to be incurred for the capital project for Dean Bank Park play equipment (£93,354) and footpath repairs at Surtees Doorstep Green (£6,630). These are financed from Earmarked Reserves and from Capital Receipts respectively (see table below).

- c) **Community Support** (page 3) – this cost centre is showing a projected overspend of £70 as there is no budget in place for gifts.
- d) **Community Events** (page 3) – this cost centre is showing a projected overspend of £2,458, however this will be offset by income of £2,458 which was received in advance in 2025/26 and earmarked in last year's accounts.
- e) **Open Spaces** (page 4) – this cost centre is showing a projected overspend of £120 against equipment purchase. The repairs to the bus shelter at Dean Bank (£1,880) have been funded from Capital Receipts (see table below).
- f) **Public Toilets – Station** (page 4) – this cost centre is showing a projected overspend of £170, which is due to water drainage charges that the Town Council will continue to incur even though services have been disconnected within this building.
- g) **Ferryhill In Bloom** (page 5) – an underspend of £140 is showing in this cost centre due to increased costs for equipment hire (£110) offset by unexpected flowerbed sponsorship received (£250)
- h) **Town Centre Toilets & Kiosks** (page 5) – an underspend of £600 is projected in this cost centre due to unexpected income received in relation to electricity costs recovered from the kiosks.
- i) **Market Place Car Park** (page 5) – this cost centre is showing a projected underspend of £60 due to a reduction in highways drainage charges for 2026/27 (£20) and increased sales of parking discs (£40).
- j) **Cemetery** (page 6) – An underspend of £200 is showing here due to savings in Council tax (£120) and Rates (£80).
- k) **Sports Facility** (page 6) – an underspend of £1,740 is showing in this cost centre due to unexpected income received from the solar panels (£2,500) offset by a reduction in football fees (£510) and a projected reduction in electricity fees and charges received (£250). Council agreed to finance urgent repairs to the top pitch at Dean Bank Park, at a cost of £5,800, from Capital Receipts (see table below).
- l) **Mainsforth Complex** (page 7) – an underspend of £90 is showing in this cost centre due to an increase in fees and charges for football (£160), and a reduction in council tax and rates (£30) however this is offset slightly due to the rent received for the Bowls Pavilion being £100 less than anticipated when the budget was set.
- m) **King George V** (page 8) – this cost centre is showing a projected overspend of £100, which is due to increased costs for equipment purchase.
- n) **Vehicles and Machinery** (page 9) – an underspend of £1,680 is showing in this cost centre. Whilst the vehicle purchase expenditure is showing an overspend of £13,370 due to the lease purchase of a new van and trailer, these costs are offset against funding of £3,350 received for the trailer, the sale of an old trailer (£200) and insurance costs that have been recovered to the value of £11,070, which have been used to cover the costs of the van for the remainder of this financial year. Projected savings in MOT costs (£90) and Road Tax (£340) have also contributed to this underspend.

3. RESERVES AT 31 MARCH 2027

- 3.1 The projected underspending of £5,620 and an underspend of £293.77 from Dean Bank Play Equipment EMR will increase the recommended minimum reserves to £147,627.77.
- 3.2 It is expected that the completion of capital projects by 31 March 2027 will reduce earmarked reserves/capital receipts to £55,759. The revised position is shown in the table below.

	Opening Balance	Movement in	Movement out	Closing balance
Reserves Breakdown:				
General Reserves	£70,283			£70,283
Recommended Minimum Reserves	£141,714	£5,913.77		£147,627.77
Earmarked Reserve – Events	£2,458		£2,458	£0
Earmarked Reserve – DBRP Play Equipment	£93,648		£93,648	£0
Earmarked Reserve – Cemetery	£36,769			£36,769
Useable Capital Receipts	£33,300		£14,310	£18,990
Total Reserves as at 31/03/27	£378,172	£5,913.77	£110,416	£273,669.77

- 3.3 It should be borne in mind that the level of unallocated reserves is low and, while there are unused Capital Receipts of £18,990 still available, the financial consequences of any commitment to future projects must be taken into account.

4. BUDGET 2027/2028

- 4.1 For Members information, work is commencing on the preparation of the budget for the year 2027/28 and further details regarding the first draft budget will be provided to Members when this is completed.

5. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The projected outturn for the year is showing a small underspending, however it is still relatively early in the year and there are too many variables at this stage. Close attention will be paid to net costs incurred during the rest of the year in an attempt to avoid an overspend.
- 5.2 It is **RECOMMENDED** that Members

Note the financial position of the Council at 30 September 2026 and the financial projection for the year to 31 March 2027.

	Budget 2026- 2027 £	Actual 30-Sep £	Projected 2026- 2027 £
<u>SUMMARY</u>			
Net Expenditure	626,280	415,511	730,782
Less:			
Precept on Durham County Council	626,280	626,280	626,280
	0	- 210,769	104,502
From Earmarked Reserves		-95,812	-95,812
From Capital Receipts		-8,510	-14,310
Underspend (-) / Overspend		- 315,091	-5,620
<u>Staffing</u>			
Direct Salaries	458,810	244,351	458,810
Staff Training	2,000	0	2,000
Travel	0	0	0
Advertising Staff Vacancies	0	0	0
Professional Fees	3500	717	3500
	468,660	247,635	468,660
<u>Democracy-General</u>			
Civic Regalia	200	19	200
Members Nameplates	100	0	100
Members Allowances & Expenses	100	0	100
Members Training	500	0	500
	900	19	900
<u>Mayor's Expenses</u>			
Civic Carol Service	350	0	350
Civic Social Evening	1,400	0	1,400
Mayor's Allowance	500	130	500
Deputy Mayor's Expenses	200	0	200
Mayor's Travel Allowance	200	0	200
	2,650	130	2,650
<u>Town Hall</u>			
- Rents	500	1,273	1,280
Fees and Charges - Photocopy	0	24	30
Energy - Electricity - Solar Panels	1,800	1,343	1,800

	2,300	2,640	3,110
Repairs & Maintenance	2,200	1,397	2,200
Repairs & Maint - Clock	300	0	320
Repairs & Maint - Stairlift	0	310	0
Energy - Electricity	2,860	1,285	2,860
Energy - Gas	2,600	614	2,600
Water	370	126	370
Rates	1,820	1,118	1,860
Cleaning Materials	300	175	300
Contingencies	400	58	400
Equipment - purchase	400	0	400
Equipment - hire	600	86	600
Equipment - inspection	600	148	600
Telephones	3,420	1,537	2,800
Printing & Stationery	700	307	700
Post	2,000	1,073	2,000
Photocopying	2,500	1,090	2,500
Publications	100	0	100
Subscriptions	2,300	2,266	2,300
Publicity	630	104	630
Computer Software	2,050	2,058	2,620
Computer Rental	5,750	4,954	5,210
Computer Maintenance	500	95	500
Computer Hardware	0	0	0
Website hosting/Maintenance	300	0	300
	32,700	18,801	32,170
	30,400	16,161	29,060
<u>Overheads</u>			
External Audit Fees	2,100	-2,100	2,100
Bank Charges	1,320	559	1,320
Insurances	20,000	18,808	20,000
Internal Audit Fees	2,360	0	2,360
Professional Fees	2,000	794	2,000
	27,780	18,061	27,780
<u>Capital Finance</u>			
Interest Received	12,500	4,853	12,500
Capital Grants	0	10,000	10,000
	12,500	14,853	22,500
Capital Charges - Principal	0	0	0
Capital Charges - Interest	0	0	0
Capital Schemes:			
SDG Path	0	6,630	6,630
Dean Bank Play Equip	0	93,354	93,354
Mainsforth Bowls & showers		0	10,000
	0	99,984	109,984
	-12,500	85,131	87,484
From Earmarked Reserves	0	-93,354	-93,354

From Capital Receipts	0	-6,630	-6,630
	-12,500	-14,853	-12,500
<u>Community Support</u>			
Sales	20	0	20
Grants Received	0	500	500
	20	500	520
Donations - Local Groups/MIF	4,250	4,000	4,250
Donations - Advice Service	1,750	0	1,750
Insurance - Banner	0	0	0
Gifts	0	32	70
Legion Wreaths	120	0	120
Santa Claus	0	0	500
Christmas Decorations	6,100	3,822	6,100
	12,220	7,854	12,790
	12,200	7,354	12,270
<u>Community Events</u>			
All Income	1,000	4,806	4,806
	1,000	4,806	4,806
All Events Expenditure	15,000	19,932	21,264
	15,000	19,932	21,264
	14,000	15,126	16,458
From Earmarked Reserves	0	-2,458	-2,458
	14,000	12,668	14,000
<u>Allotments</u>			
Rents	15,500	15,432	15,500
Sales	20	28	30
	15,520	15,460	15,530
Repairs & Maint	4,250	348	4,250
Water	2,500	1,582	2,500
Subscriptions	60	70	70
Pest Control	600	0	600
	7,410	2,000	7,420
	-8,110	-13,460	-8,110
<u>Open Spaces</u>			
Grants Received	3,940	0	3,940
Sales - Dog Bags	1,750	749	1,750
	5,690	749	5,690

Repairs & Maint - Bus Shelters	2,000	3,640	3,640
Repair & Maint - Beacon	0	0	0
Energy - Lighting on A167	0	-2,700	0
Energy - Electricity	300	184	300
Equipment - Purchase	1,500	1,617	1,620
Tree Surgery	5,800	0	5,800
Tree Survey	0	0	0
Seats & Bollards	500	0	500
Information Signs	500	0	500
	10,600	2,741	12,360
	4,910	1,992	6,670
From Capital Receipts	0	-1,880	-1,880
	4,910	112	4,790
<u>Public Toilets-Station</u>			
Repairs & Maintenance	0	0	0
Energy - Electricity	0	0	0
Water	0	83	170
Cleaning Materials	0	0	0
	0	83	170
<u>Market</u>			
Rents	8,000	4,723	8,000
	8,000	4,723	8,000
Rates	460	333	450
Equipment - purchase	150	0	150
	610	333	600
	-7,390	-4,390	-7,400
<u>Ferryhill In Bloom</u>			
Sponsorship	0	250	250
Grants	0	0	0
Sales - Plants etc	0	0	0
	0	250	250
Contingencies	700	631	700
Equipment - purchase	600	332	600
Equipment - hire	300	339	410
Plants & Seeds	15,500	10,399	15,500
Top soil	700	0	700
New Flower Beds	0	0	0
	17,800	11,701	17,910
	17,800	11,451	17,660
<u>Public Toilets-Town Centre</u>			

Sale of Keys	10	13	10
Kiosk Rent	2,650	1,640	2,650
Fees & Charges - Electricity	0	255	600
	2,660	1,908	3,260
Repairs & Maintenance	700	152	700
Energy - Electricity	2,100	672	2,100
Water	1,050	365	1,050
Cleaning Materials	500	322	500
Equipment - purchase	100	0	100
Equipment - Hire	50	0	50
	4,500	1,511	4,500
	1,840	-397	1,240
<u>Market Place Car Park</u>			
Repair and Maintenance	200	0	200
Water	1,110	1,090	1,090
Equipment - Purchase	100	0	100
	1,410	1,090	1,390
Sales-Parking Discs	80	120	120
	80	120	120
	1,330	970	1,270
<u>Cemetery</u>			
Rents	1,560	1,070	1,560
Fees and charges - Burials	10,000	6,390	10,000
Memorial Plaques	1,300	0	1,300
Fees & charges - Electricity	0	0	0
	12,860	7,460	12,860
Repairs & Maintenance	1,250	281	1,250
Repairs & Maintenance-Chapel	0	325	0
Repairs & Maintenance-Swann House	0	74	0
Grounds - Grasscutting	1,040	775	1,040
Energy - Electricity	1,200	272	1,200
Energy - Gas	170	53	170
Water	300	133	300
Water - Empty Septic tanks	400	0	400
Council Tax	5,030	2,946	4,910
Rates	1,390	784	1,310
Contingencies	100	0	100
Equipment - purchase	300	252	300
Equipment - hire	100	0	100
Equipment - inspection	60	0	60
Memorial Plaques	420	0	420
	11,760	5,895	11,560
	-1,100	-1,565	-1,300

<u>Dean Bank Sports Facility</u>			
Rents	2,100	2,100	2,100
Fees and Charges - Football	3,550	3,037	3,040
Fees and Charges - Electricity	1,000	73	750
Electricity - Solar Panels	0	1,438	2,500
Fees and Charges - Gas	560	145	560
Grants	7,820	0	7,820
	15,030	6,793	16,770
Repairs & Maintenance	2,000	284	2,000
Repairs & Maintenance - Pitch Renovation	12,230	11,625	18,030
Grounds - Grasscutting	3,730	900	3,730
Energy - Electricity	3,200	402	3,200
Energy - Gas	3,000	735	3,000
Water	530	174	530
Rates	2,620	1,572	2,620
Cleaning Materials	200	109	200
Equipment - purchase	300	0	300
Equipment - hire	100	0	100
Equipment - inspection	1,950	225	1,950
	29,860	16,026	35,660
	14,830	9,233	18,890
From Capital Receipts	0	0	-5,800
	14,830	9,233	13,090
<u>Dean Bank Recreation Park</u>			
Fees & Charges	190	0	190
Sales	0	8	10
	190	8	200
Repairs & Maintenance	2,500	274	2,500
Repairs & Maintenance-Fencing	0	80	
Repairs & Maintenance-Play	0	332	
Repairs & Maintenance - Workshop	0	0	
Water	130	26	130
Contingencies	200	0	200
Equipment - Purchase	250	277	280
Equipment - Inspection	350	177	350
	3,430	1,166	3,460
	3,240	1,158	3,260
<u>Mainsforth Sports Complex</u>			
Rents - Cricket Pavilion	2,300	0	2,300
Rents - Bowls Pavilion	600	500	500
Rents - Rough Furze	2,580	1,290	2,580
Fees and charges	0	0	0
Fees and charges - Football	760	915	920
Grants	1,780	0	1,780

	8,020	2,705	8,080
Repairs & Maintenance	10,000	140	10,000
Repairs & Maintenance-Football		2,574	
Repairs & Maintenance-Bowls		75	
Repairs & Maintenance-Bowls Pavilion		0	
Repairs & Maintenance-Play		0	
Repairs & Maintenance-Cricket		1,688	
Repairs & Maintenance-Cricket Pavilion		1,220	
Repairs & Maintenance-Rough Furze		74	
Grounds - Grasscutting	1,190	775	1,190
Energy - Electricity	4,000	1,042	4,000
Water	2,050	1,130	2,050
Council Tax	950	735	930
Rates	890	526	880
Equipment - purchase	440	325	440
Equipment-hire	100	0	100
Equipment - inspection	2,330	89	2,330
	21,950	10,393	21,920
	13,930	7,688	13,840
<u>King George V Playing Field</u>			
Fees and charges - Football	380	0	380
	380	0	380
Repair and Maintenance	1,500	31	1,500
Repair and Maintenance-Fencing	0	114	0
Repairs and Maintenance - Play	0	-31	0
Repairs and Maintenance - Lighting	0	650	0
Grounds - Grasscutting	1,220	800	1,220
Energy - Electricity	650	314	650
Water	260	97	260
Equipment - purchase	100	176	200
Equipment - inspection	480	0	480
Lighting - electricity	440	138	440
	4,650	2,289	4,750
	4,270	2,289	4,370
<u>Surtees Doorstep Green</u>			
Repairs & Maintenance	1,000	0	1,000
Repairs & Maintenance-Play	0	0	0
Equipment - inspection	180	177	180
	1,180	177	1,180
<u>General Expenses</u>			
Repairs & Maint - Football	1,800	0	1,800
Cleaning Materials	500	211	500
Equipment - purchase	120	75	120
Equipment - inspection	90	89	90
Tools - Purchase	500	370	500

Protective Clothing	1,350	623	1,350
Weedkiller	500	0	500
Waste Disposal	4,500	1,904	4,500
	9,360	3,272	9,360
<u>Vehicles & Machinery</u>			
Grants Received	0	3,350	3,350
Sales	0	200	200
Insurance Costs Recovered	0	11,065	11,070
	0	14,615	14,620
Repair & Maint - Vehicles	2,500	1,831	2,500
Repair & Maint - Tractors	500	24	500
Repair & Maint - Machinery	5,600	2,356	5,600
Fuel - Vehicles	4,300	1,797	4,300
Fuel - Machinery	2,300	1,394	2,300
Machinery - purchase	2,500	0	2,500
Machinery - rental	6,220	3,277	6,220
Van - hire	500	0	500
Vehicle Purchase	0	11,329	13,370
Road Fund Licence	1,420	0	1,080
MOT	260	0	170
	26,100	22,008	39,040
	26,100	7,393	24,420
Income	84,250	77,590	116,696
Expenditure	710,530	493,101	847,478
NET EXPENDITURE	626,280	415,511	730,782