

## Appendix C: Treasury Management Glossary of Terms

**Authorised Limit (Also known as the Affordable Limit):**

A statutory limit that sets the maximum level of external borrowing on a gross basis (i.e. not net of investments) for the Council. It is measured on a daily basis against all external borrowing items on the Balance Sheet (i.e. long and short term borrowing, overdrawn bank balances and long term liabilities).

**Balances and Reserves:**

Accumulated sums that are maintained either earmarked for specific future costs or commitments or generally held to meet unforeseen or emergency expenditure.

**Bank Rate:**

The official interest rate set by the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee and what is generally termed at the "base rate". This rate is also referred to as the 'repo rate'.

**Basis Point:**

A unit of measure used in finance to describe the percentage change in the value or rate of a financial instrument. One basis point is equivalent to 0.01% (1/100th of a percent). In most cases, it refers to changes in interest rates and bond yields. For example, if interest rates rise by 25 basis points, it means that rates have risen by 0.25% percentage points. If rates were at 2.50%, and rose by 0.25%, or 25 basis points, the new interest rate would be 2.75%.

**Bond:**

A certificate of debt issued by a company, government, or other institution. The bond holder receives interest at a rate stated at the time of issue of the bond. The price of a bond may vary during its life.

**Capital Expenditure:**

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of capital assets.

**Capital Financing Requirement (CFR):**

The Council's underlying need to borrow for capital purposes representing the cumulative capital expenditure of the local authority that has not been financed.

**Capital Receipts:**

Money obtained on the sale of a capital asset.

**Credit Rating:**

Formal opinion by a registered rating agency of a counterparty's future ability to meet its financial liabilities; these are opinions only and not guarantees.

**Counterparty List:**

List of approved financial institutions with which the Council can place investments with.

**Debt Management Office (DMO):**

The DMO is an Executive Agency of Her Majesty's Treasury and provides direct access for local authorities into a government deposit facility known as the DMADF. All deposits are guaranteed by HM Government and therefore have the equivalent of a sovereign triple-A credit rating.

**Gilts:**

Gilts are bonds issued by the UK Government. They take their name from 'gilt-edged'. Being issued by the UK government, they are deemed to be very secure as the investor expects to receive the full face value of the bond to be repaid on maturity.

**LIBID:**

The London Interbank Bid Rate (LIBID) is the rate bid by banks on Eurocurrency deposits (i.e. the rate at which a bank is willing to borrow from other banks).

**LIBOR:**

The London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) is the rate of interest that banks charge to lend money to each other. The British Bankers' Association (BBA) work with a small group of large banks to set the LIBOR rate each day. The wholesale markets allow banks who need money to be more fluid in the marketplace to borrow from those with surplus amounts. The banks with surplus amounts of money are keen to lend so that they can generate interest which it would not otherwise receive.

**Maturity:**

The date when an investment or borrowing is repaid.

**Money Market Funds (MMF):**

Pooled funds which invest in a range of short term assets providing high credit quality and high liquidity.

**Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP):**

An annual provision that the Council is statutorily required to set aside and charge to the Revenue Account for the repayment of debt associated with expenditure incurred on capital assets.

**Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP):**

An additional contribution over and above the MRP that the Council can choose to make to reduce the CFR which in turn will reduce the MRP for future years.

**Non Specified Investment:**

Investments which fall outside the CLG Guidance for Specified investments (below).

**Operational Boundary:**

This linked directly to the Council's estimates of the CFR and estimates of other day to day cash flow requirements. This indicator is based on the same estimates as the Authorised Limit reflecting the most likely prudent but not worst case scenario but without the additional headroom included within the Authorised Limit.

**Prudential Code:**

Developed by CIPFA and introduced on 01/4/2004 as a professional code of practice to support local authority capital investment planning within a clear, affordable, prudent and sustainable framework and in accordance with good professional practice.

**Prudential Indicators:**

Prudential indicators are a set of financial indicators and limits that are calculated in order to demonstrate that Councils' capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable.

They are outlined in the CIPFA Prudential Code of Practice. They are indicators that must be used to cover the categories of affordability, prudence, capital spending, external debt/borrowing and treasury management. They take the form of limits, ratios or targets which are approved by Council before 1 April

each year and are monitored throughout the year on an on-going basis. A Council may also choose to use additional voluntary indicators.

**Public Works Loans Board (PWLB):**

The PWLB is a statutory body operating within the United Kingdom Debt Management Office, an Executive Agency of HM Treasury. The PWLB's function is to lend money from the National Loans Fund to local authorities and other prescribed bodies, and to collect the repayments.

**Revenue Expenditure:**

Expenditure to meet the continuing cost of delivery of services including salaries and wages, the purchase of materials and capital financing charges.

**(Short) Term Deposits:**

Deposits of cash with terms attached relating to maturity and rate of return (Interest).

**Specified Investments:**

Term used in the CLG Guidance and Welsh Assembly Guidance for Local Authority Investments. Investments that offer high security and high liquidity, in sterling and for no more than one year. UK government, local authorities and bodies that have a high credit rating.

**Supported Borrowing:**

Borrowing for which the costs are supported by the government or third party.

**Temporary Borrowing:**

Borrowing to cover peaks and troughs of cash flow, not to fund capital spending.

**Unsupported Borrowing:**

Borrowing which is self-financed by the local authority. This is also sometimes referred to as Prudential Borrowing.

**Yield:**

The measure of the return on an investment.