

Summary of Accounts 2009/10



What did we spend the money on?

We show the cost of running our services in our income and expenditure account.

This account shows you the costs in 2009/10 of the Council's services and the amount financed from local and national tax income. Our main areas of spending are on Schools and Social Services.

What we spent	Net Expenditure 2009/10	
	£m	£m
Education services		
Schools	33	
Non-Schools Funding	6	39
Highways, Roads and Transport Services		29
Social Services		
Children & Families Services	23	
Older People (Aged Over 65)	38	
Adults Aged Under 65	31	
Other Social Services	1	93
Cultural and Related Services		
Library Service	5	
Other Cultural Services	14	19
Environmental Services		
Waste Disposal	11	
Other Environmental Services	2	13
Planning and Development Services		6
Corporate and Democratic Core		8
Other Services		8
Services transferred from Shropshire's District Councils		43
Income from the Housing Revenue Account		(15)
Net Cost of Services		243
Add: (Gain)/Loss on disposal of fixed assets		6
Add: Parish council precepts		5
Add: (Surplus)/Deficit on Trading Undertakings		4
Add: Repayment of Loans and Interest on Loans		14
Less: Interest Earned		(1)
Add: Pensions Related Costs		20
Net Operating Expenditure		291
Government Grants and Local Taxation		(238)
Deficit for the Year		53
Statutory and Proper Practice Adjustments		(48)
Decrease in General Fund Balance for year		5





How did we pay?

We spent £238m on running services after allowing for income from service charges of £96m and specific grant of £281m. We financed our spending using local and national taxes as follows:

How we paid for services

2009/10
£m

Local taxes - Council Tax	131
National taxes - Revenue Support Grant	34
National taxes - Business rates	73
Total income	238

So, we get around two thirds of our funding from the Council Tax payer, and one third from the business rate payer and the government.

- Council Tax
- National Taxes





Did we have anything left over?

We spent slightly more than we got in last year leading to a small deficit on our revenue account.

The deficit for the year was added to the fund balance from previous years and to the fund balances brought forward from Shropshire's District Councils to give a new balance of £10 million.

Revenue Account Deficit

2009/10
£m

Cost of services	243
Income from taxes	238
Deficit for the year	5

We handled significant amounts of cash during the year.

Cash Flow

2009/10
£m

Cash in bank/(overdrawn) on 1 April 2009	(5)
Net inflow on revenue activities	19
Cash in	79
Cash out	127
Cash transferred in from Shropshire's District Councils	26
Cash in bank/(overdrawn) on 31 March 2010	(8)



What did we spend the money on?

We also spend money on buying, improving and repairing our land, property and other fixed assets so we can offer first class public facilities. We have to account for this type of spending separately from the running cost of day-to-day services.

How did we pay?

We spent £78 million principally on improving our schools, highways, heritage and housing stock and paid for this as follows:

What we spent	2009/10
	£m
Community Services	11
Children and Young People's Services	34
Development Services	
Highways	19
Other	6
Corporate	8
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	78

How did we pay?	2009/10
	£m
Grants and contributions	37
Capital reserves	4
Revenue financing	5
Borrowing	
- Supported	21
- Unsupported	11
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	32
	<hr/>
	78

What are we worth?

At the end of each financial year, we draw up a balance sheet that represents how much Shropshire Council's land and buildings are worth, what is owed to others, what others owe us and how much cash we have:

Net assets	31 March 2010
	£m
Value of land and property	1,002
Value of infrastructure	276
Other fixed assets	90
Cash in bank and cash investments	93
Money owed to SC and stock	53
Money owed by SC	(828)
Total assets less total liabilities	686
SC's reserves	686

Shropshire Council has a legal responsibility to maintain a sensible level of working balances and reserves. We believe £10 million to be a sensible level.

Shropshire Council's net worth as an organisation is £686 million. This is represented by capital reserves of £974 million, non cash backed negative reserves of £333 million and revenue reserves of £45 million.

Reserves & Balances	2009/10
	£m
Working balances	10
Earmarked reserves	34
Housing Revenue Account balance	1
	45

How has Shropshire Council performed?

In 2009/10 Shropshire Council had six top priorities which show how important it is to us that we support the most vulnerable people in our society, that we deliver our services in ways which Shropshire people tell us best meet their needs and that we respect and care for Shropshire's environment.

You've seen a summary of what we spent on running our core day-to-day services and on our land and buildings. Here are some highlights of further improvements made with the money we spent last year:

The Audit Commission said:

"Because Shropshire Council only became a unitary council from April 2009 we have not scored the Council this year for managing performance. This means that there is also no overall Organisational Assessment this year. The Council is delivering improved outcomes for most people in areas that they consider as priorities and has over recent years been one of the strongest performing councils of its type. School exam results are generally high, crime is falling in most parts of the county and the quality of care and services for vulnerable and older people continues to improve. Public transport is also improving with people able to access their local towns more easily and the Council is enabling residents to recycle more of their waste. The Council manages its money well, including the setting of the budget for the Shropshire unitary Council which resulted in efficiencies being made which are being reinvested in key services. Councillors and officers work well together and there are strong arrangements for partnership working between the Council and other organisations in the county. However, key challenges remain for the Council and its partners in areas such as reducing child obesity and smoking, helping vulnerable people to find affordable homes and continuing to lessen the impact of the recession. The Council also needs to ensure that services run in the past by the district councils like planning and licensing are delivered at a consistently high level across the county."

AIM 1:

To give children & young people the best opportunities today and for the future

- We have improved the placement stability of looked after children and we have increased our recruitment of foster carers.
- Permanent exclusions from our schools have fallen by 50%, demonstrating a commitment from our schools to seek alternatives to exclusion, ensuring that pupils are supervised and purposefully engaged.
- We have supported 15 teenage mothers back into learning and 50 young offenders into education, employment or training through a range of bespoke mentoring/support packages.
- Shropshire Family Information Service, launched in April 2009, has been identified by the National Association of Family Information Services as a high performing service and has been invited to become an early pathfinder for the new Families First Quality Standards.

AIM 2:

To improve the health and well-being of Shropshire's residents

- Over £2 million in extra benefits for Shropshire's most vulnerable people has been raised through improved access to benefits support and advice.
- Following the success of the carers direct payment pilot in 2008, carers direct payments have continued in 2009/10, enabling more than 125 carers to access one off payments of up to £300.
- We have been contracted to manage the third year of Sport England's 'Sport Unlimited' programme offering young people 8-10 week taster sessions in sports in which they have shown an interest.
- £1.1 million funding has been secured through the Playbuilder scheme. A new county wide play partnership has been formed and work is underway to either develop or refurbish 22 play areas across Shropshire.

AIM 3:

To ensure safe and strong communities for everyone in the county

- Along with our partners, we have been actively working in communities, putting in place structures to allow issues such as anti-social behaviour and acquisitive crime to be addressed at a local level through Area Community Safety Delivery Groups. Crime rates in Shropshire have continued to fall.
- Through our joint working relating to drugs and alcohol, substance misuse by young people has reduced.
- Through a combination of measures and a joined up approach with our partners, the number of people killed or seriously injured on the roads of Shropshire has continued to fall. The council has been rated in the top 10% of councils in England in relation to road safety.
- The successful Kick It Out campaign, working through football to challenge discrimination and encourage inclusive practices, has been expanded across the county and has provided over 1,000 young people with anti-racism information and activities.

AIM 4:

To build sustainable communities for local people to live and work in Shropshire

- We have launched the Shropshire Business Enterprise Fund, offering grants to small local businesses to assist them with rates and setting up costs.
- Additional investment has been made in housing services to ensure a co-ordinated approach to policy for affordable housing. 400 more affordable new homes were built across Shropshire during 2009 than during the previous 12 months, leading to a significant decrease in the number of homeless families in the county.
- We have introduced a new kerbside collection of plastic bottles recycling services to households in the Oswestry area. This will be rolled out across Shropshire during 2010/11.
- Additional investment of £553,000 has been made to ensure cleaner streets and more litter picking across Shropshire.





Section 151 Officer's Statement

As Shropshire Council's statutory Chief Finance Officer, I can confirm that this year's statement of accounts has been prepared in line with the Accounting Code of Practice. The figures in this summary were compiled having regard to proper accounting practices.

Shropshire Council's 2009/10 accounts have been audited by an auditor appointed by the Audit Commission – the Government's public spending watchdog. We have received an unqualified audit opinion as in previous years.

A full copy of the audited statement of accounts is available on request. Please telephone 01743 252008 to obtain a copy.

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Have your say:

We want to know what you think of this summary of our accounts.
Tell us your views by telephone on 01743 252008 or please email
corporate.finance@shropshire.gov.uk

*If you can read this but know someone who can't, please contact us
on 01743 252008 so we can provide this information in a more
suitable format.*