



## Accounting policies for the 2025/26 statement of accounts

### Summary

1. This report asks Members to approve the accounting policies to be used in the preparation of the Authority's Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2026. One change has been made in relation to the measurement of property, plant and equipment. No changes have been made to the remaining policies applied and disclosed in the 2024/25 audited statements.

### Recommendations:

- a **Members approve the accounting policies for the Statement of Accounts for 2025/26 as set out in Annex1; and**
- b **Members delegate to the Section 151 Officer the ability to amend the accounting policies if required.**

### Background

2. The Authority's accounts are prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2025/26 (the Code), issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), as applicable to National Park Authorities.
3. Accounting policies are the specific principles, bases, conventions, rules and practices applied by the Authority in preparing and presenting its financial statements.
4. A change to the 2025/26 Code is the introduction of indexation for property plant and equipment. The code now requires property plant and equipment to be valued every five years with indexation applied during the four intervening

years. Prior to this, the Authority valued high value assets annually. The Authority's accounting policy relating to this has been updated to reflect the Code change and can be found under the heading of Property Plant and Equipment in Annex 1.

5. One other minor change has been made to the table showing the differences between the statutory basis of accounting and the IFRS accounting basis. The reference to upward/(downward) valuation of assets previously only referred to upward valuation of assets. This change is purely for completeness.
6. Other than the change detailed in para 4, no other amendments have been made to the policies used in the 2024/25 unaudited financial statements, other than amendment of the dates and periods which the policies are applied to.

### **Policy Context**

7. The production of the Statement of Accounts as at 31 March each year is a statutory requirement. Member consultation on accounting policies is necessary in order for those charged with governance to endorse the main bases for preparing the accounts. There is however very little discretion over accounting policies as by statute these need to be consistent with the Code.

### **Options**

8. Members can approve the accounting policies for use in the preparation of the Statement of Accounts. There is little discretion to amend without breach of the Code; the proposed policies comply with the Code.

### **Proposals**

9. Members are asked to approve the accounting policies for the 2025/26 Statement of Accounts shown in Annex 1, and to allow the Section 151 Officer to amend accounting policies if required to ensure Code compliance.

---

### **Demonstrating best value**

10. There are no direct value for money implications as a result of this report.

### **Finance considerations**

11. There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report.

### **Risk**

12. There is a risk to the Authority in that, should Members not approve accounting policies the Authority will not meet its statutory duty as regards preparation of the Statement of Accounts. This may lead to further difficulties in achieving subsequent deadlines and may adversely affect our audit opinion.

### **Legal considerations**

13. The substance of the financial reporting framework in local government is that locally approved accounting policies are compliant with the Code.

### **Human resources**

14. There are no human resources implications as a direct result of this report.

### **Diversity implications**

15. There are no diversity implications as a direct result of this report.

### **Sustainability**

16. There are no sustainability implications as a direct result of this report.

Background papers	None
Author / Post	Serena Armstrong, Financial Services Manager
Responsible Officer	Peter Notley, Head of Resources (S151)
Date written	20/03/2026.

## **Annex 1: Statement of significant accounting policies**

### **Introduction and General Principles**

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Authority's transactions for the 2025/26 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2026. The Authority is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015, which those regulations require to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices primarily comprise the *Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2025/26 and the Service Reporting Code of Practice 2025/26, supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)*.

### **Accruals of Income and Expenditure**

Income and expenditure are accounted for in the year in which resources are consumed or when entitlement arises. The principles applied are as follows:

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Authority transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Authority.
- Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the Authority can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Authority.
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption; they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet.
- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made.
- Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest

rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract.

- Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised, but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.
- Where the Authority is acting as an agent for another party income and expenditure are recognised only to the extent that commission is receivable by the Authority for the agency services provided or the Authority incurs expenses directly on its own behalf in providing the services.
- Government Grants are recorded as Income when they are received provided there is reasonable assurance that the conditions of receipt are complied with or at a later date should the conditions be met at that later date. Grants and contributions used to finance the acquisition of a non-current asset are initially credited to Capital Receipts in Advance and then recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when any conditions are met. These grants are reversed out of the General Reserve to the Capital Grants Unapplied Account until the capital expenditure is incurred, in which case they are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account through the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where grants are received but conditions are not met, these are accrued forward to the following financial year.
- In relation to the Local Government Pension scheme the liability that the Authority has for meeting the future cost of retirement benefits arising from service provided by employees up to the Balance Sheet date net of the contributions paid into the fund and the investment income generated.
- Changes in fair values of Investment Properties are recognised in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
- The Statutory basis of accounting for the Authority differs from that reported in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Account as required under IFRS. Details are provided in the following table:

The differences between the Statutory Basis of Accounting and the IFRS Accounting base are as follows:

<b>Income or Expense</b>	<b>Basis of Statutory Charge to General Fund</b>	<b>Basis of Accounting Charge or Credit</b>	<b>Other Funds utilised to represent enhancement from Statutory Outturn to Accounting Outturn</b>
Consumption or usage of Long-Term Assets	Contribution to the reduction in borrowing requirement in excess of minimum required.	Full accrual principle determined by Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	Capital Adjustment Account with small portion to Revaluation Reserve in relation to Current Cost Element of Depreciation
Grant receipts relating to Long Term Assets	None	All Grants received in year providing no conditions are attached and/or conditional grants from prior years that were applied in year.	Unapplied Capital Grants Reserve
Disposal Receipts or entitlements relating to Long Term Assets	None	Net Profit or Loss	Capital Receipts Reserve (deferred if cash not received) minus Capital Adjustment Account (or Revaluation Reserve) in relation to holding value of asset at time of sale.
Financing of new Capital Investment	Contributions made where otherwise not funded by Capital Receipts or	None	Capital Adjustment Account

	designated Capital Grants		
Upward/(Downward) Valuation of Assets	None	Credited/(Debited)	Revaluation Reserve or, for Investment Properties (or where reinstating past Impairment), Capital Adjustment Account
Pension Scheme Costs	Direct amounts paid in relation to the scheme	Full accrual principles including actuarial valuation	Pension Reserve
Staff Costs	Direct amounts paid	Accrual made for leave entitlement deferred forwards	Accumulated Absences Adjustment Account
'Revenue Expenditure Financed by Capital Under Statute' (capex in respect of an asset owned by a third party)	None	Full accrual principles	Capital Adjustment Account
Minimum Statutory Provision for Capital Debt Repayment	Charge as required under statute	None	Capital Adjustment Account

### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is defined as cash in hand, deposits held with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours and bank overdrafts. Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments, with original maturities of three months or less, that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash, and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Authority's cash management.

## **Reserves**

The Authority's Reserves represent the accumulation of surpluses (and deficits) upon the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure account overall years up to and including the Balance Sheet date. These also equal the Total Value of the Authority's assets less its' liabilities.

Reserves are classified into Useable (when currently available for application) and Un-useable (when there is no current liquidity).

The Notes to the Accounts upon the Reserves explain fully the purpose of each Reserve and the uses to which they are applied.

## **Exceptional Items**

Where items of income and expenditure are material, their natures and amounts are disclosed separately, either on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement or in notes to the accounts, depending on how significant the items are to an understanding of the Authority's financial performance.

## **Prior Period Adjustments, Changes in Accounting Policies and Errors**

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effect of transactions or other events and conditions on the Authority's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively (unless stated otherwise) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied. Material errors discovered in prior year period figures are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period.

### **Accounting Estimates and Judgements**

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Information about significant areas of estimation uncertainty and critical judgements in applying accounting policies that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are described in the notes. Changes in accounting estimates are applied prospectively, i.e. in the current and future years affected by the change and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

### **Employee Benefits Payable During Employment**

Short term employee benefits include wages and salaries, annual leave and flex-time balances at year end. These liabilities are expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date. They are recognised as an expense in the year in which employees work for the Authority and are measured at the amounts the Authority expects to pay when the liabilities are settled. The accrual for the cost of any holiday entitlement earned but not taken before the year end, which can be carried forward, is reversed out of the General Reserve through the Movement in Reserves Statement.

### **Employee Termination Benefits**

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Authority to terminate an officer's employment or an officer's decision to take voluntary redundancy. They are charged on an accruals basis to the relevant service line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement at the earlier of when the Authority can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the Authority recognises costs for a restructuring. Where the termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions the General Reserve is charged with the amount payable by the Authority to the pension fund.

### **Employee Retirement Benefits**

Many employees of the Authority are members of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), administered by Cumbria County Council. The scheme is a funded defined benefit scheme meaning that the scheme provides retirement lump sums and pensions, earned as employees work for the Authority. As a defined benefit scheme, this is shown within the Authority's accounts according to the details set out in the notes to the accounts.

Statutory provisions allow the Authority to charge amounts paid to the pension fund in the year to the General Reserve. This therefore means that within the Movement in Reserves Statement, there are appropriations to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional transactions for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the amounts paid to the pension fund in the year and any amounts payable but unpaid at the year end. Full details of the LGPS fund are available from its website.

### **Employee Discretionary Benefits**

The Authority also has restricted powers to make discretionary awards of retirement benefits in the event of early retirements. Any liabilities estimated to arise as a result of an award to any member of staff are accrued in the year of decision and accounted for using the same policies as are applied to the LGPS.

### **Events after the Balance Sheet Date**

Events after the Balance Sheet date are events that might have a bearing upon the financial results of the past year and the financial position presented in the Balance Sheet and that occur between the Balance Sheet date and the date the financial statements are authorised for issue. There are two types of post Balance Sheet event:

- i. Those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the Balance Sheet date. Where material, the financial statements and notes are amended to reflect the impact of these events.

- ii. Those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the Balance Sheet date. The financial statements and notes are not amended to reflect these events, but additional explanatory notes may be added where the effect is material.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the financial statements.

### **Financial Instruments**

Financial instruments held by the Authority are all classed as either financial liabilities or financial assets under the Code. The following items meeting the definition are contained within the Authority's Balance Sheet.

### **Financial Liabilities**

Financial liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Authority becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value and carried at their amortised cost. As the Authority is currently debt free it only has one type of financial liability, and these relate to creditors.

Creditors are recognised when a contractual arrangement is entered into between the Authority and a supplier to provide goods and services for an agreed price. The value of the creditors recognised in the Balance Sheet represents the current value of the outstanding liabilities of the Authority at 31 March as a proxy for amortised cost.

### **Financial Assets**

Financial assets are classified based on a classification and measurement approach that reflects the business model for holding the financial assets and their cashflow characteristics. The authority holds two main types, those accounted for at Amortised Cost and those at Fair Value.

### **Amortised Cost**

Where the Authority's business model is to hold financial assets to collect contractual cash flows, it classifies these financial assets as measured at amortised cost. These assets are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Authority becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value. They are subsequently measured at their amortised cost. The Authority has two types of assets that meet this class of financial asset, being trade receivables and cash and bank deposits.

Trade receivables are recognised when a contractual arrangement is entered into between the Authority and a debtor for the provision of goods and services for an agreed sum. The value of debtors in the Balance Sheet represents the current value of the outstanding debts owed to the Authority at 31 March as a proxy for amortised cost. Impairment losses are calculated to reflect the expectation that the future cash flows might not take place because the borrower could default on their obligations. The Authority recognises expected credit losses on its trade receivables using the simplified approach to the lifetime credit loss model. Using this approach, expected lifetime credit losses on individual debts are calculated based on an assessed credit risk. Changes to the impairment loss allowance are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Cash and bank deposits are shown in the Balance Sheet at amortised cost using the effective interest rate of the individual investments. For all the investments that the Authority has made, this means that the amount shown in the Balance Sheet is the amount of principal due to be repaid to the Authority, and the interest credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, is the amount receivable by the Authority under the terms of the agreement. Expected credit losses are assessed using the credit rating of the financial institution and the related product.

### **Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income**

Changes in fair value are accumulated in the Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve until the asset is derecognised, at which point the net gain or loss is transferred to the General Fund Balance.

### **Government Grants and Contributions**

Revenue grants are recognised as income at the date that there is reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and that the grant will be paid by the funding body. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the grant must be returned to the funder if not used as specified. Grants where conditions have not been met are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors until conditions are satisfied, at which point they are credited to the relevant service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Grants and contributions used to finance the acquisition of a non-current asset are initially credited to Capital Receipts in Advance and then recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when any conditions are met. These grants are reversed out of the General Reserve to the Capital Grants Unapplied Account until the capital expenditure is incurred, in which case they are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account through the Movement in Reserves Statement.

### **Inventories, Work in Progress and Long-Term Contracts**

Inventories held for resale at the Lake District Visitor Centre and the Information Centres and at the Authority's depots for repairs and maintenance are reflected in the Balance Sheet at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

Work in progress is valued at cost in the Balance Sheet.

Long term contracts are accounted for on the basis of charging the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services with the value of works and services received under the contract during the year.

### **Investment Property**

Investment properties are defined as those held solely to earn rentals or for capital appreciation or both. Investment property is measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value based on the amount at which the asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable parties at arm's length. As a non-financial asset, investment properties are measured at highest and best use. Properties are revalued annually according to market conditions at year end. Statutory adjustments are

applied so that revaluation movements have no impact on the Authority's usable reserves.

## **IFRS 16 Leases**

### **1. Authority as Lessee**

Unless confirmed as an exception (see below) a right of use asset and corresponding liability will be recognised on the Balance Sheet at commencement of a lease.

The lease liability will be measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at that date, discounted at the rate implicit in the lease, or if that cannot be readily determined, at the lessee's incremental borrowing rate specific to the term and start date of the lease. In this case, the Public Works Loan Board's annuity lending rate will be used as the incremental borrowing rate.

The right of use asset will initially be measured at cost, comprising:

- the initial measurement of the lease liability
- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, less any lease incentives received
- any initial direct costs incurred by the lessee, and
- an estimate of costs to be incurred by the lessee in dismantling and removing the underlying asset, restoring the site on which it is located or restoring the underlying asset to the condition required by the terms and conditions of the lease, unless those costs are incurred to produce inventories.

Where a right of use asset is acquired at a peppercorn rent or for nominal lease payments, or for nil consideration, the cost will be measured at its fair value as at the commencement date on the same basis as donated assets.

IFRS16 will not be applied to leases where the underlying asset is valued at £10,000 or less.

IFRS16 will not be applied to short term leases of less than 12 months.

Lease payments relating to finance leases will be apportioned between Interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and a Minimum Revenue Provision to write down the liability on the Balance Sheet.

The asset recognised on the Balance Sheet will be depreciated over the life of the lease on a straight-line basis.

Leases that fall outside IFRS16 are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense to the service benefitting from the use of the leased asset. Charges are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease.

## **2. Authority as Lessor**

The Authority acts in the capacity of lessor for the lease of land and property it owns. Lease payments receivable under finance leases are apportioned between a charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property, applied to write down the lease debtor and finance income which is credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. In addition, for new finance leases, a charge will be made to the General Fund Balance and a credit made to the Capital Receipts Reserve to the value of the non-interest element.

Lease payments due under operating leases are accounted for on an accruals basis in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as they become due. Where the Authority acts as lessor, land and property leased under operating leases are held as a non-current asset within the Balance Sheet and valued in accordance with the measurement bases set out in the policy on Property, Plant and Equipment.

## **Overheads and Support Services**

The costs of overheads and support services are charged to service segments in accordance with the authority's arrangements for accountability and financial performance.

## **Property, Plant and Equipment**

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the provision of services and are expected to be used during more than one financial year are classified as Property, Plant and Equipment

### **1. Recognition and Measurement**

All expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of property, plant and equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Authority and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other expenditure on assets is charged as an expense to revenue as it is incurred. Property, Plant and Equipment assets also include assets held under finance leases, which have been capitalised and included in the Balance Sheet at the lower of fair value of the property and the present value of the minimum lease payments.

The de-minimis level below which expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of a non-current asset is treated as revenue expenditure has been set at £10,000.

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising the purchase price and any costs that are directly attributable to bringing the asset into working condition for its intended use. Assets are then carried in the Balance Sheet using an appropriate measurement bases as declared in the fixed asset disclosures.

Assets will be valued on a 5-year rolling basis, with annual indexation applied to assets during the four intervening years. Where an appropriate indices cannot be obtained without undue cost or effort, assets will be valued on a quinquennial basis with a desktop revaluation in year three.

The Revaluation Reserve contains revaluation gains recognised since 1 April 2007 only, the date of its formal implementation. Gains arising before that date have been consolidated into the Capital Adjustment Account.

## **2. Impairment**

Assets are assessed at each year end as to whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. Where indications exist and any possible differences are estimated to be material, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated and where this is less than the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment loss is recognised for the shortfall. This is charged to the revaluation reserve up to the value held for the asset in this reserve. Any further loss is charged to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement. Where a subsequent event is judged to reverse an impairment, the reversal is credited to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, up to the amount of the original loss, (adjusted for depreciation).

## **3. Component Accounting**

Where a component of a non-current asset is replaced or restored, the carrying amount of the old component shall be derecognised and the new component reflected in the carrying amount. Each part (component) of an item of property, plant and equipment that is significant in relation to the total cost of the item is depreciated separately. Componentisation is only applied where the difference between the depreciation on each component and the depreciation on the asset as a whole is considered material, which for this Authority is considered to be assets with a value over £1M.

## **4. Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided for on all assets with a determinable finite life (except for investment properties, assets held for sale and assets under construction), by allocating the value of the asset in the Balance Sheet over the periods expected to benefit from their use. Depreciation is calculated using the relevant life year schedule as declared in the fixed asset disclosures. Revaluation gains are also depreciated, with an amount equal to the difference between current value depreciation and the depreciation that would have been chargeable based on their

historical cost being transferred each year from the revaluation reserve to the capital adjustment account.

### **Non-Current Assets Held for Sale**

Non-current assets held for sale are defined as assets that are:

- Available for immediate sale in their present condition
- The sale is highly probable
- The asset must be actively marketed for a sale price that is reasonable
- The sale should be expected to complete in one year.

If assets no longer meet the criteria to be classified as Assets Held for Sale, they are reclassified back to non-current assets and valued at the lower of their carrying amount before they were classified as held for sale, adjusted for depreciation, revaluations or amortisation that would have been recognised had they not been classified as held for sale and their recoverable amount at the date of the decision not to sell.

Non-current assets held for sale are revalued immediately prior to reclassification and then measured at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less selling costs. Any reduction in asset value is recognised as an impairment loss.

### **Provisions**

Provisions are required for any liabilities of uncertain timing or amount in circumstances where:

- the Authority has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event.
- it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation.
- a reliable estimate of the amount of the obligation can be made, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

A transfer of economic benefits is regarded as being probable if it is more likely than not to occur. Provisions are charged to the appropriate revenue account of the Authority and expenditure related to the provision is charged directly to that provision. The value of provisions is reviewed at each Balance Sheet date to reflect current best estimates.

### **Contingent Assets and Liabilities**

Contingent assets and liabilities arise where an event has taken place that gives the Authority a possible asset or obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Authority. Contingent assets and liabilities are not recognised in the financial statements but are disclosed as a note to the accounts, unless the possibility of inflow/outflow of resources is remote. They are assessed continually to determine if the inflow/outflow is probable. In the case of a contingent liability, if the outflow becomes probable a provision is recognised unless a reliable estimate cannot be made. If the inflow from a contingent asset becomes probable and can be measured reliably, the debtor (or cash where consideration has been received) and the related revenue are recognised in the financial statements in the period in which the change occurs.

### **Value Added Tax**

Value Added Tax payable is only included as income and expenditure received or paid by the Authority if it is classed as irrecoverable by HM Revenue and Customs.

### **Fair Value Measurement**

The authority measures some of its non-financial assets such as surplus assets and investment properties at fair value at each reporting date. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset takes place either in the principal market for the asset or, in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset.

The authority measures the fair value of an asset using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest. When measuring the fair value of a non-financial asset, the authority takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The authority uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data is available, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs. Inputs to the valuation techniques in respect of assets for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the authority's financial statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy as follows:

- Level 1        quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets that the authority can access at the measurement date
- Level 2        inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset, either directly or indirectly
- Level 3        unobservable inputs for the asset

### **Rounding**

The authority accepts that minor rounding differences of between £1k and £2k may occur within its Statement of Accounts, these amounts are not material, and the Authority does not intend to alter any totals where this occurs.