

This reserve was set up in order to provide the financial capacity, either through direct investment - revenue and/or capital - or through servicing external borrowing, for West Suffolk Council to drive forward the delivery of a sustainable Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and the delivery of the Strategic Plan.

The primary source for the funding of this reserve has previously been the New Homes Bonus Grant.

The projections below currently assume a level of New Homes Bonus and Funding Guarantee contributions up to 2025 to 2026, however this will be reviewed annually in line with the revised grant determinations and the overall budget position.

The table below summarises the proposed contributions to and from this reserve for the term of the MTFS.

| Details | 2024 to 2025 Total budget £ | 2025 to 2026 Projected budget £ | 2026 to 2027 Projected budget £ | 2027 to 2028 Projected budget £ |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Budgeted opening balance | 2,589,679 | 3,334,089 | 4,488,499 | 3,986,799 |
| Budgeted contributions to reserve | | | | |
| Contribution to reserve from New Homes Bonus grant (see also attachment D appendix 1 - Medium Term Financial Strategy) | 815,078 | 815,078 | 0 | 0 |
| Element of New Homes Bonus reduction from the Funding Guarantee Grant | 941,032 | 941,032 | 0 | 0 |
| Additional funding announcement - Rural Services Delivery Grant and Funding Guarantee income. Figures to be confirmed with final settlement | 190,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Suffolk Public Sector Leaders redistributed share of Business Rate Pool income (2024 to 2025 only) | 1,100,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total contributions to reserve: | 3,046,110 | 1,756,110 | 0 | 0 |
| Budgeted Contributions from Reserve | | | | |
| Community chest and locality budget funding | (501,700) | (501,700) | (501,700) | (501,700) |
| St Felix, Newmarket, Leisure Provision (Capital Programme) | (800,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Establish a commissioning pot to progress a number of sustainable growth objectives including the economic potential of Brandon and the A1307, A11 and A14 corridors | (500,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Establish a fund to support the objective 'Develop and improve access to a programme of activities and advice for residents facing challenges as a result of the cost-of-living crisis', delivery model to be considered | (100,000) | (100,000) | 0 | 0 |
| Extraordinary utility support for Abbeycroft to protect against swimming pool closures and reduction in provision. | (300,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Provision to identify more ways in which the council can increase affordable, preferably social housing, across the district, including investigating the use of a Housing Revenue Account so that the council can build homes for social and affordable rent. | (100,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total contributions from reserve: | (2,301,700) | (601,700) | (501,700) | (501,700) |
| Budgeted closing balance: | 3,334,089 | 4,488,499 | 3,986,799 | 3,485,099 |