

Executive Board
19th September 2016

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 30th June 2016, in respect of 2016/2017.

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 Head of Service:
Owen Bowen

Report Author:
Owen Bowen

Designations:

Interim Head of Financial
Services

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
EXECUTIVE BOARD
19TH SEPTEMBER 2016**

COUNCIL'S REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

The revenue budget monitoring reports for the period to 30th June 2016 are attached and indicate that:

COUNCIL FUND REVENUE ACCOUNT(Appendix A)

Overall, the monitoring report forecasts an end of year overspend of £1,854k on the Authority's net revenue budget with an overspend at departmental level of £2,710k.

Chief Executive's Department

The Chief Executive Department is anticipating an overspend at year end of £559k. Corporate Savings proposals on Standby Costs and Health & Safety savings are yet to be implemented £547k.

The Regeneration, Policy and Property Division is anticipating an overspend of £82k at year end. There is an anticipated overspend on coroners of £94k as well as the additional costs of Individual Electoral Registration of £42k. There is also an overspend of £44k within the Regeneration Business Unit due to a prior efficiency associated with selling the premises at Nant Y Ci not taking place. The Policy division is expecting to overspend by £25k due to an unachievable income target. These overspends are offset by £133k of staff vacancies in the division.

The Admin & Law division is underspent by £25k due to additional income being generated from Land Charges.

The People Management & Performance Division is underspent by £45k. This is due to £27k of vacant posts in year along with a saving on Business Support Supplies & Services costs of £29k.

Department for Education and Children

The Department for Education and Children is projecting a net overspend of £1,017k at year end.

The main adverse budget variations relate to school based EVR and redundancy costs £679k, School Modernisation £312k, Respite Units £116k, Out of Hours Service £104k, Corporate Parenting & Leaving Care £67k and Direct payments to families of disabled children to purchase their own care £63k.

These are partially offset by under-spends across the department in staff vacancies, secondments and maximising use of grant funding -£156k, Special Educational Needs -£90k and Fostering Services & Support -£56k.

Corporate Services

The Corporate Services Department is anticipating an underspend at year end of £135k.

Both the Financial Services and the Audit, Risk and Procurement Divisions are anticipating underspends due to vacant posts of £103k and £32k respectively .

ICT is anticipating an overspend of £78k due to long term sickness cover.

There is also an anticipated underspend of £46k on audit fees due to a reduction in the number of grants being audited, along with a £20k underspend on subscriptions.

Department for Communities

The Department for Communities is forecasting an overspend of £845k for the year.

The Older People / Physical Disabilities division is forecasting an overspend of £833k. Whilst spend has reduced it is not currently meeting targets set last year for efficiency savings in the areas of Residential Care (£613k overspend) and Domiciliary Care (£611k overspend). These overspends are offset by staff vacancies of £303k. It is early in the financial year to be clear about the year - end position and the financial impact of demand, reviews of packages of care and income levels.

The Learning Disability / Mental Health Division and Support Services has a projected overspend of £12k. There are overspends due to increased Direct Payments packages of £153k, non-achievement of efficiency savings re Grants to Voluntary organisations £123k and increased assessment costs due to DOLS issues £58k. These are offset by reduced placement costs for Residential costs £129k and Supported Living £170k due the impact of the Accommodation and Efficiency strategy in reducing the costs of individual placements.

The Housing Services and Public Protection Division is forecasting coming in on budget.

The Leisure Services Division is forecasting coming in on budget.

Environment

The department is anticipating an overspend of £423k at year end which will be met from its departmental reserves.

The Transport division is anticipating a net overspend of £215k for the year. This is largely due to a £200k managed pool car efficiency exercise not being established yet. There is also a £41k overspend on Nant y Ci park and ride facility following a decision to withdraw funding. This is offset by an underspend of £59k in Parking Services where income figures are currently predicted to exceed budgeted figures.

The Property Division is anticipating an overall overspend of £234k. An on-going review of Building Maintenance expenditure and income will hopefully reduce the forecasted overspend by the year-end.

The Streetscene division is anticipating an overspend of £35k at year end. This predominantly relates to a £44k overspend on cleansing where a proposed efficiency has not been met due to sustained demand on the service.

The Policy & Development division is overspent by £87k mainly due to the admin review not being implemented to date so the proposed efficiencies have yet to be realised.

The Planning Division expects to be underspent by £147k. This relates to £91k underspend due to vacant posts and also two posts being charged out to projects as a direct cost resulting in a £53k underspend.

Capital Charges

Reduced borrowing/interest savings, offset by Direct Revenue Financing provision.

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (Appendix B)

The HRA is forecasting an underspend of £404k.

Supervision and Management costs are forecasted to be underspent by £82k primarily due to lower staffing costs in relation to the Affordable Homes Plan commencing later than planned.

There is a forecasted underspend on Capital Financing costs £160k due to a reduction in the MRP payment and interest payments.

Rental income is forecasted to be £69k higher due to lower level of Void loss. It is anticipated that there will also be an increase in Service charge income of £80k.

Lists of the main variances are attached to this report

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

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: Owen Bowen

Interim Head of Financial Services

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities NONE	Legal NONE	Finance YES	ICT NONE	Risk Management Issues NONE	Staffing Implications NONE	Physical Assets NONE
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1. Finance

Council Fund

Overall, the Authority is forecasting an overspend of £1,854k.

HRA

The HRA is forecasting that it will be £404k under its approved budget.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Owen Bowen

Interim Head of Financial 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
2016/17 Budget		Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen