

# EXECUTIVE BOARD

## 3<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2019

### COUNCIL'S REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

#### Recommendations / key decisions required:

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

There remains a potential significant overspend at departmental level. Chief Officers and Heads of Service should continue to critically review their budgetary positions and implement appropriate mitigating actions to deliver their services within their allocated budgets as a matter of urgency, recognising that unless addressed, these will continue to impact upon future years' budgets.

#### Reasons:

To provide the Executive Board with an update on the latest budgetary position as at 28th February 2019, in respect of 2018/2019.

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:  
Randal Hemingway

Designations:

Director of Corporate Services

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

### 3<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2019

The revenue budget monitoring reports for the period to 28th February 2019 are attached and indicate that:

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

Overall, the monitoring report forecasts an end of year underspend of £1,118k on the Authority's net revenue budget with an overspend at departmental level of £855k.

The most significant pressure points are within Education and Children's Services and the department needs to critically examine the current forecasted position.

#### Chief Executive's Department

The Chief Executive Department is anticipating an underspend of £217k for the year. This is made up of a £357k overspend relating to Corporate Savings and £574k underspend on operational budgets.

Corporate Savings (£357k): Delivery of efficiency proposals in relation to Health & Safety have not been possible to realise during the year.

Operational budgets (£574k underspend):

There is an anticipated £66k underspend in People Management. This is predominantly made up of vacant posts during the year as well as a reduction in DBS checks required during the year.

ICT services are anticipating a £61k underspend due to staff vacancies during the year.

Admin and Law are anticipating an underspend of £235k, this includes a £134k underspend due to staff vacancies, a reduction in Members printing costs of £58k and some additional external income of £40k for Legal services for work undertaken for other bodies.

There is a £237k underspend anticipated in the Regeneration and Policy section. This is made up of a net £298k underspend on salaries due to vacant posts and realignments that are in progress, as well as a reduction in CCTV costs following transfer of responsibility back to the police of £24k. There is also a reduction in community safety projects of £20k whilst a new partnership structure is established. This is offset by an overspend of £69k due to the additional costs associated with the move to Parc y Rhun and £30k due to increased costs associated with running various tourism events.

Chief Executive's section are anticipating an underspend of £21k due to savings on supplies and services

Electoral Services is anticipating being underspent by £18k mainly due to a member of staff being on maternity leave.

The Wellness project is anticipating being overspent by £109k due to additional legal costs associated with the project review.

Property is anticipating a £46k underspend due to high occupancy levels within Industrial Premises and Commercial Properties (£67k). This is offset by an overspend on Provision Markets due to essential maintenance works.

Regeneration is anticipating a break even position at year end.

#### Department for Communities

The Department for Communities is forecasting an overspend of £496k for the year.

Services supporting Older People and Physical Disabilities are projecting an overspend of £379k: £679k relating to packages of care (£366k on residential care, £134k on Domiciliary Care and £180k on Direct Payments); staffing and miscellaneous running expenses are underspent by £300k.

Services supporting Learning Disabilities, Mental Health and Safeguarding are forecasting an overspend of £273k: £130k for Residential, Group Homes and Supported Living placements, £232k on Direct Payments partially offset by a underspend of £89k on miscellaneous expenditure.

Support Services are forecasting an overspend of £108k relating to professional fees linked to DoLS (Deprivation of Liberty Standards) assessments.

Leisure Services are predicting a nil variance.

Housing & Public Protection Services are predicting an underspend of £264k by controlling spend and maximising contributions from grants across all service areas.

#### Corporate Services

The Corporate Services Department is projecting an £807k underspend for the year.

This is due to £662k of vacant posts, a £9k reduction in our new bank contract costs, a £65k underspend in pre LGR pension costs, and a £48k underspend on grant audit fees.

There is also an underspend in training of £26k and net additional income from a new S151 support arrangement with MWWFA. This is offset by one off software and data cleansing costs in risk management of £11k and a £14k under recovery of income on grant funded posts.

#### Department for Education and Children

The Department for Education and Children is forecasting a net overspend of £1,007k at year end.

The main adverse budget variations relate to: increased demand for Special Educational Needs provision £347k within County; Out of County educational placements £140k; school based EVR and redundancy costs £213k; Education Other Than At School £182k; School Modernisation property decommissioning costs £70k; School Meals service sickness cover and kitchens' maintenance £63k; Music Service running costs (mainly staff) exceeding the SLA income from schools by £153k and the LHB not contributing fully to tripartite agreements for placements at Garreglwyd Residential Unit, which also has staffing pressures £127k.

This is partially offset by staff vacancies and the utilisation of additional grants to support core spend -£267k.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?	YES
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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: <b>Chris Moore</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Director of Corporate Services</b></span>						
Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities <b>NONE</b>	Legal <b>NONE</b>	Finance <b>YES</b>	ICT <b>NONE</b>	Risk Management Issues <b>NONE</b>	Staffing Implications <b>NONE</b>	Physical Assets <b>NONE</b>
1. Finance Council Fund Overall, the Authority is forecasting an underspend of £1,118k.  HRA The HRA is forecasting that it will be within budget for 2018-2019.						

## CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below Signed: <b>Chris Moore</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Director of Corporate Services</b></span>	
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**

<b>Title of Document</b>	<b>File Ref No.</b>	<b>Locations that the papers are available for public inspection</b>
<b>2018/19 Budget</b>		<b>Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen</b>