

FINANCIAL DIGEST SEPTEMBER 2019

FINANCE SECTION

AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE GATEWAY

GATEHOUSE ROAD

AYLESBURY

BUCKS HP19 8FF

CONTENTS

		PAGE NUMBER
Main Poir	nts	1
General F	und Summary	2
Portfolio	General Fund Summary	3
Ortiono	Civic Amenities	4
	Communities	5
	Economic Development	6
	Environment & Leisure	7
	Finance & Resources	8
	Leader	9
	Planning & Enforcement	10
	Strategic Planning & Infrastructure	11
	Waste & Licensing	12
Special E	vnonege	13
	and Provisions	14
	rogramme	15
	eturn and Investment Level	16
rate of It	otam and invodiment Level	10
Members	Feedback / Question Sheet	17

Main points of note contained within September's digest

The Main Message

The Council spent £783,376 more on the provision of services during the first 6 months of 2019/20 than allowed for in the budget.

- o Pay overspends of £0.5m (after the use of reserves and offset of income due) which includes the use of agency to support staffing.
- For the Housing Benefit team, additional staffing and overtime costs have been incurred to address a significant backlog of work.
- For the Enforcement team, a restructure has resulted in non-recurrent costs to deliver delivery efficiencies.
- Higher than budgeted staff costs have been incurred at the depot.
- A number of vacancies remain unfilled and not covered by agency, resulting in underspends. This is largely as a result of secondments made to the Unitary team leaving vacancies at AVDC.
- The Council are reporting a year to date overspend on waste budgets of £267,000.
- Budget savings arising as a result of the delay in implementation of the taxi token scheme
- Savings against budget in relation to transitional relief for business rates
- Above budgeted levels of income in relation to additional dividends paid
- Reviews are ongoing with services to ensure effective financial management
- General efficiencies have been achieved in the six months to the end of Sept, a number of cost centres are reporting underspends.

The Council are forecasting to balance the budget for the 2019-20 financial year.

A number of risks and issues have been identified and are being monitored and managed

- Variances on budgeted staff costs
- Income shortfalls in relation to property and garden waste income.
- Higher than budgeted costs of waste disposal
- Revision of corporate budgets in relation to financing items

The Main Issues

The main issues arising are highlighted below, with further analysis included in the main body of the digest:

	Variance to Date	Predicted Outturn	
	£	£	
Top 5 Over Budget	•		•
Planning Services	442,537	600,000	Increased agency staff costs and reduced planning fee income
Waste & Recycling - Non Commercial	265,170	390,000	Domestic waste disposal fees
Assistant Directors	104,521	110,000	Increased staffing and agency costs
Environmental Services	88,494	150,000	Increased staffing and agency costs
Housing Benefits	45,101	150,000	Increased staffing costs
Top 5 Under Budget			
Car Park Management	(105,390)	(164,600)	Savings from transitional relief in business rates
Economic Development	(67,876)	0	Recharge of costs to East/West Rail
Project Management Office	(45,332)	(64,000)	Staff secondement to Unitary
Personnel Services	(31,863)	0	Salary savings
Chief Executive's Support Services	(24,427)	(120,000)	Salary savings

GENERAL FUND SUMMARY AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019

GENERAL FUND STATEMENT OF BALANCES	ACTUAL OUTTURN 2018/19 £'000	ORIGINAL BUDGET 2019/20 £'000	EXPECTED OUTTURN 2019/20 £'000
Brought Forward 1st April	(1,977)	(1,927)	(2,353)
Planned Use of/(Contribution to) Balances Less General Overspend Assumption Contribution to the HS2 Fund Commercial Activities	(240) (192) 6 50	0 0 0	0 0 0
Net Use of/(Contribution to) Balances	(376)	0	0
Working Balance Carried Forward	(2,353)	(1,927)	(2,353)

Fund	General						
	Full Year		Full Year			Year to Date	
Portfolio	Current Budget	Expected Year End Variance	Budget to Date	Actuals to Date	Significant Variances		
Civic Amenities	16,700	(183,000)	(58,175)	(184,048)	(125,873)		
Communities	1,257,900	(33,400)	485,950	471,362	(14,588)		
Economic Development	(612,400)	66,700	(259,240)	(254,093)	0		
Environment & Leisure	2,894,000	150,400	438,080	534,812	96,732		
Finance & Resources	6,476,900	172,000	5,875,310	5,899,781	24,471		
Leader	1,617,200	(70,000)	793,305	876,504	83,199		
Planning & Enforcement	(207,300)	600,000	(4,440)	421,904	426,344		
Strategic Planning & Infrastructure	1,184,100	(35,000)	642,740	663,099	20,359		
Waste & Licencing	5,853,900	625,000	3,584,609	3,852,195	267,586		
Total Portfolio Expenditure	18,481,000	1,292,700	11,498,139	12,281,515	783,376		
Net Interest Receivable	(1,216,800)	(193,600)					
Contribution To Reserves	1,539,800	0					
Contribution From Reserves	(1,080,600)	0					
Contingency Items	163,400	36,600					
Asset Management	(1,048,800)	28,500					
Financing Items	1,135,800	(436,900)					
District Expenditure	17,973,800	727,300					

(849,300)

(51,100)

17,073,400

(5,690,700)

(11,382,700)

0 2,700

0

730,000

(730,000)

Please Note: Figures in brackets are underspending/additional income

Less Aylesbury Special Expenses

Net District Expenditure

Government Grant

Collection Fund

Overspend

Contribution (from)/to Special Expenses

Fund	General	
Portfolio	Civic Amenities	

	Full	Year
Service	Current Budget	Expected Year end Variance
Car Park Management	(772,300)	(164,600)
Leisure Centres	18,800	0
Market	1,100	(3,100)
Public Burial Fees	3,000	0
Public Conveniences	129,000	(300)
Theatre & Leisure Centre Management	80,900	(15,000)
Town Centre Manager	191,400	0
Town Centre Open Spaces	45,300	0
Waterside Theatre	319,500	0
Grand Total	16,700	(183,000)

Year to Date			
Budget to Date Actuals to Date Variances			
(141,625)	(247,015)	(105,390)	①
(264,140)	(274,496)	(10,356)	2
4,760	2,801	0	3
1,500	208	0	
72,600	76,519	0	4
42,520	52,226	0	(5)
82,330	75,089	0	
18,000	9,000	0	
125,880	121,620	0	
(58,175)	(184,048)	(125,873)	

- £105,390 lower costs savings from transitional relief in business rates and operational changes to Waterside car park, reduced by building insurance costs in Hampden House car park. The forecast has been amended to reflect these savings and pressure.
- ② £10,356 higher income increased contract income due to CPI uplift.
- ③ The forecast has been amended to reflect marginal savings from transitional relief in business rates.
- The forecast has been amended to reflect marginal savings from transitional relief in business rates.
- ⑤ The forecast has been amended to reflect savings

Budget profiling

Fund	General	
Portfolio	Communities	6

		Full Year		
Service		Current Budget	Expected Year End Variance	
Community Safety		403,100	0	
Concessionary Travel		44,200	(33,400)	
Grants		79,200	0	
Housing Pathways		52,600	0	
Housing Services		625,600	0	
Strategy & Partnerships		53,200	0	
Grand Total		1,257,900	(33,400)	

Year to Date				
Budget to Date	Actuals Plus Commitments to Date	Significant Variances		
163,280	141,238	(22,042)	(1	
22,140	5,460	(16,680)	Ø	
40,880	37,823	0		
19,040	10,940	0		
194,270	229,561	35,291	3	
46,340	46,340	0		
485,950	471,362	(14,588)		

- £22,042 higher income increased local authority partnership contributions which are expected to be spent during the remainder of the year.
- £16,680 lower costs the Taxi Token Scheme has been placed on hold whilst the service is under review. The forecast has been amanded to reflect the anticipated outturn position.
- £35,291 higher costs increased homelessness bed & breakfast fees. The costs are being closely monitored, with the expectation that the increased costs will be offset by lower voids at the Lodge.

Budget profiling

Fund	General	
Portfolio	Economic Developn	

	Full Year	
Service	Current Budget	Expected Year End Variance
Bus Station	146,400	0
Commercial Property	(1,965,900)	30,700
Economic Development	253,600	0
Facilities Management	49,400	0
Highway and Amenity Areas	7,300	0
Industrial Estates and Town Centre Props	550,900	100
Land Charges	(8,000)	6,000
Non Operational Property	(28,300)	0
Office Accommodation	360,300	29,900
Standby Services	10,200	0
Town Centre Open Spaces	11,700	0
Grand Total	(612,400)	66,700

Year to Date			
Budget to Date	Actuals Plus Commitments to Date	Significant Variances	
39,160	41,705	0	
(956,270)	(916,507)	39,763	(1
103,770	35,894	(67,876)	2
30,500	21,073	0	
3,660	727	0	
292,040	300,627	0	3
(27,600)	(22,681)	0	4
(14,430)	(24,008)	0	
256,790	286,966	30,176	(5
5,100	4,636	0	
8,040	17,471	0	
(259,240)	(254,096)	0	

- £39,763 lower income reduced income due to a tenant vacating 66 High Street. The forecast has been amended to reflect the anticipated outturn position.
- £67,876 higher income recharge of 17/18 East West Rail costs. This additional income will be used to fund additional project work over the next 6 months.
- 3 The forecast has been amended to reflect increased spend on agency staff offset by savings in business rates.
- The forecast has been amended to reflect lower than budgeted income from searches.
- £30,176 higher costs one off refund of rent deposit of £20,000 plus increased utilities costs. The forecast has been amended to reflect the anticipated outturn position.

Budget profiling

Fund	General	
Portfolio	Environment	& Leisure

	Full Year		
Service	Current Budget	Expected Year end Variance	
Communities	484,500	0	
Community Centres	469,900	200	
Environmental Services	908,600	150,000	
Facilities Management	52,500	0	
Parks, Pitches & Open Space	976,200	200	
Waste & Recycling - Non Commercial	2,300	0	
Grand Total	2,894,000	150,400	

Year to Date				
Budget to Da	ate	Actuals Plus Commitments to Date	Significant Variances	
230,14	40	236,959	0	
205,13	35	204,303	0	(1
(463,10	00)	(366,379)	96,721	2
26,28	80	19,426	0	
438,42	25	440,094	0	3
1,20	00	408	0	
438,08	80	534,812	96,732	

<u>Notes</u>

- ① The forecast has been amended to reflect marginal overspend in business rates.
- £96,721 higher costs increased planning enforcement employee costs. The forecast has been amended to reflect the anticipated outturn position.
- ③ The forecast has been amended to reflect marginal overspend in business rates.

Budget profiling

Fund	General	
Portfolio	Finance & Re	esources

	Full Year		
Service	Current Budget	Expected Year End Variance	
Car Pooling Scheme	115,900	0	
Contract & Procurement Services	249,300	0	
Core Costs	1,322,900	0	
Democratic Services	513,900	0	
Digital Services	316,400	14,000	
Enterprise Service Desk Support	190,500	0	
Facilities Management	4,200	0	
Finance & Payroll Services	1,695,000	47,000	
Governance	0	0	
Housing Benefits	1,499,200	150,000	
Insurances	(67,600)	0	
IT Services - Strategic & Enterprise Service Desk	(48,300)	25,000	
Personnel Services	43,400	0	
Project Management Office	621,000	(64,000)	
Rating & Recovery Services	60,500	0	
Training	(39,400)	0	
Grand Total	6,476,900	172,000	

Year to Date			
Budget to Date	Actuals Plus Commitments to Date	Significant Variances	
46,270	37,595	0	
124,720	106,505	(18,215)	1
711,460	711,476	0	
256,140	256,911	0	
158,160	166,644	0	2
107,440	124,022	16,582	3
4,200	10,998	0	
989,140	1,015,897	26,757	4
(44,140)	(48,261)	0	
2,532,420	2,577,521	45,101	(5)
202,500	202,500	0	
259,940	293,854	33,914	6
23,520	(8,343)	(31,863)	7
310,600	265,268	(45,332)	8
221,780	221,000	0	
(28,840)	(33,806)	0	
5,875,310	5,899,781	24,471	

- £18,215 lower costs salary savings due to maternity. These savings are planned to be used to pay for training in the last 6 months of the year.
- ② The forecast has been amended to reflect additional employment costs.
- 3 £16,582 higher costs higher employment costs covering maternity & sickness leave.
- £26,757 higher costs increased costs for the iTrent payroll system. The forecast has been amended to reflect the anticipated outturn position.
- £45,101, higher costs additional employment costs covering maternity and sickness leave, including agency staff costs required to cover staff training & operational needs. The forecast has been amended to reflect these additional employment costs.
- £33,914, higher costs additional consultancy costs to cover operational requirements. The forecast has been amended to reflect these additional costs.
- £31,863 lower costs salary savings due to the vacant HR lead role. Increased consultancy costs over the remainder of the year are expected to offset this.
- £45,332 lower costs savings in employment costs from transfer of staff to Unitary. The forecast has been amended to reflect these savings.

Budget profiling

Fund	General
Portfolio	Leader

	Full	Year
Service	Current Budget	Expected Year End Variance
Assistant Directors	(4,000)	110,000
Business Strategy	127,200	54,100
Chairman's Expenses	23,700	0
Chief Executive's Support Services	30,200	(120,000)
Communications & Marketing	0	(38,800)
Democratic Services	1,088,600	(10,000)
Director - AS	0	0
Director - TA	0	(80,000)
Electoral Services	388,700	(49,600)
Legal Services	(44,200)	64,300
Vale Lottery	7,000	0
Grand Total	1,617,200	(70,000)

Year to Date			
Budget to Date	Actuals Plus Commitments to Date	Significant Variances	
(25,920)	78,601	104,521	1
73,780	115,985	42,205	2
10,440	3,035	0	
11,600	(12,827)	(24,427)	3
(40,880)	(50,355)	0	4
536,545	519,353	(17,192)	(5)
(40)	(1,910)	0	
(1,300)	(13,129)	(11,829)	6
179,300	171,233	0	7
46,300	63,039	16,739	8
3,480	3,480	0	
793,305	876,504	83,199	

- £104,521 higher costs additional employee & agency staff costs covering maternity leave & ongoing planning service operational requirements. The forecast has been amended to reflect these costs.
- £42,205 lower income reduction in SEED team income streams. The forecast has been amended to reflect the anticipated lower income.
- £24,427 lower costs savings arising from the departure of the Chief Executive. The forecast has been amended to reflect these savings.
- ④ The forecast has been amended to reflect salary savings arising from the secondment of 2 employees to Unitary.
- ⑤ £17,192 lower costs salary savings. The forecast has been amended to reflect the anticipated outturn position.
- © £11,829 lower costs savings arising from the departure of the Director. The forecast has been amended to reflect these savings.
- The forecast has been amended to reflect salary savings due to staff vacancies.
- § £16,739 higher costs increased employee costs. The forecast has been amended to reflect the costs of an additional team member.

Budget profiling

Fund	General	
Portfolio	Planning & E	nforcement

	Full Year		
Service	Current Budget	Expected Year End Variance	
Forward Plans	3,000	0	
Heritage	527,800	0	
Planning Services	(738,100)	600,000	
Grand Total	(207,300)	600,000	

Year to Date						
Budget to Date	Significant Variances					
1,500	0	0				
281,900	294,134	12,234	(
(287,840)	127,770	415,610	Œ			
(4,440)	421,904	426,344				

- $\, \oplus \,$ £12,234 higher costs agency staff costs covering current vacant post.
- £415,610 higher costs/lower income agency staff costs to reduce the backlog of Planning & Building Control applications, which is also impacting on income streams. The forecast has been amended to reflect the anticipated outturn position.

Budget profiling

Fund	General
Portfolio	Strategic Planning & Infrastructure

	Full Year			
Service	Current Budget	Expected Year End Variance		
Forward Plans	696,900	0		
Planning Services	257,100	0		
Strategy & Partnerships	230,100	(35,000)		
Grand Total	1,184,100	(35,000)		

Year to Date					
Budget to Date	Actuals Plus Commitments to Date	Significant Variances			
348,660	362,354	13,694	(1		
178,840	205,767	26,927	(2		
115,240	94,977	(20,263)	3		
642,740	663,099	20,359			

- ① £13,694 higher costs increased agency staff costs offset by a number of smaller savings across a range of services.
- ② £26,927 higher costs agency staff costs covering current vacant post.
- £20,263 lower costs savings in employment costs due to the secondment of staff to Unitary. The forecast has been amended to reflect the anticipated outturn position.

Budget profiling

Fund	General	
Portfolio	Waste & Lice	encing

	Full Year				
Service	Current Budget	Expected Year End Variance			
Environmental Services	267,000	0			
Health & Safety	7,700	(15,000)			
Licensing	(43,400)	0			
Waste & Recycling - Commercial	636,900	250,000			
Waste & Recycling - Non Commercial	4,985,700	390,000			
Grand Total	5,853,900	625,000			

Year to Date						
Budg	et to Date	Actuals Plus Commitments to Date	Significant Variances			
	176,884	168,656	0			
	(2,565)	(7,335)	0	Œ		
	(6,550)	(16,540)	0			
	777,040	801,653	24,613	2		
2	2,639,800	2,905,762	265,962	3		
;	3,584,609	3,852,195	267,586			

- ① The forecast has been amended to reflect savings arising from a staff vacancy.
- £24,613 higher costs increased trade waste disposal fees with Bucks CC this contract is currently under review. The forecast has been amended to reflect the anticipated outturn position.
- £265,962 higher costs increased domestic waste disposal fees the contract is reviewed by the supplier every three months

 ③ (materials & employment costs) & this has resulted in increased contract costs. This contract with Casepak is currently under review. The forecast has been amended to reflect these changes & a budget pressure has been requested in the MTFP for future years.

Budget profiling

Fund	General
Special	Yes

		Full Year Y		Year to Date			
Service	CC Description	Current Budget	Expected Year End Variance	Budget to Date	Actuals Plus Commitments to Date	Significant Variances	
Community Centres	Administration	74,200	0	39,620	39,182	0	
	Alfred Rose	61,100	200	25,985	29,184	0	
	Bedgrove	65,200	(100)	25,895	20,959	0	ĺ
	Haydon Hill	18,500	0	8,000	8,965	0	ĺ
	Prebendal Farm	51,400	100	22,510	22,308	0	ĺ
	Quarrendon and Meadowcroft	63,200	0	29,680	34,722	0	
	Southcourt	44,100	0	19,415	17,761	0	
Community Centres T	otal	377,700	200	171,105	173,082	0	1
Parks, Pitches & Open Space	Alfred Rose Park	56,200	0	27,500	25,428	0	
	Bedgrove Park	75,700	0	45,900	40,955	0	ĺ
	Edinburgh Playing Fields	54,400	0	22,800	21,992	0	ĺ
	Fairford Leys	87,600	200	38,920	35,905	0	ĺ
	Meadowcroft Playing Fields	80,600	0	37,280	26,636	(10,644)	ĺ
	Parks Administration	243,800	0	87,310	95,451	0	ĺ
	Vale Park	12,700	0	6,300	11,072	0	ĺ
	Walton Court Sports Ground	39,000	0	17,400	11,143	0	
Parks, Pitches & Ope	n Space Total	650,000	200	283,410	268,583	(14,827)	2
Market	Market	1,100	(3,100)	4,760	2,801	0	
Market Total		1,100	(3,100)	4,760	2,801	0	3
Asset Rental Adjustm	ent	(91,800)	0	0	0	0	
Grand Total		937,000	(2,700)	459,275	444,465	(14,827)	4

- $\ensuremath{\mathbb{O}}$ The forecast has been amended to reflect marginal overspend in business rates.
- ② £14,827 lower costs savings in utilities costs. The forecast has been amended to reflect marginal overpend in business rates.
- $\begin{tabular}{ll} \hline \end{tabular} \begin{tabular}{ll} \hline \end{tabular} The forecast has been amended to reflect marginal savings from transitional relief in business rates. \\ \hline \end{tabular}$

The original budgeted spend for special expenses was £902,300. £849,300 of this spend was reimbursed by way of precept income, the balance being a call upon the use of special expenses balances. During the year the current budget has been increased to cover the cost of maintenance works at various properties, which has been agreed to be met from AVDC balances.

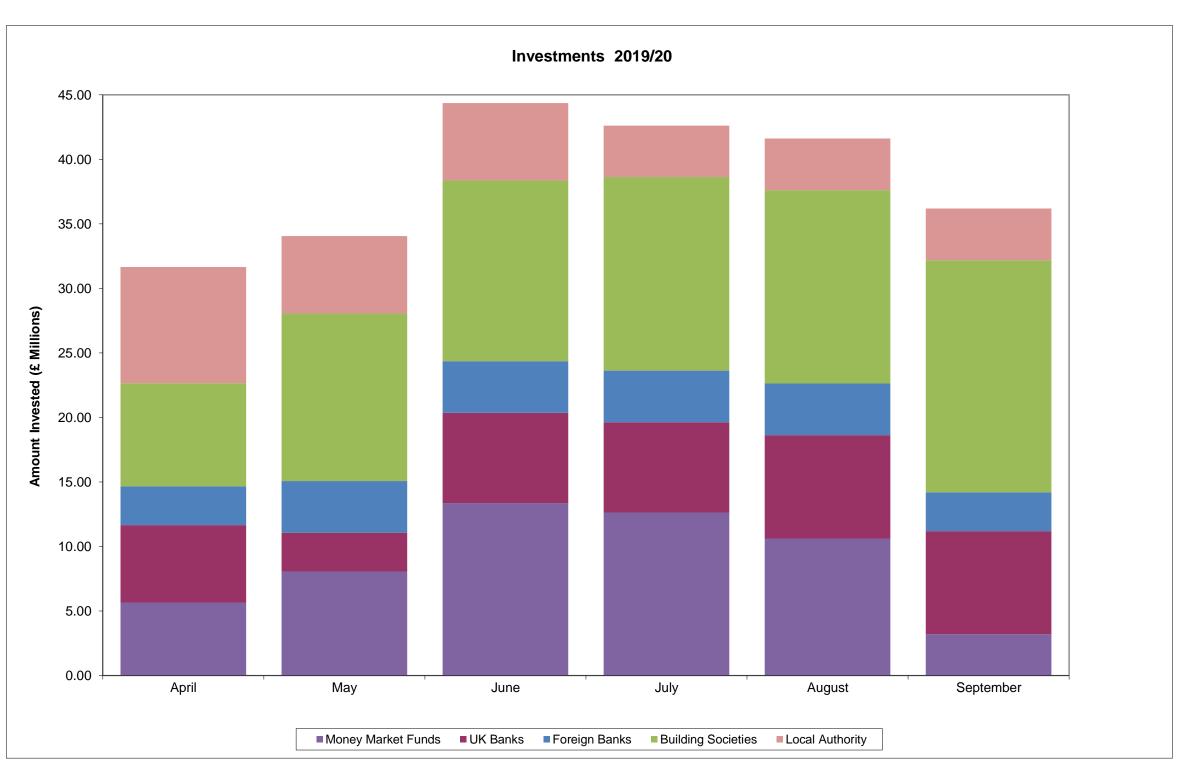
GENERAL FUND REVENUE RESERVES AND PROVISIONS

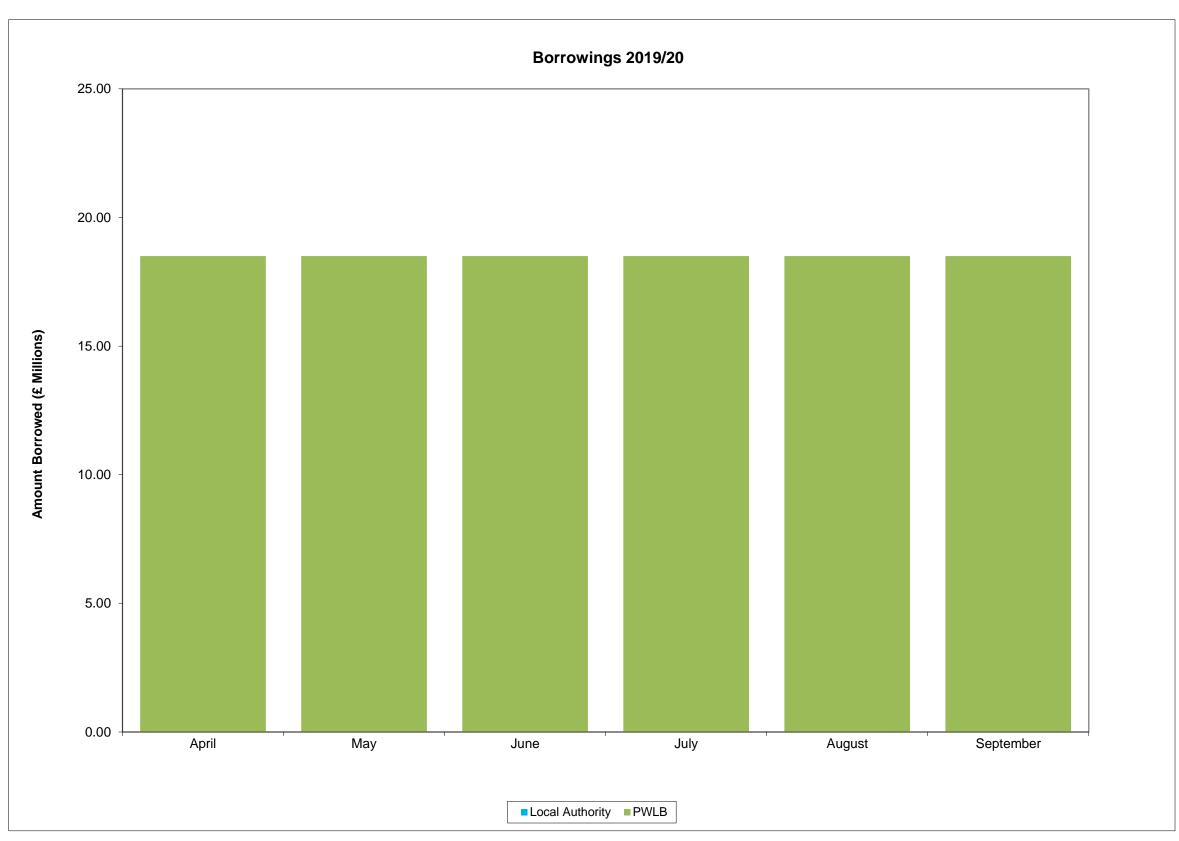
The table shows the current level of provisions and reserves held by the Council at the beginning of the year, the pl movements in the year and the expected closing balance at 31st March 2020.

RESERVES AND PROVISIONS	OPENING BALANCE	TRANSFERS OUT	TRANSFERS IN	EXPECTED CLOSING BALANCE
	01/04/2019			31/03/20
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
PROVISIONS				
NNDR Appeals	(2,041)	0	0	(2,041)
Refundable Bonds	(287)	0	0	(287)
Expected Credit Losses	(8)	0	0	(8)
BAD DEBT PROVISIONS				
Housing Benefits Overpayments	(2,097)	0	0	(2,097)
Local Taxation	(561)	0	0	(561)
Other	(292)	0	0	(292)
Off Street Parking	(80)	0	0	(80)
Haywoods Way	(41)	0	0	(41)
TOTAL PROVISIONS	(5,407)	0	0	(5,407)
RESERVES				
Unitary	(4,974)	0	0	(4,974)
New homes bonus - town centre regeneration	(4,500)	0	0	(4,500)
Amenity areas	(2,874)	0	0	(2,874)
New homes bonus - parishes	(2,855)	3,713	(858)	0
Business rates	(1,893)	0	(748)	(2,641)
Property sinking	(1,766)	70	0	(1,696)
New homes bonus - connected knowledge	(1,751)	1,000	0	(751)
New homes bonus - uncommitted	(1,548)	750	(3,694)	(4,492)
New homes bonus - high speed broadband	(1,536)	200	Ó	(1,336)
Repairs & renewals	(1,122)	150	0	(972)
Fairford Leys riverine	(894)	894	0	Ò
Planning fees	(608)	608	0	0
New homes bonus - depot refurbishment	(597)	300	0	(297)
Property strategy	(540)	0	0	(540)
Health licensing income	(498)	50	0	(448)
Self insurance	(448)	0	0	(448)
Aylesbury special expenses	(425)	51	0	(374)
New homes bonus - east/west rail link	(350)	0	0	(350)
Car parking	(223)	223	0	0
District elections	(200)	0	(48)	(248)
Recycling & composting	(172)	172	Ó	0
Leisure activities	(156)	0	0	(156)
Historic buildings	(135)	0	0	(135)
Housing needs & section 106	(107)	0	0	(107)
Business support fund	(102)	0	0	(102)
Information technology	(78)	375	(297)	0
Rent guarantee scheme	(71)	0	0	(71)
Market research	(47)	0	0	(47)
Playgrounds	(40)	0	0	(40)
Benefit subsidy	(35)	0	0	(35)
Future vehicle costs	(34)	0	0	(34)
Business transformation	(29)	0	0	(29)
TOTAL RESERVES	\ /	8,556	(5,645)	(27,697)

CAPITAL PROGRAMME SPEND TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019

	REF	APPROVED SPEND	PRIOR YEARS' SPEND	EXPECTED SPEND 19/20	ACTUAL SPEND AT 30/09/19
		£s	£s	£s	£s
University Campus, Aylesbury Vale	8001	16,550,000	16,312,727	237,273	0
Public Realm Waterside North	8004	11,900,000	8,985,553	2,914,447	826,997
Refuse Vehicles Replacement	8005	600,000	0	600,000	183,461
Depot Purchase / Refurbishment	8006	11,305,000	6,738,574	4,566,426	215,135
Car Park Improvement	8007	800,000	40,129	759,871	21,866
Community Centre Upgrades	8008	405,000	64,352	340,648	38,724





MEMBER FEEDBACK / QUESTION SHEET

ISSUE 2 - 19/20

Aylesbury Vale District Council
The Gateway, Gatehouse Road

Aylesbury

Bucks HP19 8FF

FEEDBACK

If any members have any questions regarding the digest then please ring one of the Finance team on the numbers below or alternatively use the tear off page to record you comments or questions.

<u>Accountancy</u>	<u>Team</u>	Phone No.
Andrew Small	Director	585507
Nuala Donnelly	Corporate Finance Manager	585164
Sharon Russell-Surtees	Corporate Accountant	585391
Gareth Davies	Finance Business Partner	585276
Alasdair Rudge	Finance Business Partner	585406

FEEDBACK	
QUESTION	
QUESTION	
Feedback Sheet Returned by:	
COUNCILLOR	
DATE	
Please return Feedback / Question sheet to:	
Strategic Finance	