

Forecast Earmarked Reserves 2024/25 to 2027/28

Section 4.6.1

		2024/25		2025/26		2026/27		2027/28	
Reserve	Balance at 1 April 2024	Forecast Movement	Forecast Balance at 31 March 2025	Forecast Movement	Forecast Balance at 31 March 2026	Forecast Movement	Forecast Balance at 31 March 2027	Forecast Movement	Forecast Balance at 31 March 2028
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Revenue Grants Unapplied									
Grants and Contributions Reserve	33.7	-9.9	23.8	-6.8	17.0	-4.4	12.6	-0.5	12.1
COVID-19 Reserve	7.9	-4.3	3.6	-3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Government Initiatives Reserve	3.2	-0.5	2.7	-1.1	1.6	0.0	1.6	0.0	1.6
Subtotal Revenue Grants Unapplied	44.7	-14.6	30.1	-11.5	18.6	-4.4	14.2	-0.5	13.7
Corporate Priorities									
Budget Priorities Reserve	10.7	-6.3	4.4	-2.9	1.5	-1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Transformation Reserve	1.8	4.0	5.8	0.7	6.5	-6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Zero Emissions Zone	1.2	0.0	1.2	0.0	1.2	0.0	1.2	0.0	1.2
Green Financing Reserve	0.0	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.9
Commercial Pump Priming Reserve	0.0	1.9	1.9	0.0	1.9	0.0	1.9	0.0	1.9
Local Government Reorganisation Reserve	0.0	5.0	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	5.0
Extended Producer Responsibility Reserve	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	3.4	-1.7	1.7	-1.7	0.0
Subtotal Corporate Priorities	13.8	5.5	19.3	1.2	20.5	-9.7	10.8	-1.7	9.1
Funding for Risk									
Insurance Reserve	10.3	0.0	10.3	0.0	10.3	0.0	10.3	0.0	10.3
Demographic Risk Reserve	17.0	4.0	21.0	4.0	25.0	4.0	29.0	4.0	33.0
Council Elections	0.6	0.2	0.8	-0.8	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4
Redundancy Reserve	2.4	1.8	4.2	1.2	5.3	-2.7	2.7	0.0	2.7
Trading Accounts	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Council Tax Collection Fund Reserve	3.0	-3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Business Rates Reserve	11.7	-11.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Collection Fund Risk Reserve	0.0	8.3	8.3	-4.3	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	4.0
IFRS 9 (Changes in the Value of Treasury Management Pooled Funds)	0.0	5.0	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	5.0
Subtotal Funding for Risk	45.0	4.6	49.6	0.1	49.7	1.5	51.2	4.2	55.4

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Reserve	Balance at 1 April 2024	Forecast Movement	Forecast Balance at 31 March 2025	Forecast Movement	Forecast Balance at 31 March 2026	Forecast Movement	Forecast Balance at 31 March 2027	Forecast Movement	Forecast Balance at 31 March 2028
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Capital & Equipment									
Capital Reserves	80.8	-5.0	75.8	2.0	77.8	-3.3	74.6	5.3	79.9
Vehicle and Equipment Reserve	4.1	-1.0	3.1	-2.2	0.8	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.8
Investment Pump Priming Reserve	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
Subtotal Capital & Equipment	85.1	-6.1	79.0	-0.2	78.8	-3.3	75.5	5.3	80.8
Other Reserves									
Schools' Reserves	13.0	0.0	13.0	0.0	13.0	0.0	13.0	0.0	13.0
Partnership Reserves	2.1	-0.9	1.1	-0.6	0.5	-0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
On Street Car Parking Reserve	6.5	-2.2	4.3	-1.3	3.0	-0.5	2.5	0.0	2.5
Subtotal Other Reserves	21.6	-3.1	18.4	-1.9	16.6	-1.0	15.5	0.0	15.5
Total Earmarked Reserves	210.1	-13.7	196.5	-12.3	184.2	-17.0	167.2	7.3	174.5
DSG Unusable Reserve *	-45.6	-31.7	-77.3	-22.6	-99.9	-18.9	-118.8	-7.9	-126.7
DSG High Needs deficit within Unusable Reserve (mitigated forecast)*	-55.8	-28.4	-84.2	-26.7	-110.9	-18.8	-129.7	-7.9	-137.6
DSG High Needs deficit within Unusable Reserve (unmitigated forecast)*	-55.8	-28.4	-84.2	-38.5	-122.7	-47.5	-170.2	-56.0	-226.2
Total Earmarked Reserves after DSG Unusable Reserve	164.5	-45.4	119.2	-34.9	84.3	-35.9	48.4	-0.6	47.8

Reserve	Description
Revenue Grants Unapplied	
Grants and Contributions Reserve	Holds underspent grants & contributions committed to be spent or recovered in future years. Excludes balance relating to DSG.
COVID-19 Reserve	The balance held in the reserve at 31 March 2024 was £7.9m. After taking account of the planned use in 2024/25 the balance expected to be held in the reserve at 31 March 2025 is £3.6m with further budgeted use of £2.3m in 2025/26 to support directorate pressures. It is proposed that the £1.4m balance is transferred to the Transformation Reserve. The reserve will be closed after the transfer of funding in 2025/26.
Government Initiatives Reserve	Holds underspends on budgets funded by un-ringfenced specific grants relating Government initiatives or agreed outcomes and funding for the iHub.
Corporate Priorities	
Budget Priorities Reserve	This reserve is being used to support the implementation of the Council's priorities and the Medium Term Financial Strategy.
Transformation Reserve	This reserve is needed to fund the implementation costs of the Council's Transformation programme.
Zero Emissions Zone	This reserve holds surpluses generated by Network Coordination for the development and expansion of the ZEZ in the future years.
Green Financing Reserve	This reserve is available to support the Council's Green Financing projects.
Commercial Pump Priming Reserve	This reserve is available to support the Council's commercial strategy with the use overseen by the Commercial Board.
Local Government Reorganisation Reserve	This reserve is being used to support the development of Local Government reorganisation and devolution proposals for Oxfordshire
Extended Producer Responsibility Reserve	This reserve will be used to hold grant funding related to Extended Producer Responsibilities to meet additional costs and projects needed to drive up reuse and recycling of packaging waste
Funding for Risk	
Insurance Reserve	This reserve covers the County Council for insurance claims that, based on the previous experience of the County Council, are likely to be received, as well as a number of insurance related issues.
Demographic Risk Reserve	In light of the significant pressures relating to High Needs DSG and other budgets with demographic volatility this reserve will help to manage demographic risk.
Council Elections	This reserve is held to meet the cost of the County Council elections every four years.
Redundancy Reserve	This reserve is available to fund redundancy costs arising from Transformational Change.
Trading Accounts	Holds funds relating to traded activities which are carried forward each year (whether surplus or deficit).
Council Tax Collection Fund Reserve	This reserve was closed as part of 2024/25 budget
Business Rates Reserve	This reserve was closed as part of 2024/25 budget
Collection Fund Risk Reserve	This reserve is held to manage fluctuations in Business Rate and Council Tax income that the Council receives each year.
IFRS 9 (Changes in the Value of Treasury Management Pooled Funds)	This reserve is held to smooth the potential impact of IFRS9 (changes in the value of Treasury Management Pooled Funds at year end) which may impact on the revenue account in 2025/26 if the statutory override which removes changes in their value from the accounts is confirmed to end on 1 April 2025.

Reserve	Description
Capital & Equipment	
Capital Reserves	This reserve has been established for the purpose of financing capital expenditure in future years. Drawdown will be confirmed later in the year.
Vehicle and Equipment Reserve	To fund future replacement of vehicles and equipment
Investment Pump Priming Reserve	Funding held to meet the costs of self-financing schemes which require pump priming until the funds are returned.
Other Reserves	
Schools' Reserves	In accordance with the Education Reform Act 1988, the scheme of Local Management of Schools provides for the carry forward of individual schools surpluses and deficits. These reserves are committed to be spent on schools. Other School Reserves cover a number of miscellaneous education activities, including amounts loaned to individual schools against school reserves, and School Partnership Accounts which are operated in respect of inter-school activities.
Partnership Reserves	This relates to funding for the Growth Deal
On Street Car Parking Reserve	This surplus has arisen under the operation of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (section 55). The purposes for which these monies can be used are defined by statute.