

**TITLE: BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

Committee: Regulatory Services Committee

Date: 22<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Author: Finance Manager

[S215]

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**1. ISSUE**

- 1.1 This report provides Members with budget monitoring information for services under the Regulatory Services Committee.

**2. RECOMMENDATION (S)**

- 2.1 Members are requested to note that this Committee is projected to end the year with a saving on its approved revenue budget of £430,000, this is a combination of underspends on expenditure budgets and additional income on income budgets.
- 2.2 Members are also requested to note that this Committee has a projected capital programme outturn of £2,201,922.

**3. BACKGROUND/OPTIONS**

- 3.1 Under Financial Regulations each policy committee is required to consider projections of financial performance against both its revenue and capital budget on a quarterly basis.
- 3.2 This is the third report for the 2017-18 financial year and details actual expenditure incurred as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 and projections as to the yearend position at this time.
- 3.3 The revenue budget for each service that falls under the stewardship of this Committee has been reviewed with appendix 1 detailing the variance to-date and forecast outturn figure for each service line.
- 3.4 Explanations for the forecast outturn variances reported are detailed in the table on the following page.

<b>Service</b>	<b>Variance £</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
Building Regulation	(5,000)	Additional fee income earned during the first nine months of the year. If demand remains at current levels, this underspend is expected to be higher than the currently reported figure.
Land Charges	(10,000)	Fees for Land Charges were in excess of the budget for the first nine months of the year.
Planning	(300,000)	Additional fee income earned during the first nine months of the year, mostly in advance of the Council decision to approve the Proposed Submission Local Plan at its meeting on the 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2017, since when the number of applications received has significantly reduced. However, it is expected that income will increase again during the final quarter of the year as a consequence of new Government legislation increasing Planning fees by 20% from the 17 <sup>th</sup> January 2018.
Waste Recycling	(50,000)	Reduced paper recycling in the district in 2017/18 has meant a reduction in the amount paid to the contractor; counteracted in part, by a reduction in the amount of waste recycling credits expected. Overall, however, this results in an expected underspend of £50,000.
Homelessness	(65,000)	This underspend is a combination of salary saving as a result of a full-time staff vacancy within the Housing Team (£20,000). The current prevention policy has resulted in the non-use of hotel rooms during the first nine months of the year (£30,000) and on-going work subletting void rooms to other local authorities has resulted in a £15,000 underspend on this budget.
<b>Total</b>	<b>(430,000)</b>	

- 3.5 The significant variances of actual spend compared to profiled budgeted spend at the end of December 2017 are listed on the following page:

Service	Explanation
Environmental Issues	This relates to external contributions for work to be undertaken on properties, which have been received in advance of the Council paying for the work. These will be matched at yearend to ensure that the expenditure and income are both shown in the same year.
Travellers Sites	This relates to major maintenance costs (replacement of the Sewage treatment plant) at Wentworth Travellers Site; this will be funded from a combination of the Asset Management budget and reserves at yearend.
Homelessness	The current variance relates to Homelessness Support Grant which is being used to fund revenue projects in-year; any unused funding will be carried forward into future years and so will not impact on the outturn position.

#### 4. ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The projected net revenue expenditure for this Committee, as detailed in appendix 1, is £3,159,157, this is £430,000 less than the total budget of the Committee which is £3,589,157.
- 4.2 The revised capital budget for this Committee is £2,351,922. We are currently expecting that there will be a carry forward of £150,000 on the Disabled Facilities Grant budget, where work will have been commissioned in year, but not actually completed until the new financial year. As in previous years, Committee will be asked to allow this funding to be carried forward, to be used to complete these projects in the future year.

#### 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 There is a saving of £430,000 compared to this Committee's approved budget.
- 5.2 Equality Impact Assessment (INRA) not required.

#### 6. APPENDICES

- 6.1 Appendix 1 – Regulatory Services Committee Budget Monitoring Report – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017.

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Background Documents

Council Budget as approved by  
Council 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017

Location

Room 104  
The Grange  
Ely

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