

Summary of Local Government headlines in October

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1st – 7th October

BBC NEWS

Wokingham Borough Council warns of bankruptcy risk



E Essex Live

Chelmsford City Council fears it could face bankruptcy without government help

Chelmsford council has warned its financial numbers “don’t stack up anymore” with overspending on temporary accommodation so unsustainable...



The Guardian

Tory-run Hampshire council says it faces ‘financial meltdown’

Council says without help it will be forced to make drastic cuts to local services to avoid bankruptcy.



L Leicester Mercury

Defiant leader says 'hell will freeze over' before struggling county council declares bankruptcy

Leicestershire County Council's finances are in a “dire” state, but its leadership remains defiant. Leader of the Conservative-run authority...



Farnham Herald

Cash-strapped Guildford Borough Council avoids Section 114 bankruptcy notice for now

Guildford Borough Council will avoid declaring itself bankrupt for now – but overspends and an almost £2 million deficit in its housing...



BBC

Havering Council could be bankrupt in six months - leader

Havering Council could go bankrupt in as soon as six months, its leader said. Ray Morgan blamed supplier costs and spending on social care...



BBC

Coventry City Council faces bankruptcy without extra funding

Coventry City Council has said it could effectively declare itself bankrupt next year without additional funding from the government.



The Telegraph

Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead on brink of bankruptcy

The Berkshire council is forecast to overspend this year by more than £7 million, councillors heard on Saturday.



Dawlish Post

Teignbridge District Council taking measures to prevent bankruptcy

HUNDREDS of fees and charges across Teignbridge have gone up in a bid to prevent the authority going bankrupt.



8th – 14th October

... BBC

London Councils warns borough budgets are on 'knife edge'

Croydon Council has already declared bankruptcy, while Havering Council, in ... debt, the 10th highest of England's local authorities. London Councils said...



... BBC

Southampton reviews car costs to lift 'precarious' finances

He said: "This is the most challenging year for local councils I have ever known. ... In June the council was forecasting a £30m budget deficit for this year..."



The MJ

Councils need an unconditional cash injection

Without action of this scale, there is a risk more local authorities will soon issue bankruptcy notices. ... Government to address their in-year deficits. It is...



New Statesman

Councils are the victims not the cause of their poor finances

... deficits have been removed from the balance sheets of local authorities. The DfE planned to end this practice in April but extended it for three years...



Leicestershire Live

'Worsening picture' of Leicester City Council's 'bleak' finances revealed

... council declares bankruptcy. While the £12.7 million can be offset this financial year by departmental reserves – which are separate to the council's central...



15th – 20th October



... BBC

Denbighshire: Avoiding bankruptcy is council priority, leader says

Avoiding bankruptcy is the main priority of a north Wales council, a private letter from its leader has revealed.



Bracknell Forest Council |

Bracknell Forest Council's financial position | Bracknell Forest ...

This deficit is largely due to: rising ... local authorities. "Some councils have declared bankruptcy, and the number of councils close to this position is rising..."



Funding gap growing as councils "firmly in eye of inflationary storm"

Councils in England face a funding gap of £4 billion over the next two years the Local Government Association reveals today.