

Housing and Homelessness Services Revenue Budgets

2020/21 Budget	2020/21 Actuals	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
£	£	£	£

SUMMARY OF NET EXPENDITURE

Enabling Role	131,790	109,598	129,590	136,820
Homeless Assistance	998,630	936,895	907,370	1,119,860
Housing Advice	59,500	58,175	60,320	56,300
Housing Renewal Grant	262,000	264,657	287,730	308,570
Shared Amenities	225,000	218,000	242,000	256,000
Stillwater Park	-4,440	-139,511	-9,200	-76,740
Sub-Standard Housing Including Slum Clearance	174,050	238,084	173,760	224,060
	1,846,530	1,685,898	1,791,570	2,024,870

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	2020/21 Budget	2020/21 Actuals	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
	£	£	£	£
Enabling Role				
Employee Costs	104,470	63,226	103,820	108,370
Supplies and Services	8,000	29,037	8,000	8,000
Support Services	19,320	17,335	17,770	20,450
	131,790	109,598	129,590	136,820

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	1,001,370	1,112,484	1,261,300	1,291,090
Premises	193,730	240,785	195,460	201,760
Transport Related Costs	0	15	0	0
Supplies and Services	2,428,700	3,342,323	2,467,100	2,796,400
Support Services	185,020	130,679	199,550	245,700
	3,808,820	4,826,286	4,123,410	4,534,950
Income	-2,810,190	-3,889,391	-3,216,040	-3,415,090
	998,630	936,895	907,370	1,119,860

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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	2020/21 Budget	2020/21 Actuals	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
	£	£	£	£
Housing Advice				
Employee Costs	50,210	48,885	51,500	47,420
Support Services	9,290	9,290	8,820	8,880
	59,500	58,175	60,320	56,300

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	221,140	227,994	245,670	259,550
Support Services	40,860	36,663	42,060	49,020
	262,000	264,657	287,730	308,570

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, in line with the Housing Act 2004. 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	225,000	218,000	242,000	256,000
	225,000	218,000	242,000	256,000

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.

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	2020/21 Budget	2020/21 Actuals	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
	£	£	£	£
Stillwater Park				
Employee Costs	21,830	21,724	22,320	25,290
Premises	144,840	50,044	138,470	71,890
Supplies and Services	3,270	10,547	3,270	3,270
Support Services	4,030	4,030	3,800	4,770
	<u>173,970</u>	<u>86,345</u>	<u>167,860</u>	<u>105,220</u>
Income	-178,410	-225,855	-177,060	-181,960
	<u>-4,440</u>	<u>-139,511</u>	<u>-9,200</u>	<u>-76,740</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	181,400	186,330	183,240	190,130
Supplies and Services	0	28,742	0	0
Support Services	33,520	30,077	31,390	35,930
	<u>214,920</u>	<u>245,148</u>	<u>214,630</u>	<u>226,060</u>
Income	-40,870	-7,064	-40,870	-2,000
	<u>174,050</u>	<u>238,084</u>	<u>173,760</u>	<u>224,060</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.