
BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

Committee: Corporate Governance and Finance Committee

Date: 1st December 2016

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[R144]

1. **ISSUE**

1.1 This report provides Members with budget monitoring information for services under the Corporate Governance and Finance Committee and then, as part of its corporate remit, for the Council as a whole.

2. **RECOMMENDATION (S)**

2.1 Members are requested to note that this Committee has a projected yearend underspend of £173,000 compared to its approved revenue budget of £3,660,876.

2.2 Members are requested to note that overall the Council has a projected yearend underspend of £251,000 compared to its approved revenue budget of £10,436,843.

2.3 Members are also requested to note that this Committee has no specific capital schemes linked to it; however the overall position for the Council on Capital is a projected capital outturn underspend of £513,294.

3. **BACKGROUND/OPTIONS**

3.1 This is the second report for the 2016-17 financial year and details actual expenditure incurred as at 30th September 2016 and projections as to the yearend position at this time.

3.2 Under Financial Regulations, each Service Committee is required to consider projections of financial performance against budget on a quarterly basis, with this Committee considering the overall Council position.

3.3 Appendix 1 details the overall revenue position for both this Committee and the Council overall. In appendix 1 the budgets under the stewardship of this Committee are shown in detail, with then the position for the other committees shown in summary.

3.4 The detailed revenue budget position for the other committees – namely the Regulatory and Support Services Committee and the Commercial Services Committee – are shown in appendices 2 and 3. Reports explaining these

variances in more detail have / will be presented to these committees during the current round of meetings.

- 3.5 In summary however, the Regulatory and Support Services Committee is currently predicting a yearend underspend of £61,000. Planning Fee income is currently forecast to be £200,000 in excess of budget (this increased fee level will be reflected in the budget for 2017-18 currently being prepared). Spending against the transformation project has been revised down from £270,000 to £214,000, as greater cost clarity is obtained as quotes for specific pieces of work are obtained and Homelessness spend is forecast to be £30,000 lower than originally anticipated due to the reduced number of cases.
- 3.6 There is projected to be an underspend of £15,000 in relation to the Commercial Services Committee, this in relation to savings on public conveniences and staffing vacancies in the general gang.
- 3.7 Explanations for the variances reported for this Committee are detailed in the below table:

Service	Variance £	Explanation
Corporate Management	(50,000)	Projected savings in staff costs, mainly from the Corporate Management restructure undertaken in April 2016
Housing Benefits	(127,000)	The budget for 2016-17 was based on claims expenditure in August 2015, the latest information available at the time. More recent figures, August 2016, suggest that expenditure (and associated grant income) has significantly reduced. As a result of these changes an underspend is predicted.

4. ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The projected net revenue expenditure for the Council is forecast to be £10,185,843 in 2016/17. This would give an underspend of £251,000 compared to the Council's approved budget.
- 4.2 The forecast underspend detailed in this report, will be transferred to the "Surplus Savings Reserve" at yearend, and will be available to fund some of the required savings in future years.
- 4.3 The projected capital Outturn for the Council stands at £9,141,238; which is an underspend of £513,294 compared to the revised budget for the year. The revised budget includes slippage brought forward from 2015-16, an increase in disabled facilities spending as a result of additional grant and inclusion of costs associated with the Leisure Centre.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 There is a revenue underspend of £246,000 compared to this Council's approved budget.

5.2 Equality Impact Assessment (INRA) not required.

6 APPENDICES

6.1 Appendix 1 – Summary Budget Monitoring – September 2016

Appendix 2 – Regulatory & Support Services Budget Monitoring – September 2016

Appendix 3 – Commercial Services Budget Monitoring – September 2016

Appendix 4 – Summary Capital Programme – September 2016

<u>Background Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Officer</u>
Council Budget as approved by Council 25 th February 2016	Room 206 The Grange Ely	Ian Smith Principal Accountant Tel: (01353) 616470 E-mail: ian.smith@eastcambs.gov.uk
Budget Monitoring Report to Regulatory & Support Services Committee 5 th December 2016		
Budget Monitoring Report to Commercial Services Committee 22 nd November 2016		