

BRANSTON AND MERE PARISH COUNCIL

INVESTMENT STRATEGY TEMPLATE (FOR COUNCILS OVER £100K)

BRANSTON & MERE PARISH COUNCIL INVESTMENT STRATEGY

1. Introduction

This strategy has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 and statutory guidance issued by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). It sets out how Branston and Mere Parish Council will manage its financial investments during the financial year 2025/26.

2. Objectives

The Council's investment priorities are:

1. **Security** – to protect public funds.
 2. **Liquidity** – to ensure sufficient cash flow for Council operations.
 3. **Yield** – to achieve a reasonable return consistent with security and liquidity.
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3. Specified Investments

The Council may invest in:

- Deposits with UK banks and building societies.
 - Deposits with local authorities or public bodies.
 - UK Government securities (gilts).
 - Money Market Funds (MMFs) with high credit ratings.
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All must be in sterling, low-risk, and repayable within 12 months.

4. Non-Specified Investments

At present, the Council does **not** intend to use non-specified (longer-term or higher-risk) investments. Any future proposal to do so must be approved by Full Council.

5. Risk Management

- No more than **[25%]** of total funds will be invested with any single institution.

- Institutions must have a strong credit rating (minimum [rating, e.g. A-] or equivalent).
- The RFO will monitor ratings and market information to manage risk.

6. Liquidity & Maturity

- At least [3 months] of routine expenditure will be held in instant-access accounts.
- Longer-term deposits may be considered for reserves not required within 12 months.

7. Reporting

- The RFO will report investment performance to Council at least quarterly.
- The Investment Strategy will be reviewed and approved annually and published on the Council's website.

8. Ethical Considerations

The Council will not knowingly invest in businesses that operate in sectors contrary to its values (e.g. arms, tobacco, fossil fuels, gambling).

DOCUMENT HISTORY

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