

INVESTMENT POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This policy sets out the treasury management procedures for the monitoring of the cash flow and banking arrangements of West End Parish Council.
- 1.2. Authority reference is to the council's Financial Regulations.
- 1.3. The Local Government Act 2003 Section 12 provides the power to invest (a) for any purpose relevant to its functions under any enactment or (b) for the purpose of the prudent management of its financial affairs. Section 15(1) of the Act requires a local authority to have regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State.
- 1.4. The council acknowledges its duty of care to the community and the prudent investment of funds.

2. OBJECTIVES

- 2.1. The council's priorities are, in the following ranking order:
 - i. The security of capital to minimise the risk of losses.
 - ii. The liquidity of investments to meet the cash flow needs of the council.
 - iii. Maximising income within the framework of the national economic situation.
- 2.2. The council will aim to achieve a high rate of return on investments commensurate with adequate safeguards of security and liquidity.

3. INVESTMENTS

- 3.1. All investment and deposits will be with UK registered banks or building societies.
- 3.2. Given the unpredictability surrounding investment in the money market, the Council will not use stocks and shares as a type of investment.
- 3.3. All investments, deposits and interest will be in £ sterling.
- 3.4. Investments for current expenditure will be on instant access deposit accounts with a daily feeder to the current account.
- 3.5. Investments not required for current expenditure i.e. the general reserve may be placed on longer term deposits of up to 2 years.

- 3.6. Investments not required for current expenditure i.e. earmarked reserves may be placed on medium term deposits not exceeding 1 year.
- 3.7. The credit ratings of the institutions will be a minimum of 'A' and these will be monitored regularly.

4. REVIEW

- 4.1 This policy will be reviewed by the full council on an annual basis. Any variation to the policy will be submitted to the council for approval.