

## **Appendix B**

### **Statement of Reserves.**

The Council has a Reserves Policy that sets out to maintain its general reserves and earmarked reserves as per the Sector Guidance below –

*“The generally accepted recommendation with regard to the appropriate minimum level of a Smaller Authority’s General Reserve is that this should be maintained at between three and twelve months Net Revenue Expenditure (NRE). NRE (subject to any planned surplus or deficit) is effectively Precept less any Loan Repayment and/or amounts included in Precept for Capital Projects and transfers to Earmarked Reserves. The reason for the wide range is to cater for the large variation in sizes of individual authorities.*

*The smaller the authority the closer the figure should be to 12 months NRE, the larger the authority the nearer to 3 months. In practice, any authority with an NRE in excess of £200,000 should plan on 3 months equivalent General Reserve. In all of this it is important that each authority adopt, as a General Reserve policy, the level appropriate to their size and situation and plan their Budget so as to ensure that the adopted level is maintained. Changes in activity levels/range of services provided will inevitably lead to changes in the requisite minimum level of General Reserve in order to provide working capital for those activities”*

West Swindon Parish Council’s Internal Auditor reviewed the levels of reserves in the Annual Report for 2025. The prediction for General Reserves for West Swindon Parish Council at March 2026 represents approximately £909,000. This is less than 12 months net revenue expenditure but at the higher end of expected general reserves, that being between 3 and 12 months based on average monthly revenue expenditure.

It is also anticipated that decision making regarding future premises for the Parish Council’s office and depot will require a significant capital outlay that will require depth within the reserves to facilitate. As such, a new EMR will be created at year end to move ‘New Depot’ funds from the General Reserve.

## STATEMENT OF RESERVES

A Statement of Reserves is provided to support with budget planning. The closing balance is an estimate and based on predicted expenditure. It may vary from the final year end totals.

Account	Opening Balance 2025-26	ESTIMATED Closing Balance 31.03.26	Comments
EMR - Backland Projects	£ 54,000.00	£ 44,000.00	Corton Crescent completion estimate
EMR - Election Expenses	£ 16,415.90	£ 23,415.90	Planned reserves
EMR - Youth Development	£ 21,000.00	£ 36,000.00	Assuming West Swindon Family Project Youth granted
EMR - Allotment Development	£ 23,000.00	£ 23,000.00	No change
EMR - Building Projects Fund	£ 35,000.00	£ 85,000.00	Planned reserves
EMR - Mowing Fleet	£ 52,528.00	£ 100,317.00	Based on 5 gang purchase or similar £ not confirmed
EMR - Vehicles	£ 122,400.00	£ 142,188.00	Predicted lease purchase costs c. £70k but not confirmed
EMR - CIL	£ 21,790.65	£ 22,098.00	Received
EMR - Play area	£ 108,942.00	£ 16,942.00	Based on 50k planned kickabout at Westlea not completed
EMR - Volunteer Reward Grant	£ 11,829.78	£ 9,800.00	Based on £2k spend assumption
	£ 466,906.33	£ 502,760.90	