

## Glossary of Terms

**Authorised Limit** – represents the limit beyond which borrowing is prohibited, and needs to be set and revised by the Council. It reflects the level of borrowing which, while not desired, could be afforded in the short term, but is not sustainable. It is the expected maximum borrowing need, with some headroom for unexpected movements.

**Bank Rate** – the rate at which the Bank of England offers loans to the wholesale banks, thereby controlling general interest rates in the economy.

**Capital expenditure** – material expenditure on capital assets, such as land and buildings, capitalised in accordance with regulations.

**Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)** – the level of capital expenditure to be financed from borrowing. This requirement will eventually be met by revenue resources through the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) mechanism.

**CIPFA** – Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

**Counterparty** – the other party involved in a borrowing or investment transaction.

**Credit Rating** – a qualified assessment and formal evaluation of the credit history and capability of repaying obligations of an institution (bank or building society). It measures the probability of the borrower defaulting on its financial obligations, and its ability to repay these fully and on time. Ratings are prepared by Finch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's, and these are monitored by Link Asset Services.

**Gilt** - is a UK Government liability in sterling, issued by HM Treasury and listed on the London Stock exchange.

**Liquidity** – the ability of an asset to be converted into cash quickly and without any price discount. The more liquid an organisation is, the better able it is to meet short term financial obligations.

**LIBID** – London Interbank Bid Rate - the interest rate at which London banks ask to pay for borrowing Eurocurrencies from other banks. Unlike LIBOR, which is the rate at which banks lend money, LIBID is the rate at which banks ask to borrow. It is not set by anybody or organisation, but is calculated as the average of the interest rates at which London banks bid for borrowed Eurocurrency funds from other banks. It is also the interest rate London banks pay for deposits from other banks.

**LVNAV MMF** (Low Volatility Net Asset Value MMF) - a type of fund categorised as a Short Term MMF. Units in the fund are purchased or redeemed at a constant price, as long as the value of the assets in the fund do not deviate by more than 0.2% from par.

**MHCLG** – Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (formerly DCLG)

**Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)** - is a provision the council has set-aside from revenue to repay loans arising from capital expenditure financed by borrowing. MRP is required even when borrowing is internal rather than external.

**Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)** – independent body which determines the Bank Rate.

**Money Market Fund (MMF)** - mutual fund that invests only in highly liquid instruments such as cash, cash equivalent securities, and high credit rating debt-based securities with a short-term, maturity—less than 13 months. As a result, these funds offer high liquidity with a very low level of risk.

**Operational Boundary** – This indicator is based on the probable external debt during the course of the year; it is not a limit and actual borrowing could vary around this boundary for short times during the year. It should act as an early warning indicator to ensure the Authorised Limit is not breached.

**Prudential Code** – the Local Government Act 2003 requires the Council to ‘have due regard’ to the Prudential Code and to set Prudential Indicators for the next three years to ensure that the Council’s capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable. The Prudential Code is published by CIPFA.

**PWLB** – Public Works Loan Board. An institution managed by the Government to provide loans to public bodies at rates which reflect the rates at which the government is able to sell gilts.

**Revenue expenditure** – day to day items which may not be capitalised without a Government direction, including employees’ pay, transport and premises costs, supplies and services, and benefits.