

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
**22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2018**

**Council's Revenue Budget Monitoring Report**

**Recommendations / key decisions required:**

That the Board receives the Budget Monitoring report and considers the budgetary position.

That Chief Officers and Heads of Service critically review their budgetary positions and implement appropriate actions to deliver their services within their allocated budgets.

**Reasons:**

To provide the Executive Board with an update on the latest budgetary position as at 31st October 2017, in respect of 2017/2018.

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted: NA

Exec Board Decision Required                      YES

Council Decision Required                         NO

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr. David Jenkins**

Directorate: Corporate  
Services

Name of Director:  
Chris Moore

Report Author:  
Chris Moore

Designations:

Director of Corporate Services

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
**22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2018**

**Council's Revenue Budget Monitoring Report**

The revenue budget monitoring reports for the period to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 are attached and indicate that:

**COUNCIL FUND REVENUE ACCOUNT( Appendix A)**

Overall, the monitoring report forecasts an end of year overspend of £685k on the Authority's net revenue budget with an overspend at departmental level of £2,263k.

**Chief Executive's Department**

The Chief Executive Department is anticipating an overspend of £165k for the year.

In relation to the application of Standby and Health & Safety training, proposed savings have yet to be fully achieved £508k. Work is ongoing with the TIC teams in relation to delivering the full efficiencies identified. There is a £26 underspend due to a vacant post in the Chief Executives division.

The Regeneration, Policy and Property Division is anticipating a £67k underspend. This consists of an £81k overspend on a counter terrorism post, £46 overspend on Un Sir Gar due to non achievement of their income target, £31k overspend on a delayed efficiency for 2017-18, a £32k income shortfall in commercial property, a non achievement of income target on both West Wales European Centre and Policy of £31k and 17k respectively. There was also an overspend of £26k on premises maintenance at the Guildhall. This was offset by a £342k underspend due to staff vacancies.

The Admin & Law division is showing a £144k underspend as a result of vacant posts.

The People Management & Performance Division is expected to underspend by £106k as a result of vacant posts during the year.

**Department for Communities**

The Department for Communities is forecasting an overspend of £874k for the year.

Services supporting Older People / Physical Disabilities are projecting an overspend of £402k; £328k on Residential Care, £105k on Group Homes / Supported Living settings, £82k on Day Services, £77k on Direct payments offset by -£118k on Domiciliary Care The Careline service is showing an overspend of £92k due to a reduction in the number of connections provided to other local authorities.

Learning Disabilities / Mental Health is projecting £473k overspend; £127k on Residential Care, £216k on Supported Living / Group Homes and £149k on Day Services.

Staffing vacancies and miscellaneous underspends are -£184k; mainly in the Reablement Service.

Leisure Services are expecting to break even and Housing & Public Protection Services are also predicting a nil variance.

#### Corporate Services

The Corporate Services Department is projecting a £334k underspend for the year. This is as a result of staff vacancies of £325k, a £60k reduction in grant audit fees. This is offset by an anticipated £47k charge for costs relating to sales of assets.

#### Department for Education and Children

The Department for Education and Children is forecasting a net overspend of £913k at year end.

The main adverse budget variations relate to: new school based EVR and redundancy costs £422k; School Modernisation property decommissioning and cost of sales £376k (which includes £254k NNDR); Special guardianship orders to keep children with their families and boarded out allowances £193k; shortfall in the Music Service SLA income from schools £185k, rurality impact on Fostering staff and client travel £54k; increased number of cases entering the Legal system £177k; Out of County Care placements £177k; increased staffing costs at Garreglwyd Residential Unit £62k and Welsh Language Support £54k.

These are partially offset by under-spends across the department in: staff vacancies and secondments -£403k, utilisation of grant income to support core spend -£326k and reduced numbers in Early years non maintained provision -£115k.

#### Environment

The department is anticipating an overspend of £645k for the year.

The Highways and Transport division is projecting a £248k overspend. This is due to a £285k overspend in car parks as a result of the non achievement of income targets and a £25k overspend on school transport following an initial assessment of demand. This is offset by underspends in Passenger transport of £23k due to tender efficiencies and a £38k underspend in Public rights of way due to vacant posts.

The Property Division, the Waste and Environmental Services division and the Business Support & Performance division are expecting to break even.

The Planning Division is anticipating a £403k overspend. This is due to a decrease in planning applications and the resultant loss of income of £526k which is partly-offset by charging out staff time as a direct cost £40k; release of prior year waste planning report underspend from reserve £16k; a reduction in planning admin expenditure £39k and additional street naming income of £11k

Capital Charges  
Reduced borrowing/interest savings

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT ( Appendix B)  
The HRA is predicting a break even position at year end

Repairs and maintenance is £286k over budget due to additional spend on Minor Works. This is offset by a reduced requirement for DRF -£300k.

Supervision and Management costs are forecasted to be overspent by £81k primarily due to premises related expenses energy costs £87k and increased spend on supplies and services £22k , offset by savings on staffing costs/recharges -£28k due to vacancies.

Predicted increased costs on central recharges will result in £13k overspend on the budget.

Capital financing charges will be £75k greater than budgeted due to a slight increase in interest rates.

Reduction in the provision required for debt write-offs , based on arrears levels and age debt analysis to year end of - £156k

Lists of the main variances are attached to this report.

<b>DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?</b>	<b>YES</b>
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## IMPLICATIONS

**I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :**

**Signed: Chris Moore**

**Director of Corporate Services**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

**1. Finance**

Council Fund

Overall, the Authority is forecasting an overspend of £685k.

HRA

The HRA is forecasting that it will break even at year end.

# CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below  
Signed: Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services

1. Scrutiny Committee – Not applicable
2. Local Member(s) – Not applicable
3. Community / Town Council – Not applicable
4. Relevant Partners – Not applicable
5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – Not applicable

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information**

**List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

**THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW**

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
2017/18 Budget		Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen