

Breckland Council

Summary Statement of Accounts

2015/16

Breckland Council - Summary of Accounts 2015-16

The purpose of Breckland Council's accounts is to give electors, local taxpayers, Members of the Council, employees and other interested parties clear information about the Council's finances. This document is a summary of the full statement of accounts, providing an overview of the Council's expenditure and income and its financial position for the year ending 31 March 2016.

Achievements for the year ended 31 March 2016

Breckland Council's Corporate Plan draws together the corporate values and behaviours for the Council. The corporate priorities are:

- Supporting Breckland to develop and thrive
- Enabling stronger, more independent communities
- Providing the right services, at the right time and in the right way
- Developing the local economy to be vibrant with continued growth

Some project and delivery highlights for the year include:

- Our commercial property portfolio income helped to keep Council Tax levels down
- We worked together with partners to create a joint venture (Breckland Bridge) to deliver growth projects such as Thetford Riverside
- Awarded £133k in grants to help support community projects to support residents from play areas to dementia cafes
- We supported the countrywide 'Recycling Revolution' to enable 30% of all household waste to be recycled
- We established a 4 year transformation programme which will help deliver the Council's strategic ambitions
- Co-location of the Department of Work & Pensions (DWP) into our Dereham offices, reducing costs and building strong relationships
- We enabled on-line payments for garden waste through our website
- We committed £950k to invest in delivery of better broadband in the area working with partners
- Encouraged local suppliers to provide goods and services to the Council by holding a 'Meet the Buyer Event'
- We have been working with partners to establish an early intervention hub to reduce later more costly interventions

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Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

This statement shows the costs of delivering services for which the Council is responsible and demonstrates how this has been financed from fees and charges, specific subsidies, general grants and income from local taxpayers.

	Gross Expenditure £'000	Gross Income £'000	Net Expenditure £'000	Notes
Expenditure on Services				
Central Services to the Public	4,852	(3,360)	1,492	
Cultural and Related Services	3,163	(1,105)	2,058	
Environment & Regulatory Services	6,599	(2,450)	4,149	
Planning Services	6,299	(4,686)	1,613	
Highways and Transport Services	527	(135)	392	
Housing Services	38,352	(37,193)	1,159	
Corporate and Democratic Core	3,193	(928)	2,265	
Non Distributed Costs	506	(47)	459	
Cost of Services	63,491	(49,904)	13,587	1
Other Operating Expenditure	3,596	-	3,596	2
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	2,554	(5,109)	(2,555)	3
Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income and Expenditure	9,223	(24,399)	(15,176)	4
(Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	78,864	(79,412)	(548)	
(Surplus)/Deficit on the Revaluation of Non-Current Assets			(3,297)	
Actuarial (Gains)/Losses on Pension Assets/Liabilities			(9,589)	
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			(12,886)	
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			(13,434)	

Notes

- 1) Details of the services included within these headings can be found in the "And the Services it Provides" section later in this document.
- 2) This line includes parish precepts, drainage board levies and gains/losses on the revaluation of assets.
- 3) This line includes interest payable & receivable, the surplus/deficit on the Commercial Property portfolio and accounting adjustments relating to pensions.
- 4) This line includes council tax and business rates income, Government revenue support grant funding and other grants.

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Movement in Reserves Statement

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other reserves.

	General Fund Balance £'000	Earmarked GF Reserves £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Capital Grants Un- applied £'000	Total Usable Reserves £'000	Un-usable Reserves £'000	Total Reserves £'000	Notes
Balance as at 1 April 2015	2,851	14,197	710	1,356	19,114	22,520	41,634	1
Surplus/(Deficit) on the provision of services	548	-	-	-	548	-	548	
Surplus/(Deficit) on revaluation of fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-	3,297	3,297	
Actuarial gains/(losses) on pension assets/liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	9,589	9,589	
Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	548	-	-	-	548	12,886	13,434	2
Appropriations and Other Internal Accounting	724	-	(710)	34	48	(48)	-	
Net increase/decrease before transfers to Earmarked Reserves	1,272	-	(710)	34	596	12,838	13,434	
Transfers (to)/from Earmarked Reserves	(1,272)	1,272	-	-	-	-	-	
Increase/(decrease) for year	-	1,272	(710)	34	596	12,838	13,434	
Balance as at 31 March 2016	2,851	15,469	-	1,390	19,710	35,358	55,068	1

Notes

- 1) These figures show the net worth of the Council (from the Balance Sheet) split between the usable and unusable reserves.
- 2) This is the actual for the year taken from the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement.

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Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet sets out the overall financial position of the Council as at 31 March 2016. It shows the value of non-current assets and liabilities and how various reserves and balances match them.

	£'000	£'000	Notes
Long-term Assets			
Non-current assets	58,285		1
Long term investments & debtors	7,709		
		65,994	
Current Assets			
Debtors	3,834		
Investments, cash and bank	34,708		
		38,542	
Current Liabilities			
Creditors		(9,677)	
Provisions		(1,763)	
Long-term Liabilities			
Other long term liabilities		(37,151)	2
Capital grants receipts in advance		(877)	
		55,068	
Financed By:			
Usable Reserves		(19,710)	
Un-usable Reserves		(35,358)	
		(55,068)	

Notes

1) Non-current assets are assets such as land, buildings, vehicles, plant, equipment, software and infrastructure.

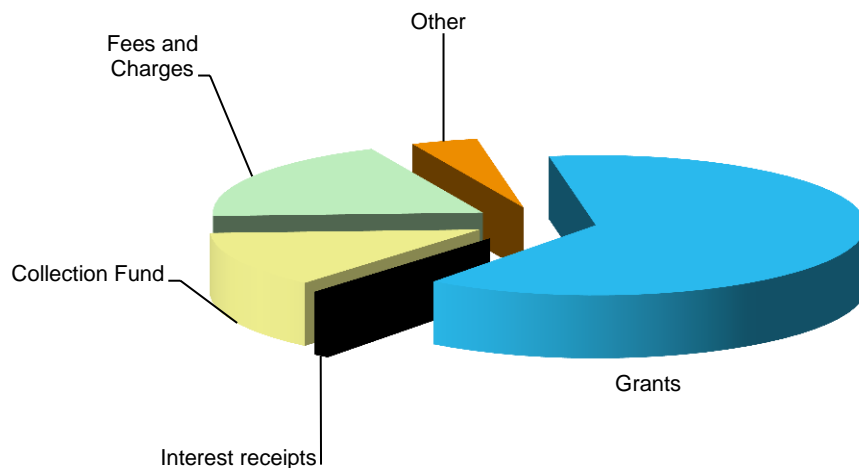
2) This figure relates to:

- The PFI contract for leisure provision for Breckland and the amounts owing up to the end of the contract in 2039 (£8,725k).
- The pensions liability (£28,426k) which reflects the underlying commitment the Council has over the long term to pay retirement benefits, funded by making contributions over time.

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Where the money came from

More than half of the Council's money comes directly from Government grants. The chart below illustrates the Council's funding sources.



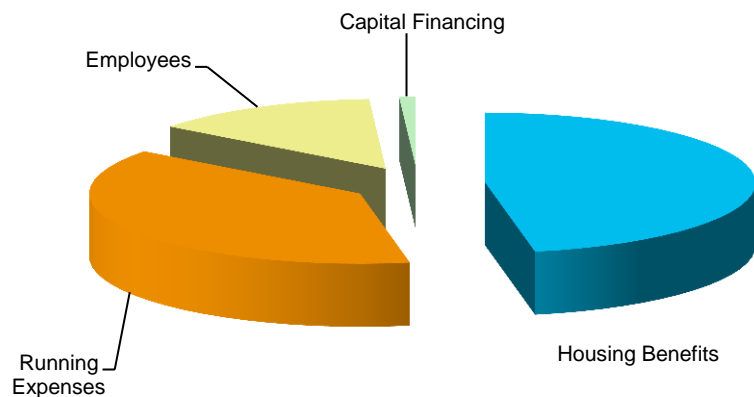
	£'000	%
Grants	45,066	63
Interest receipts	767	1
Collection Fund	9,036	13
Fees and Charges	13,342	19
Other	3,110	4
	71,321	100

Grants amounted to £45,066k in 2015-16.

Collection Fund income of £9,036k is the income received from taxpayers through the Council Tax levied by the Council for Breckland and the parishes and retained Business Rates.

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How the money was spent



	£'000	%
Housing Benefits	33,988	48
Running Expenses	27,565	39
Employees	10,130	14
Capital Financing	(362)	(1)
	71,321	100

Employees expenditure includes costs relating to:

- Staffing – such as salaries, pensions, additional staff, professional subscriptions and similar costs.

Running expenses includes costs relating to:

- Premises – such as rents, rates, electricity, water and similar
- Transport – such as cars, fares and similar
- Supplies and services – such as equipment, telephones, hired services and similar
- Contract payments for services provided by external contractors (i.e. waste collection, leisure, etc)

Capital financing includes costs relating to:

- Capital expenditure – such as depreciation of assets and similar costs.

Housing/Council Tax benefits only includes costs relating to the actual benefits provided, it does not include any staffing or other related costs. These benefits are funded from Government grants as can be seen from the “*where the money came from*” graph.

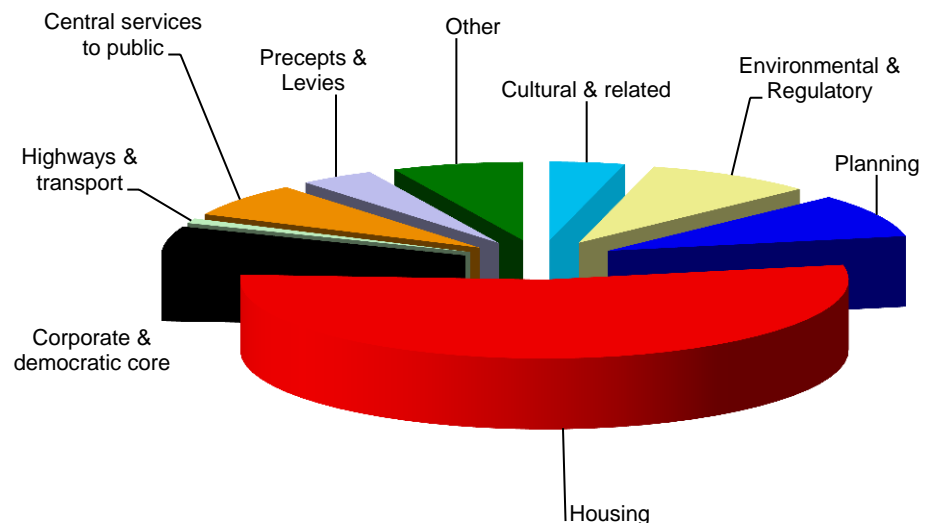
Transparency

The Government’s transparency agenda encourages local authorities to make public data openly available. Details of transparency items such as the Council’s spend on items over £500, grants, contracts and pay and benefits for senior officers can be found on the “*Performance*” page of our website:

<http://www.breckland.gov.uk/transparency>

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And the services it provides



	£'000	%
Cultural & related	3,163	4
Environmental & Regulatory	6,599	9
Planning	6,299	9
Housing	38,352	54
Corporate & democratic core	3,193	5
Highways & transport	527	1
Central services to public	4,852	7
Precepts & Levies	3,073	4
Other	5,263	7
	71,321	100

The table below shows the types of services which are included within each service area shown in the graph above:

Cultural & related	Environmental & regulatory	Planning	Housing	Corporate & democratic core	Highways and transport	Central services to the public	Precepts and levies
Parks & open spaces Leisure Customer service	Community safety Street cleaning Waste collection Environmental health Licensing Environmental serv's	Asset mgt Economic dvpt Planning/Building ctrl Community dvpt	Hsg benefits Travellers Housing advice Homelessness Hostels Strategic hsg	Communications Consultation Corporate mgt Marketing Corporate policy Performance Member services Treasury services	Car parks Public lighting Grass cutting Community trans Roads & paths	Voluntary sector Council tax NDR Emergency plan Land charges Elections	Parish precepts Drainage boards

'Other' includes contributions to reserves, principal, capital prepayments and interest payable on the PFI scheme and other smaller value areas of spend (i.e. commercial property costs, past pension costs, etc).

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The Collection Fund

As a billing authority, the Council is required to maintain a separate Collection Fund. It shows the income from the collection of Council Tax and Business Rates (NNDR) and illustrates how it has been distributed to other authorities and the Government, as well as retaining an element for Breckland Council itself.

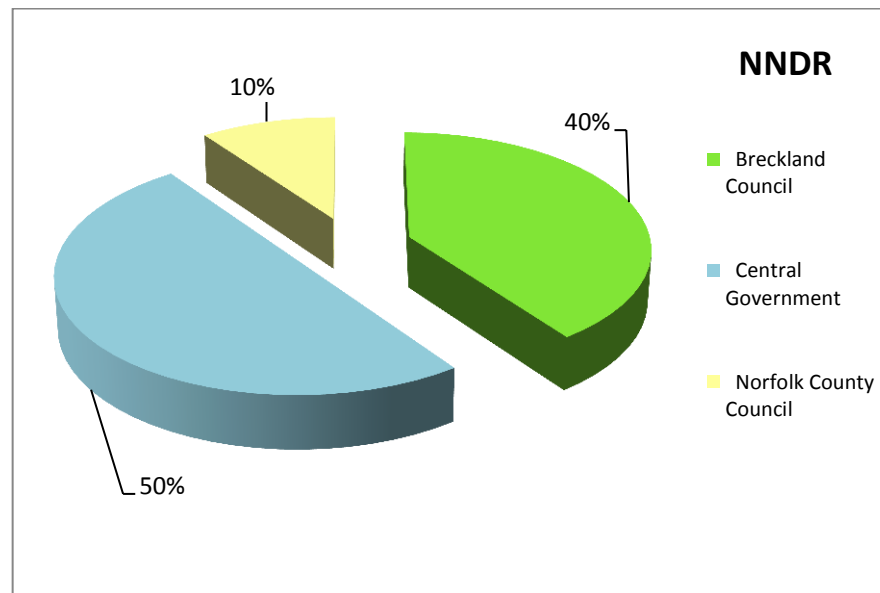
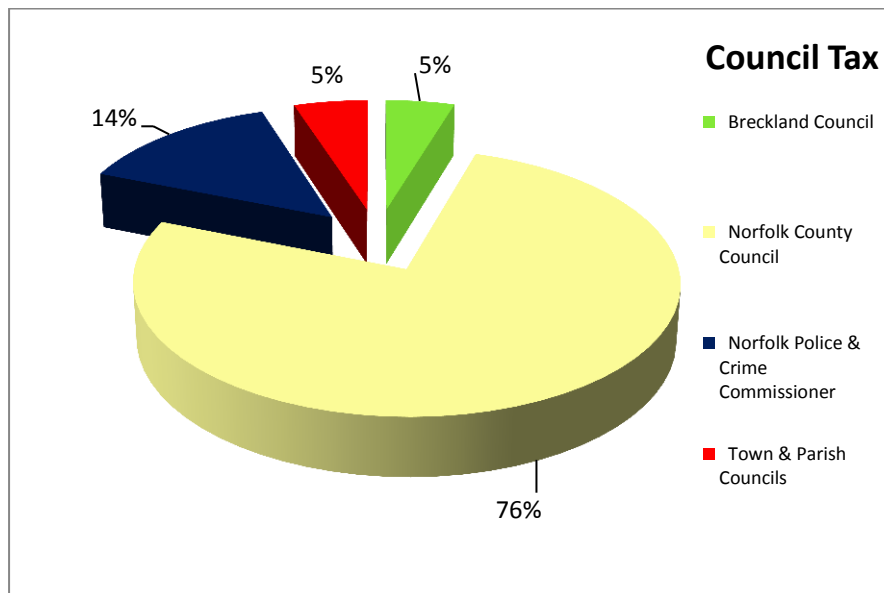
	Council Tax £'000	NNDR £'000	Total £'000	Notes
Income				
Council Tax	(61,562)	-	(61,562)	1
NNDR	-	(30,064)	(30,064)	1
Collection Fund deficit distributed	-	(100)	(100)	
Total Income	(61,562)	(30,164)	(91,726)	
Expenditure				
Precepts paid:				1
Breckland Council	2,794	12,154	14,948	
Central Government	-	15,192	15,192	
Norfolk County Council	45,407	3,038	48,445	
Norfolk Police & Crime Commissioner	8,280	-	8,280	
Town & Parish Councils	2,996	-	2,996	
Collection Fund surplus distributed	1,742	-	1,742	
Bad & doubtful debts	780	163	943	
Allowance for appeals	-	1,925	1,925	
Cost of collection allowance	-	168	168	
Renewable energy retained	-	181	181	
Total Expenditure	61,999	32,821	94,820	
(Surplus)/Deficit for the year	437	2,657	3,094	2

Notes

- 1) Income from Council Tax and NNDR is distributed to other authorities, as well as to Breckland Council.
- 2) The surplus/deficit for the year is shared between the precepting authorities, in the same shares as the Council Tax and NNDR income is shared.

Distribution of Council Tax and NNDR Collected

The graphs below show the distribution of the Council Tax and NNDR to the different authorities.



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The council's full Statements of Accounts has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom, published by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). For the purposes of this document, adaptations have been made to present information in a more summarised form.

A full copy of the audited Statement of Accounts 2015-16 is available on the Breckland Council website at <http://www.breckland.gov.uk/article/2338/Statement-of-Accounts>

Feedback on the format and content of this Summary of Accounts is invited. Please send your comments to:

Alison Chubbock
Chief Accountant
Financial Services
Breckland Council
Elizabeth House
Walpole Loke
DEREHAM
Norfolk
NR19 1EE