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Explanatory Foreword

This Statement of Accounts is produced by the County Treasurer and contains the County Council's accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2000. Publication of these accounts is required under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996 and the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting, which also specify the format and content of the accounts.

Summary of the 1999-2000 Financial Year

The County Council's budget for 1999-2000 was set at £272.951 million, an increase of 7.6% on the previous year. Included in this figure is £0.044 million relating to the Council Tax Benefit Subsidy Limitation Scheme. This scheme was introduced by Central Government to limit the amount of Council Tax Benefit it will meet where increases in council budgets exceed Central Government guidelines. The budget also provided for a contribution from balances of £1.521 million.

The table below summarises the outturn position compared to the original budget, with an overall overspending compared to the original budget of £3.308 million. Much of this overspending relates to the use of rollover from previous years, which was spent during 1999-2000. The major variations in the year were: -

- a planned overspending of £1.0 million on the costs of externalising Homes for Older People to the Order of St John's Trust.
- one off costs of £0.3 million (not offset by savings within the year) from the letting of a term maintenance contract to Ringway Parkman.
- the settlement of an outstanding debt of £0.2 million by Somerset County Council for Further Education Recoupment.
- on a historic cost basis Wiltshire Direct Services (WDS) incurred an overall deficit of £0.453 million. This has resulted in WDS retained reserves reducing to £0.116 million at 31 March 2000. The implications of this will need to be addressed during 2000-01.

Revenue Account Summary

The following tables summarise the expenditure and income for the year: -

1998-99 Actual £000		1999-2000 Budget £000	1999-2000 Actual £000	1999-2000 Difference £000
250,266	Expenditure during the year	272,951 *	276,260	-3,309
255,492	Income from government grant and local taxpayers	271,430	271,431	-1
5,226	Additions to/Withdrawals from balances	-1,521	-4,829	3,308
2,465	County Fund balance at beginning of year	4,920	7,691	-2,771
7,691	County Fund balance at end of year	3,399	2,862	537

* Includes the cost to the Council Tax Benefit Subsidy Limitation scheme of £0.044 million.

The County Fund balance at 31 March 2000 is £2.862 million, of which £0.463 million will be used for roll over into 2000-01. The original budget for 2000-01 includes a contribution to balances of £0.282 million giving available balances at 1 April 2000 of £2.681 million.

The County Council's Year 2000 Compliance programme (for protecting computers and other equipment from the effect of the date change on 1 January 2000) was completed with spending in the year of £0.765 million being incurred. The total cost to achieve compliance was £1.039 million.

Former Grant Maintained schools that have become Foundation Schools are now included within the County Council's financial accounts.

Capital Expenditure Summary

Capital expenditure in the year was £12.2 million, some £3.8 million less than the approved capital budget. Nearly all of this represents "slippage" on schemes in progress and will now be spent in 2000-01. After financing from borrowing, capital receipts and grants, £1.3 million was required to be financed from the capital reserve (which is funded by contributions from the revenue account).

Long term debt outstanding increased during the year by £2.8 million, largely due to the funding requirements of the capital programme. New loans to the value of £13.1 million were taken out, all from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB). Some debt restructuring was undertaken, with £5.1 million of PWLB debt being replaced by new PWLB loans at fixed and variable rates, to take advantage of low interest rates.

David Chalker
County Treasurer

<p>For further information concerning any items contained in this Statement please write to the County Treasurer, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, BA14 8JJ, or telephone (01225) 713620.</p>
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Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

The Authority's Responsibilities

The Authority is required to:

- make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this authority, that officer is the County Treasurer.
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets.
- approve the Statement of Accounts.

The County Treasurer's Responsibilities

The County Treasurer is responsible for the preparation of the authority's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practice as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ("the Code of Practice").

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the County Treasurer has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- complied with the Code of Practice.

The County Treasurer has also:

- kept proper accounting records that were up to date;
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

I certify that the statement of accounts on pages 11 to 41 present fairly the financial position of the authority at the accounting date and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2000.

David Chalker
County Treasurer
5 September 2000

Auditor's Report

To Wiltshire County Council

We have audited the statement of accounts on pages 11 to 37 and 39 to 41 which have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies applicable to local authorities. The Statement of Accounts comprises the Authority's accounts, on pages 11 to 37, which have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies, set out on pages 7 to 10, and the Pension Fund accounts, on pages 40 to 41, which have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 39.

Respective Responsibilities of the County Treasurer and Auditors

As described on page 5 the County Treasurer is responsible for the preparation of the statement of accounts. Our responsibilities as independent auditors are established by statute, the Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission and our profession's ethical guidance.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the statement of accounts presents fairly the financial position and results of operations of the Council.

Basis of Opinion

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission, which requires compliance with relevant audit standards.

Our audit included examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also included an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by or on behalf of the fund in the preparation of the financial statements and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the authority's and the fund's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion on the Authority's accounts

In our opinion the Statement of Accounts presents fairly the financial position of Wiltshire County Council at 31 March 2000 and its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

Opinion on the Pension Fund accounts

In our opinion the statement of accounts presents fairly the financial transactions of Wiltshire County Council's Pension Fund during the year ended 31 March 2000, and of the amount and disposition at that date of its assets and liabilities, other than liabilities to pay pensions and benefits after the end of the scheme year.

Certificate

We certify that we have completed the audit of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission.

J Steady, Audit Manager, District Audit

Statement of Accounting Policies

The general principles adopted in compiling the accounts of the County Council are in accordance with the recommendations of The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). They accord with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting, issued in 1999 by CIPFA, and also with the guidance notes issued on the application of the Statements of Standard Accounting Practice (SSAPs) and Financial Reporting Standards (FRSs). All are maintained on an historic cost basis. Any significant non-compliance is disclosed in the notes that follow.

Fixed Assets

These are valued as follows: -

<u>Type of Asset</u>	<u>Basis of Valuation</u>
Infrastructure assets	Should be shown at historic cost, less depreciation. In the absence of such information, the valuation at 1 April 1994 was based on the loans pool debt outstanding at that date. Expenditure incurred since is shown at historic cost, less depreciation.
Operational assets	Shown at either net current replacement cost or net realisable value based on existing use, depending on the type of asset.
Non-operational assets and surplus assets	Shown at either net current replacement cost or net realisable value, surplus assets depending on the type of asset.

Fixed assets were originally valued on 1 April 1994 and since then have been re-valued on a five year rolling programme.

Treatment of Leases

The Council no longer has any finance leases in respect of equipment. Property lease rentals are charged directly to service revenue accounts.

Deferred Charges

These arise from expenditure which may properly be deferred, but which does not result in, or remain matched with, tangible assets. An example is capital expenditure on aided schools.

Basis of Charging for Capital

Service revenue accounts and trading accounts are charged annually with a capital charge for all fixed assets used. The Code of Practice requires that these capital charges include a provision for depreciation of the assets during the year and an interest charge comparable with the interest that could be earned on an investment of equivalent value to the assets.

Internal Interest

Surplus monies arising from capital and revenue transactions may be utilised in lieu of borrowing from external sources. Memorandum interest on the average level of this internal borrowing is calculated by using the Local Authority 7-Day Notice Rate to enable an overall average borrowing rate to be calculated for the year.

Capital Receipts

Capital receipts from the disposal of assets, that have not been set aside for the redemption of debt or used to finance new capital expenditure, are held in the usable capital receipts reserve. In recent years the practice has been for all usable capital receipts to be applied and for the reserve to have a nil balance.

Debtors and Creditors

The accounts of the County Council are maintained on an income and expenditure basis. Where actual amounts due are not known at the end of April, estimated amounts have been included. The only exceptions to this policy are schools, as described below. Any periodic payments and receipts are mainly recorded on a cash basis, and have not been accrued. This policy is consistently applied each year and therefore does not have a material effect on this year's accounts.

The County's schools are locally managed and operate their own accounting systems. Most schools' accounts are maintained on a cash basis and do not include debtors and creditors at the year-end (although a few former GM schools operate on an accrual's basis). One effect of this is that schools' balances are shown in the balance sheet as cash in hand, without adjustment for debtors and creditors.

Contingent Liabilities

No provision is made in the accounts for contingent liabilities where it is not practicable to estimate the amount involved or if there is considerable uncertainty over the possible outcome. However, where the amounts are likely to be material, the nature of the contingency is disclosed in a note to the accounts.

Stocks and Work in Progress

Stocks are generally valued at the lower of actual cost or net realisable value, which accords with the requirements of the Code of Practice and SSAP 9. An average or standard cost is applied to calculate the cost. Work in progress on any uncompleted jobs, where the actual or estimated valuation of the job exceeds £5,000, is taken into the accounts at cost. Adjustments are made for attributable profits less any foreseeable losses, and any payments received or receivable.

Government Grants

Grants in respect of revenue expenditure are included in the accounts in the year in which the related expenditure was charged. SSAP 4 requires that grants in respect of capital expenditure be credited to the revenue account over the useful life of the assets financed by those grants. Grants used to finance depreciable tangible assets since 1 April 1994 have been treated in accordance with SSAP 4. Prior to this, the Council did not comply with the standard to the extent that capital grants were used to reduce the cost of the assets; the resultant reduced annual charges to revenue were based on a period of approximately 25 years rather than the useful life of the assets.

Cost of Support Services

All costs of a management and administrative nature have been fully recharged to all services in order to reflect the true cost of administering these services. The Corporate and Democratic Core is identified as a separate service, in accordance with CIPFA recommendations. This relates to costs that arise from the operation of the Council as a multifunction authority, which are not directly attributable to any one service. The basis of allocation used in 1999-2000 was as follows: -

<u>Cost</u>	<u>Basis of Allocation</u>
Democratic Representation	Number of attendances for each committee
Administrative Buildings	An accommodation charge based on floor area occupied, and a postage charge based on actual recorded usage.
Professional Services	The Environmental Services Department charges professional fees to the capital and building maintenance programmes in accordance with national rates in use in the building industry.
Other Support Services	Charges are subject to service level agreements between the support services and the client departments.

Provisions

A provision relates to a liability, or loss, that is likely to be incurred but there is uncertainty as to the size and timing of the liability. Its purpose should be specific and should be charged to the revenue account of the service for which the expenditure would be incurred. The Provision for Credit Liabilities is slightly different and is explained below.

Provision for Credit Liabilities

Part IV of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, which deals with the control of local authority capital expenditure and finance, requires local authorities to provide for credit liabilities arising from capital commitments, including the redemption of loan debt. A minimum annual provision has to be made from the revenue account, but the provision from capital receipts formally required under the Act ceased from 1 September 1998. However, Wiltshire County Council has continued to make this provision on a voluntary basis and the proportion of capital receipts which has been set aside in this way is shown in note 10.3 to the Consolidated Balance Sheet. These transactions are part of the capital financing reserve, but the provision for credit liabilities still needs to be disclosed as a memorandum account.

Reserves

The County Council holds several earmarked reserves, in addition to the general County Fund balance. Generally, a reserve is a sum set aside from revenue which does not relate to a specific liability, but which may be earmarked for future expenditure.

County Fund

This is the main Fund of the County Council into which the precept, Government grants, and other income are paid and from which the cost of providing services is met. The balance on the Fund is the surplus of the County Council's revenue income over its revenue expenditure.

Local Government Pension Fund for Wiltshire

This is administered by the County Council. A complete set of accounts and details of its nature, investment performance and actuarial position are reported separately in the Wiltshire Pension Fund Annual Report 1999-2000, although a summary is given on pages 40 to 41.

Pensions

SSAP 24 Accounting for Pension Costs, requires that the accounts include the cost of providing pensions on a systematic and rational basis over the period during which the authority benefits from the employee's service. The pension costs included in the accounts have been determined in accordance with Government regulations. As a result, the County Council does not comply with the accounting requirements of SSAP 24 and the liabilities included within the balance sheet are understated in respect of pension costs. However, in accordance with standard accounting practice for local authorities, the pension costs that it would then have been necessary to provide for in the period under SSAP 24 are disclosed, where appropriate, by way of a note to the accounts.

Endowment and Trust Funds

The County Council administers 14 such funds. They mostly consist of small sums received from private individuals, which have been invested by the County Council in order to provide an annual income. One of the funds exceeds £1 million and three others exceed £100,000. They do not form part of the County Council's accounts, but are shown on page 38.

Investments

The investments are shown in the Consolidated Balance Sheet at their historic cost.

Deferred Liabilities

The outstanding value of finance leases, including relevant property leases, is shown in the balance sheet as a deferred liability. The figure at 31 March 2000 is based on the actual value of lease payments outstanding.

Foreign Currency Transactions

Foreign currency transactions are accounted for on the basis of the equivalent sterling value of the underlying transaction, by applying the relevant exchange rate ruling at the time. Where overseas securities are acquired with currency either previously purchased directly or accruing from the sale of securities, the sterling book cost of the new security will be based on the exchange rate ruling at the time of purchase of that security. Any profit or loss arising on currency transactions will be reflected in the balance sheet, either as a realised or unrealised profit.

Post Balance Sheet Events

Events which occur after the balance sheet date and concern conditions which did not exist at that time are disclosed in a note to the accounts if their effect is likely to be material.

The Consolidated Revenue Account

Net Spending 1998-99 £000		Gross Spending 1999-2000 £000	Gross Income 1999-2000 £000	Net Spending 1999-2000 £000
	Expenditure on Services			
57,287	Social Services	81,346	18,686	62,660
19,641	Highways and Transportation	23,665	2,291	21,374
157,283	Education	211,500	44,398	167,102
61	Housing	99	48	51
16,669	Other Services	39,058	16,454	22,604
11,699	Home Office Services and Trading Standards	16,022	3,478	12,544
-----		-----	-----	-----
262,640	Total Services	371,690	85,355	286,335
		-----	-----	
740	Net surplus(-) / deficit of DSOs			660
-11,082	Net expenditure on asset management revenue account			-12,607
-431	Interest and investment income			-350
-----				-----
251,867	Net Operating Expenditure			274,038
-4,297	Contributions to/from(-) reserves			-823
1,289	Contribution to/from(-) capital reserve			1,298
	Contribution to capital financing reserve			
0	- Financing of capital expenditure			0
1,407	- Provision for repayment of external loans			1,747
-----				-----
250,266	Amount to be met from Government grant and local taxpayers			276,260
-87,128	Precepts on Collection Funds			-94,231
-1,383	Collection Fund surplus(-)/deficit			-435
-81,738	Revenue support grant			-83,479
-85,243	Contribution from non-domestic rate pool			-93,286
-----				-----
-5,226	Total Deficit/Surplus (-) for the Year			4,829
-----				-----
	Change in County Fund Balance			
2,465	Balance at 1 April			7,691
5,226	Deficit (-)/Surplus for the Year			-4,829
-----				-----
7,691	Balance at 31 March			2,862
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Notes to the Consolidated Revenue Account**1. CIPFA Standard Classification of Expenditure**

The Accounting Code of Practice requires expenditure to be reported according to the CIPFA standard classification. This is given in detail below: -

Net Spending 1998-99 £000		Gross Spending 1999-2000 £000	Gross Income 1999-2000 £000	Net Spending 1999-2000 £000
57,287	Social Services	81,346	18,686	62,660
	Highways and Transportation			
18,195	- Highways	20,679	932	19,747
1,446	- Transportation	2,986	1,359	1,627
	Education			
154,216	- Schools	198,535	36,954	161,581
1,375	- Continuing Education	11,243	7,444	3,799
1,692	- Service Strategy and Regulation	1,722	0	1,722
	Housing			
61	- Gypsy Sites	99	48	51
	Other Services			
1,314	- Land Drainage	1,467	0	1,467
4,353	- Libraries	5,904	742	5,162
792	- Leisure	2,037	455	1,582
1,695	- Planning and Development	1,712	64	1,648
308	- Registration of Births, etc.	563	276	287
283	- Smallholdings	1,218	881	337
4,619	- Waste Collection and Disposal	6,076	415	5,661
1,988	- Corporate and Democratic Core	2,437	368	2,069
411	- Grants to Voluntary Organisations	472	0	472
906	- Miscellaneous	17,172	13,253	3,919
	Home Office Services and Trading Standards			
9,008	- Fire Service	9,745	0	9,745
794	- Magistrates' Courts Committee	3,957	3,166	791
524	- Probation Service	544	0	544
248	- Coroner's Services	339	100	239
30	- Civil Defence	219	170	49
1,095	- Trading Standards	1,218	42	1,176
-----		-----	-----	-----
262,640		371,690	85,355	286,335
-----		-----	-----	-----

The analysis of expenditure by County Council Committee is as follows: -

Net Spending 1998-99 £000		Gross Spending 1999-2000 £000	Gross Income 1999-2000 £000	Net Spending 1999-2000 £000
156,960	Education	213,295	45,214	168,081
34,285	Environment and Transport	43,312	5,979	37,333
14,824	Policy and Resources	33,924	15,476	18,448
56,571	Social Services	81,159	18,686	62,473
-----		-----	-----	-----
262,640		371,690	85,355	286,335
-----		-----	-----	-----

2. The Asset Management Revenue Account

The net expenditure on this account represents the difference between the interest charged to service revenue accounts through the capital charges and the interest actually paid by the Council.

1998-99 £000		1999-2000 £000
	Analysis of net expenditure	
1,764	Depreciation	1,671
225	Amortisation of Deferred Charges	250
-15,048	Capital charges to revenue accounts	-16,397
4,610	Interest paid	4,432
-16	WDS stock interest	-14
-2,395	Contributions from external organisations	-2,237
-222	Amortisation of capital grants & developer contributions	-312
-----		-----
-11,082		-12,607
-----		-----

3. Finance and Operating Leases

The Council holds various capital assets under finance leases or leases that otherwise rank as credit arrangements under Government capital finance controls. Rentals paid in the year in respect of these were £0.252 million, all of which related to property leases.

The Council also has the use of assets under the terms of operating leases. The amount paid under these leases in 1999-2000 was £0.721 million (£0.539 million in 1998-99) and the amounts required in future years are as follows: -

	£000
2000-2001	768
2001-2002	753

4. Section 137 Expenditure

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by Schedule 2 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, empowers a local authority to spend up to £2.50 per head of the relevant population for the benefit of its area or its inhabitants on items for which it has no other powers to spend and where there are no statutory prohibitions on spending. In 1999-2000 the total available under this provision was £0.829 million of which the County Council spent £0.038 million.

1998-99 £000		1999-2000 £000
39	Victoria County History	38
37	Tourism	0
----- 76		----- 38
-----		-----

5. Expenditure on Publicity

The table below shows the expenditure by the Council on certain categories of publicity and is published in accordance with Section 5(1) of the Local Government Act 1986. These categories are:

- Staff advertising
- Costs of staff wholly or mainly engaged on publicity
- Other publicity, including press notices and newspapers or periodicals published by or on behalf of the Council.

1998-99 £000		1999-2000 £000
268	Environment and Transport	278
101	Education	82
150	Policy and Resources	122
178	Social Services	298
55	Wiltshire Direct Services	27
----- 752		----- 807
-----		-----

6. Agency Expenditure

The following agency services are included in the County Fund Summary Revenue Account. Income from any other sources is deducted and net expenditure on agency services, as fully reimbursed by either the sponsoring body or Government Department, is shown below: -

1998-99 £000		1999-2000 £000
	Environment and Transport *	
3,692	Motorways	0
3,899	Trunk Roads	0
23	Traffic Census	0
	Policy and Resources	
225	Rent Officer Service	117
-----		-----
7,839		117
-----		-----

*The maintenance of the Motorways and Trunk Roads transferred to WS Atkins from 1 April 1999.

7. Income from Bodies Under the Local Authority (Goods and Services) Act 1970

This Act provides for public bodies to provide goods and services to one another on a trading basis. In 1999-2000 the County Council's income from the activities covered by the Act was as follows: -

1998-99 £000		1999-2000 £000
1,132	Other Local Authorities	1,360
588	Police Authority	338
1,524	Other Public Bodies (including Parish Councils)	811
946	Grant Maintained Schools	0
-----		-----
4,190		2,509
-----		-----

8. Teachers' Pensions

In 1999-2000 the County Council paid £5.610 million to the Department for Education and Employment in respect of teachers' pension costs, which represents 7.2% of teachers' pensionable pay. In addition, the County Council is responsible for all pension payments relating to added years it has awarded, together with the related increases. In 1999-2000 these amounted to £1.057 million.

9. Pensions for Other Employees

In 1999-2000 the County Council paid an ongoing employer's contribution of £10.004 million into the Pension Fund, representing 18.41% of pensionable pay. The contribution rate is determined by the Fund's actuary based on triennial valuations, the last review being at 31 March 1998. Under Pension Fund Regulations contributions rates are set to meet 100% of the overall liabilities of the Fund.

In addition, the County Council is responsible for all pension payments relating to the added years benefits it has awarded, together with the related increases. In 1999-2000 these amounted to £0.866 million.

The Fund's actuary has advised that the pension cost that it would have been necessary to provide for in the year in accordance with SSAP 24, "Accounting for Pension Costs", is £13.195 million, representing 24.28% of pensionable pay. Further information can be found in the Wiltshire Pension Fund Annual Report 1999-2000, which is available upon request.

10. Minimum Revenue Provision for the Repayment of External Loans

The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires local authorities to charge to the revenue account an amount equal to 4% of the credit ceiling, as defined by that Act, as a minimum provision for the repayment of external debt. In 1999-2000 the amount charged by the County Council was £3.356 million.

11. Members' Allowances

The total amount of members' allowances paid in 1999-2000 in respect of basic allowance, special responsibility and attendance allowance was £0.143 million.

12. Officers' Emoluments *

The Accounts and Audit Regulations require disclosure of the numbers of officers whose remuneration in 1999-2000 exceeded £40,000, analysed into bands of £10,000. In some cases the remuneration of an officer may exceed £40,000 or fall into a higher band than it would otherwise as a result of redundancy payments.

Remuneration	Number of Officers (including redundancy payments) 1998-99	Number of Officers (excluding redundancy payments) 1998-99	Number of Officers (including redundancy payments) 1999-2000	Number of Officers (excluding redundancy payments) 1999-2000
£80,000 - £89,999	1	1	1	1
£70,000 - £79,999	0	0	5	5
£60,000 - £69,999	9	7	3	3
£50,000 - £59,999	11	8	10	10
£40,000 - £49,999	22	22	27	27
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	43	38	46	46
	-----	-----	-----	-----

* This note does not include teachers at Foundation Schools.

13. Related Party Transactions

Related Parties of a Local Authority include Central Government, Other Local Authorities and Precepting Bodies, Subsidiary and Associated Companies, Joint Ventures, Pension Funds, Members and Chief Officers: -

Central Government	details of transactions with Central Government are given throughout the Statement of Accounts.
Other Local Authorities and Bodies	details of income derived from these bodies is given in note 7 of the Consolidated Revenue Account.
Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority	a precept of £9.745 million was collected in 1999-2000.
Probation Service	net payments of £0.482 million were made to the Probation Service in 1999-2000.
Members	payments of £0.032 million were made to related parties during 1999-2000. The most significant item was the "Theatre in the Downs", of which the Chairmanship was declared in the Members' Register of Interests.
Chief Officers	a net payment of £0.022 million was paid during 1999-2000 to the Wiltshire Training and Enterprise Council, of which membership was declared by the Chief Executive.

14. Exceptional Items

The costs involved in the winding up of the WDS Civil Engineering function as a result of the termination of the Highways contract totalled £0.700 million in 1999-2000.

15. Year 2000 Project

Work began on this project in October 1998 and was completed by March 2000.

Total expenditure was £1.039 million (£0.274 million in 1998-99 and £0.765 million in 1999-2000). In the event no major difficulties arose, and the functions of the Authority were not disrupted to any significant degree.

16. Implementation of the Euro

To date £0.002 million has been spent on staff training for the implementation of the Euro.

The Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2000

1998-99 £000		Note	1999-2000 £000	1999-2000 £000
216,262	Fixed Assets	1		240,690
4,903	Deferred Charges	2		5,846
3,707	Long Term Investments	3		0
18,960	Long Term Debtors	4		17,962
-----				-----
243,832	Total Long Term Assets			264,498
	Current Assets			
966	Stocks and Work in Progress	5	674	
24,551	Debtors	6	26,837	
7,900	Short Term Investments	3	4,400	
5,491 *	Cash in Hand	7	7,382	39,293
-----			-----	-----
282,740	Total Assets			303,791
	Current Liabilities			
26,015	Creditors	8	29,461	
1,542	Deposits	9	2,354	
3,292	Temporary Loans	10	8,785	
17,434	Cash Overdrawn	11	11,170	51,770
-----			-----	-----
234,457	Total Assets less Current Liabilities			252,021
57,932	Long Term Borrowing	10	54,469	
3,956	Deferred Liability - Finance Leases	12	4,500	
9,269	Government Grants Deferred		10,561	69,530
-----			-----	-----
163,300	Total Assets less Liabilities			182,491
-----				-----
59,091	Fixed Asset Restatement Reserve	13		73,606
60,654	Capital Financing Reserve	14		71,781
0	Usable Capital Receipts Reserve	15		0
17,653 *	Earmarked Reserves	16		16,822
18,211	Deferred Credit-Swindon Debt Outstanding	17		17,420
7,691	County Fund Balance			2,862
-----				-----
163,300	Total Equity			182,491
-----				-----

* Opening balance restated to include former Grant Maintained Schools rollover of £2.271 million.

Notes to the Consolidated Balance Sheet**1. Fixed Assets****1.1. Capital Expenditure**

Total 1998-99 £000		Land and Construction 1999-2000 £000	Vehicles and Equipment 1999-2000 £000	Grants and Advances 1999-2000 £000	Total 1999-2000 £000
	Environment & Transport				
117	- County Farms	323	0	0	323
20	- Industry and Employment	435	0	0	435
7,530	- Highways	4,247	0	0	4,247
1	- Refuse Disposal	9	0	0	9
0	- Other	88	0	0	88
7,451	Education	6,142	178	60	6,380
	Policy and Resources				
265	- Administration of Justice	49	174	0	223
106	- Other	17	81	0	98
390	Social Services	57	350	37	444
-----		-----	-----	-----	-----
15,880		11,367	783	97	12,247
-----		-----	-----	-----	-----

1.2. Financing of Capital Expenditure

1998-99 £000		1999-2000 £000
	Covered by Credit Approvals	
3,453	- loan	-1,773 *
60	- credit arrangements	16
6,166	- provision for credit liabilities	5,801
3,665	Usable Capital Receipts	3,063
3,091	Capital Grants and developer contributions	4,000
648	Capital Reserve	1,305
-4,006	Unfinanced expenditure brought forward	-2,803
2,803	Unfinanced expenditure carried forward	2,638
-----		-----
15,880		12,247
-----		-----

* This figure becomes negative because the Provision for Credit liabilities exceeded the level of Credit Approvals used for the year.

1.3. Movement in Fixed Assets

	Balance at 1 Apr 99 £000	Expenditure in year £000	Disposals in year £000	Revaluations & depreciation £000	Balance at 31 Mar 00 £000
Operational assets					
- Land and buildings	172,332	-2	-101	23,640	195,869
- Vehicles, plant, furniture and equipment	2,117	805	-326	-499	2,097
- Infrastructure assets	33,019	3,989	0	-1,155	35,853
Non operational assets	8,794	82	-1,880	-125	6,871
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1999-2000	216,262	4,874	-2,307	21,861	240,690
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1998-1999	211,951	10,458	-600	-5,547	216,262
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

1.4. Capital Disposals

Land and Buildings Sold 1998-99 £000		Land and Buildings Sold 1999-2000 £000
	Environment & Transport	
1,158	- County Farms	1,683
107	- Transport and Highways	140
2,049	Education	2,155
3,165	Policy and Resources	462
106	Social Services	818
0	Wiltshire Direct Services	231
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6,585		5,489
-----		-----

Costs of sale amounted to £0.072 million, giving net receipts of £5.417 million.

1.5. Significant Commitments under Capital Contracts

The value of significant commitments under capital contracts, in which amounts of greater than £100,000 are contracted to be paid after 31 March 2000, was £1.461 million.

1.6. Statement of Physical Assets

This Statement indicates the broad categories of fixed assets owned by the County Council. The Code only requires that a broad summary of assets should be shown.

1998-99		1999-2000
4,114	Land (hectares)	3,928
	Buildings (numbers)	
61	- Primary Schools	84 *
15	- Secondary Schools	18 *
8	- Special Schools	8
1	- Adult Education Centre	1
15	- Youth and Community	19
4	- Sports and Leisure	7
29	- Administrative and Magistrates Courts	25
43	- Social Services	43
16	- Libraries	15
5	- Gypsy Sites	5
20	- Highways and WDS Depots	13
95	- County Farms	85

Buildings included above are those valued at £50,000 or more and owned by the County Council.

* From 1999-2000, all Voluntary Aided and Voluntary Controlled Schools have been included where the County Council owns either the playing fields, some mobiles, or both.

1998-99		1999-2000
	Roads (km)	
34	- Motorways	34
128	- Trunk Roads	128
569	- Principal County Roads	569
3,735	- Other County Roads	3,735

The maintenance of the Motorways and Trunk Roads transferred to WS Atkins from 1 April 1999.

1998-99		1999-2000
	Vehicles, Plant and Equipment (numbers)	
35	- Vans	28
37	- Pick up Trucks	0
24	- Lorries	2
6	- Tractors	1
7	- Land Rovers	5
4	- Mobile Libraries	3
33	- Other WDS Equipment	23
49	- Mini Buses	43
2	- Cars	1
1	- Fork Lift Trucks	1
40	- Gritters	43

The figures above show only assets valued at more than the "de minimis" value of £10,000.

1.7. Assets Held Under Capital Leases

The County Council's fixed assets include a number of items held under finance leases. These may be summarised as follows:

	Gross Book Value £000	Accumulated Depreciation £000	Book Value £000
Property	4,125	0	4,125
	-----	-----	-----
	4,125	0	4,125
	-----	-----	-----

Outstanding finance lease obligations, including relevant property leases, at 31 March 2000 amounted to £4.500 million.

1.8. Valuation of Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are included in the Consolidated Balance Sheet at their current value, as described in the Statement of Accounting Policies. An analysis is given below. A rolling programme of revaluation ensures that each property is revalued at least every 5 years. Valuations are carried out by the County Council's own valuers, who are RICS qualified.

1998-99 £000		1999-2000 £000
174,399	Operational Assets	197,967
33,019	Infrastructure Assets	35,852
8,844	Non-operational Assets	6,871
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216,262		240,690
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From 1999-2000, valuations have been included for the value of all playing fields and mobile classrooms owned by the County Council at Voluntary Aided and Voluntary Controlled Schools.

2. Deferred Charges

The Deferred Charges represent capital expenditure on school buildings (Voluntary Aided, Voluntary Controlled and Foundation schools) which the County Council does not own and hence they do not appear in its Fixed Assets.

	Balance at 1/4/99 £000	Expenditure in year £000	Charged to Revenue in year £000	Balance at 31/3/00 £000
Total 1999-2000	4,903	1,399	-456	5,846
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total 1998-99	3,130	1,998	-225	4,903
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