



Report To:	Full Council
Date:	Monday 29 th September 2025
Subject:	2024/25 Outturn Report
Purpose:	To present the 2024/25 Outturn financial position and seek approval for the transfer of the resulting surplus to Earmarked Reserves.
Key Decision:	N/A
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Sandeep Ghosh, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Growth
Report Of:	Brendan Arnold, Interim Director of Finance (S151 Officer)
Report Author:	Nicole Hayes, Head of Finance Delivery – BBC (PSPSL)
Ward(s) Affected:	N/A
Exempt Report:	No

Summary

This report sets out a summary of the 2024/25 financial position for the Council and the requirement to transfer the position to Earmarked Reserves.

Recommendations

It is recommended:

That Full Council approve the transfer of the £1,015,000 surplus to the Volatility Reserve.

Reasons for Recommendations

To ensure the Council's financial position for 2024/25 is considered and related decisions approved. It is important that Full Council are aware of the financial position of the General Fund to ensure that they can make informed decisions that are affordable and financially sustainable for the Council.

Other Options Considered

To not approve the transfer to Earmarked reserves.

1. Background

- 1.1 Throughout the year quarterly monitoring reports are completed forecasting the expected year end outturn compared to the approved budget. This report provides information on the General Fund revenue position for 2024/25.
- 1.2 Cabinet reviewed the 2024/25 Q4 Outturn Report on 31 July 2025 and resolved to forward the surplus transfer recommendation to Full Council for further consideration.
- 1.3 The full year outturn delivered a surplus of £1,015,000 as outlined in the below table.
- 1.4 Following the transfer of this surplus to Earmarked Reserves, it will result in a total reserve balance held on the balance sheet of £19.345m.
- 1.5 The full report can be viewed on the Council's website within the Cabinet agenda pack.

Net Spend by Assistant Director Area

Assistant Director Area	Revised Budget 2024/25 at Q4 £'000	Outturn 2024/25 at Q4 £'000	Variance (underspend)/ overspend at Q4 £'000	Comments on main variances at Q4
Corporate	1,940	1,856	(84)	This is primarily attributed to the significant £100k saving on computer costs and software licenses, along with other minor variances.
Economic Growth	250	192	(58)	With an underspend of £58k Economic Growth's figures reflect a vacancy for an inward investment officer. The unfilled role has led to lower-than-anticipated personnel expenditure.
Finance	3,257	3,193	(64)	An underspend of £64k in Finance is driven by a revision of the rent allowance provision courtesy of an error charge previously related to the HB

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				subsidy. This correction aligns actual expenses with the budget.
Governance and Monitoring	829	934	105	The overspend is primarily explained by a rise of £112k in Members' allowances along with additional minor variances.
General Fund Assets	(876)	(666)	210	This is predominantly due to a notable increase of £222k in repairs and maintenance expenditures, which is partially mitigated by an additional income £16k spent on parking and other minor variances.
Leisure and Culture	1,209	811	(398)	Leisure and Culture achieved a substantial underspend of £398k, because of significant savings across multiple areas. Key factors included a £272k saving from a delayed works programme at the leisure pool, a £40k underspend on events staffing, a £30k underspend on markets staffing, a £12k underspend on shared management and £21k underspend on Museum Service. There are other minor variances. These variances indicate that several projects and contractual agreements were postponed and negotiated to lower costs, reflecting a strong emphasis on cost control and operational efficiency during this period.
Neighbourhoods	2,267	2,116	(151)	The Neighbourhoods Directorate achieved an underspend of £153k attributed to various variances. These include £47k from a new vehicle washing contract, £70k from fuel savings, and £33k from a street cleansing vacancy.
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	185	176	(9)	This directorate reported a modest underspend of £9k. Planning income fell short of the budget by £91k. However, this shortfall was offset by a staffing underspend of £64k along with other minor variances.
Regulatory	649	547	(102)	The Regulatory Directorate achieved an underspend of £102k, attributed to various streamlined cost areas. This

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				includes Building Control income £60k, Emergency Planning vacancy pending service review £15k, £24k Land charge staffing underspends. Additionally, there were other minor savings contributing to this overall underspend.
Wellbeing and Community Leadership	1,756	1,561	(195)	An underspend of £195k was achieved through several minor efficiencies. These include a £58k saving on CCTV vacancies, a £10k underspend from the CCTV volunteers' budget, a £27k underspend noted in Bed & Breakfast spending, and a £24k underspend on Affordable Homes staffing. Additionally, other minor variances contributed to this overall underspend.
BTAC	769	769	-	Realised a surplus of £86,000 which has been transferred to the BTAC reserve.
Sub Total – Assistant Director – net costs	12,235	11,489	(746)	

Internal Drainage Boards/Parish Precepts	2,973	2,967	(6)	This is broadly in line with budget.
MRP	129	154	25	Mainly due to £18k additional MRP due to reduction in fair value of the M&G Property Fund investment. £7k resulted from a higher outturn for unfinanced capital expenditure than when the budget was set.
Interest Payments Received / Return on Property Funds	(1,587)	(2,245)	(658)	Due to higher than anticipated cash balances (due to slippage of capital programme and additional grant) and better rates than expected.
Borrowing Costs	111	111	-	In line with budget
Borrowing Discount	(642)	(642)	-	In line with budget

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Allocated to Revenue				
DRF	2,619	195	(2,424)	This mainly due to slippage of capital programme.
Reserves	(2,619)	(195)	2,424	This mainly due to slippage of capital programme.
Efficiencies Required	(190)	(58)	132	Unrealised efficiency savings
Salary Efficiencies	(367)	-	367	Unrealised efficiency savings
Corporate Impairment Allowance	100	-	(100)	Sundry debt corporate impairment allowance not required in 2024/25
Non-Service Expenditure	527	287	(240)	
Total Expenditure	12,762	11,776	(986)	
Council Tax	(5,682)	(5,682)	-	
Business Rates	(5,598)	(5,612)	(14)	Renewable energy gain
Non-Ring-Fenced Government Grant	(1,482)	(1,497)	(15)	
Total Funding	(12,762)	(12,791)	(29)	
Total Budget – (Surplus)/Deficit	-	(1,015)	(1,015)	

2. Conclusion

The 2024/25 General Fund surplus balance is required to be transferred to reserve for future years utilisation.

Implications

South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

None

Corporate Priorities

None

Staffing

None

Workforce Capacity Implications

None

Constitutional and Legal Implications

None

Data Protection

None

Financial

As contained in this report and Appendix.

Risk Management

None

Stakeholder / Consultation / Timescales

None

Reputation

None

Contracts

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Equality and Diversity / Human Rights / Safeguarding

None

Health and Wellbeing

None

Climate Change and Environmental Implications

None

Acronyms

None

Appendices

None

Background Paper

No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.

Chronological History of this Report

This report was previously considered by Cabinet on 31 July 2025.

Report Approval

Report author:	Nicole Hayes, Head of Finance Delivery – BBC (PSPSL) Nicole.Hayes@pspsl.co.uk
Signed off by:	Brendan Arnold, Interim Director of Finance (S151 Officer) Brendan.Arnold@sholland.gov.uk
Approved by:	Councillor Sandeep Ghosh, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Growth Sandeep.Ghosh@boston.gov.uk