

Housing and Homelessness Revenue Budgets

2022/23 Budget	2022/23 Actuals	2023/24 Budget	2024/25 Budget
£	£	£	£

SUMMARY OF NET EXPENDITURE

Enabling Role	136,820	91,702	91,460	97,740
Homeless Assistance	1,119,860	2,188,863	2,217,150	2,484,040
Housing Advice	56,300	58,362	59,850	201,160
Housing Renewal Grant	308,570	273,204	335,490	276,280
Shared Amenities	256,000	276,000	286,000	313,000
Stillwater Park	-76,740	-58,813	-94,000	-107,720
Sub-Standard Housing Including Slum Clearance	224,060	215,695	239,790	234,150
	2,024,870	3,045,013	3,135,740	3,498,650

Housing and Homelessness Revenue Budgets

	2022/23 Budget	2022/23 Actuals	2023/24 Budget	2024/25 Budget
	£	£	£	£
Enabling Role				
Employee Costs	108,370	69,730	71,250	76,640
Supplies and Services	8,000	4,060	8,000	8,000
Support Services	20,450	17,911	12,210	13,100
	136,820	91,702	91,460	97,740

The Government continues to encourage Local Authorities to promote the provision of affordable housing, including through Registered Providers. One of the roles of the Housing Section is to enable the provision of housing by such agencies.

The Housing Section investigates needs and opportunities, develops strategies and assists partner agencies in delivering projects, including allocation of funding secured through the Homes and Communities Agency.

Homeless Assistance

Employee Costs	1,291,090	1,370,469	1,552,090	1,601,230
Premises	201,760	270,535	240,110	249,230
Transport Related Costs	0	41	0	0
Supplies and Services	2,796,400	5,585,546	4,731,400	4,413,710
Support Services	245,700	223,380	266,130	273,640
	4,534,950	7,449,971	6,789,730	6,537,810
Income	-3,415,090	-5,261,108	-4,572,580	-4,053,770
	1,119,860	2,188,863	2,217,150	2,484,040

The Council has a statutory duty to provide assistance for persons who find themselves homeless. Costs under this heading are incurred for the provision of temporary accommodation in the private sector. This includes the use of bed and breakfast accommodation but the Council also operates a loan deposit scheme and operates a Private Sector Leasing (PSL) scheme to provide an efficient and high quality service to homeless households.

Recent years have seen increases in housing need and homelessness problems and this has led to greater use of bed and breakfast accommodation. With the economic position and welfare reform, pressure on the homelessness services remains high. The Council continues to look for more cost effective and satisfactory ways of providing temporary accommodation and of preventing homelessness.

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	2022/23 Budget	2022/23 Actuals	2023/24 Budget	2024/25 Budget
	£	£	£	£
Housing Advice				
Employee Costs	47,420	49,482	51,080	171,800
Support Services	8,880	8,880	8,770	29,360
	56,300	58,362	59,850	201,160

The provision of housing advice is a statutory requirement and can help to prevent homelessness and rough sleeping by providing information on rights and housing options to people with housing problems. As well as advice, the Council is able to provide assistance to homeless households.

Homelessness prevention by the provision of housing advice and assistance has been a key factor in limiting the use of temporary accommodation.

Housing Renewal Grant

Employee Costs	259,550	230,269	286,390	235,970
Support Services	49,020	42,935	49,100	40,310
	308,570	273,204	335,490	276,280

This budget covers the administration cost of the Private Sector Housing Renewal Grant system. The actual grants are treated as capital expenditure and form part of the Capital Programme. Grants and loans are available (subject to funding) for property owners (and sometimes private tenants) to encourage repair and improvement of housing conditions. These include packages to bring dwellings, including mobile homes, up to a decent standard for habitation and assist with maintaining independence in the home.

Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grants for private and Housing Association owned properties are awarded to adapt dwellings to meet the needs of disabled occupiers. Expenditure on these private sector grants is generally funded by Government Grant. A separate funding arrangement exists for tenants in Council-owned properties.

Shared Amenities

Supplies and Services	256,000	276,000	286,000	313,000
	256,000	276,000	286,000	313,000

This is a contribution from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) towards the cost of providing amenities on estates managed by the HRA, which are shared by the whole community.

Housing and Homelessness Revenue Budgets

	2022/23 Budget	2022/23 Actuals	2023/24 Budget	2024/25 Budget
	£	£	£	£
Stillwater Park				
Employee Costs	25,290	25,207	27,490	36,600
Premises	71,890	136,110	72,930	73,910
Supplies and Services	3,270	8	3,270	3,280
Support Services	4,770	4,770	4,710	6,260
	<u>105,220</u>	<u>166,095</u>	<u>108,400</u>	<u>120,050</u>
Income	-181,960	-224,908	-202,400	-227,770
	<u>-76,740</u>	<u>-58,813</u>	<u>-94,000</u>	<u>-107,720</u>

The Council operates a mobile home park at Poulner, Ringwood, with standings for 69 mobile homes. A Service charge is applicable to each standing.

Sub-Standard Housing Including Slum Clearance

Employee Costs	190,130	189,174	206,390	201,700
Supplies and Services	0	375	0	0
Support Services	35,930	31,470	35,400	34,450
	<u>226,060</u>	<u>221,019</u>	<u>241,790</u>	<u>236,150</u>
Income	-2,000	-5,324	-2,000	-2,000
	<u>224,060</u>	<u>215,695</u>	<u>239,790</u>	<u>234,150</u>

The condition of the private sector housing stock, including homes in multiple occupation, (over 70,000 properties) are kept under continual review with the object of ensuring that serious hazards are eliminated, and dwellings are repaired/improved, occupation prohibited, property boarded up or demolished as appropriate. Visits with regard to overcrowding, immigration or providing reports to Housing Needs in support of re-housing will also be undertaken.

Complaints concerning tenanted dwellings in poor condition are investigated and the necessary mandatory action taken to eliminate category 1 and significant category 2 hazards (including service of legal notice when necessary). Costs incurred for the service of notice or works in default can be recovered from the property owner. The Council also monitors and licences Houses in Multiple Occupation.

The Council works with the owners of long term empty homes to increase the local supply of housing and reduce the negative impact that neglected homes can have on communities. Loans are offered to assist in bringing properties up to standard so they can be let via our private sector leasing scheme, and in some circumstances we can take control of improving & letting an empty home via an Empty Dwelling Management Order.