

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DIGEST – APRIL TO JUNE 2016

1 Purpose

- 1.1 This report presents the Quarterly Financial Digest for the period 1 April to 30 June 2016.

2 Recommendations

Members are requested to consider the digest and its contents.

3 Supporting information

- 3.1 This report presents the financial digest covering the period from 1 April to 30 June 2016 for members' consideration. The financial digest has been emailed separately.
- 3.2 The digest presents the current position after the first quarter point of the year together with the latest estimate of the expected outturn. At the end of the quarter there was no change to the predicted year-end position, which was for a contribution from balances of £91,000.
- 3.3 The Council spent £90,900 less on the provision of services than allowed in the budget.
- 3.4 There were a few areas where spend was more than currently budgeted, one was in the area of Town Centre Properties where a Retail Investment Strategy was commissioned for the Exchange Street North properties. Another property related expense was that the reactive maintenance property costs were more than expected.
- 3.5 Other areas included Legal Services where the first quarter contract costs with HB Law were higher than budgeted. Design and Conservation have incurred higher salary costs following a redundancy and within the Chief Executive's section there were extra costs relating to the LGA Conference, training and consultants.
- 3.6 As for the areas that are currently under budget these mostly relate to increased income in the areas of Development Control and Building Control plus savings in maintenance costs of the refuse vehicles and the Kingsbury water feature.
- 3.7 As reported throughout last year, budget holders' are asked continually to review all of their areas and to reforecast their budgets both positively and negatively in order to have as accurate a year end position as possible for the September Digest.
- 3.8 Although, there is no real change in balances as a result of the revenue position, there is a change due to the Commercial AVDC Change project. The original budget was for a use of balances of around £600,000 but this has been revised to £946,000 following a report to Council on the 18th May. This agreed to an extra £506,000 use of balances for the project but it is envisaged that only £350,000 will be spent this financial year.
- 3.9 As well as the revenue budget the digest, on page 13, also reports the level of reserves and provisions and any movements that have been made during the quarter. During this quarter there has been no movement in reserves and so the balance remains at £32.1m. As in most years reserve movements tend to be in the last quarter so the position shown in this digest is not unexpected.

- 3.10 On page 15 there is information on the level of investments and borrowings during the first quarter. No new borrowing has been taken out during the quarter and so the current level remains at £23.5m. The next repayment is not due until May 2018.
- 3.11 The council had £56.0m invested at the end of the quarter, in a combination of banks, building societies and money market funds.
- 3.12 This Committee is requested to consider the contents of the Quarterly Financial Digest.

4 Options considered

- 4.1 The report deals with issues of factual reporting and so options are not appropriate.

5 Resource implications

- 5.1 The resource implications are as detailed within the digest. The digest represents the main forum for reporting budget performance to members.

6 Response to Key Aims and Objectives

- 6.1 Budget monitoring helps us to ensure resources are deployed in a way that is consistent with our key aims and outcomes.

Contact Officer
Background Documents

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None