

How your money is spent... Wigan Council's update on providing good value, top quality services

Spending meets the needs of residents

By Director of Finance and IT
DAVID SMITH

WELCOME to our summary of the council's accounts for 2005/06, which shows how we spend your money to provide improved services which are good value for money for all our residents.

We continuously review our services to make sure wherever possible the needs of local people are met.

To help us do this, we have established a network of townships across the borough, allowing us to listen to feedback from local communities, and take their views on board to prioritise services and spending.

Our full Statement of Accounts is prepared in line with codes of practice published by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and are subject to inspection by the Audit Commission.

More information is available on the internet at www.wigan.gov.uk/pub/tres/finserv/statacc.htm

We have produced this special summary to be more informative to residents.

Here at Wigan Council we value the input and views of our stakeholders and would therefore welcome any comments you may have about this summary. We hope readers find it useful, but please get in touch at the contact point below regarding your views or if you require any extra information.

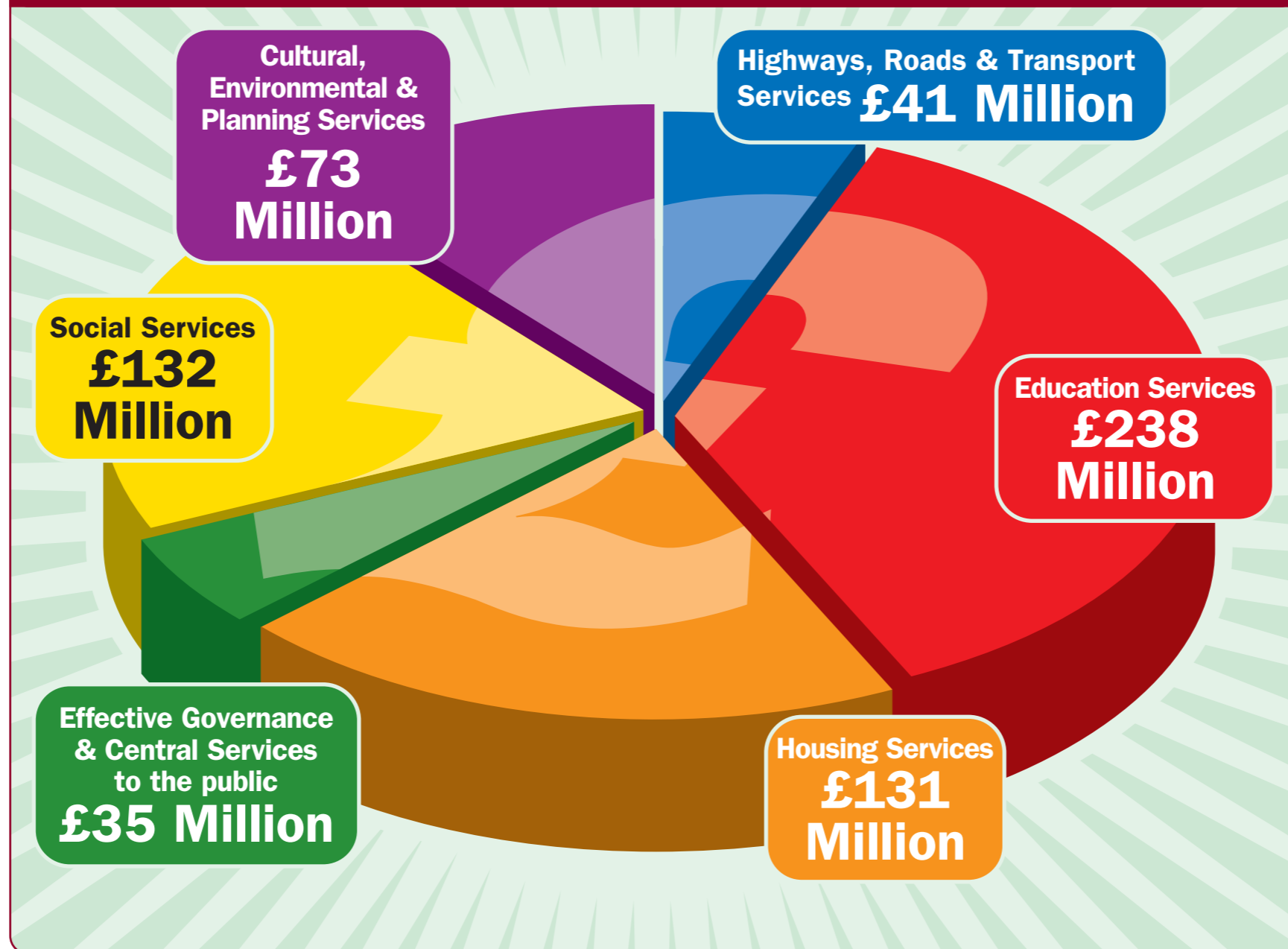
Copies of the Overall Summary Statement of Accounts 2005/06 are available at council offices and

libraries, and paper copies of the full version are available on request.

Wigan Council, Finance and I.T. Department, Accountancy Section, Civic Centre, Millgate, Wigan, WN1 1DD. Tel. 01942 827260.



Where did your money go in 2005/06?



Capital spending

CAPITAL spending is money used by the council to buy, upgrade or improve assets like buildings and roads.

Residents benefit from this expenditure over a long period of time.

The council spent over £132million on its capital programme in 2005/06. This underpins the

Housing renovations	£73.1m
Investment in schools	£19.2m
Highways	£7.9m
Aids & adaptations for disabled persons	£2.2m
Repairs & maintenance to council buildings	£2.1m
Other including regeneration	£27.7m
Total Spend in 2005/06	£132.2m

council's overall vision and objectives, enabling investment in long-term

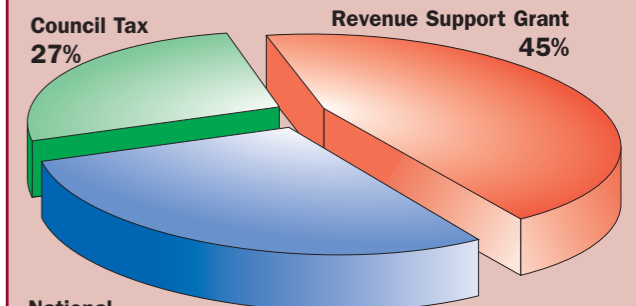
assets which are used to deliver the council's services.

How we performed

Indicator	2004/05	2005/06
	Actual	Actual
Payroll processed on time	100%	100%
Paying suppliers within agreed payment terms	91%	92%
Average time taken to assess new benefit claims	35 days	32.1 days
% of Council Tax due collected	97%	97%
% of Business rates (NNDR) due collected	97.6%	97.2%
% of 'sundry debt' more than 3 months old	Less than 10%	Less than 10%
Annual Accounts submitted on time	Yes	Yes

Note: Further information on Key Performance Indicators can be found on - www.wigan.gov.uk/pub/performance/2005/index.htm

Where does the money come from?



National Non-domestic Rates 28%

THE council's money comes from three different sources:

National Non-domestic Rates: business rates set by and paid to the government and redistributed to councils based on population. £101.3 million.

Revenue Support Grant: a government grant paid to councils from national taxation to provide funding to operate local services. £158.7 million.

Council Tax: money paid by residents as a local taxation. £97 million.

Breakdown shows a healthy balance

THE balance sheet below shows what the Council owns, is owed, what it owes and the capital funding as at 31 March 2006.

Money owed by the council after one year includes the estimated value of future pension payments to staff, which is matched elsewhere in the balance sheet and has no effect on the level of Council Tax.

The net worth of the Council, as at 31 March 2006, was around £589million.

As at 31 March 2006	£m
Land, buildings, equipment & other assets owned by council	1,169.8
Stock	4.1
Money owed to the council	73.9
Cash at bank	9.9
Money owed by the council within the next year	-72.5
Money owed by the council after one year	-596.5
Funded by:	588.7
Capital Reserves not available for distribution	723.4
Reserves	56.2
Pension Fund deficit	-190.9
	588.7