

Annual Report & Summary of Accounts 2006/07



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Brighton & Hove City Council Annual Report and Summary of Accounts 2006/07

The Annual Report and Summary of Accounts has been compiled by Central Accountancy Services. This report highlights the city council's strategic aims, some of its achievements in 2006/07, and also provides a summarised version of the 2006/07 statement of accounts.

A full version of the Statement of Accounts is available on the finance section of the council's website www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/accounts.

You can also see the Performance Plan 2007/08 on our website, which provides further details of the council's performance over 2006/07 and targets for the next 3 years.

The council hope that you find this publication informative. However, if you feel there are any improvements the council can make to this publication we would like to hear from you. If you have any questions or require further information, please contact:

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Foreword from the Leader of the Council

Following the local elections in May 2007, Brighton & Hove City Council is now led by a minority Conservative administration and I am delighted to have the opportunity to lead the council. As you will see from the body of the Annual Report, all of our services have been assessed as providers of good quality services that are continuing to improve and are helping us to reduce inequalities across the city and tackle some of our priorities head on.

This is against a background of very challenging government grant settlements for this authority, which are likely to continue for the foreseeable future. From 2008/09 the government will introduce 3-year funding settlements for local authorities but we expect these to remain very difficult for Brighton & Hove City Council. We believe that there are serious flaws in the methods used to allocate funding nationally and we will continue to make representations to Government to address these, in particular, to review the inaccuracies in the population statistics used and consider the high costs of treating drug and alcohol related problems in the city that are not recognised in the allocations. We are also badly treated in respect of the Concessionary Bus Travel Scheme, whose objectives of course we strongly support, and we will be left with a shortfall of £3.6 million in our next budget.

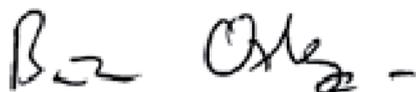
That said, since taking over the running of the council in May, we have concentrated on putting our finances on a stronger footing thanks to our new approach of matching policy to resources. We have looked at councils such as Wandsworth and East Sussex, who provide excellent value for money for their council tax payers and have adopted their approach of detailed long-term financial planning.

We are determined to improve financial management and maximise our use of resources and one of our first acts as a new administration was to set up the Financial Management Sub-Committee in order to be open and honest with local taxpayers about the way we are using their money. Our key financial priorities include:

- Lower council tax rises;
- Improving value for money and matching resources to priorities;
- Developing robust long-term financial plans;
- Corporate oversight and scrutiny of key major infrastructure projects.

As part of our commitment to reducing inequality and improving opportunity we will continue to provide increased funding for children's social care services and learning disability services while looking at innovative ways of providing services. We are also committed to extending front-line services in other areas and for example will ensure that the Jubilee Library is able to open 7 days a week in future and plan to increase the number of park rangers across the city.

I believe that we have a moral duty as a council to keep council tax rises as low as we are possibly able to whilst protecting our front-line services. This is a key target for us and to help inform our long-term financial strategy we are committed to consulting with a cross-section of our local residents to gauge what the priorities are for them and for their local communities. Council Tax payers want to see rigour in how their money is spent and we will aim to deliver lower tax rises, real choice and value for money and do our best, within the central constraints placed upon us, to protect those on fixed incomes like pensioners. This will continue to be the theme at Brighton & Hove City Council in the years to come.



Brian Oxley
Leader of the Council

Introduction from the Chief Executive

Thank you for taking the time to read Brighton & Hove City Council's Annual Report and Summary of Accounts.

The financial position throughout 2006/07 has been challenging, particularly in respect of adult and children's social care pressures. This was recognised early in the financial year and tighter financial controls were introduced on staffing budgets (vacancy management) and supplies and services budgets to assist the position. In addition, restructuring of the council's debt was undertaken and has resulted in very low long term borrowing rates and substantial savings. In December 2006, the council was forecasting a £2.2 million overspend, principally relating to Section 31 Partnership adult social care services and children's social care services. However, through counter-measure savings mentioned above this has been reduced to a manageable overspend of £0.7 million (0.4%) for which reserves were identified earlier in the year as part of the 2007/08 budget setting process.

Despite the financial challenges this year, the council's financial standing remains relatively healthy and in particular the council's General Fund Balance will be maintained at the recommended level (£9 million) for an authority of this size.

Next year the government will issue a 3-year financial settlement, including schools, under the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007, which will give more certainty over funding although it is not expected to lessen the financial challenges.

Achieving Efficiencies

The council continues to deliver substantial efficiency gains, in both cash and productivity terms, as required by annual 2½% efficiency savings targets set under the government's Gershon Review of Efficiency. In 2006/07, the third year of these targets, the council has exceeded the three-year target (7½%) and in this financial year has achieved over £4 million in cash savings and nearly £1.2 million in productivity efficiencies. Achieving efficiency savings is critical for the council in order to free up essential investment into priority areas and meet financial pressures in services with high demand, for example, social care. This is especially so given the extreme financial restraints placed on us as the effects of the government's reduced grant settlements continue to impact on the council for the foreseeable future. Effective delivery of efficiencies and other savings is therefore essential for the council to keep Council Tax increases as low as possible in the future.

Performance Assessment

The council's performance is assessed each year under the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) framework. This includes inspections of education and social care services for adults and children alongside other service inspections, for example, Cultural Services. The CPA assessment was revisited in 2006 and overall the council is adjudged to be performing well and has achieved an overall 3-star rating (out of 4). Under individual assessments for services, all services are now rated at level 3, including Cultural Services and Environment, which were previously at level 2. This improvement is reflected in the judgement on "direction of travel" which is now assessed to be "improving well". Under the Use of Resources assessment, the council remains at level 2 although the assessment recognises that areas such as Internal Control and Risk Management have improved. Value for money (VFM) is a critical element of the Use of Resources assessment and in 2007/08 there will be an increased focus on VFM through the development of a VFM review programme. Refer to pages 6 and 7 for further detail.

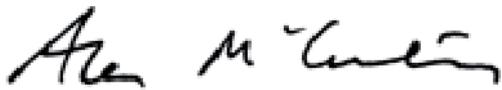
Working in Partnership

The council continues to work with partners to develop services in line with the priorities outlined in the 2020 Community Strategy and in its Corporate Plan. Developments include:

- The Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT) for Brighton & Hove, which came into being on 1 April 2006, bringing together staff in South Downs Health Trust and Brighton & Hove City Council, is now fully integrated and is operating with pooled budgets. The CYPT will focus on the priorities set out in the recently published Children and Young People's Plan which is available on the council's website.
- The council is continuing to develop its Local Area Agreement working with partners in the area. This is an agreement between the Local Strategic Partnership, Public Service Board and regional government office (GOSE) to work on an agreed set of priorities for improving outcomes locally. There are 24 targets covering areas such as children and young people, safe and sustainable communities and deprivation and injustice.

Summary

Although the financial outlook remains challenging, the council will be working hard with key partners to maintain strict financial control and will develop long term service and financial plans, in the light of new 3-year government settlements. This will enable the council to plan for the delivery of efficiencies and service improvements and ensure that the people of Brighton & Hove are well-served by its vision, actions and services.



Alan McCarthy
Chief Executive

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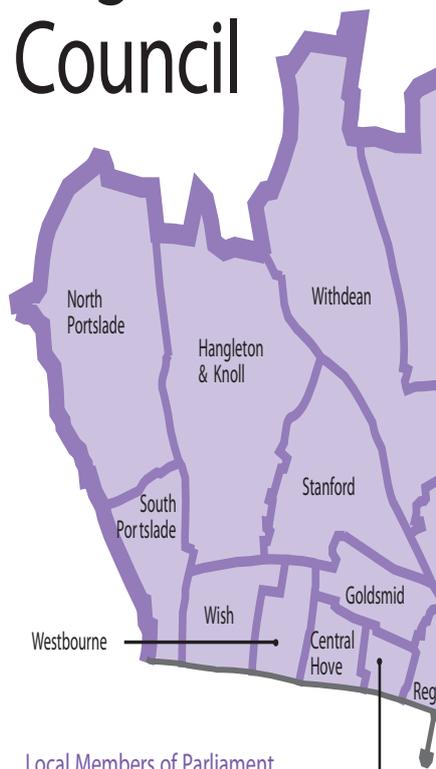


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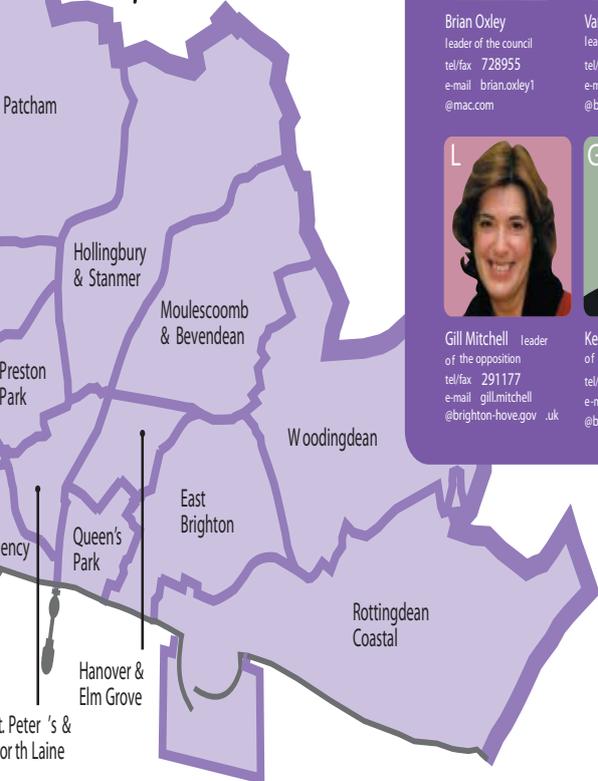
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Brighton & Hove City Council



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KEY: C Conservative L Labour G Green LD Liberal Democrat I Independent

Direction of Travel

In the past 12 months the council has made significant improvements in a number of its priority areas. Key among these are:

- continued improvements in attainment levels,
- a successful outcome from the Annual Performance Assessment for Education and Children's Social Care carried out by Ofsted and the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI),
- advancements in leading projects, including the King Alfred Centre and the integrated waste management programme; and
- we have taken some difficult decisions to improve value for money in some of our high risk services including older people and homelessness.

However, the overriding objective is to deliver real change and to promote the City's best interests. The council have taken this forward through our strategic partnership working in the Public Services Board and in high profile capital projects such as the Private Finance Initiative funded Brighton Centre redevelopment. The council is also a leading partner in the Sussex Improvement Partnership with particular responsibility for organisational development developing new ways of delivering services ensuring that all communities can access the services they need.

The new administration has set out clear political priorities to improve value for money in service delivery, increase safety in the City and promote the interests of some of the harder to reach parts of the community where deprivation levels are often high.

The council have undertaken extensive research to enable us to better understand the local needs of the City through the Reducing Inequality Review (RIR) 2007. The first phase explained that the city as a whole is doing well, but people living in the most deprived areas are significantly more likely to experience inequality across a range of measures - income, benefits dependency, health, crime and environment. The council is leading a genuine and meaningful debate around appropriate strategies for reducing inequality across the city to ensure that agreed priorities are identified.

Other drivers for directing improvements are resident and user surveys and feedback from consultations and complaints. All of these factors are used to shape and prioritise performance and service development and are reflected in our corporate planning and Local Area Agreement priorities. The 2006/07 assessment of progress against the 2020 priorities found that 63% of the targets had been achieved or were on track, and 30% were within range of reaching their targets.

As part of the drive for value for money, the council is updating its approach to business planning. This will refresh the current performance management framework to strengthen accountability, better manage good and poor performance and create a 'golden thread' of planning and service delivery down to individual workplans. Officers are reviewing the current framework and anticipate the new approach to business planning to be in place for the start of the 2008/09 financial year.

The Council's Performance

As mentioned in the Introduction the Audit Commission assesses the council's performance each year, under a process called the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA). In 2006 the annual audit and inspection letter concluded that the council achieved a score of 3 star overall (out of a maximum of 4) with a 'direction of travel' statement, which describes the council as 'performing well'. The overall assessment of the council was as follows:

Element	Assessment
Direction of Travel Judgement	Improving Well
Overall	3 Star
Children and Young People	3 out of 4
Social Care (Adults)	3 out of 4
Use of Resources	2 out of 4
Housing	3 out of 4
Environment	3 out of 4
Culture	3 out of 4
Benefits	3 out of 4

The Audit Commission said, "The council has clear shared ambitions. It works well with partners delivering services for example initiatives to reduce burglaries and theft". With regard to value for money the Audit Commission said "The council provides value for money in some services and is strengthening its approach to ensure consistent practice".

The main messages included in the report are as follows.

- Independent external reviews of the council have consistently been positive; the Corporate Assessment which included the Joint Area Review (JAR) of children's and young people's services concluded that it is performing well; services for vulnerable people judged services as 'good' and the Commission for Social Care Inspection's (CSCI) review of adult social care concluded that the council is serving 'most people well'
- The way the council uses its resources was scored as 2 out of 4. Appropriate systems of internal control are in place and financial management is sound. Some improvement opportunities exist including its current achievement of value for money.
- The council is tackling a difficult financial outlook. Its financial standing is sound currently but it will need to achieve an estimated £20 million of savings over the coming three years in order to maintain council tax increases at below 5%.

The council also has to report against over 100 nationally set Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs). The council aims to be amongst the best performing councils and set challenging targets annually to drive improvement. The council regularly monitor their performance against these BVPIs to see if the council are performing well enough to meet their targets. If the council are not performing as well as planned the council consider what action needs to be taken to achieve the targets the council have set.

In 2006/07 the council improved its performance (compared to 2005/06) against approximately 58% of the BVPIs and most of these targets were exceeded. The council achieved or exceeded the targets it had set on almost half of the BVPIs. Overall the picture is one of improved performance against the majority of BVPIs with this good performance being spread across all service areas. The council have set targets for improvement again this year and will monitor its performance regularly to ensure that everything possible is done to meet them.

Detailed information about the council's BVPI performance and the targets for the next three years can be found in the council's Performance Plan on the performance section of our website, www.brighton-hove.gov.uk and highlights are on pages 11 and 12 of this report.

Corporate Plan and the Council's Priorities

Since the council's first medium term Corporate Plan was produced in 2004 much has been achieved. The Performance Plan 2006/07 detailed the progress that had been made in completing the milestones in the Corporate Plan. These were largely achieved on time and demonstrated that the council had made significant progress in each of its four priority areas.

Setting priorities means making some hard choices particularly in a difficult financial climate. It is an essential part of community leadership that we define our ambitions, set priorities and communicate them – to our residents, our partners and our staff. Our joint priorities for 2006/07 were:

- Develop a prosperous and sustainable economy
- Develop a safe city that values our unique environment
- Ensure all our children and young people have the best possible start in life
- Develop a healthy city that cares for vulnerable people and tackles deprivation and injustice

Explanations of each priority along with the council's strategic goals are detailed on the following pages.

Developing a prosperous and sustainable economy

The city of Brighton & Hove has experienced strong economic growth over the last five years. The council has been instrumental in facilitating this growth through the work of its Economic Development Unit with the Economic Partnership and the Regeneration Partnership. Our creative, media and cultural sector is thriving and the public and financial services sector remains central to the local economy. The city is a major tourist, leisure and conference destination and together these make a significant contribution to the prosperity of the city.

Although the city is thriving economically the council is aware of the work that needs to be done to maintain and diversify the economic base, while securing sustainable economic prosperity. In order for economic growth locally to be sustainable, we must also manage the challenges of success.

The Strategic Goals under this priority are:

- Redevelop the Brighton Centre and regenerate the surrounding area.
- Develop key infrastructure projects supporting the local economy and creating new local jobs.
- Improve transport to, from and within the city with a new rapid transport system.
- Improve the skills of our residents to ensure they can take up opportunities in the growth sector of the economy.
- Support innovation and entrepreneurship and the development of our local knowledge economy.

Developing a safe city that values our unique environment

There is no doubt that huge numbers of people love living in, working in and visiting Brighton & Hove. We know that local residents appreciate living by the sea and having the South Downs on their doorstep. However, we are not complacent because we also know that city dwellers have concerns about crime, reducing waste, and improving our open spaces and built environment.

In order to address local concerns about crime the council leads the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) to audit crime and safety and to deliver reductions in crimes and incidents. Reducing hate crimes including domestic violence and those crimes which are related to misuse of drugs and alcohol, including violent crimes, are a high priority - as is tackling anti-social behaviour.

Increasing recycling, reducing household waste and improving street cleanliness have been priorities for the council and the percentage of household waste that is now recycled has improved significantly.

The council has a commitment to ensuring that our open spaces and built environment are high quality. A major public consultation exercise is currently underway to collect the views of local residents on our parks and open spaces.

The Strategic Goals under this priority are:

- Reducing crime and antisocial behaviour (and our citizens' fear of crime).
- Tackling the negative impact of drugs and alcohol in the city.
- Ensuring clean streets, less waste and more recycling.
- Ensuring well-designed and maintained buildings, coast line, parks and open spaces.
- Ensuring the council contributes to the UK's sustainable development strategy.

Developing a healthy city that cares for vulnerable people and tackles deprivation and injustice

The council believe that the people of Brighton & Hove have the right to expect the best possible health and quality of life for themselves and future generations. Good health is about much more than good medical care; living and working conditions affect people's health and this means that many council services are contributing on a daily basis to the health of the city's population. The council works in partnership with the Health Service and others through the Healthy City Partnership to improve health in the city and to reduce health inequalities.

The city has a shortage of decent, affordable housing and a high proportion of homeless people. The council is striving to balance the local housing market and maximise the supply of affordable homes in the city in order to ensure we have sustainable communities necessary in a thriving local economy. At the same time attention is being paid to services which assist people threatened with homelessness so that homelessness is avoided.

Enabling older people to live independently and safely in their own homes guides the council's approach to services for older people. By working in partnership with the private, voluntary and local health sectors the council has enable more older people to receive home care and live independently at home.

The Strategic Goals under this priority are:

- Work with Health partners to improve the health of all our citizens in the city with particular emphasis on communities experiencing greatest inequality of health.
- Work to develop new affordable housing, to rent and buy, improve housing choices, and improve the quality of the housing stock.
- Develop our services for older people to improve choice and quality of life.
- Improve the provision of services to all vulnerable groups through housing, health and social care partnerships to ensure local residents are supported in maintaining their independence.
- Tackle poverty and disadvantage by targeted regeneration schemes and projects designed to ensure more equal life chances for all our residents.

Ensuring all our children and young people have the best possible start in life

The council believe that all children are entitled to a healthy, secure upbringing, a good education, and the opportunity to fulfil their dreams.

From 0-5, young children and their families are entitled to high quality pre- and post- natal care, and to a secure start in life, including high quality family support, early education and childcare. They should enjoy emotional security, freedom from poverty, and good parenting.

From 5-10, children are entitled to a thorough grounding in basic literacy and numeracy, to develop their love of learning, to find out about the world around them, make friends and cement secure relationships within their family.

From 10-14, children make the most important transition from primary to secondary school, and go through their early adolescent years. They are entitled to an increasingly rich and stimulating educational programme, with opportunities for them to develop their interests and aptitudes further. They are entitled to ongoing support from parents, teachers and other professionals as they become more aware of the adult world, with its attractions and dangers.

From 14-19, young people spend much of their time studying for examinations, and getting to grips with the adult world. They are entitled to both general and more specialised learning opportunities, suited to their needs and aspirations, as they prepare for higher education, training or work.

The Strategic Goals under this priority are:

- Wherever possible to deliver services locally, tailoring provision to meet the needs of local areas, establishing Children's Centres, local partnerships for extended schools, local work with young people, and investing in preventative services for children and their families.
- Raise levels of attainment and attendance on the city's schools.
- Improve the health and activity levels of our children and young people.
- Increase opportunities for all children and young people, and especially those from vulnerable or marginalized groups to play active roles in the city and have a say in decisions that affect them.

Best Value Performance Indicators

As mentioned in the section 'The Council's Performance' on page 7, the council is required to report against over 100 nationally set Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) and following are some selected BVPIs which highlight some of the council's achievements in 2006/07.

Corporate Health

- The duty to promote race equality - in 2006/07 the council achieved 89.5% and although the council set a target of 94.7% it was still an improvement of 5.5% on it's results in 2005/06
- Percentage of council tax collected by the council - in 2006/07 the council achieved 96.76% which is consistent with the results in 2005/06
- The percentage of authority buildings open to the public in which all public areas are suitable for and accessible to disabled people - in 2006/07 the council achieved 60.37%, meeting the target set for the year and represents an improvement of 6.47% on it's results in 2005/06

Children and Young People's Trust

- Percentage of pupils in local authority schools achieving level 4 or above in the Key Stage 2 Mathematics test - in 2006/07 the council achieved 77% and although the council set a target of 82% performance improved by 5% on it's results in 2005/06, the number of schools below floor targets almost halved. Plans include a focus on attainment for girls and continued support for those schools below the floor target
- Percentage of pupils in local authority schools achieving level 4 or above in the Key Stage 2 English test - in 2006/07 the council achieved 81% against a target set at 80% and representing a 3% increase on it's results in 2005/06
- Percentage of statements of Special Educational Need (SEN) prepared within 18 weeks excluding those affected by "exceptions to the rule" under the SEN Code of Practice - in 2006/07 the council achieved 98% against a target set at 93% and a 5.9% improvement on it's results in 2005/06
- Percentage of child protection cases that should have been reviewed during the year which were reviewed - in 2006/07 the council achieved 98.9%, although the target for the year was set at 100% it still represents an improvement of 2.9% against it's achievement in 2005/06

Social Services

- Number of households receiving intensive home care per 1,000 population aged 65 or over - in 2006/07 the council achieved 15.5 which shows an increase of 1.0 against the target set for the year and the result in 2005/06
- Percentage of items of equipment delivered and adaptations made within 7 working days - in 2006/07 the percentage was 91%, which was 5% higher than the target set for the year and a 6% improvement on the results in 2005/06
- Number of adults and older people receiving direct payments per 100,000 population - in 2006/07 the council achieved 53.6 which was 3.6 higher than the target set for the year and an improvement of 10.6 on the result in 2005/06

Culture and Related Services

- The number of visits to/usages of museums per 1,000 population - in 2006/07 the figure was 11,328 against a target set at 9,292 and representing an improvement of 2,202 on the results in 2005/06

Housing Services

- Energy Efficiency - average SAP (Standard Assessment Process) rating of local authority owned dwellings - this remains strong with a rating of 75 compared with a score of 69 for the top 25% authorities in 2005/06
- Proportion of rent and arrears collected by the council - this has improved by 0.11% to 96.44% for 2006/07
- Average time taken to re-let local authority housing - this has improved by 4 days to 35 days for 2006/07

Waste and Cleanliness

- Percentage of total tonnage of household waste recycled - in 2006/07 the council achieved 23.32% an improvement of 2.37% on the performance in 2005/06
- Tonnage of household waste used to recover heat, power and other energy sources - in 2006/07 the council achieved 2,608.53 which shows a significant increase from the 560.1 achieved in 2005/06
- Percentage of households served by kerbside collection of recyclables - in 2006/07 the council achieved 92.57% which is an improvement of 5.62% on the results in 2005/06
- Percentage of households served by kerbside collection of two recyclables - in 2006/07 the council achieved 92.57% which is an improvement of 5.62% on the results in 2005/06

Environment and Environmental Health

- The council's score against a checklist of best practice for Trading Standards - in 2006/07 the council scored 90 against a target set at 90 and shows an improvement of 3.4 on the score in 2005/06
- Percentage of pollution control improvements to existing installations completed on time - in 2006/07 the council achieved 100% maintaining it's performance achieved in 2005/06
- Percentage of new reports of abandoned vehicles investigated within 24 hours of notification - in 2006/07 the council achieved 93.7% against a target of 88% and shows an improvement of 5.03% on the performance in 2005/06

Transport

- Percentage of respondents satisfied with local provision of public transport information - in 2006/07 the council achieved 78% representing an increase of 4% on the performance in 2005/06
- Percentage of all respondents satisfied with the local bus service - in 2006/07 the council achieved 81% an increase of 1% on the achievement in 2005/06

Community Safety and Wellbeing

- Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households - in 2006/07 the number was 8.29 a reduction of 3.41 from the results in 2005/06 and 2.31 better than the target set for the year
- Vehicle crimes per 1,000 population in the local authority area - in 2006/07 the number was 10.13 a slight decrease on the performance in 2005/06

2006/07 Brighton & Hove City Council Summary Accounts

Details of the council's income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2007

Income and Expenditure Account

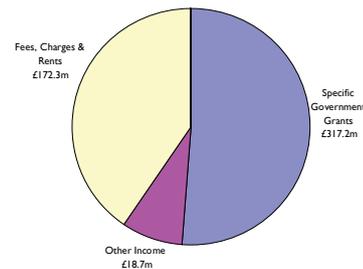
The income and expenditure account shows how much we spent on services and how we paid for them in the financial year ended 31 March 2007.

	Gross Spend £m	Income & Grants £m	Net Spend £m
Education Services	199.6	-173.4	26.2
Social Services	154.3	-46.4	107.9
Cultural, Environmental & Planning Services	88.5	-30.6	57.9
Housing Services	197.0	-191.5	5.5
Highways	30.5	-18.8	11.7
Central Services	45.0	-47.5	-2.5
Net Cost of Services	714.9	-508.2	206.7
Other Operating Spend			9.4
Net Operating Spend			216.1
Amount to be met from Government Grants and local taxation			216.1
Funded by			
Revenue Support Grant & LPSA*			-16.9
Business Rates			-81.4
Council Tax			-102.5
Deficit for the year			15.3
Net additional Statutory Amount			-15.4
Balance at the Year End			-0.1

*LPSA = Local Public Service Agreements.

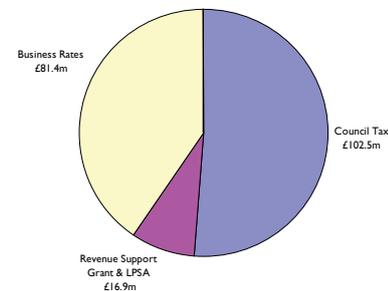
Where the money came from

The following shows the income and grants of £508.2 million which is included in the Income and Expenditure Account.



The following shows where the funding of £200.8 million to meet Net Spending on services comes from.

Revenue Support Grant is a general government grant distributed to all councils to contribute towards the cost of providing public services.



Income and Expenditure Account services include the following:

Education Services - includes schools, private and voluntary nurseries and adult and youth education.

Social Services - supports adults, for example, who need nursing or home care and children, for example, with disabilities.

Cultural, Environmental and Planning - includes, for example, refuse collection, disposal and recycling, recreation and tourism, economic development, parks and seafront.

Housing Services - includes the council's own housing stock, working with the private sector and preventing homelessness.

Balance Sheet

The balance sheet shows what the council owns, what it owes and what it is owed.

	£m
Land, buildings & equipment	1,813.1
Stocks including goods for resale	1.0
Private Finance Initiative leases	20.7
Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme	0.3
Investments	96.9
Bank overdraft	-2.9
Money owed to the council	56.2
Money owed by the council	-390.7
	1,594.6
Financed By:	
Reserves	-67.3
Non-distributable funds not available to be spent	-1,527.3
	-1,594.6

The above figures exclude £114.2 million pensions liability which has no net impact on the council's accounts.

Reserves

At 31 March 2007 the council had a working balance of £9 million in case of emergencies or service pressures on the revenue budget. In addition we have £58 million general reserves and reserves for specific purposes to ensure we can afford to meet costs arising in future years. We are required to review the adequacy of reserves each year.

Cash Flow Summary

The cash flow summary shows the total cash inflows and outflows during the year.

	£m
Cash overdrawn at 1 April 2006	-1.4
Cash in	928.8
Cash out	-930.3
Cash overdrawn at 31 March 2007	-2.9

The council invests cash in hand in the money markets to generate additional income from interest.

Housing Revenue Account

The Housing Revenue Account shows the day to day expenditure on the council's own housing stock and how much income we received.

	£m
Rent income	-37.9
Other income, including interest	-5.7
Total Income	-43.6
Repairs & maintenance	12.2
Supervision & management	12.8
Capital funded from revenue	2.6
Other costs	1.2
Total Expenditure	28.8
Depreciation and other	13.3
Surplus for the year	-1.5

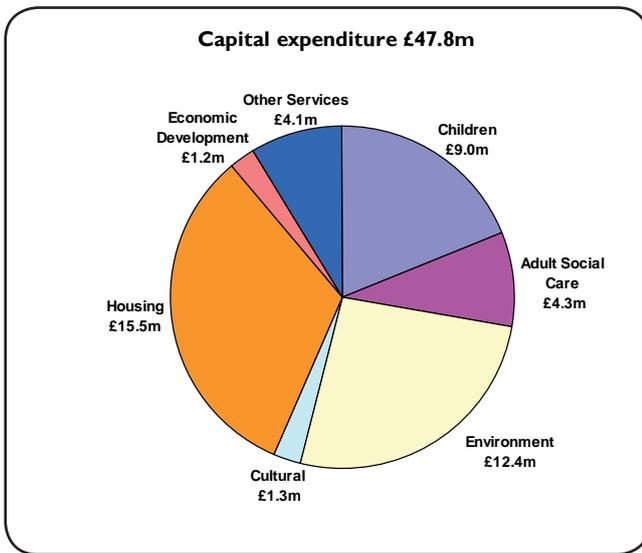
The council owned 12,385 dwellings at 31 March 2007, made up as follows:

Houses	4,300
Flats	7,828
Bungalows	257

The Housing Revenue Account is included in the council's Income and Expenditure Account within Housing Services. At the end of the financial year the Housing Revenue Account had reserves of £4.2 million.

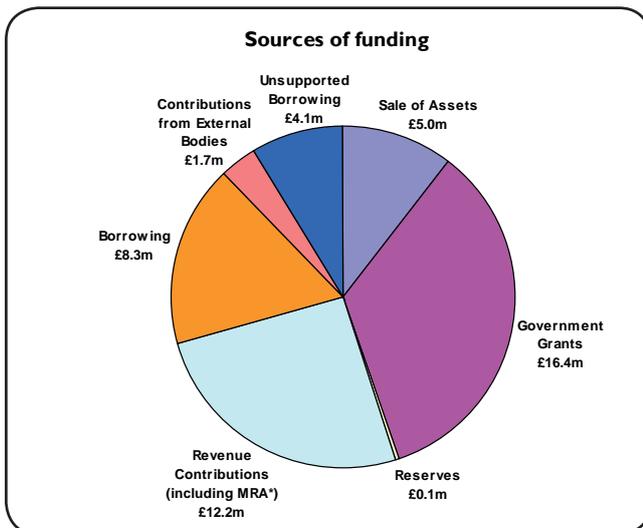
Capital Expenditure

We spent £47.8 million during the year buying and building new assets, as well as improving and enhancing those we own. As we incur capital expenditure, we are investing in our fixed assets which are then used to deliver services to the public over the long term.



Children includes schools and nurseries.
 Housing includes the council's own housing stock and private sector grants, including the development of affordable housing.
 Environment includes transport and waste.
 Cultural includes the Royal Pavilion and libraries.

Capital expenditure was financed from the following:



*MRA = Major Repairs Allowance to fund council housing capital works.

Audit Approval

The council's accounts are audited by the Audit Commission. This is to ensure that the financial statements present fairly the financial position of the council and its income and expenditure for the year.

The council also collects council tax on behalf of Sussex Police and the East Sussex Fire Authority. Their accounts are excluded from this Summary.

Translation? Tick this box and take to any council office.

Perkthim? Zgjidhni kete kuti dhe cojeni ne cilendo zyre keshilli. Albanian

ترجمة؟ ضع علامة في المربع وخذها إلى مكتب البلدية. Arabic

অনুবাদ? বক্সে টিক চিহ্ন দিয়ে কাউন্সিল অফিসে নিয়ে যান। Bengali

需要翻译? 请勾选此框并送至任何理事会的办公室。 Chinese

Farsi ترجمه؟ چهارگوشه را نشانه گذاری کرده و به یکی از انجمن های مشاوره رجوع کنید.

Traduction? Veuillez cocher la case et apporter au Council. French

Tradução? Coloque um visto na quadrícula e leve a uma qualquer repartição de poder local (Council Office). Portuguese

Tercümesi için kareyi işaretleyiniz ve bir semt belediye bürosuna veriniz Turkish

other (please state)

This can also be made available in large print, Braille or on audio tape