

Specified Investments

All specified investments will be sterling denominated, with maturities up to a maximum of 1 year, meeting the minimum 'high' rating criteria where applicable.

	Minimum 'High' Credit Criteria	Use
Debt Management Agency Deposit Facility	N/a	In-house and fund managers
Term deposits – UK government	N/a	In-house and fund managers
Term deposits – other LAs	N/a	In-house and fund managers
Funds on deposit with the Council's main banker – Lloyds Bank – no limit	N/a	In-house
Term deposits to 4m– banks *	AAA or Aaa	In-house and fund managers
Term deposits to 2m– banks *	AA- or Aa3	In-house and fund managers
Term deposits up to 4m– building societies *	with gross assets in excess of £1,000m	In-house and fund managers
Term deposits up to 2m – building societies *	with gross assets between £500m and £1,000m	In-house and fund managers
Callable deposits	As above	In-house and fund managers
Certificates of deposits issued by banks and building societies	As above	In-house and fund managers
Money Market Funds – Constant Net Asset Value	AAA	In-house
Money Market Funds – Low Volatility Net Asset Value	AAA	In-house
UK Government Gilts	AAA	Fund Managers
Gilt Funds and Bond Funds	AAA	Fund Managers
Treasury Bills	N/a	Fund Managers

* If forward deposits are made by in-house managers, the forward period plus the deal period should not exceed one year in aggregate.

Changes to investment rules were came into force on 3rd January 2018 with the introduction of the MIFID (Markets in Financial Instruments Directive) II regulations. Under the new rules, all local authorities are classified as retail counterparties, and authorities have to consider whether to opt up to professional status and for which types of investments. Some investment options are not available to retail counterparties, and as a result Woking Borough Council has opted up to professional status for three out of four of its existing money market funds (Federated, Standard Life and Deutsche). This has not been necessary for the remaining money market fund (LGIM), which would continue to deal with retail counterparties. A view will be taken going forward on any new investments on a case by case basis and the arrangements will be regularly reviewed as appropriate.

Non-Specified Investments

At the time of placing an investment, a maximum of 35% will be held in aggregate in non-specified investments (including in-house and externally managed funds).

	Minimum Credit Criteria	Use	Max % of total investments	Max. maturity period
Term deposits – UK government (with maturities in excess of 1 year)	N/a	In-house and fund managers	35%	5 years
Term deposits – other LAs (with maturities in excess of 1 year)	N/a	In-house and fund managers	35%	5 years
Term deposits – banks and building societies (with maturities in excess of 1 year)	As for specified investments	In-house and fund managers	35%	5 years

Callable deposits (with maturities in excess of 1 year)	As above	In-house and fund managers	35%	5 years
Certificates of deposits issued by banks and building societies	As above	In-house and fund managers	35%	5 years
UK Government Gilts with maturities in excess of 1 year	AAA	Fund Managers	35%	5 years
Bonds issued by multilateral development banks	AAA	In-house on a 'buy-and-hold' basis. Also for use by fund managers	35%	5 years
Bonds issued by a financial institution which is guaranteed by the UK government	N/a	In-house on a 'buy-and-hold' basis. Also for use by fund managers	35%	5 years
Sovereign bond issues (i.e. other than the UK govt)	AAA	Fund Managers	35%	5 years
Corporate Bonds : <i>the use of these investments would constitute capital expenditure</i>	N/a	N/a	Nil	N/a
Floating Rate Notes : <i>the use of these investments would constitute capital expenditure</i>	N/a	N/a	Nil	N/a

Guide to Ratings

Fitch	Moody's	Standard and Poor's
Rating Levels to be used in Treasury Management		
AAA AA+ AA	Aaa Aa1 Aa2	AAA AA+ AA
<p>Fitch's individual ratings measure an institution's intrinsic safety and soundness on a stand-alone basis, and provide an assessment of the strength of the institution's financial structure, its performance and its credit (and therefore, risk) profile. The laws and accounting practices that govern the operations, reporting and disclosure of financial information in the country in which the institution operates, would have a bearing on the assessment. These ratings are divorced entirely from considerations of external support, from either parent or the government, and are, therefore, useful indicators of credit.</p> <p>At present, Fitch is the only agency which explicitly states its view of the likely presence of a lender of last resort, either government or parent, with the willingness and the resources to aid a failing financial institution.</p>	<p>Moody's Bank Financial Strength Ratings (BFSRs) represent Moody's opinion of a bank's intrinsic safety and soundness and, as such, exclude certain external credit risks and credit support elements that are addressed by Moody's Bank Deposit Ratings. In addition to commercial banks, Moody's BFSRs may also be assigned to other types of financial institutions such as multilateral development banks, government-sponsored financial institutions and national development financial institutions.</p> <p>BFSR's are a measure of the likelihood that a bank will require assistance from third parties such as its owners, its industry group, or official institutions.</p> <p>BFSR's do not take into account the probability that the bank will receive such external support, nor do they address risks arising from sovereign actions that may interfere with a bank's ability to honour its domestic or foreign currency obligations.</p> <p>Factors considered in the assignment of BFSR's include bank specific elements such as financial fundamentals, franchise value, and business and asset diversification. Although BFSR's exclude the external factors specified above, they do take into account other risk factors in the bank's operating environment, including the strength and prospective performance of the economy, as well as the structure and relative fragility of the financial system, and the quality of banking regulation and supervision.</p>	<p>Long Term credit ratings are based, in varying degrees, on the following considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Likelihood of payment—capacity and willingness of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on an obligation in accordance with the terms of the obligation; • Nature of and provisions of the obligation; • Protection afforded by, and relative position of, the obligation in the event of bankruptcy, reorganization, or other arrangement under the laws of bankruptcy and other laws affecting creditors' rights. <p>Issue ratings are an assessment of default risk, but may incorporate an assessment of relative seniority or ultimate recovery in the event of default</p>