


1 Portfolio Summary

Portfolio: **Leader**

Member: **Cllr Martin Tett, Leader of the Council**


REVENUE	
Budget £000	£7,087
Forecast Outturn £000	£7,084
Variance £000	-£3
Variance %	0%
Financial Performance	

The year-end forecast position is breakeven.

There is increased spend projected around s106 monitoring costs but this is likely to be covered by fees. The position will be reviewed throughout the year although it is likely that a breakeven position will be achieved.

Portfolio: **Community Engagement and Public Health**

Member: **Cllr Noel Brown**

REVENUE	
Budget £000	£8,928
Forecast Outturn £000	£9,107
Variance £000	£179
Variance %	2.0%
Financial Performance	


The year-end forecast position is an overspend of £0.18m.

The forecast overspend is largely due to a reduction in income trends in Libraries and delays in achieving some savings targets. There is an underspend within the Universal Youth Service of £37k due to a reduction in the forecast funding of projects. The Portfolio is currently reviewing all options for bringing the forecast spend back in line with the approved budget. This includes reviewing the impact of current community projects and applying a spending control around non-essential spend.

Public Health is expected to breakeven.

Portfolio: **Health & Wellbeing**

Member: **Cllr Lin Hazell**

REVENUE	
Budget £000	£131,934
Forecast Outturn £000	£132,155
Variance £000	£221
Variance %	0.2%
Financial Performance	

The year-end forecast position is an overspend of £0.2m.


This largely relates to pressures in the Client Transport budget as a result of increased unit costs.

There are a number of emerging risks within the service. These include experiencing an increase in long term placements, particularly for older people. The majority of these additional pressures relate to self-funders whose savings have now depleted below the financial threshold. There are also a number who have been assessed as being no longer eligible for continuing health care (CHC). Furthermore, there are also a number of risks in relation to work to deliver the savings targets set for the year. These risks are being addressed in the form of an action plan and include:-

- Work with providers around the checks and balances they take on admission for self-funders via the providers forum;
- Audit of first contact at the front door when self-funders contact BCC to ensure that BCC processes are being followed correctly;
- Reviewing the information and advice on the BCC web-site for self-funders;
- Ensuring that any placement has been reviewed against eligibility criteria for extra care housing;
- Service Director oversight of all placement decisions at all practice forums;
- Service Director joint chairing of CHC board;
- Developing a reviews team to conduct focused work on identified care packages;
- Further strength-based practice sessions using alternative service models (e.g. Shared Lives, Extra Care);
- Existing savings plans reviewed to see whether any potential for additional benefit e.g. on Direct Care and Support Services.

Portfolio: Children's Services

Member: Cllr Warren Whyte

REVENUE	
Budget £000	£67,859
Forecast Outturn £000	£69,805
Variance £000	£1,946
Variance %	2.9%
Financial Performance	

The year-end forecast position is an overspend of £1.9m.

The key pressures are the placement costs and the costs of Legal support both as a result of growth in numbers and the complexity of cases. These pressures continue to be monitored.


Placement budgets for Looked After Children are currently projected to overspend by £1.2m following the release of contingencies of £3.3m. Expenditure is driven by the statutory need to accommodate children when they need protecting. There are often few, if any, placement choices for the most complex children who are very expensive to place. For example, a full year in residential care for one child can cost upwards of £300k. However, every individual case is reviewed by the Panel before a decision is made on the appropriateness of the placement and the cost implications are considered.

Legal budgets are currently projected to overspend by £0.7m. The service anticipates that service improvement may result in a higher spend than last year with increased complexity of current court cases as well as an increasing demand for existing care proceedings. More detailed work is taking place to mitigate this risk. Realignment of the service with the creation of a central Court Team is central to making and sustaining changes in practice which in turn should have a positive impact on legal spend.

Despite the service reducing the number of agency staff there is still a small projected overspend in staffing budgets. In January 2018 the over establishment of agency Social Workers that were brought in to support the Ofsted inspection were 25. By April 2018 the Ofsted related over establishment agency staff had reduced to 0. As at the end of May the number of agency staff covering other agreed over establishment posts was 13, reducing to 9.5 in June. This will reduce further in the coming months.

Portfolio: **Education & Skills (including Client Transport)**

Member: **Cllr Mike Appleyard**

REVENUE	
Budget £000	£22,491
Forecast Outturn £000	£23,833
Variance £000	£1,342
Variance %	6.0%
Financial Performance	


The year-end forecast position is an overspend of £1.34m.

There is an expected overspend in client transport of £1.305m in SEN transport and Post 16 / Further Education transport mainly as a result of increased demand but also due to a shortfall in income against target. The forecast reflects the full year effect of 100 additional post-16 students with SEN accessing transport in September 2017 (c80% increase in numbers) and a projected further increase from September 2018.

£500k has already been mitigated by the current action plan and consultation on changes to the transport policy are being explored in terms of what might deliver further savings.

Portfolio: **Resources**

Member: **Cllr John Chilver**


REVENUE	
Budget £000	£25,230
Forecast Outturn £000	£25,487
Variance £000	£258
Variance %	1.0%
Financial Performance	

The year-end forecast position is an overspend of £0.25m.

HR / OD is anticipating an overspend, particularly around the Shared Service with Harrow. Property & Assets have pressures around both unbudgeted buildings and reactive maintenance, particularly fixing leaks. HR / OD are exploring additional income opportunities and further process efficiencies to reduce their anticipated overspend. Furthermore, a deep dive has been conducted across all service areas within Resources to identify additional savings opportunities to ensure a breakeven position can be delivered.

Portfolio: **Planning & Environment**

Member: **Cllr Bill Chapple OBE**


REVENUE	
Budget £000	£10,047
Forecast Outturn £000	£10,163
Variance £000	-£116
Variance %	-1.1%
Financial Performance	

The year-end forecast position is an underspend of £0.1m.

The underspend is due primarily to reduced costs in rates / unitary charges at the Energy from Waste site, Biowaste North gate fees for food, and recycling credits, partially offset by increased costs for Household Recycling Centres.

Portfolio: **Transportation**

Member: **Cllr Mark Shaw, Deputy Leader**

REVENUE	
Budget £000	£28,798
Forecast Outturn £000	£28,881
Variance £000	£83
Variance %	0.3%
Financial Performance	

The year-end forecast position is an overspend of £0.1m.

The small forecast overspend is due to the non-recovery of project costs from capitalisation within the Highways Infrastructure Projects team and Transport Strategy agency costs supporting increased activity (such as around the Housing Infrastructure Fund bid). TfB is currently forecasting to spend to budget and so far the work is being delivered broadly in line with expectations. The Portfolio is looking at a number of measures to help manage the current forecast pressure; initially from within the teams to which it relates or through specific funding. It is anticipated that this can be managed within budget by year end.

2 Corporate Costs & External Financing

Corporate Costs has a reported outturn of £2.8m underspend.

This includes a £1.6m underspend on contingency budgets as risks are not materialising, £0.5m underspend in relation to the National Living Wage, £0.6m Treasury Management and Capital Financing costs and £0.1m higher than expected Business Rate pooling income.

3 Outstanding Debt

Portfolio	Outstanding Debt				Total Due	Outstanding Debt as % of Annual Sales
	0-30 Days	31-90 Days	91-180 Days	More than 180 Days		
Children's Services	30	23	49	351	452	14%
Community Engagement	26	52	1	8	86	8%
Corporate Costs	11	36	35	21	103	6%
Education & Skills	10	743	203	76	1,032	4%
Health & Welbeing	517	1,874	733	3,340	6,463	25%
Leader	93	0	8	22	123	6%
Planning & Environment	156	103	63	44	367	9%
Resources	8	110	224	251	593	6%
Transportation	1,372	102	88	227	1,789	23%
Portfolio Not Determined	-123	-1	-21	-125	-270	
Total Debt	2,100	3,043	1,383	4,214	10,740	14%

In December 2016 a debt task and finish group was set up to focus on outstanding debt levels. This group focussed on improving invoicing practice and debt recovery processes and to reduce the value of debt outstanding to the Council. Through a focus on process improvement and the recruitment of additional resource to address the oldest debt, the level of debt has now been brought down to £10.7m from £17.8m. A significant proportion of our debt is secured against property as part of the Adults Social Care charging regime and reflects little risk to the council.

4 Late Payments

10 Day Late Payments				30 Day Late Payments			
Portfolio (Target 90%)	Invoices Paid	Paid Late	% Paid on Time	Portfolio (Target 90%)	Invoices Paid	Paid Late	% Paid on Time
Health & Wellbeing	217	18	92%	Health & Wellbeing	2,561	26	99%
Children's Services	108	8	93%	Children's Services	2,176	32	99%
Education & Skills	153	29	81%	Education & Skills	2,868	88	97%
Community Engagement	116	7	94%	Community Engagement	613	6	99%
Leader	35	3	91%	Leader	94	-	100%
Planning & Environment	43	4	91%	Planning & Environment	208	13	94%
Resources	198	14	93%	Resources	3,557	62	98%
Transportation	33	3	91%	Transportation	430	2	100%
Corporate	-	-	0%	Corporate	4	-	100%
Unallocated	8	-	100%	Unallocated	95	8	92%
Year to Date	911	86	91%	Year to Date	12,606	237	98%