
OUTTURN BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2021/22

Committee: Operational Services Committee

Date: 12th September 2022

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1. ISSUE

- 1.1 This report provides Members with details of the financial position for services under the Operational Services Committee.

2. RECOMMENDATION (S)

- 2.1 Members are requested to note that the Committee had an underspend in the year of £321,636 when compared to its planned budget of £5,559,244.
- 2.2 Members are further requested to note that the Committee had a capital programme outturn of £480,750. This is £2,840,544 lower than its revised budget.

3. BACKGROUND/OPTIONS

- 3.1 Under Financial Regulations each policy committee is required to consider financial performance against both its revenue and capital budget on a quarterly basis.
- 3.2 This is the yearend report for the 2021/22 financial year and details actual expenditure incurred and income received as at 31st March 2022.

Revenue

- 3.3 The revenue budget for each service that falls under the stewardship of this Committee has been reviewed with appendix 1 detailing the yearend outturn position for each service line.
- 3.4 The net revenue expenditure for this Committee at yearend was £5,237,608. This reflects an underspend of £321,636 when compared to the approved budget. Within this there were several forecast variations on service lines, as detailed in the table on the next page.

Service	Forecast Outturn Variance £	Explanation
Community Projects & Grants	(£51,446)	Local clubs, groups and venues are continuing to recover and get back to normal after Covid-19, but requests for project grants were below the level of funding available.
Customer Services	(£17,648)	The underspend is a result of a part time vacancy within the team. Covid-19 resulted in fewer face to face visitors in the Council offices than prior to the pandemic, and this situation did not change towards the end of the financial year even when restrictions reduced.
Environmental Issues Health – Admin & Misc.	£13,775 (£17,014)	Changes to staff responsibilities over the past year involving the undertaking of Covid-19 projects, has meant savings / overspends in different parts of the Environment budget. Overall the Environment budget was £4,000 underspent.
Homelessness	(£176,292)	This variance is the result of savings on staff costs where staff have been redeployed onto Covid-19 and homelessness related tasks which have been funded from other external funding sources. This resulted in savings on the main budget.
IT	£39,620	This relates to an increased spend on hardware and licences.
Marketing & Grants	(£13,067)	There was an underspend in marketing costs as a result of not using external resources, with activities being completed using core ECDC staff.
Performance Management	(£10,400)	This relates to a booklet which in previous years has been sent to all households in East Cambs, this was not produced in 2021/22.

Planning	(£88,283)	Planning continued to receive an increased number of applications then experienced in recent years, some of which are higher fee earners. The Council had a number of Public Inquiries and Appeal Hearings in the last three months of the financial year and this has impacted on the forecast which had previously been projected.
Public Relations	(£21,128)	The transition from contractor to in-house provision resulted in a saving in costs in year.
Refuse Recycling	(11,348)	This relates to receipt of funding negotiated by RECAP in settlement of a previous dispute.
Travellers	£30,612	There was an overspend in site repairs at the Council's traveller's sites.

Capital

- 3.5 The revised capital budget for Operational Services Committee is £3,321,294; including £398,101 of slippage brought forward from 2020/21 and additional Disability Facilities Grant (DFG) of £81,894.
- 3.6 While we await more details of the Government's Waste Strategy, capital spending on Waste vehicles has been delayed, with no spend during 2021/22. This budget has been carried forward to be used in 2022/23.
- 3.7 There is an underspend on Disability Facilities Grant (DFG) spend, where as a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic, the amount of work that has been undertaken in the past two years, has been greatly reduced especially in times of restrictions, when builders etc. were unable to enter properties to undertake improvements.
- 3.8 There is an overspend on vehicle replacements, where Housing have purchased a community bus (£35,000) which has been funded from Government Covid-19 grant.
- 3.9 Further, £1.1 million of CIL funding has been received and allocated against the historical Leisure Centre (internal borrowing) build costs in 2021/22, thus reducing the borrowing requirement for this scheme.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS / EQUALITY AND CARBON IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

- 4.1 The final yearend position is that the Committee's net revenue expenditure will be £321,636 underspent.
- 4.2 An equality Impact Assessment (INRA) is not required.
- 4.3 A carbon Impact Assessment (CIA) is not required.

5. APPENDICES

- 5.1 Appendix 1 – Revenue budget monitoring report – 31st March 2022.
- 5.2 Appendix 2 – Capital budget monitoring report – 31st March 2022.

<u>Background Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Officer</u>
Budget Monitoring Report Preparation Documents	Room 104 The Grange Ely	Ian Smith Finance Manager Tel: (01353) 616470 E-mail: ian.smith@eastcambs.gov.uk