



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Finance Committee

Report to Council February 2026

1 Requests for approvals

FSCS investment protection limit & Number of accounts

The Investment Strategy approved by Council was written when the FSCS protection limit was £85,000, but it has recently risen to £125,000.

Due to a limited range of accounts opened some contain more than even £125,000 but this should be remedied. Finance Committee has identified further institutions that will accept accounts from Parish Councils. Opening accounts with some of these will allow us to redistribute our investments in a way that does not put any in danger of not being FSCS protected – and also give us access to higher interest rates:

Street Lamp replacements

EMR 355 *Street Light Replacement* has spent £1,106.68 more than was nominally available. This was because the cost estimate was for lamp replacement with LEDs only, but it was later realised that to safely replace the lights on the narrow bridge it was necessary to provide traffic management and which cost £1,106.68. The Finance Committee agreed this expenditure was necessary.

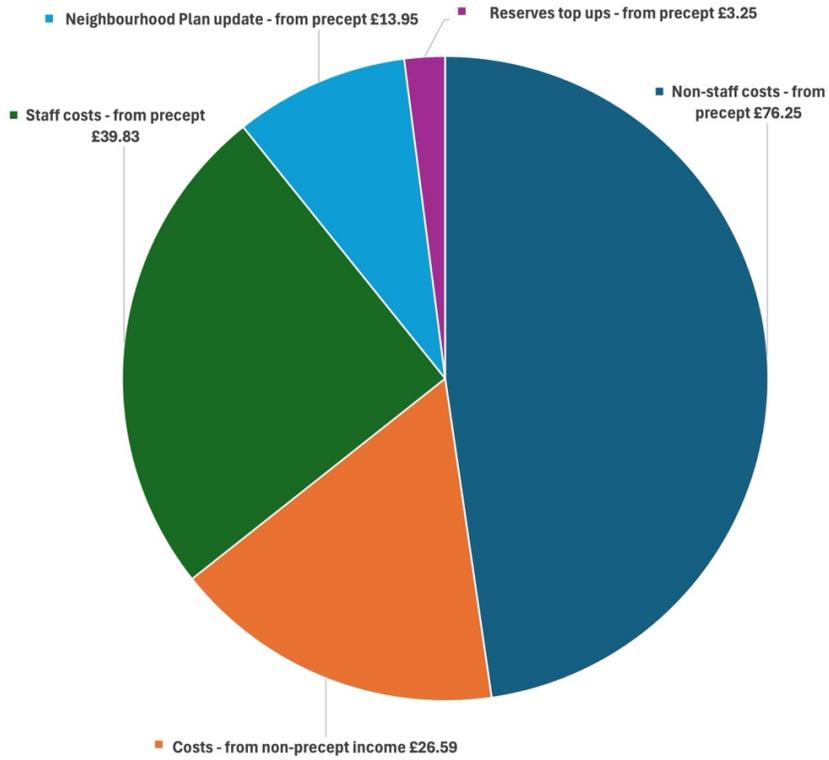
Requests: Finance Committee asks Council to resolve:

1. **To treat any £85,000 limit in the Investment Strategy as a £125,000 limit and to authorise Finance Committee to redistribute existing investments to keep each within the new £125,000 FSCS protection limit.**
2. **To open an Easy Access SME saver with Hampshire Trust Bank (interest rate 3.81%) and deposit up to £125,000.**
3. **To open a 180-day notice account with Mansfield Building Society (interest rate 4%) and deposit up to £125,000.**
4. **To transfer £1,106.68 from General Funds into EMR 355 *Street Light Replacement*.**

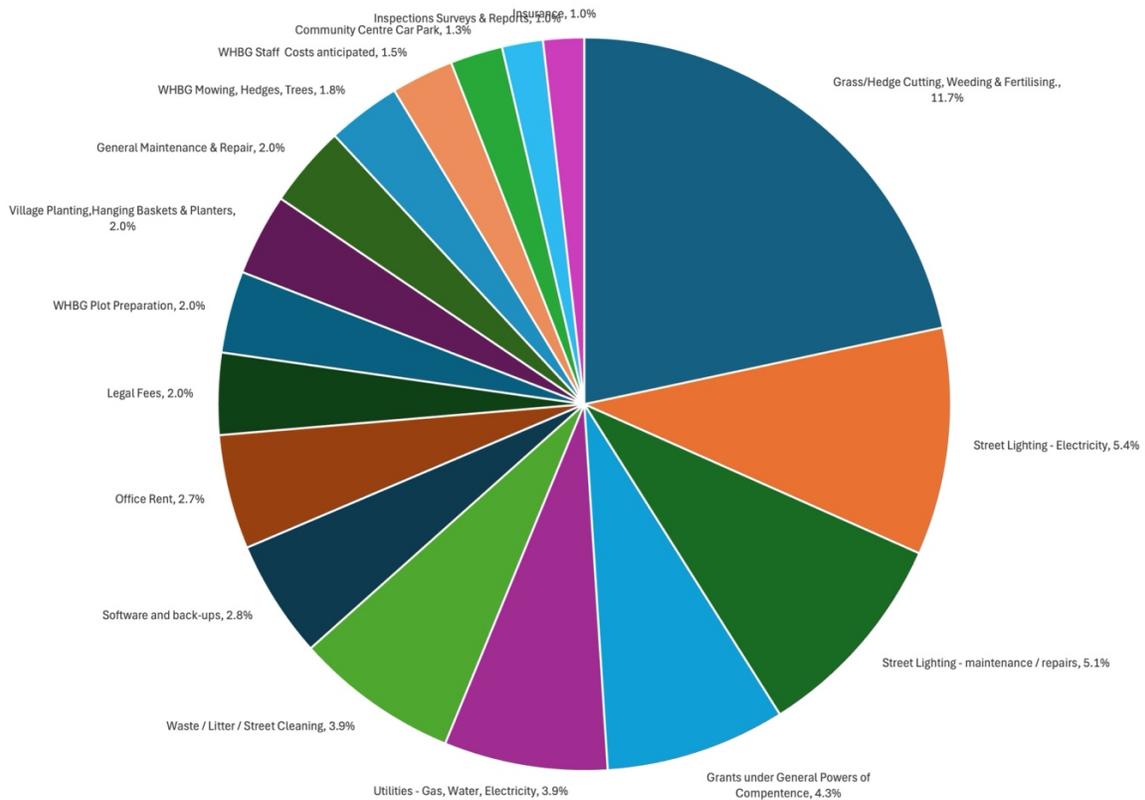
2 Precept

The following charts give a visual representation of breakdown of budgeted expenditure. Of the total budgeted expenditure 37.2% is staff costs, 54.2% is in cost codes each 1-12% (2nd pie chart), 8.0% in codes each 0.2-0.8% (3rd pie chart), and the remaining 0.6% in codes each >0.1% of the total (4th pie chart).

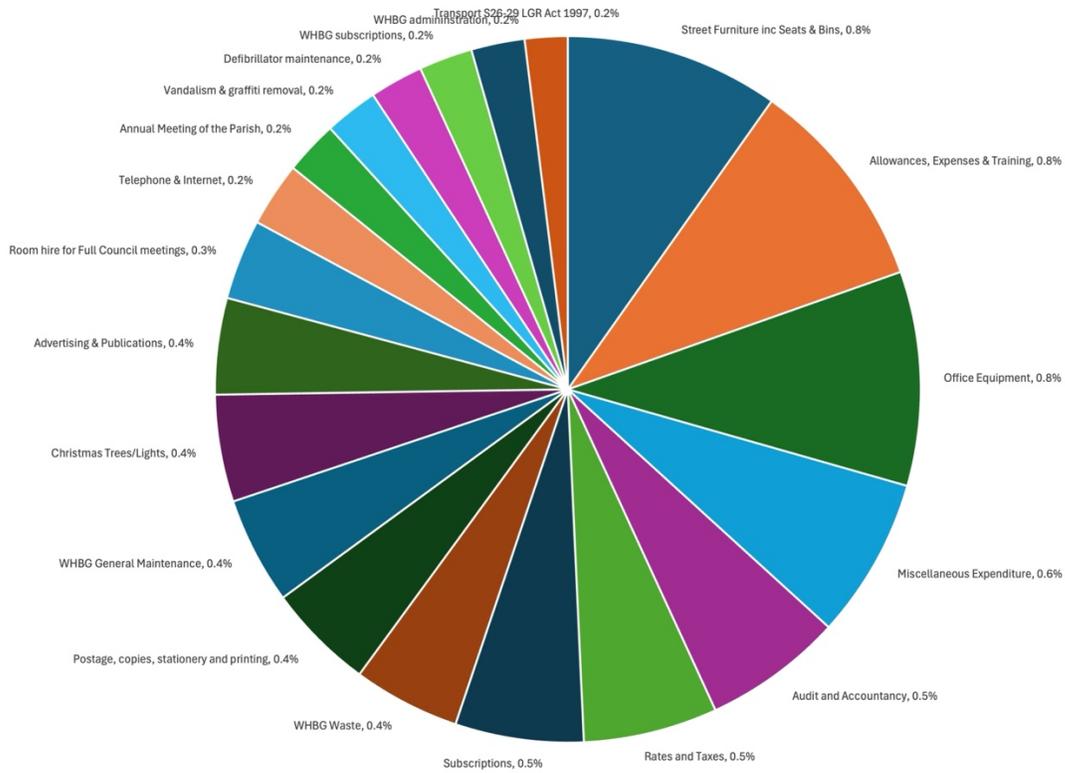
2026-7 Budget - costs per band D equivalent property and origin of funds



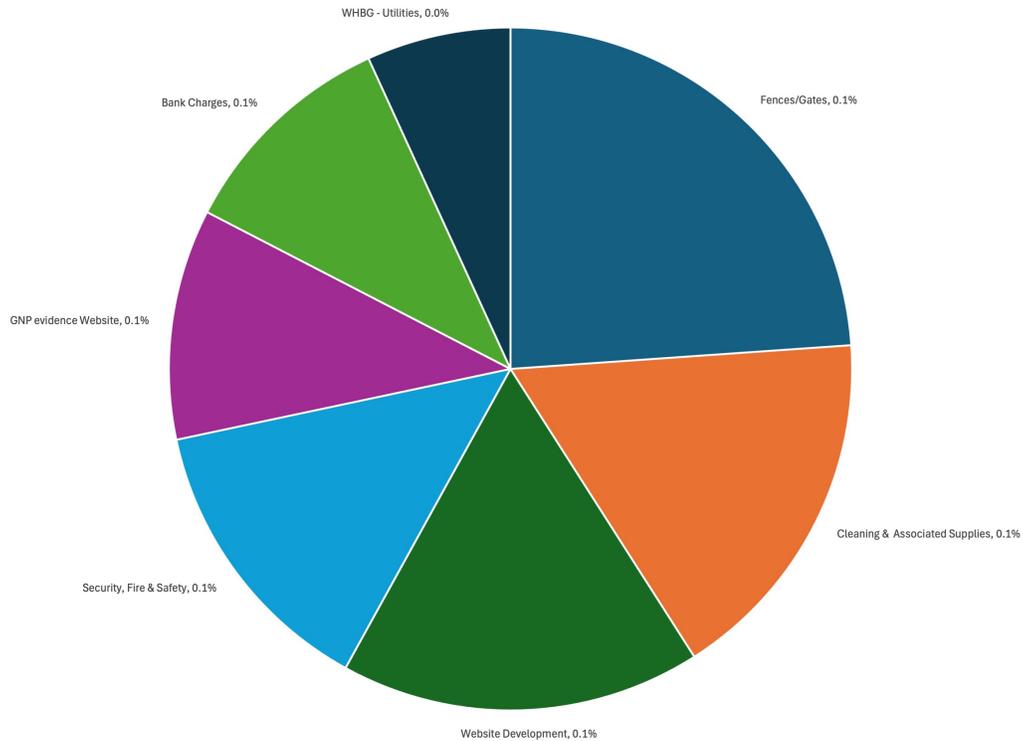
54.2% (£138,609) of the 2026-7 Budget is in 17 cost codes each contributing 1-12% to the total



8.0 % (£20,404) of the 2026-7 Budget is in 20 cost codes each contributing between 0.2 and 0.8% to the total budget



0.6% (£1,465) of the 2026-7 Budget is in 7 cost codes each contributing less than 0.1% to the total budget



3 Quarterly Report to end of Q3 of FY 2025-6

Standing order 17c requires “..supply .. as soon as practicable after 30 June, 30 September and 31 December in each year a statement to summarise: i. the Council’s income and expenditure for each quarter; ii. the Council’s aggregate income and expenditure for the year to date; iii. the balances held at the end of the quarter being reported and which includes a comparison with the budget for the financial year and highlights any actual or potential overspends.

- Page A contains the summary of the income and expenditure in each quarter.
- Page B contains the summary of the income budget for the full FY, income to end of Q3 and balances – with comments
- Pages C & D contains the summary of the expenditure budget for the full FY, expenditure to end of Q3 and balances– with comments. Actual or potential overspend are highlighted in red.
- Page E contains the Reserves Balances at end of Q3 – with comments.

Highlighting actual or potential overspends:

If income and expenditure both occurred at a uniform rate and the budgets were all perfectly estimated then at the end of Q3 we should expect to have 25% of the budget in each cost code left/unreceived. Of course this is never normally the case, so the Finance Committee particularly monitors cost codes that could be in danger of becoming, or have become, overspent, or under received.

For *Income* (see page X) there are 3 cost codes where we have more than 25% of the income budget not received with 25% of the year remaining (a negative % means unreceived). These amounts are in red, with an explanatory comment. The reasons for all these are understood and accepted by the Finance Committee - for example burial ground income normally peaks on Q4 of the FY. *100 General income* includes the precept and items to fix a VAT miscoding issue from previous years which skew the totals so they are also reported with and without precept and VAT. The best indicator of how our budgets are really working is the net values without these.

The Summary (in blue) shows that 17% of the budgeted income remains unreceived in the remaining 25% of the FY.

For *Expenditure* (see pages X & Y) there are 13 cost codes where we have less than 25% of the expenditure budget left with 25% of the year remaining (cost codes where no more payments are anticipated are excluded). These amounts are in red, with an explanatory comment. The reasons for all these are understood and accepted by the Finance Committee. The Summary (in blue) shows that 41% of the budgeted expenditure remains available to be spent in the remaining 25% of the FY. The main contribution to this projected underspend is having included the maximum number of hours that could have been worked contractually by staff, rather than the hours expected to be worked – for example most contracts allow for extra hours to be worked if authorised by the Clerk but these are not routinely used.

If the estimated effect of this is discounted 28% or the budget remains to be spent in 25% of the FY. (The 2026-7 budget took note of this issue and so set staff expenditure budget more appropriately – we hope.)

For *Reserves* (see page Z) there are no budgets set and so, with no budget to compare to, the concepts of over or under spends are not normally useful.

Summary of Income & Expenditure in each quarter

Cost Centre

Receipts	Budget	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total
100 General Incom	229,786.00	97,979.66	110,305.66	6,616.04	214,901.36
200 Burial Ground	20,000.00	3,540.00	2,129.00	2,168.00	7,837.00
800 EMRs				283,258.60	283,258.60
Total	249,786.00	101,519.66	112,434.66	292,042.64	505,996.96

Payments	Budget	Q1	Q2	Q3	Total
300 Administration	17,400.00	4,823.46	5,066.82	5,041.83	14,932.11
400 General Final	99,230.00	17,750.04	18,596.38	16,195.25	52,541.67
500 Burial Ground	18,333.00	1,851.71	3,552.42	4,521.89	9,926.02
600 Facilities	113,673.00	21,835.16	25,979.99	23,008.98	70,824.13
700 Neighbourhood	150.00	36.00	39.47	42.00	117.47
800 EMRs	1,000.00	25,135.46	238,846.99	15,335.84	279,318.29
Total	249,786.00	71,431.83	292,082.07	64,145.79	427,659.69

Income

Q1+Q2+Q3 2025/6

After 75% of the FY

100 General Income

Code Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	-ve means unreceived	Comment
1010 Bank and other Interest	9,000.00	14,041.75	5,041.75	56%	Interest form deposits held for longer than expected
1030 Community Centre Car Park Income	11,000.00	7,590.00	-3,410.00	-31%	some invoices outstanding
1040 Events Income	100.00	152.00	52.00	52%	
1050 Grants/S106/Donations		3,100.00	3,100.00	N/A	MIGGS seats & signs
1070 Miscellaneous Income / Other	100.00	2,940.83	2,840.83	2840%	£2,907 to correct VAT wrong from previous years
1080 Precept	199,586.00	199,586.00		0%	all received
1090 Property Income	10,000.00	8,662.33	-1,337.67	-13%	some invoices to be paid
1100 Loan Repayments				N/A	
1999 VAT Refund		-21,171.55	-21,171.55	N/A	nominal - to fix VAT reporting issue in pevious FYs
SUB TOTAL	229,786.00	214,901.36	-14,884.64	-6%	most of the income is precept
Net Total excluding precept and VAT	229,786.00	33,579.91	3,379.91	1%	of non precept income expected in 25% of FY

200 Burial Ground Income

2010 WHBG Miscellaneous Income				N/A	
2020 WHBG Interments and Plots	17,000.00	6,610.00	-10,390.00	-61%	Burials usually increase Jan-Mar
2030 WHBG Memorials; Including Bench Do	3,000.00	1,227.00	-1,773.00	-59%	Burials usually increase Jan-Mar
SUB TOTAL	20,000.00	7,837.00	-12,163.00	-60%	

Summary (excluding EMRs)

Net Total	249,786.00	222,738.36	-27,047.64	-11%	
V.A.T.		93,446.57			
GROSS TOTAL		316,184.93			
Net Total excluding precept and VAT refund	50,200.00	41,416.91	-8,783.09	-17%	of non precept income expected in 25% of FY

800 EMRs

8345 CIL Receipts EMR		83,258.60			
8348 Playgrounds refurbishment EMR		200,000.00			SODC grant
SUB TOTAL		285,258.60			

Expenditure**Q1 +Q2 +Q3 2025/6**

After 75% of the FY

300 Administration

Code Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	unspent	Comment
3000 Office Rent	7,000.00	7,000.00		0%	complete
3010 Allowances, Expenses & Training	1,500.00	793.82	706.18	47%	
3040 Election Fees				N/A	
3050 Room hire for Full Council meetings	700.00	20.00	680.00	97%	£490 invoice paid in January
3060 Postage, copies, stationery and printing	600.00	646.98	-46.98	-7%	includes £222 toner
3070 Advertising & Publications	1,500.00	797.60	702.40	46%	
3080 Subscriptions	1,200.00	399.50	800.50	66%	
3090 Legal Fees	3,000.00	3,049.00	-49.00	-1%	Tennis Lease, OJFS sale etc
3100 Rates and Taxes	400.00	1,880.89	-1,480.89	-370%	OJFS not sold
3110 Website Development	1,000.00	15.00	985.00	98%	
3120 Annual Meeting of the Parish	500.00	329.32	170.68	34%	complete and under budget
SUB TOTAL	17,400.00	14,932.11	2,467.89	14%	left to spend in 25% of FY

400 General Finance and Grants

4010 Audit and Accountancy	2,500.00	1,291.25	1,208.75	48%	complete and under budget
4020 Bank Charges	60.00	73.00	-13.00	-21%	unbudgeted £27 charge for CHAPS withdrawal
4040 Miscellaneous Expenditure	250.00	611.12	-361.12	-144%	Remembrance Minute 25/10.10.2
4050 S137 and Other (Non-Grant) Payments				N/A	
4060 Staff Costs - anticipated	90,420.00	47,066.30	43,353.70	47%	not all extra hours available used
4070 Transport S26-29 LGR Act 1997	1,000.00		1,000.00	100%	
4080 Loans to Local Organisations				N/A	
4090 Grants under General Powers of Competence	5,000.00	3,500.00	1,500.00	30%	£1,500 to go to Withymesd
SUB TOTAL	99,230.00	52,541.67	46,688.33	47%	left to spend in 25% of FY

500 Burial Ground Expenses

5010 WHBG General Maintenance	750.00		750.00	100%	
5020 WHBG Mowing, Hedges, Trees	4,000.00	2,949.15	1,050.85	26%	
5030 WHBG Plot Preparation	6,000.00	3,690.00	2,310.00	38%	
5040 WHBG Waste	1,000.00	483.43	516.57	51%	
5050 WHBG - Utilities	1,000.00	41.69	958.31	95%	
5060 WHBG Staff Costs anticipated	5,348.00	1,829.15	3,518.85	65%	not all extra hours available used
5070 WHBG subscriptions	235.00	226.00	9.00	3%	complete and under budget
5080 WHBG administration		706.60	-706.60	N/A	Software - no budget was set
SUB TOTAL	18,333.00	9,926.02	8,406.98	45%	left to spend in 25% of FY

600 Facilities

6010 Community Centre Car Park	5,000.00	1,598.50	3,401.50	68%	£1,598.50 OCC invoice due January
6020 Defibrillator maintenance	500.00	523.00	-23.00	-4%	replacement pad
6030 General Maintenance & Repair	5,000.00	5,176.67	-176.67	-3%	£2,803 emergency repairs to Gardiner Pavilion water supply
6040 Grass/Hedge Cutting, Weeding & Fertilising.	20,000.00	13,558.07	6,441.93	32%	
6050 Fences/Gates	350.00		350.00	100%	
6060 Pedestrian Safety Projects	3,000.00	1,113.83	1,886.17	62%	
6070 Inspections Surveys & Reports	2,000.00	1,179.00	821.00	41%	
6080 Insurance	1,850.00	2,126.44	-276.44	-14%	higher premium
6090 Office Equipment	2,500.00	6.66	2,493.34	99%	
6095 Office relocation	1,300.00		1,300.00	100%	expenses covered by SODC Clit grant
6100 Playground Equipment Maintenance	1,000.00		1,000.00	100%	SODC grant to refurbish playgrounds received
6110 Cleaning & Associated Supplies	500.00	380.82	119.18	23%	marginally below 25%
6130 Security, Fire & Safety	110.00	52.80	57.20	52%	
6140 Software and back-ups	4,000.00	1,349.04	2,650.96	66%	
6150 Street Furniture inc Seats & Bins	2,000.00	3,728.93	-1,728.93	-86%	offset by £2,000 donation from MIGGS
6160 Street Lighting - maintenance / repairs	15,000.00	8,298.44	6,701.56	44%	Change to new LEDs has reduced costs
6180 Street Lighting - Electricity	22,063.00	13,057.61	9,005.39	40%	Change to LEDs has reduced costs
6190 Telephone & Internet	500.00	605.09	-105.09	-21%	usage
6210 Tree surveys	1,500.00		1,500.00	100%	
6220 Utilities - Gas, Water, Electricity	10,000.00	7,529.76	2,470.24	24%	marginally below 25%
6230 Vandalism & graffiti removal	500.00		500.00	100%	
6240 Waste / Litter / Street Cleaning	10,000.00	5,388.72	4,611.28	46%	
6250 Environmental projects				N/A	
6260 Village Planting,Hanging Baskets & Planters	5,000.00	4,682.23	317.77	6%	Planting in Spring

6270 Christmas Trees/Lights		468.52	-468.52	N/A	omitted to give it any budget
SUB TOTAL	113,673.00	70,824.13	42,848.87	37%	left to spend in 25% of FY

700 Neighbourhood Plan

7040 GNP evidence Website	150.00	117.47	32.53	21%	marginally below 25%
SUB TOTAL	150.00	117.47	32.53	21%	left to spend in 25% of FY

Summary (excluding EMRs)

NET TOTAL	249,786.00	148,341.40	101,444.60	41%	left to spend in 25% of FY
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800 EMRs

Code Title	Budgeted	Actual	
8105 Playgrounds equipment EMR			
8150 Public Buildings EMR			
8170 Street Light Replacements EMR		61,651.09	All street lamps changed to LED
8210 Trees EMR		8,675.41	
8340 Community Car Park Resurfacing EMR			
8345 CIL Receipts EMR			
8346 Sheepcot improvements EMR		1,692.15	
8348 Playgrounds refurbishment EMR		204,766.20	Bourdillon
8349 Traffic calming EMR		384.27	
8350 Pedestrian Safety (MIGGS) EMR		511.17	
8360 Office relocation (OCC Cllr Priority Fund)		1,398.00	Secondary double glazing
8365 Security EMR			
8370 Public Spaces Strategy EMR			
8425 Freedom of Goring EMR	1,000.00		
8441 WHBG OCC Cllr Priority Fund 467		240.00	
8450 Natural BG setup EMR			
8500 GNP Review EMR			
SUB TOTAL	1,000.00	279,318.29	

V.A.T.	72,605.79
GROSS (Net + EMRs + VAT)	500,265.48

Reserves**end of Q3 2025/6**

<u>Reserve</u>	<u>Opening Balance</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Spend</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Current Balance</u>
Capital					
310 Operating (General) Reserve		71,554.50			71,554.50
Total Capital	0.00	71,554.50			71,554.50
Earmarked					
320 EMR Operating Reserve	71,464.00	-71,464.00			0.00
325 EMR Tree felling/pruning/replacement	9,474.50		8,675.41		799.09
330 EMR Playground Equipment	27,000.00				27,000.00
340 EMR Community Car Park Reserves	12,502.51	1,500.00			14,002.51
345 EMR Community Infrastructure Levy	79,091.20	-116,437.21		83,258.60	45,912.59
350 EMR Pedestrian Safety Projects (MIGGS)	511.17		511.17		0.00
355 EMR Street Lighting Replacement	22,836.51	37,707.90	61,651.09		-1,106.68 overspend
365 EMR Security	3,249.04				3,249.04
370 EMR Public Spaces Strategy	11,007.37	7,500.00			18,507.37
385 EMR WHBG Reserved Plots	5,500.00				5,500.00
410 EMR WHBG - 99Y Maintenance	7,000.00	1,000.00			8,000.00
415 EMR Public Buildings	10,180.00				10,180.00
425 EMR Freedom of Goring		1,000.00			1,000.00
430 EMR Previous Financial Year Commitments					0.00
435 EMR Sheepcot Recreation Ground	37,514.13	-37,514.13			0.00
346 EMR Sheepcot improvements	22,457.00	71,557.13	1,692.15		92,321.98
348 EMR Playground refurbishment	70,991.31	79,008.69	204,766.20	200,000.00	145,233.80 £200k SODC grant
349 EMR Traffic calming	14,811.75		384.27		14,427.48
440 EMR Environmental projects	10,000.00	-10,000.00			0.00
347 EMR WHBG Natural Burials setup		15,000.00			15,000.00
441 EMR WHBG (OCC Cllr Priority Fund 467)	3,205.00		240.00		2,965.00
360 EMR Office relocation (OCC Cllr Priority Fund)	1,535.19		1,398.00		137.19
500 EMR GNP Review		5,000.00			5,000.00
390 EMR Surfacing Ferry Lane right of way		20,000.00			20,000.00
Total Earmarked	420,330.68	3,858.38	279,318.29	283,258.60	428,129.37
TOTAL RESERVE (Capital + Earmarked)	420,330.68	75,412.88	279,318.29	283,258.60	499,683.87
GENERAL FUND (including VAT recoverable)					104,536.77
TOTAL FUNDS					604,220.64