

FINANCIAL OUTTURN REPORT 2014/15

Committee: Corporate Governance & Finance Committee

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[Q42]

1.0 ISSUE

- 1.1 This report updates Members on the Council's provisional outturn position for 2014/15 for both revenue and capital.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION (S)

- 2.1 Members are requested to note the provisional outturn underspend of £142,423 identified across the Council's services.

3.0 BACKGROUND/OPTIONS

- 3.1 During 2014/15 this Committee received quarterly budget monitoring reports updating Members on the latest projected outturn of its services. Now that the 2014/15 Statement of Accounts has been prepared, this report informs the Committee of its provisional outturn, which is still subject to audit by the Council's external auditors, Ernst & Young LLP.
- 3.2 The Council has a projected underspend for the year of £142,423
- 3.3 This underspend has been utilised to increase the Surplus Savings Reserve which will be used to help fund future pressures to the Council's budget.
- 3.4 Details of the variations to the revised budget are shown in Appendix 1.
- 3.5 The main variances are shown in the table below.
There are other variances that are year end entries which have contra entries elsewhere and have no net effect and are therefore not included below. eg. Capital
Also some underspends on funded schemes have been transferred to reserves to be used to finance the delayed expenditure in future years.

Service	Variance £	Explanation
Employee costs	(30,000)	Job evaluation budget was not spent
Business Rates	95,000	Income from S31 Government Grants was less than expected
Council Tax	(44,000)	Additional CT court costs recovered
Revenues & Benefits	32,000	Net of Housing Benefit subsidy increased payments and received

		being higher than forecast.
Revenues & Benefits	(126,000)	Recovery of Rent Allowance Overpayments by Anglia Revenues Partnership was higher than anticipated
E Space North	(13,000)	Rent income higher than forecast
Registration of Electors	(11,000)	Underspends on printing, canvassers and postage
Environmental Issues	(16,000)	Underspend on premises contract work
Interest & Financial Transactions	11,000	Bank costs higher than expected due to the retender of the contract and one off costs
Interest & Financial Transactions	(24,000)	Interest on investments above expected levels
Land Charges	10,000	Inquiries and Solicitors Fees above budget
Redundancy/Pension Costs	26,000	Costs of redundancies from the staffing Root and Branch review were higher than estimated
Planning	39,000	Net overspend from reduced planning income and an overspend on consultants fees
Refuse Collection	(77,000)	Saving on contract costs
Other variances	(14,423)	
Total all Committees	(142,423)	Underspend

3.6 The variances to the capital programme are mainly due to the slippage in spending on individual schemes between financial years rather than variations in overall scheme costs. (See Appendix 2).

3.7 The summary budget projections have been analysed over subjective headings in Appendix 3.

4.0 ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS

4.1 That the provisional underspend for this period of £142,423 and its use to increase the Surplus Savings Reserve be noted and that this is subject to the 2014/15 Statement of Accounts being audited.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 There is a provisional overall decrease of £142,423 against the Council's budget which has been utilised to increase the balance on the Surplus Savings Reserve to help fund future pressures on the budget. The Statement of Accounts was signed off by the Financial Services Manager by the

statutory date of 30 June and is currently being audited by Ernst & Young LLP. The statements will be presented to Members at the September Corporate Governance & Finance Committee meeting prior to them being published by the statutory date of 30 September.

5.2 Equality Impact Assessment (INRA) not required.

6.0 APPENDICES

6.1 Appendix 1 – Summary Budget Projections 2014/15.

6.2 Appendix 2 – Summary Capital Programme 2014/15.

6.3 Appendix 3 – Subjective Analysis Projections 2014/15.

<u>Background Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Officer</u>
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