



Finance & Resources Select Committee agenda

Date: Thursday 7 April 2022

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: The Paralympic Room, Buckinghamshire Council, Gatehouse Road, HP19 8FF

Membership:

R Bagge (Chairman), K Wood (Vice-Chairman), D Anthony, K Ashman, M Ayub, S Chhokar, T Dixon, T Egleton, D Goss, G Harris, I Macpherson, J Ng, W Raja, M Walsh and S Wilson

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If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the monitoring officer at monitoringofficer@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

Agenda Item	Time	Page No
1 Apologies for absence / Changes in membership		
2 Declarations of Interest		
3 Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 17 February 2022 to be confirmed as a correct record.		5 - 8

4 Public Questions

Public questions is an opportunity for people who live, work or study in Buckinghamshire to put a question to a Select Committee.

The Committee will hear from members of the public who have submitted questions in advance relating to items on the agenda. The Cabinet Member, relevant key partners and responsible officers will be invited to respond.

Further information on how to register can be found here: <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/your-council/get-involved-with-council-decisions/select-committees/>

5 Budget Performance Monitoring Q3

10:10

9 - 46

The Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring Report as presented to Cabinet at its meeting on Tuesday 29 March is attached for the Committee to consider.

Contributors:

Councillor John Chilver, Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources, Property and Assets
Richard Ambrose, Service Director for Corporate Finance (Section 151 Officer)

Paper:

Q3 Budget Monitoring Report

6 External Property Companies

10:45

47 - 56

The Committee will receive an overview of the performance and Business Plans of the Council's companies:

Aylesbury Vale Estates LLP (AVE)
Consilio Property Ltd
London Road Management Company
Buckinghamshire Advantage

Contributors:

John Chilver, Cabinet Member for Property and Assets
John Reed, Service Director for Property and Assets

Papers:

Companies overview
Confidential appendices

7 Work Programme

Members are asked to suggest potential items so that they can be considered for the next municipal year's work programme.

Contributors:

All Committee Members

8 Date and time of the next meeting

Thursday 28 July at 2pm (Provisional)

9 Exclusion of the Public

To resolve that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that discussion will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Paragraph 3 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority that holds that information).

10 External Property Companies

11:15

57 - 156

To consider the confidential appendices.

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For further information please contact: Chris Ward on 01296 585807, email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

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Agenda Item 3
Buckinghamshire Council
Finance & Resources Select
Committee

Minutes

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE & RESOURCES SELECT COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2022 IN THE OCULUS, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL, GATEHOUSE ROAD, AYLESBURY HP19 8FF, COMMENCING AT 2.00 PM AND CONCLUDING AT 3.03 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

R Bagge, D Anthony, K Ashman, M Ayub, S Chhokar, T Egleton, D Goss, G Harris, J Ng, M Walsh and S Wilson

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

T Butcher, J Chilver, R Ambrose, R Daniels, T Lane, I Thompson and C Ward

Agenda Item

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP

Apologies were received from Councillors T Dixon, I Macpherson and K Wood.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor J Ng declared a personal interest as a member of Beaconsfield Town Council.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

4 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No public questions had been received.

5 CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

The Chairman reported that the Budget Inquiry report was presented to Cabinet on Tuesday 15 February. The report was well received and thanks were passed on from the Leader and Cabinet to Members of the Inquiry Group. Each recommendation was considered by the relevant portfolio holder and the formal response had been published on the council website. The Chairman thanked all Members involved for their work in the Inquiry.

6 12 MONTH UPDATE ON BUDGET SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee received a report which provided an update and narrative for each of the recommendations made by the 2022 Budget Scrutiny Inquiry Group.

During the Member discussion it was noted that the inquiry had raised areas of concern over the past two years (e.g. resource for Planning with the pending White Paper and affordable housing

in Buckinghamshire). Addressing these would be subject to either national guidance or council strategy being published. The 2022-23 budget inquiry process may benefit from re-visiting the previous year's recommendations.

7 WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received an updated version of the work programme to cover the remainder of the municipal year.

8 OVERALL PROPERTY STRATEGY

The Committee received a report on the Overall Property Strategy which was presented by Councillor J Chilver, Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources, Property and Assets. The report also provided an overview of Council Access Points, customer usage and plans to utilize Council Property. The following key points were highlighted by the Cabinet Member:

- The Strategic Asset Management Plan would be refreshed by the end of Q2 2022. The Plan would be an amalgamation of various strategies, policies and plans. An Agricultural Estate Management Plan would be promoted over the same period.
- The Council's property portfolio comprised of multiple areas including operational, community, highways, agricultural estate, investment portfolio & development opportunities and regeneration opportunities. The Council also owned/partly owned property companies: Conseil, Aylesbury Vale Estates and Buckinghamshire Advantage.
- The estate was valued at £1.978b across over 1,700 properties. Assets under management were over £70m. The annual revenue budget was £41m and there were around 120 staff working across the property team.
- The Overall Property Strategy had several aims including:
 - Support the Council's Corporate Plan objectives and the medium-term financial planning of the organization;
 - Support provision of the housing including market, key worker and affordable;
 - Support the wider decarbonization agenda;
 - Reduce operational footprint of the corporate estate and roll out the wider corporate landlord across the estate.
- Council tenants had been supported through the pandemic through signposting to grant opportunities.
- The office estate had been adapted to meet social distance guidance during the pandemic and was now being adapted further to support hybrid working.

During the open discussion, Members raised the following points:

- Developing the strategy had been challenging due to harmonising five legacy processes, data and property information into one single unitary database. The Cabinet Member gave an example of the legacy County Council putting aside 5% of its property income into reserves to cover voids and rental income fluctuation whereas other legacies did not. The new harmonized policy was 2.5%.
- Covid had impacted rental income as well as the delivery of new construction projects through delays in the supply chain and contractor staff availability. This had led to some capital slippage increase. Inflation had led to increased costs of construction and energy.
- Property data had been collated whilst maintenance collation was ongoing. An options review of assets was also in process. A Member had hoped that the service would be further ahead on this project after two years.
- The Cabinet Member had limited involvement in the timetables, processes and procedures relating to devolution as this was within the Communities portfolio. It was acknowledged that the transfer for Green Street Community Centre, High Wycombe, had

taken a long time in part due to extensive community consultation. Any transfers needed to ensure the business could be supported by due diligence. A pilot transfer was commencing soon for a community centre in Aylesbury to the Town Council.

- Highways had a large number of small pieces of land that was surplus to requirement. These may have been a result of potential Highway improvement schemes such as bypasses or road widening. One Member noted that a similar Highways asset exercise had been undertaken by the legacy County Council and sought assurance that plans would develop. The Chairman noted that the Committee would be interested to have further information on this in future once the Asset Management Plan had been completed.
- £12m had been secured for the Future High Streets fund with the council adding £5m. The programme aimed to acquire vacant or underused properties in High Wycombe town centre, repurpose them and bring them back to use. Two shops had been acquired (Church Street and High Street) and Cabinet had recently agreed a scheme to acquire and repurpose a unit in the Eden Shopping Centre. Redevelopment of the Chiltern Shopping Centre was also being facilitated into a new residential development. Part of the programme would also improve the Guild Hall and the Little Market House in the town centre. The funding, which was being allocated in consultation with the High Wycombe town Committee and the High Wycombe Community Board, was on track to be spent within the stipulated three years.
- Around £150m had been invested into eight properties by the legacy councils with the majority being funded.
- The Cabinet Member would follow up with a Member regarding progress on Beaconsfield Town Council's town hall.
- The Cabinet Member was aware of vacant space adjacent King George V House, Amersham. The service was involved in the One Public Estate scheme with funding from Government to explore joint working with other public sector bodies.

The Chairman thanked the Cabinet Member for the update on the Strategy.

9 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Thursday 7 April 2022.

10 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED –

That pursuant to Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Minute No 12, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act as defined as follows:

Minute 11 – Overall Property Strategy

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) (Paragraph 3, Part 1 of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972) (The need to maintain the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure, because disclosure could prejudice the Council's position in any future process or negotiations).

11 OVERALL PROPERTY STRATEGY

This item was undertaken in confidential session as part of the confidential appendices related to Minute Item 8.

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Report to Cabinet

Date:	29 March 2022
Title:	Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring Report 2021-22
Relevant councillor(s):	John Chilver
Author and/or contact officer:	Richard Ambrose, Service Director – Corporate Finance & S151 Officer
Ward(s) affected:	none specific
Recommendations:	Cabinet is asked to: - note the report and the risks and opportunities contained within it. - approve the principle to transfer unused contingencies at year end, currently forecast as £6.2m, to an earmarked reserve, to mitigate the potential impact of Local Government Finance Reform, and heightening risks around the financial implications associated with political uncertainty, global turbulence, increased inflationary pressures, Adult Social Care reforms and the ongoing impact of Covid-19.
Reason for decision:	To understand the financial position of the Council in respect of 2021-22 Budgets.

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the Revenue and Capital position for Buckinghamshire Council for the financial year 2021/22 as at the end of December.
- 1.2 The local government settlement in February 2022 was the 4th consecutive one year settlement. The government have indicated an intention to reform local government

funding in the near future based on an up-to-date assessment of Councils' needs and resources, and it is also unknown at this stage how the 'Levelling Up' agenda may be reflected in funding policy. There is, therefore, high risk around future funding levels, with changes expected from financial year 2023/24.

- 1.3 The following report details the Council's financial performance for 2021/22 and, whilst there have been pressures in Portfolio budgets in the year, these have been managed and successfully mitigated, meaning that an element of the corporate contingency budget is no longer required. A contribution to an earmarked reserve is proposed which can be released, if necessary, in future years. This aligns to the Select Committee's view (budget scrutiny task & finish group) on risk and whether the level of contingencies for pressures such as inflation are sufficient.
- 1.4 This proposed transfer to an earmarked reserve will help to maintain financial sustainability and will assist in mitigating against the risk of future funding settlements which could divert funding away from relatively prosperous areas in the south east, to areas in the midlands and the north of the country.
- 1.5 In addition, the proposed transfer to reserves will help to mitigate against heightening risks around political uncertainty, global turbulence, inflationary pressures which have further increased as a result of global economic upheaval, with inflation now exceeding the 5% levels discussed during setting the 2022/23 budget, social care reform and market sustainability, and the ongoing impact of Covid-19. The Bank of England in the February inflation forecast were already predicting inflation peaking at just over 6%, and that was prior to increased energy prices as a result of the current conflict in Ukraine. Commentators are forecasting that this could increase and the Resolution Foundation are now forecasting a peak of 8.5% inflation across 2022/23.
- 1.6 The impact of inflation will be felt across revenue and capital in both the direct supply of goods and services. For each 1% change in inflation, the estimated cost is £4.6m annually in revenue and £5.2m across the 4 year capital programme. The revenue budgets for 2022/23 contain contingencies which will provide an element of mitigation, however consideration will need to be given as to how to further mitigate the impact, and this may have implications for borrowing, cashflow or the scale and scope of projects.
- 1.7 The Appendix provides further detail for each Portfolio and information about performance relating to overdue debts and late payments of commercial debt.

2. Revenue

- 2.1 The forecast revenue budget outturn is summarised in Figure 1. The key Portfolio variances are explained in Appendix 1.
- 2.2 Overall a favourable variance of £0.9m is forecast after allowing for £6.8m of corporate mitigations. This is a favourable movement of £0.9m since Q2 where a balanced budget position was reported.

Figure 1: Revenue Budgets

	Budget	Y/E Outturn	Variance	Change in Variance (from Q2 Cab)
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Revenue				
Expenditure	9,000	8,900	(100)	
Income	(1,000)	(1,000)	0	
Leader	8,000	7,900	(100)	(100) ↓
Expenditure	38,100	42,600	4,500	
Income	(8,800)	(14,200)	(5,400)	
Climate Change & Environment	29,300	28,400	(900)	(100) ↓
Expenditure	14,100	14,300	200	
Income	(3,400)	(4,200)	(800)	
Communities	10,700	10,100	(600)	200 ↑
Expenditure	11,500	11,500	0	
Income	(4,700)	(4,000)	700	
Culture & Leisure	6,800	7,500	700	(100) ↓
Expenditure	620,400	622,100	1,700	
Income	(534,400)	(532,700)	1,700	
Education & Childrens Services	86,000	89,400	3,400	1,300 ↑
Expenditure	173,400	178,800	5,400	
Income	(120,100)	(125,900)	(5,800)	
Finance, Resources, Property & Assets	53,300	52,900	(400)	(1,200) ↓
Expenditure	244,700	247,700	3,000	
Income	(87,100)	(88,200)	(1,100)	
Health & Wellbeing	157,600	159,500	1,900	1,200 ↑
Expenditure	15,400	19,400	4,000	
Income	(8,300)	(11,700)	(3,400)	
Housing & Homelessness & Regulatory Serv	7,100	7,700	600	300 ↑
Expenditure	14,800	16,200	1,400	
Income	(9,000)	(10,200)	(1,200)	
Planning & Regeneration	5,800	6,000	200	200 ↑
Expenditure	69,100	72,600	3,500	
Income	(14,400)	(16,800)	(2,400)	
Transport	54,700	55,800	1,100	(600) ↓
Portfolios Total	419,300	425,200	5,900	1,100 ↑
Corporate	34,700	29,800	(4,900)	
Funding	(454,000)	(455,900)	(1,900)	
Corporate & Funding Total	(419,300)	(426,100)	(6,800)	(2,000) ↓
Revenue Total	0	(900)	(900)	(900) ↓

2.3 The favourable variance of **£0.9m** comprises:

- £5.9m** adverse variance on Portfolio budgets (£4.8m adverse Q2);
- £4.2m** favourable variation on Corporate Contingencies, after a proposed transfer to earmarked reserves of £6.2m (£2.8m Q2);

- c) **£1.9m** favourable variation relating to Covid Sales Fees and Charges compensation scheme (£0.9m at Q2). £1.2m of this relates to the claim for the current year, as eligible pressures were higher than budgeted for, leading to the additional compensation. A further £0.7m relates to the previous year, as further scrutiny has enabled the identification of more compensation than had been identified at financial year end;
- d) **£0.7m** favourable variation on Corporate Budgets, principally capital financing costs (£1.1m at Q2).

2.4 The total Portfolio net revenue forecast variance is £5.9m adverse (1.4% of the total Portfolio budget).

2.5 Further risks to the Revenue forecasts have been identified, a proportion of which may still materialise prior to the end of the financial year. These, and any new pressures, could be covered by a number of contingencies that are not yet fully committed and could be used if required. **Appendix 1** provides further detail on the revenue forecast outturn by Portfolio.

3. Achievement of Savings

3.1 £13.2m of savings were incorporated into the approved 2021-22 Revenue budgets. The table below shows performance against those targets.

Figure 2 Savings Targets by Portfolio

Portfolio	Target £k	Forecast £k	Shortfall £k
Climate Change & Environment	1,126	1,126	0
Communities	392	392	0
Culture & Leisure	1,113	933	180
Education & Childrens Services	2,363	2,256	107
Finance, Resources, Property & Assets	2,251	2,121	130
Health & Wellbeing	2,319	2,532	-213
Housing & Homelessness & Regulatory Serv	305	305	0
Leader	1,274	1,124	150
Planning & Regeneration	1,219	1,219	0
Transport	875	691	184
Total	13,237	12,699	538

- a) Achievement of the £13.2m savings targets is summarised in the above table. Overall there is forecast shortfall of £0.5m (£0.6m Q2) which is taken into account within Portfolio forecasts.

4. Covid Grant Funding

- 4.1 The table below shows all grants which were carried forward from FY20/21 and new grants for FY21/22 with their accompanying grant allocations across the two financial years. The final column shows the actuals spent to date for each grant.
- 4.2 Total new grant allocations for FY21/22 not including corporate grants totalled c.£62.7m.
- 4.3 Excluding Business Support Grants the total amount carried forward to FY21/22 from the previous financial year totalled c.£15.3m.
- 4.4 There are currently 16 COVID grants that are open (excluding corporate grants).

Grants per directorate (FY22)	Open /Closed	FY20/21 Grant Allocation	FY21/22 Grant Allocation	Total Allocation	Actuals to date
PG&S					
Additional Restrictions Support Grant	Open	(21,013,760)	(1,334,142)	(22,347,902)	20,957,303
Emergency Travel Grant Tranche 1 - Revenue	Closed	(25,720)	-	(25,720)	19,855
Emergency Travel Grant Tranche 1 - Capital	Closed	(488,198)	-	(488,198)	341,219
Re-opening High Streets & Welcome Back Fund	Open	(481,588)	(481,588)	(963,176)	255,165
Homelessness Prevention Grant*	Open	-	(345,188)	(345,188)	-
Protect & Vaccinate - Rough Sleeping Initiative	Open	-	(150,438)	(150,438)	-
Travel Demand Management	Closed	-	(75,000)	(75,000)	17,320
Sub total		(22,009,266)	(2,386,356)	(24,395,622)	21,590,862
Children's					
Wellbeing for Education	Closed	(89,287)	-	(89,287)	88,537
Wellbeing for Education Recovery	Open	-	(76,718)	(76,718)	-
Subtotal		(89,287)	(76,718)	(166,005)	88,537
Communities					
Home to School Grant	Closed	(973,000)	(359,531)	(1,332,531)	1,332,531
Subtotal		(973,000)	(359,531)	(1,332,531)	1,332,531
DCE					
Winter Grant Scheme	Closed	(1,303,503)	-	(1,303,503)	1,303,475
Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF)	Open	(13,016,496)	(2,872,720)	(15,889,216)	9,386,950
Support for Clinically Extremely Vulnerable Resident	Open	(1,202,864)	-	(1,202,864)	551,113
Supporting the Vulnerable (Emergency Assistance C	Closed	(358,545)	-	(358,545)	358,264
LA Practical Support	Open	-	(1,054,805)	(1,054,805)	681,777
COVID Local Support Grant	Closed	-	(1,138,239)	(1,138,239)	1,138,239
Household Support Fund	Open	-	(2,399,190)	(2,399,190)	784,611
Subtotal		(15,881,408)	(7,464,954)	(23,346,362)	14,204,429
Adults & Health					
Infection Control (IFC3) and Testing Fund (RT2)	Closed	-	(3,371,148)	(3,371,148)	3,347,916
Surge Testing	Closed	(75,770)	-	(75,770)	77,591
Infection Control (IFC4) and Testing Fund (RT3)	Closed	-	(2,449,046)	(2,449,046)	2,151,492
Adult Social Care Omicron Support Fund*	Open	-	(417,830)	(417,830)	-
Infection Control (IFC5) and Testing Fund (RT4)*	Open	-	(3,754,379)	(3,754,379)	2,101,833
Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund*	Open	-	(3,220,770)	(3,220,770)	-
Subtotal		(801,530)	(13,213,173)	(13,288,943)	7,678,832
Resources					
Council Tax Hardship	Closed	(2,813,901)	-	(2,813,901)	1,943,000
LRS G C (Tier 5ii)	Closed	(11,095,411)	-	(11,095,411)	7,246,035
Closed business lockdown payments	Closed	(21,177,000)	-	(21,177,000)	13,987,000
Restart Grant	Closed	-	(22,596,615)	(22,596,615)	21,036,153
Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant*	Open	-	(4,050,225)	(4,050,225)	1,694,067
Test and trace scheme £500 payments	Open	(313,103)	(523,574)	(836,677)	1,267,442
COVID Additional Relief Fund	Open	-	(11,728,484)	(11,728,484)	-
Mid Year Discretionary Housing Payment	Open	-	(309,042)	(309,042)	-
Community Testing Programme	Open	(725,760)	-	(725,760)	730,044
Subtotal		(36,125,175)	(39,207,940)	(75,333,115)	47,903,741
Total exc. Corporate		(75,153,906)	(62,708,672)	(137,862,578)	92,798,932
Corporate					
Sales, fees and charges (Tranche 3)*	Open	-	(5,174,495)	(5,174,495)	-
Sales, fees and charges (Tranche 4)*	Open	-	(2,487,000)	(2,487,000)	-
New Burdens 4 (Restart and ARG)	Open	-	(154,400)	(154,400)	-
New Burdens 5	Open	-	(48,600)	(48,600)	-
Subtotal		-	(7,864,495)	(7,815,895)	-
Total inc. Corporate		(75,153,906)	(70,573,167)	(145,678,473)	92,798,932

Key	Description
	Open grants which were extended or carried forward from FY21
	Open grants which are new grants for FY22

4.5 **The Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF)**

4.6 The Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) provides funding to local authorities to help reduce the spread of coronavirus and support local public health. Buckinghamshire is expected to benefit from £15.9m of this spread over three financial years as detailed in Figure 3 below.

Figure 3: COMF Income, Spend and Current Unallocated Income

	Approved Spend / Allocation			Total Allocated
	FY21 £	FY22 £	FY23 £	
Spent in 2020-21	6,422,263			6,422,263
COVID Grants - Admin Support		314,000	183,000	497,000
Public Health		437,000	282,000	719,000
Health Outbreak Control		486,000	456,489	942,489
Local Contact Tracing		392,000		392,000
Social Work Caseloads - CS		1,870,000	2,200,000	4,070,000
Social Work Caseloads - ASC		650,000	600,000	1,250,000
Mutual Aid		13,567		13,567
Emergency Response Co-Ordinator		100,000	100,000	200,000
Imbalance/Health Bus		15,000		15,000
Flu jabs		57,000		57,000
Community Support Team		200,000	522,500	722,500
Legal Services (child protection caseloads)		173,700	173,700	347,400
Business Support for ASC social workers		14,000		14,000
MQS iPads		1,900		1,900
Business Ops - admin support for CS		26,857		26,857
Business Ops - assessments support for CS		168,568	173,641	342,209
Total Approved Allocations	6,422,263	4,919,592	4,691,330	16,033,185
Overallocation offset by FY22 underspend				-143,969
Total Grant Income	13,016,496	2,872,720	0	15,889,216

4.7 Portfolio forecasts include this spending and income (net £nil).

4.8 A number of bids are pending approval; once confirmed the COMF grant is fully committed.

4.9 The 2021/22 forecast estimates that there will be an underspend of £143k on approved bids, which will enable sufficient funds to support the pending bids.

4.10 No further COMF grant funding is anticipated.

5. Capital Budget Outturn

Capital slippage has increased between Q2 and Q3 from 7.9% (£14.8m) to 11.7% (£22.5m). This is now exceeding the Council's target of 10% of budgets and could further increase in the final quarter of the year. As part of the MTFP process, the profile of capital expenditure has been reviewed and challenged to ensure that realistic budgets based on achievable timescales are set.

5.1 There are a number of specific circumstances which will impact on the progress of capital projects during the current financial year including.

- a) On-going impact of COVID-19, where contractor or subcontractors are affected by the requirement for staff to isolate.
- b) The availability of building materials and supply chain issues which are impacting on several industries.
- c) The worldwide shortage of semi-conductors, resulting in delays in the supply of technology equipment and vehicles.
- d) Post unitary impacts, including reviews to ensure that projects are still essential, changes in key staff and internal reorganisations.
- e) Whilst the aspiration is to deliver the capital programme and minimise slippage, it is important that we take consider the post Covid-19 environment and the priorities of the new Buckinghamshire Council.
- f) Further details for each portfolio may be found in **Appendix 1**.

Figure 4: Capital Budgets

Directorate	Actuals to Date £000	Released Budget £000's	Unreleased Budget £000's	Total Budget £000's	Forecast Outturn Released £000's	Forecast Unreleased £000's	Forecast Outturn £000's	Forecast Variance £000's
Children's Services	45,087	57,476	1,410	58,886	58,991	460	59,451	566
Climate Change & Environment	1,387	6,795	1,276	8,071	6,450	659	7,109	-962
Communities	112	133	0	133	133	0	133	0
Culture & Leisure	12,647	16,340	1,020	17,360	13,952	228	14,180	-3,181
Finance, Resources, Property & Assi	4,808	9,524	766	10,290	9,853	0	9,853	-437
Health & Wellbeing	0	436	0	436	0	0	0	
Housing, Homelessness & Regulator	3,963	11,308	2,019	13,326	11,846	0	11,846	-1,480
Leader	4,182	-174	8,403	8,229	6,522	20	6,542	-1,686
Planning and Regeneration	13,412	29,999	626	30,625	16,948	2,913	19,861	-10,764
Transport	25,775	41,504	4,179	45,683	39,819	1,743	41,562	-4,121
Grand Total	111,373	173,342	19,698	193,040	164,515	6,023	170,538	-22,502

6. Other options considered

6.1 None arising directly from this report.

7. Legal and financial implications

7.1 This is a Finance report and all the financial implications are included in the report.

7.2 There are no legal implications arising from the report.

8. Corporate implications

8.1 Actions resulting from consideration of this report may influence future expenditure in areas of concern / interest.

9. Local councillors & community boards consultation & views

9.1 Not applicable.

10. Communication, engagement & further consultation

10.1 Not applicable.

11. Next steps and review

11.1 A report on the Council's outturn for 2021/22 will be brought to Cabinet on 7 June 2022.

12. Background papers

12.1 Appendix 1 – Portfolio level summaries.

13. Your questions and views (for key decisions)

13.1 If you have any questions about the matters contained in this report please get in touch with the author of this report. If you have any views that you would like the cabinet member to consider please inform the democratic services team. This can be done by telephone [01296 382343] or email [democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk].

BUDGET MONITORING POSITION Q3 2021-22

APPENDIX 1 Portfolio Summary

(including Debt and Late Payments)

Contents

1. Leader
2. Climate Change and Environment
3. Communities
4. Culture and Leisure
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APPENDIX 1 Portfolio Summary (including Debt and Late Payments)

Please note that the rounding of numbers gives rise to minor differences in the totals for each Portfolio between the covering report and this appendix.

1. Leader

Figure 1: Leader Revenue Table

	Budget	Y/E Outturn	Variance	Change in Variance (from Q2 Cab)
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure	610	500	(110)	(110)
Income	0	0	0	0
Chief Executives Office	610	500	(110)	(110)
Expenditure	3,960	4,020	60	250
Income	(480)	(490)	(10)	(260)
Economic Growth & Regeneration	3,480	3,530	50	(10)
Expenditure	4,210	4,180	(30)	40
Income	(480)	(470)	10	20
Policy & Communications	3,730	3,710	(20)	60
Expenditure	200	240	40	0
Income	0	0	0	0
Strategic Infrastructure	200	240	40	0
Leader	8,020	7,980	(40)	(60)

Figure 2: Leader Capital Table

Service / Project	Actuals to Date £000	Released Budget £000's	Unreleased Budget £000's	Total Budget £000's	Forecast Outturn Released £000's	Forecast Unreleased £000's	Forecast Outturn £000's	Forecast Variance £000's
Rural Broadband	0	-47	1,200	1,153	300	0	300	-853
Economic Growth Total	0	-47	1,200	1,153	300	0	300	-853
A355 Improvement Scheme (Wilton Park)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aylesbury Eastern Link Road	172	300	0	300	175	0	175	-125
Creditor Reserve Payments	8	210	0	210	210	0	210	0
Grid Reinforcement Works	426	390	0	390	675	0	675	285
Cycle Infrastructure	0	0	25	25	0	20	20	-5
Abbey Barn - HIF / S106	565	990	810	1,800	736	0	736	-1,064
Stoke Mandeville Relief Road / SEALR II	414	475	0	475	475	0	475	0
Princes Risborough Relief Road	850	1,030	346	1,376	1,451	0	1,451	75
SEALR (South East Aylesbury Link Road)	1,746	-3,522	6,022	2,500	2,500	0	2,500	0
Strategic Infrastructure (HIF) Total	4,182	-127	7,203	7,076	6,222	20	6,242	-834
Grand Total	4,182	-174	8,403	8,229	6,522	20	6,542	-1,686

1.1 Leader Revenue Budget £8.0m, Forecast £8.0m, Var £nil (Covid Var £nil)

- The Strategic Infrastructure projects team is reporting a £40k pressure on their staff capitalisation target. This is being managed within the overall Transport Strategy budgets.

APPENDIX 1 Portfolio Summary (including Debt and Late Payments)

- b) Economic Development & Skills budgets is overspent by £50k due to Covid pressure in Quarter 1 on Markets.
- c) Chief Executive's Office are reporting an underspend of £110k due to reduction in spend within the Strategic Initiative Fund.
- d) Policy & Communications is reporting an underspend driven by vacancies, £20k.

1.2 **Leader Capital Budget** £8.22m, Forecast £6.5m, Var **£-1.7m**

- a) £834k of net slippage on some Housing Infrastructure Projects, including £1m slippage on Abbey Barn due to lack of progress on land and delayed utility spend, and £125k slippage on Eastern Link Road, and £285k of accelerated spend on the Aylesbury grid reinforcement works (Contract with UKPN signed in October, with an earlier-than-profiled payment milestone).
- b) Rural Broadband project (voucher scheme, funded by DEFRA) is forecast £853k of slippage due to delays in roll-out of superfast connections to some premises; full project should be delivered during 22/23.

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2. Climate Change and Environment

Figure 3: Climate Change and Environment Revenue Table

	Budget	Y/E Outturn	Variance	Change in Variance (from Q2 Cab)
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure	3,030	2,950	(80)	(910)
Income	(1,130)	(1,140)	(10)	820
Environment	1,900	1,810	(90)	(90)
Expenditure	2,610	2,540	(70)	(40)
Income	(380)	(380)	0	10
Street Cleaning	2,230	2,160	(70)	(30)
Expenditure	32,520	37,080	4,560	5,450
Income	(7,310)	(12,700)	(5,390)	(5,460)
Waste	25,210	24,380	(830)	(10)
Climate Change & Environment	29,340	28,350	(990)	(130)

Figure 4: Climate Change and Environment Capital Table

Service / Project	Actuals to Date £000	Released Budget £000's	Unreleased Budget £000's	Total Budget £000's	Forecast Outturn Released £000's	Forecast Unreleased £000's	Forecast Outturn £000's	Forecast Variance £000's
Flood Defence Schemes	468	1,700	0	1,700	1,210	40	1,250	-450
Strategic Flood Management	0	50	0	50	50	0	50	0
Flood Management Total	468	1,750	0	1,750	1,260	40	1,300	-450
Biowaste Treatment	576	4,393	0	4,393	2,000	0	2,000	-2,393
Southern Waste Contract - Vehicles	0	0	161	161	2,750	0	2,750	2,589
Southern Waste Contract-Depot Improvmt	0	419	0	419	0	419	419	0
Waste Management Vehicles & Plant	0	83	0	83	83	0	83	0
Recycling Centre Welfare Facilities	0	0	280	280	0	100	100	-180
Pembroke Rd Depot Welfare Facilities	0	0	800	800	0	100	100	-700
Aylesbury Waste Vehicles Replacement	121	0	35	35	135	0	135	100
Recycling Initiatives & Waste Containers	223	150	0	150	223	0	223	72
Waste Total	919	5,045	1,276	6,321	5,190	619	5,809	-512
Grand Total	1,387	6,795	1,276	8,071	6,450	659	7,109	-962

2.1 Climate Change and Environment Revenue: Budget £29.3m, Forecast £28.3m, Var - £1.0m

- EFW & Residual Waste - Budget £0.7m, Var Favourable £0.3m
Further underspend in contract costs due to gate fees and rates at EfW and North Landfill gate fees. Electricity sales and third-party income anticipated to be overachieved and currently forecast to be transferred to reserve.
- Grounds Maintenance – Budget £0.8m, No Variance
- Household Recycling Centres - Budget £2.1m, Var Adverse £0.3m
Adverse movement relates to loss of budgeted income for household disposal

APPENDIX 1 Portfolio Summary (including Debt and Late Payments)

charges, recharge to Slough Borough Council and trade charges offset by underspend due to reduced costs and increased income within waste streams.

- d) Waste Collection - Budget £18m, Favourable Var £0.6m
Savings realised in contractor costs from Southern Waste contract transfer Sept 21 offset by absorption of Covid impact on businesses.
- e) Street Cleansing – Budget £1.5m Favourable Var £0.1m
Reduction in grounds maintenance expenditure costs relating to amenity areas, Parishes and Town Council grounds.
- f) Waste Disposal – Budget £2.5m, Favourable Var £0.04m
Underspend in contract costs in Green Food Bulky Wood (GFBW) contract and offsetting increased costs for collection of other hazardous waste.
- g) Waste Strategy & Management – Budget £1.8m, Favourable Var £0.2m
Increased dry recyclables income and increased garden waste income from the Southern Waste Contract. Savings on legacy recycling budgets offset by an increase in agency staff costs and Southern Waste round re-organisation costs.
- h) Environment – Budget £1.9m, favourable var £0.1m
Spending net £34k more than budgeted expenditure, on Flood team staffing and Tree Planting costs, offset by income of £116k more than budgeted, including Tree Planting grants and some HS2 staffing reimbursement.

2.2 **Climate Change & Environment Capital:** Budget £8.1m, Forecast £7.1m, Var **£-1.0m**

- a) Waste - Biowaste project slippage of £2.4m due to delay in construction start date – build commenced Nov 21 - includes landscaping and retention costs. Household Recycling Centres upgrades and Pembroke Road Depot facilities slippage of £0.9m – issues with sourcing contractors for the refurbishment of kitchens and toilets and unavailability of materials in stock. Offset with accelerated spend of £2.8m (November £1.4m) regarding container purchase and vehicle replacement.
- b) Flood defence schemes reporting slippage of £450k due to delays in installing culverts.

APPENDIX 1 Portfolio Summary (including Debt and Late Payments)

3. Communities

Figure 5: Communities Revenue Table

	Budget	Y/E Outturn	Variance	Change in Variance (from Q2 Cab)
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure	3,870	3,660	(210)	670
Income	0	0	0	10
Community Boards	3,870	3,660	(210)	680
Expenditure	290	290	0	0
Income	0	0	0	0
Emergency Planning	290	290	0	0
Expenditure	8,610	9,110	500	(640)
Income	(3,060)	(3,980)	(920)	130
Localities & Strategic Partnerships	5,550	5,130	(420)	(510)
Expenditure	1,320	1,220	(100)	20
Income	(350)	(250)	100	0
Special Expenses	970	970	0	20
Communities	10,680	10,050	(630)	190

Figure 6: Communities Capital Table

Service / Project	Actuals to Date £000	Released Budget £000's	Unreleased Budget £000's	Total Budget £000's	Forecast Outturn Released £000's	Forecast Unreleased £000's	Forecast Outturn £000's	Forecast Variance £000's
CCTV Projects	112	133	0	133	133	0	133	0
Community Safety Total	112	133	0	133	133	0	133	0
Grand Total	112	133	0	133	133	0	133	0

3.1 Communities Revenue: Budget £10.7m, Forecast £10.1m, Var -£0.6m

Covid Var £0.0m

- Communities Portfolio is forecasting an underspend of £0.6m. This is broadly, driven by an underspend of £210k within Community Boards based on the latest projection of commitments and new scheme approvals, £339k staffing underspends, the majority driven from Community Safety Vacancies, the balance underspend relates to running costs across Localities General and Grants Teams, £81k.
- Adverse movement of £190k from Quarter 2 primarily due to £680k increase in estimated schemes to be approved within Community Boards, this is offset by an increase in anticipated underspend on vacancies, £240k, within Community Safety and the remaining balance, £250k resulting from mitigations across Localities &

APPENDIX 1 Portfolio Summary (including Debt and Late Payments)

Communities Engagement and Grants where previously an overspend was reported within staffing and running costs.

3.2 **Communities Capital:** Budget £0.1m, Forecast £0.1m, Var **£0m**

a) Nil variance overall

APPENDIX 1 Portfolio Summary (including Debt and Late Payments)

4. Culture and Leisure

Figure 7: Culture and Leisure Revenue Table

	Budget	Y/E Outturn	Variance	Change in Variance (from Q2 Cab)
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure	11,450	11,450	0	1,190
Income	(4,720)	(4,010)	710	(1,300)
Culture & Leisure	6,730	7,440	710	(110)
Culture & Leisure	6,730	7,440	710	(110)

Figure 8: Culture and Leisure Capital Table

Service / Project	Actuals to Date £000	Released Budget £000's	Unreleased Budget £000's	Total Budget £000's	Forecast Outturn Released £000's	Forecast Unreleased £000's	Forecast Outturn £000's	Forecast Variance £000's
Country Parks	0	5	0	5	5	0	5	0
Country Parks Visitors Centre	0	0	650	650	0	48	48	-602
South Bucks Country Pk Leisure Facility	0	1,866	0	1,866	100	0	100	-1,766
Country Parks Total	0	1,871	650	2,521	105	48	153	-2,368
Leisure Centres Maintenance	169	885	0	885	885	0	885	0
Chalfont & Chesham Leisure Centres	1,569	961	0	961	961	0	961	0
Chilterns Lifestyle Centre	10,841	11,573	0	11,573	11,573	0	11,573	0
Leisure Centres Total	12,579	13,419	0	13,419	13,419	0	13,419	0
Libraries Self-Service Replacement	46	0	280	280	0	180	180	-100
Libraries Enhanced Technology	0	0	90	90	0	0	0	-90
Libraries Total	46	0	370	370	0	180	180	-190
Parks & Play Areas	21	1,050	0	1,050	428	0	428	-623
Parks & Play Areas Total	21	1,050	0	1,050	428	0	428	-623
Grand Total	12,647	16,340	1,020	17,360	13,952	228	14,180	-3,181

4.1 Culture and Leisure Revenue: Budget £6.7m, Forecast £7.5m, Var +£0.7m

- a) Arts & Culture - Budget £1.3m, Favourable Var £0.1m
Reduced costs for Summer events and Theatres plus staffing vacancies within Archives.
- b) Libraries - Budget £3.9m, No Variance
The service is mitigating its Covid losses by closely controlling income & expenditure and is anticipating a breakeven position at year end.
- c) Museums & Heritage - Budget £0.6m, Favourable Var £1k
Agreed grant and management fees have been forecast with an underspend anticipated.

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- d) Country Parks, Parks & Play Areas - Budget £-20k, Favourable Var £20k
Variance relates to extra cleaning costs and events income shortfall offset by additional income from car parks, filming and South Bucks Country Park soil importation.
- e) Leisure Centres - Budget £1m, Var Adverse £0.9m
Variance relates to reduced income from leisure due to Covid and restrictions in operation resulting from the Government roadmap. Improved forecasts from operators reviews of financial assumptions and the income secured through the Government Leisure Recovery Fund. A specific contingency of £2m for leisure recovery also forms part of the Council's agreed budget for 2021/22 and the £0.9m variance is therefore mitigated through the partial use of this contingency.

4.2 **Culture and Leisure Capital:** Budget £17.4m, Forecast £14.2m, Var £-3.2m

- a) £2.4m slippage on Country Parks; Visitors Centre is underway however the majority of spend will happen in the next financial year whilst South Bucks Country Park main works are due to commence in November 2022 once the soil importation is complete, with completion of the park in March 2023.
- b) £0.2m slippage due to competing pressures on Library staff, the Libraries Self-Service will not fully complete this year.
- c) £0.6m slippage - due to staff shortages there is a delay in the Parks and Play area in relation to Higginson Park and the Rye NEAP (Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play).

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5. Education & Children's Services

Figure 9: Education & Children's Services Revenue Table

	Budget	Y/E Outturn	Variance	Change in Variance (from Q2 Cab)
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure	74,310	77,950	3,640	1,530
Income	(2,600)	(2,170)	430	(70)
Children's Social Care	71,710	75,780	4,070	1,460
Expenditure	19,460	19,650	190	240
Income	(5,160)	(6,030)	(870)	(380)
Education	14,300	13,620	(680)	(140)
Expenditure	526,600	524,480	(2,120)	9,750
Income	(526,600)	(524,480)	2,120	(9,750)
Education - Dedicated Schools Grant	0	0	0	0
Education & Children's Services	86,010	89,400	3,390	1,320

Figure 10: Education & Children's Services Capital Table

Service / Project	Actuals to Date £000	Released Budget £000's	Unreleased Budget £000's	Total Budget £000's	Forecast Outturn Released £000's	Forecast Unreleased £000's	Forecast Outturn £000's	Forecast Variance £000's
Children's Homes	-4	0	499	499	0	0	0	-499
Children's Social Care Total	-4	0	499	499	0	0	0	-499
Health Pupil Projects	12	16	0	16	16	0	16	0
Primary School Places	4,352	7,823	136	7,959	5,884	200	6,084	-1,875
Provision for Early Years	259	387	109	496	350	10	360	-136
School Property Maintenance	4,307	5,966	0	5,966	5,966	0	5,966	0
Secondary School Places	35,795	42,010	100	42,110	46,134	100	46,234	4,124
Provision for Special Educational Need	-9	851	566	1,416	188	150	338	-1,079
School Toilets	216	266	0	266	278	0	278	12
School Access Adaptations	160	156	0	156	175	0	175	19
Schools Total	45,092	57,476	910	58,386	58,991	460	59,451	1,065
Grand Total	45,087	57,476	1,410	58,886	58,991	460	59,451	566

5.1 Education & Children's Services Revenue: Budget £86.0m, Forecast £89.4m, Var **+£3.4m**

- Revenue budgets are projected to overspend by £3.4m following mitigating actions. The forecast has increased by £1.3m compared with Quarter 2 due to increased pressures against the placement budgets for children looked after and continued pressures against the staffing budget in Children's Social Care.
- Placement budgets for children looked after are projected to break even however there has been a significant increase in costs between Q2 and Q3. This increase is due to an increase in unit costs as placement volumes remain lower than budgeted for. The emergence of Omicron towards the end of November decreased the

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number of available external residential placements across the country. It also led to homes not wanting to take new admissions. Reduced availability of placements has also impacted on unit costs of placements. This has increased overall weekly costs in the third quarter. Actions continue to be taken to review all high cost placements and to step down to lower cost placements where possible.

- c) The increase in placement costs during the 3rd quarter has removed the flexibility to offset other pressures within the Children's Social Care budget that were previously being mitigated by an underspend in the placement budgets. These pressures include accommodation for young people leaving care, including unaccompanied asylum seeking children, and support for children with disabilities.
- d) The service continues to experience increased demand through both the volume and complexity of referrals. The financial impact of this change in demand is experienced in the front line teams as agency staff have been required in order to ensure this demand can be managed. A number of additional social workers have been supported through Covid-19 grants and the forecast reflects the costs and income associated with these staff. The Q3 forecast also reflects the impact of actions taken to address agency staffing costs including the social work academy and the recruitment of overseas workers.
- e) Education budgets are projected to underspend by £0.7m following mitigating actions taken to offset the wider Children's Services position.

5.2 **Education & Children's Services Capital:** Budget £58.9m, Forecast £59.5m Variance **+£0.6m**

- a) Children's Homes slippage/underspend -£0.5m.
- b) Projects to deliver Secondary School Places are forecast to have a net overspend of +£4.1m. This includes accelerated spend against the projects at Chiltern Hills Academy, Misbourne and Sir William Borlase's schools, all projects are progressing well. Overspends are projected against the projects at Chesham Grammar and Amersham.
- c) Primary School projects have a net underspend/slippage of -£1.9m of which £1.4m relates to Kingsbrook Primary which is now open.
- d) Projects for the development of provision for Special Educational Needs have a net underspend/slippage of -£1.1m. Spend will be made in the next financial year against these projects.
- e) Early Years projects slippage of -£0.1m relates to unreleased budget slippage.
- f) Schools Property Maintenance projects all projected to be on target.

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6. Finance, Resources, Property & Assets

Figure 11: Finance, Resources, Property & Assets Revenue Table

	Budget	Y/E Outturn	Variance	Change in Variance (from Q2 Cab) £000
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure	11,790	11,730	(60)	(60)
Income	(380)	(510)	(130)	(130)
Business Operations	11,410	11,220	(190)	(190)
Expenditure	530	490	(40)	(60)
Digital	530	490	(40)	(60)
Expenditure	108,200	108,800	600	250
Income	(96,030)	(96,570)	(540)	(290)
Finance & Revenues	12,170	12,230	60	(40)
Expenditure	5,070	5,330	260	130
Income	(390)	(670)	(280)	(290)
Human Resources & Organisational Develop	4,680	4,660	(20)	(160)
Expenditure	12,800	12,970	170	0
Income	(180)	(180)	0	0
ICT	12,620	12,790	170	0
Expenditure	11,780	13,320	1,540	170
Income	(1,360)	(2,450)	(1,090)	(210)
Legal & Democratic Services	10,420	10,870	450	(40)
Expenditure	19,510	22,490	2,980	1,920
Income	(21,730)	(25,400)	(3,670)	(2,620)
Property & Assets	(2,220)	(2,910)	(690)	(700)
Expenditure	280	360	80	3
Resources	280	360	80	3
Expenditure	3,420	3,320	(100)	50
Income	(60)	(100)	(40)	(40)
Service Improvement	3,360	3,220	(140)	10
Finance, Resources, Property & Assets	53,250	52,930	(320)	(1,177)

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Figure 12: Finance, Resources, Property & Assets Capital Table

Service / Project	Actuals to Date £000	Released Budget £000's	Unreleased Budget £000's	Total Budget £000's	Forecast Outturn Released £000's	Forecast Unreleased £000's	Forecast Outturn £000's	Forecast Variance £000's
Delivery of Technology Strategy	68	92	402	494	267	0	267	-227
Social Care Systems	0	540	78	618	939	0	939	321
Buckinghamshire Network	389	2,383	0	2,383	2,033	0	2,033	-350
Device Refresh & Windows 10	393	529	0	529	599	0	599	69
ICT Total	849	3,545	480	4,025	3,839	0	3,839	-186
Agricultural Estate	37	140	0	140	140	0	140	0
Conversion Old Wycombe Library	-48	311	0	311	311	0	311	0
Corporate Investment Portfolio	3,576	3,554	50	3,604	3,346	0	3,346	-258
Enhancement of Strategic Assets	19	619	0	619	619	0	619	0
Property Management Programme	360	1,321	0	1,321	1,462	0	1,462	141
Rowley Farm	17	-2	236	234	100	0	100	-134
Public Convenience	-2	36	0	36	36	0	36	0
Property & Assets Total	3,959	5,979	286	6,265	6,014	0	6,014	-251
Grand Total	4,808	9,524	766	10,290	9,853	0	9,853	-437

6.1 Finance, Resources, Property & Assets Revenue: Budget £53.3m, Forecast £52.9m, Var -£0.3m

Finance, Resources, Property & Assets portfolio is forecasting a favourable variance of -£320k. The main variances are described below:

- a) -£190k favourable net variance in Business Operations, a change of -£190k on Q2 where the service was expected to breakeven. The main changes are as follows: -£40k slippage on staff recruitment; -£78k part year contract savings; -£48k additional commercial waste income in Business Development being an income bounce back to pre-Covid levels and exceeding this year's budget which was temporarily reduced in anticipation of a drop in income; -£30k additional schools' income for Bucks IT Environment for Schools.
- b) Finance and Revenues unfavourable variance of +£60k is made up of:
 - +£500k adverse variance is an income shortfall in the recovery of Council Tax/Business Rates court costs. The number of cases processed in Q1 was lower than the budgeted activity level because of the backlog of Court case following on from Covid related Court closures. The Q1 shortfall will be claimed for via the Government's income protection scheme and accounted for corporately below the line.
 - -£385k net favourable variance in Service Finance mainly from additional Revenue & Benefits Government grant income for Council tax administration support, New Burdens and Test & Trace Admin. grants. Change of -£32k being additional new Test and Trace grants.

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- -£48k net underspend from staff recruitment slippage, a -£7k change on Q2.
 - c) -£19k favourable variance in HR&OD made up of the following: +£39k Council-wide Kick Start scheme not covered by DWP grant funding; +£28k Supplies and Services overspend across the service; offset by -£86k contract savings. This is a -£170k change from Q2 made up of: -£150k post COVID bounce back of traded services income and -£20k revised estimates on various smaller budgets across the Service area.
 - d) +£170k adverse variance relating to additional ICT cost of cyber security to bring the Council up to a suitable level of protection against cyber-attack.
 - e) +£450k variance in Legal Services being additional staff costs of agency and interims to fill vacant posts and to address increased demand. A change on Q2 of -£40k.
 - f) Property & Assets net favourable variance of £690k, primarily from better-than-expected rental income projections, from a combination of new lettings (including Wycombe Air Park) and recovery of our tenants' businesses since the last lockdown improving our debt position, plus a higher-than-usual vacancy rate on staffing. The c.£3m variances between Income and Expenditure are largely owing to the classification of transfers to and from reserves (e.g. for sinking fund contributions and earmarked projects), and increased rental income helping to offset voids and unbudgeted costs on legacy estate offices. These budgets are being realigned for April 1st, 2022.
 - g) -£140k favourable variance in Service Improvement being underspend on staffing because of several vacancies in the Business Intelligence Team in the first 6 months.
- 6.2 Finance, Resources, Property & Assets Capital: Budget £10.3m, Forecast £9.8m, Var -£0.4m**
- a) Delivery of Technology Strategy is forecasting slippage of -£227k on unreleased budgets. Proposals for the unallocated funding have been taken to the IT Capital Board in January. Change from Q2 relates to +£175k costs for Worksmart monitors and Surface Hub devices for Hybrid meetings, additional costs will also be incurred in 2022/23 against next year's Capital budget.
 - b) iCares Social Care Systems project is forecasting an overspend of +£321k against the current budget of £618k. The overspend will be funded from Capital contingency and will be included in the budgets after approvals have been received.

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- c) Buckinghamshire Network project with BHT/CCG is now forecasting slippage of -£350k, following latest updates from suppliers, a change of -£350k.
- d) Device Refresh project is forecasting a change of +£69k (being +£40k to reconfigure legacy Wycombe Council laptops and +£29k laptops for the Kickstart initiative).
- e) £258k slippage on corporate investment property maintenance projects, primarily on Vale Retail Park unit fitout. Project on schedule, however budget profile was not split between 21/22 and 22/23.
- f) Projecting an overspend of +£141k on Corporate Maintenance budgets due to under-budgeting of maintenance requirements for council assets (to be funded from reserves this year and has been rectified permanently in the MTFP).
- g) Rowley Farm maintenance works forecasting £134k of slippage

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7. Health & Wellbeing

Figure 13: Health & Wellbeing Revenue Table

	Budget	Y/E Outturn	Variance	Change in Variance (from Q2 Cab)
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure	217,600	220,650	3,050	20,460
Income	(60,010)	(61,110)	(1,100)	(19,480)
Adult Social Care	157,590	159,540	1,950	980
Expenditure	27,070	27,070	0	250
Income	(27,070)	(27,070)	0	0
Public Health	0	0	0	250
Health & Wellbeing	157,590	159,540	1,950	1,230

Figure 14: Health & Wellbeing Capital Table

Service / Project	Actuals to Date £000	Released Budget £000's	Unreleased Budget £000's	Total Budget £000's	Forecast Outturn Released £000's	Forecast Unreleased £000's	Forecast Outturn £000's	Forecast Variance £000's
Respite Care	0	436	0	436	0	0	0	-436
Adult Social Care Total	0	436	0	436	0	0	0	-436
Grand Total	0	436	0	436	0	0	0	-436

7.1 Health & Wellbeing Revenue: Budget £157.6m, Forecast £159.5m Var **+£1.9m**, Movt **+£1.2m**, Covid Var £2.8m

The forecast for end of December is a pressure of £1.9m.

- The Covid variance of £2.8m relates predominantly to the cost of additional Nursing care, due to increased numbers of clients, most of which are coming through via the Discharge to Assess process (D2A) with more complex needs.
- The main movement from Q2 relates to an increase of £1.7m in the pressure on Nursing. This growth has emerged in November and increased in December linked to additional FTE plus a growth in the complexity of care packages. Around half the growth is coming from hospital discharges linked to D2A.
- This emerging pressure is being carefully tracked and mitigations will be reviewed around the extent this can be managed within the current year and potential impact on future years.
- In addition, a pressure on Residential packages has emerged of £0.8m with additional clients and some one-off costs around voids.
- Direct Payments pressure has reduced by £0.95m due to increased clawbacks of unused funds.

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- f) The forecast includes £0.4m ASC Omicron Support Fund, an un-ringfenced grant, that can be used to manage cost pressures around Direct Payments, Carers Support and workforce pressures (including Agency staff).
 - g) Income continues to be a pressure on residential and nursing client income of £0.9m offset by s117 recharges of £1.7m
 - h) BAU underspend overall is broadly unchanged, with underspends in Integrated Commissioning off-setting ASC operations BAU pressures, and an underspend on social work staffing offset by the cost of additional Agency staff.
 - i) The underspend on Public Health has increased to £616k due to staff vacancies and some incentive payments not required. The underspend is forecast to transfer to the Public Health reserve.
 - j) There are a number of significant risks that could impact on the 2021/22 position including provider failure and cost pressures from additional clients through the D2A process.
- 7.2 Health & Wellbeing Capital: Budget £0.436m, Var **£-0.436m**, Movt -£0.436m
- a) There is currently a freeze period whilst a review of the proposed scheme in light of Covid-19 takes place. As a result, no spend is now forecast for 2021/22.

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8. Housing & Homelessness & Regulatory Services

Figure 15: Housing & Homelessness & Regulatory Revenue Table

	Budget	Y/E Outturn	Variance	Change in Variance (from Q2 Cab)
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure	6,110	9,330	3,220	730
Income	(2,350)	(5,440)	(3,090)	(560)
Housing & Homelessness	3,760	3,890	130	170
Expenditure	9,320	9,990	670	270
Income	(5,940)	(6,230)	(290)	(180)
Regulatory Services	3,380	3,760	380	90
Expenditure	(70)	120	190	190
Management	(70)	120	190	190
Housing & Homelessness & Regulatory Serv	7,070	7,770	700	450

Figure 16: Housing & Homelessness & Regulatory Capital Table

Service / Project	Actuals to Date £000	Released Budget £000's	Unreleased Budget £000's	Total Budget £000's	Forecast Outturn Released £000's	Forecast Unreleased £000's	Forecast Outturn £000's	Forecast Variance £000's
Affordable Housing - S106 Funded	776	3,795	0	3,795	2,031	0	2,031	-1,764
Affordable Housing Total	776	3,795	0	3,795	2,031	0	2,031	-1,764
Chiltern & Bierton Crematoria	104	946	0	946	936	0	936	-10
Cemeteries & Memorial Gardens	9	527	0	527	93	0	93	-433
Cemeteries and Crematoria Total	113	1,473	0	1,473	1,029	0	1,029	-444
Temporary Accommodation	2,391	2,388	0	2,388	4,888	0	4,888	2,500
Homelessness Total	2,391	2,388	0	2,388	4,888	0	4,888	2,500
Disabled Facility Grants	1,393	3,344	0	3,344	3,344	0	3,344	0
Enabling Schemes	-710	0	2,019	2,019	385	0	385	-1,634
Home Renovation Grants	0	308	0	308	169	0	169	-139
Housing Total	683	3,652	2,019	5,670	3,898	0	3,898	-1,773
Grand Total	3,963	11,308	2,019	13,326	11,846	0	11,846	-1,480

8.1 Housing & Homelessness & Regulatory Revenue: Budget £7.1m, Forecast £7.8m, Var +£0.7m

- a) Homelessness are reporting a new pressure of £0.45m (£130k on Housing & Homelessness line, the £190k Management line, and £150k of the Regulatory Services line – budgets due to be realigned in April), from a reduction in the assumptions on Housing Benefit income, plus an insufficient budget for temporary accommodation in the Aylesbury area; it had previously been assumed this gap would be covered by government grants, but following a deep-dive this has now

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been exposed as a base budget pressure and an over-reliance on grants. There are also some one off COVID-related security costs. The majority of this pressure is likely to continue into future years (previously flagged as a key risk in the MTFP), and will need addressing via a growth bid in next year's MTFP.

- b) Regulatory Services are reporting £380k of pressure, of which £150k relates to Homelessness (see above – budget realignment due in April), £90k pressure in Trading Standards due to COVID-related income losses, £40k pressure on license fee income, £200k pressure on Coroners from COVID costs and the new service contract, offset by better-than-expected income of £120k on Registrars from Ceremony income.

8.2 **Housing & Homelessness & Regulatory Capital:** Budget £13.3m, Forecast £11.8m, Var **£1.5m slippage:**

- a) £1.8m on slippage of s.106 funded project for Affordable Housing. The majority of this slippage is uncommitted and will be redirected towards projects arising from the emerging Affordable Housing Position Statement.
- b) £2.5m overspend on the Desborough Road Temporary Accommodation project, as highlighted during the MTFP process, due to increase in expected construction costs and delay. The budget is set to be increased via the MTFP to cover the overspend, funded from s.106 developer funding.
- c) £1.6m of slippage on Enabling Schemes (funding used to match-fund Registered Providers to nominate units for social housing). This funding is currently uncommitted, will roll forward to next year, and will be utilised to deliver projects linked to the emerging Housing and Homelessness Strategies.
- d) Cemeteries and Crematoria – £0.4m slippage in relation to an underspend of £0.1m for Wycombe cemetery and slippage of £0.3m due to delays in projects for Great Missenden extension, Parkside and Stoke Poges Memorial Gardens.
- e) £0.1m underspend on Home Renovation Grants, as they are largely delivered via Disabled Facilities grant. Funding to be released via Corporate Capital Project Board to be redirected to other priority projects.

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9. Planning and Regeneration

Figure 17: Planning & Regeneration Revenue Table

	Budget	Y/E Outturn	Variance	Change in Variance (from Q2 Cab)
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure	14,850	16,190	1,340	(200)
Income	(8,990)	(10,250)	(1,260)	280
Planning	5,860	5,940	80	80
Planning & Regeneration	5,860	5,940	80	80

Figure 18: Planning & Regeneration Capital Table

Service / Project	Actuals to Date £000	Released Budget £000's	Unreleased Budget £000's	Total Budget £000's	Forecast Outturn Released £000's	Forecast Unreleased £000's	Forecast Outturn £000's	Forecast Variance £000's
LEP 3rd Party Schemes	4,794	4,794	0	4,794	4,794	0	4,794	0
LEP 3rd Party Schemes Total	4,794	4,794	0	4,794	4,794	0	4,794	0
Aylesbury Town Centre	1	-34	1,500	1,466	150	0	150	-1,316
CIL Funded Regeneration	0	703	0	703	88	0	88	-615
Employment & Regeneration Led Opportunit	3,708	7,631	0	7,631	5,927	0	5,927	-1,704
Environment Led Opportunities	69	521	0	521	130	0	130	-391
Former WDC Third Party CIL Projects	50	334	0	334	310	0	310	-24
Future High Street Funds	599	6,452	-4,074	2,378	0	2,378	2,378	0
High Wycombe Town Centre	384	450	35	485	440	35	475	-10
Retasking of Winslow Centre	576	1,076	0	1,076	766	0	766	-310
Waterside North Development	297	454	3,164	3,618	597	500	1,097	-2,521
Housing Led Opportunities	15	0	0	0	14	0	14	14
Ashwells	63	1,000	0	1,000	100	0	100	-900
Wycombe Air Park	49	2,197	0	2,197	81	0	81	-2,116
Amersham Regeneration (St John's Build)	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Former AVDC - S106 Funded Projects	1,377	1,657	0	1,657	1,193	0	1,193	-464
Regeneration Total	7,187	22,440	626	23,066	9,796	2,913	12,708	-10,357
East West Rail	1,426	2,462	0	2,462	2,354	0	2,354	-108
Taplow Cycle Way	5	303	0	303	5	0	5	-298
Strategic Infrastructure (Other) Total	1,431	2,765	0	2,765	2,359	0	2,359	-407
Grand Total	13,412	29,999	626	30,625	16,948	2,913	19,861	-10,764

9.1 Planning & Regeneration Revenue: Budget £5.9m, Forecast £5.9m, Var £0.0m Covid Var £0.0m

- The Planning Service is reporting a small £83k overspend, which is offset by headroom in the Environment portfolio (managed jointly within the Planning & Regeneration service area).
- Additional Income from Planning applications is up £1.4m, around 15%, more than budgeted due to the large increase in Planning Application numbers. The income projections have decreased slightly, by £132k, since quarter 2.
- The over-achievement on income is offset by a corresponding increase expenditure (£1.5m more than budgeted) on additional staff, interims and agency, and non-pay

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costs associated with planning applications (advertising, printing) to process the applications and progress the Planning Service Improvements.

9.2 Planning & Regeneration Capital: Budget £30.6m, Forecast £19.9m, Var **-£10.8m**

- a) £2.5m slippage on the Old County Office development in Waterside North.
- b) Reporting slippage of £2.1m on Wycombe Air Park infrastructure works due to deferral of the planning process.
- c) £1.3m of slippage on Kingsbury Market Square in Aylesbury Town Centre whilst plans remain in development.
- d) £1.7m of slippage on Wycombe regeneration projects, including £1m of slippage on Cressex Island project due to a 3 month delay in contractor starting on site.
- e) £0.6m of slippage on CIL funded regeneration projects, including on the Track Works on the Marlow Branch (where project timings are uncertain) and £0.2m of funding earmarked for investment by the High Wycombe Town Committee, for which plans are being agreed to be delivered from next year.
- f) £0.9m of slippage on Ashwells. A small amount, £150k, of accelerated spend forecast for Walton Street Public Realm works (forecast £3.8m against 21-22 budget of £3.6m).
- g) £0.3m of slippage on the Winslow Town Centre regeneration project, as the business case continues to be developed.

10. Transport

Figure 19: Transport Revenue Table

	Budget	Y/E Outturn	Variance	Change in Variance (from Q2 Cab)
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure	33,320	34,070	750	890
Income	(11,350)	(12,870)	(1,520)	(1,930)
Highways & Technical Services	21,970	21,200	(770)	(1,040)
Expenditure	1,090	2,030	940	290
Income	(390)	(1,140)	(750)	(90)
HS2	700	890	190	200
Expenditure	32,790	34,760	1,970	490
Income	(2,270)	(2,350)	(80)	10
Transport Services	30,520	32,410	1,890	500
Expenditure	1,930	1,720	(210)	(60)
Income	(410)	(420)	(10)	(160)
Transport Strategy	1,520	1,300	(220)	(220)
Transport	54,710	55,800	1,090	(560)

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Figure 20: Transport Capital Table

Service / Project	Actuals to Date £000	Released Budget £000's	Unreleased Budget £000's	Total Budget £000's	Forecast Outturn Released £000's	Forecast Unreleased £000's	Forecast Outturn £000's	Forecast Variance £000's
Car Parks	179	617	50	667	317	0	317	-350
Car Parks Total	179	617	50	667	317	0	317	-350
ADEPT Live Labs	625	2,577	0	2,577	2,199	0	2,199	-378
Globe Park Access / Westhorpe Junction	276	-121	1,939	1,818	784	0	784	-1,034
Haydon Hill Cycle Way	267	285	0	285	260	0	260	-25
Highways & Cycleway Funded Schemes	300	936	0	936	719	0	719	-217
HS2 Funded Schemes	599	701	0	701	711	0	711	11
NPIF Schemes	-106	145	0	145	115	0	115	-30
Emergency Active Travel Fund	177	297	0	297	297	0	297	0
Active Travel Tranche II - Emerald Way	1	50	0	50	0	0	0	-50
Highways & Cycleway Funded Schemes Total	2,140	4,871	1,939	6,810	5,086	0	5,086	-1,724
Other Highway & Technical	62	388	540	928	105	472	577	-351
Other Highway & Technical Total	62	388	540	928	105	472	577	-351
Improvements to Rights Way	117	417	-50	368	198	0	198	-169
Rights of Way Total	117	417	-50	368	198	0	198	-169
Bridge Maintenance	591	1,020	0	1,020	1,051	0	1,051	31
Footway Structural Repairs	1,200	2,700	0	2,700	2,700	0	2,700	0
Maintenance Principal Rds - Drainage	1,580	3,500	0	3,500	3,500	0	3,500	0
Plane & Patch	5,188	7,838	0	7,838	7,838	0	7,838	0
Replacement Traffic Signals	165	490	0	490	490	0	490	0
Strategic Highway Maintenance Program	13,184	15,842	0	15,842	15,842	0	15,842	0
Street Lighting	341	2,280	0	2,280	1,281	0	1,281	-1,000
Safety Fences	43	450	0	450	450	0	450	0
Marlow Suspension Bridge	746	0	1,400	1,400	0	1,011	1,011	-389
Abbey Way Flyover High Wycombe	39	0	300	300	0	260	260	-40
Road Safety - Casualty Reduction	120	750	0	750	750	0	750	0
Strategic Highway Maintenance Total	23,197	34,870	1,700	36,570	33,902	1,271	35,172	-1,398
Public Transport	0	100	0	100	100	0	100	0
Purchase of Fleet Vehicles	80	240	0	240	110	0	110	-130
Transport Services Total	80	340	0	340	210	0	210	-130
Grand Total	25,775	41,504	4,179	45,683	39,819	1,743	41,562	-4,121

10.1 Transport Revenue: Budget £54.7m, Forecast £55.8m, Var **+\$1.1m**

- a) Definitive Maps and Land Charges – Budget £0.3m Favourable Var £0.1m

Increased income from Highway Searches and diversions as income target has already been reached for the year and expecting activity levels to remain.

- b) Other Highways & Technical – Budget £3.4m, No Var
c) Rights of Way – Budget £0.5m, Minor Var
d) Parking Operations – Budget -£0.3m, Favourable Var £0.2m

Parking income remains challenging due to the impacts of Covid. However, a proportion of the unachieved income for parking will be offset through income secured through the Government's Covid Income Recovery Fund and the overall

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position is a favourable year end forecast (-£0.2m). MTFP parking savings will not be achieved in-year due to a delay on the service review and time needed to implement changes and will be delivered in full in 22/23.

- e) TfB RJ Contract Budget £17.8m, Favourable Var £0.1m

Reduced costs relating to vacancies and increased income for Fixed Penalty Notices and Section 74 fines with increased number of inspections. Also, £0.9m surplus income forecast for the Permit Scheme for which any surplus is ringfenced and will move to an earmarked reserve, net of any central overhead costs applied.

- f) Home to School Budget £21.1m, Adverse Var £1.9m

Increased contract costs and Personal Transport Budget costs which is offset by a reduction of mileage, additional costs and increase in mainstream income. In addition to this, historic cost centres from Children's Service have been moved over to Transport Services, as invoices have been processed for FY20/21. Also includes increased mileage claims relating to pupils who were on solo transport due to COVID.

Within Home to School Transport, an estimated risk of c£0.25m overspend has been flagged and logged on the risk register due to demand and complexity pressures with Children's transport provision.

- g) Client and Public Transport Budgets £9.5m, No Variance

- h) Transport Strategy & HS2 Budget £2.2m, net Var Favourable £25k

There is a net underspend due to staffing vacancies.

10.2 **Transport Capital:** Budget £45.7m, Forecast £41.6m, Var **-£4.1m**

- a) £1.1m slippage on Globe Park Marlow due to a 6-month delay in construction start as the scheme design is not yet approved by Highways England.

- b) £0.4m slippage on the ADEPT live labs project.

- c) £0.2m slippage on s106 funded highways and cycleways schemes; this budget consists of many small schemes; a small number require a budget reprofile to match the project timeline, and the budgets for these schemes will be reprofiled in the MTFP.

- d) £0.4m slippage on Other Highways and Technical, on Westcott Venture Park Access.

- e) Highways & Technical Services forecast slippage (£1.9m) being:

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Street Lighting slippage of £1m is mainly due to supply chain demand and determining further works. Marlow Bridge (£0.4m) scheme will continue into 2022/23 following programmed junction improvement works at Westhorpe Roundabout and minor slippage with Abbey Way Flyover.

Car parks (£0.3m) of which £0.2m slippage relating to work commencing in 2022/23 for CCTV and On-Street Burnham project and an underspend of £0.1m on Eastern Street car park.

Rights of Way (£0.2m) slippage mainly relates to the Denham project delayed until 2022/23.

- f) Fleet Management slippage (£0.1m) on vehicle purchases not forecast to be spent due to delays with suppliers.

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11. Corporate & Funding

Figure 21: Corporate & Funding Revenue Table

	Budget	Y/E Outturn	Variance
	£000	£000	£000
Corporate	34,700	29,800	(4,900)
Funding	(454,000)	(455,900)	(1,900)
Corporate & Funding Total	(419,300)	(426,100)	(6,800)
Revenue Total	0	(900)	(900)

11.1 Corporate & Funding Revenue: Budget £-419.3m, Forecast £-426.1m, Var -£6.8m

- a) The £6.8m favourable forecast variance comprises:
- b) £0.7m net savings on capital financing costs. The Council inherited significant cash balances from predecessor councils, and this has enabled us to internally borrow and thus save on external borrowing costs. The expectation for future financial years is that borrowing will need to be utilised to finance capital expenditure.
- c) £1.9m additional income claimed from the Local Government Income Compensation Scheme. £1.2m of this relates to the claim for the current year, as eligible pressures were higher than budgeted for, leading to additional compensation. A further £0.7m relates to the previous year, as further scrutiny has enabled more compensation than had been initially identified when the accounts for 2020/21 were closed.
- d) £4.2m favourable variance on Contingencies, including a proposed transfer of £6.2m to an earmarked reserve, described more fully below.

11.2 Corporate Contingencies: Details of the Council's contingencies and the current assumptions about their utilisation are provided in figure 22 below.

- a) £4.2m favourable variance on contingencies to offset known pressures currently forecast across portfolios. The specific contingencies for Adult Social Care Pressures / Demography (£400k) and Leisure Providers (£924k) have been identified as offsetting COVID pressures, others are shown under BAU, including Children's Services Demography (£1.5m) and High Cost Children's Placements (£0.5m).

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Contingencies not expected to be required and proposed transfer to reserve

- b) £6.2m favourable variance in respect of contingencies that are not expected to be required. Given that three quarters of the financial year have now passed, the likelihood of requiring these contingencies has diminished. As such, an underspend is forecast, as risks may still come to fruition, but the impact in this year will be much reduced. For example, the £2m of contingency against reductions in local tax collection and £1m for National Living Wage pressures are now forecast as unrequired. The Council Tax surplus/deficit calculation for 2021/22 has been performed and a breakeven position is expected, whilst no pressures are emerging in this year relating to National Living Wage.
- c) A transfer to reserves, currently forecast at £6.2m, is therefore proposed, to mitigate against heightening risks from political uncertainty and global turbulence which are exacerbating the already significant inflationary pressures. In addition, this transfer to reserves will help to mitigate the potential impact of funding reform, increasing risks around reform of Adult Social Care funding and market sustainability, and the ongoing effect of Covid-19.

Contingencies remaining available

- d) There remains £1.055m of service contingencies to cover risks / pressures that may arise in the remainder of the year.

Figure 22: Corporate Contingencies

2021-22 Revenue Contingencies	Original	Released	Current Budget	Forecast to be transferred to reserve (not required for original purpose)	Favourable Variance - Mitigating pressures in monitoring	Approved but awaiting release	Remaining to cover pressures that may arise in remainder of the year
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Pay & Pension Contingency							
Pay Inflation	3,783	3,715	68	20	48	-	-
Pensions Uplift	678		678	-	-	-	678
Redundancy (non unitary)	500		500	-	250	-	250
Total Budget Risk	4,961	3,715	1,246	20	298	-	948
Service Risk Contingency							
Risk on Savings Proposals	600		600	600	-	-	-
National Living Wage	1,000		1,000	1,000	-	-	-
Local Tax Receipts	2,000		2,000	2,000	-	-	-
Adult Social Care Pressures / Demography	6,000	5,045	955	-	400	-	555
Children's Services Demography	2,010		2,010	510	1,500	-	-
High Cost Children's Placements	500		500	-	500	-	-
Elections Delay	326		326	326	-	-	-
Leisure Providers	2,000		2,000	1,076	924	-	-
General Contingency - Economic Uncertainty	3,000	1,260	1,740	640	600	-	500
Total Service Risk	17,436	6,305	11,131	6,152	3,924	-	1,055
Total Contingency	22,397	10,020	12,377	6,172	4,222	-	2,003
Total Variation					4,222		

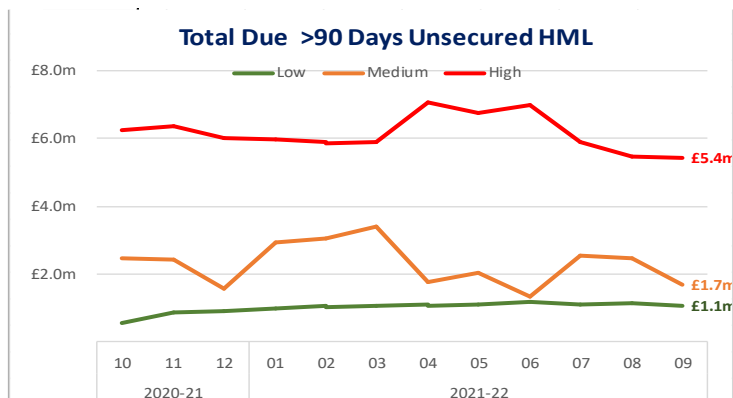
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12. Outstanding Sundry Debts

Figure 21: Sundry Debts Table

Debt Summary Table

Total Sundry Debt Due	£16.9m
Movement:	(£2.4m) ↓
Unsecured Debt >90Days overdue	£8.2m
Movement	(£1.3m) ↓
Bad Debt Provision:	
Current Estimate @ 1/4/21	£6.6m (£6.1m)



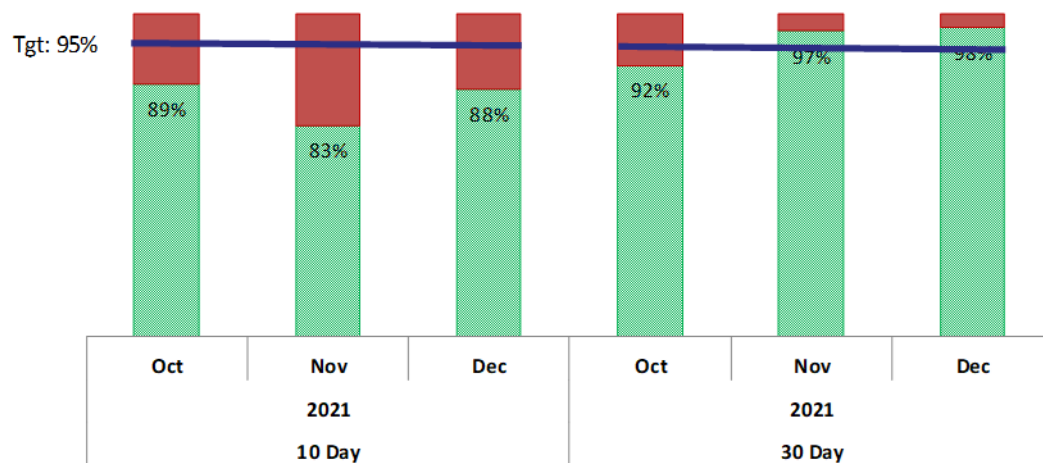
- Overall, the Council's total sundry debt due has reduced by £2.4m since Q2 (End of September).
- The Key Performance Indicator is that unsecured outstanding debt over 90 days should not exceed £10m. As at the end of Q3 outstanding debt over 90 days stands at £8.2m, a reduction of £1.3m since Q2 and below the Council Target. The team are now focusing on clearing over 1 year old so we should see further movement in the coming months.

APPENDIX 1 Portfolio Summary (including Debt and Late Payments)

13. Late Payments

Figure 22: Late Payments Table

Late Payment Performance Past 3 Months



No. Late	57	102	71	893	232	265
No. Paid	473	490	536	10,419	8,507	12,278
No. Invoices	530	592	607	11312	8739	12543

- a) The overall payment performance for the Council during December 2021 is 98% for invoices paid on time with payment terms of 30 days and for the quarter is 95.5%. Both of these are within the corporate target of 95% invoices paid on time.



Finance and Resources Select Committee – 7 April 2022

Overview of the performance and business plans of the Council's
companies

Cllr John Chilver – Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources, Property and
Assets



The companies

- The Council currently owns or has interests in four companies:
 - Aylesbury Vale Estates LLP (AVE)
 - Consilio Property Ltd
 - London Road Management Company
 - Buckinghamshire Advantage
- AVE is 50% owned by a private sector partner. The other companies are 100% owned by the Council.
- This report provides an overview of each company's objectives.
- In addition, it provides a summary of the performance of AVE and Consilio Property Ltd in the current financial year, together with an overview of their future business plans.
- The detailed business plans of AVE and Consilio are contained in Part 2, the confidential appendix to this report, together with the profit and loss accounts of the London Road Management Company and Buckinghamshire Advantage.

Governance arrangements

- Each company has its own governance arrangements
- Inline with best practice and to ensure the Council continues to meet its statutory obligations in the best way, the council plans to strengthen its oversight and monitoring of the companies' activities.
- On 29 March, Cabinet approved a new Shareholder/Member Committee to be formed to act as the council's shareholder and corporate trustee representatives.
- The Committee will receive reports and monitor the activities of the companies, reporting back to Cabinet with any recommendations.

Main objectives of AVE

- To improve, repair and maintain the property portfolio
- To enhance, maintain and improve Buckinghamshire Council's income stream generated from the portfolio
- To positively influence and promote development and economic growth in the area through development, improvement and maintenance, together with pro-active asset management

AVE - Summary of Performance

- Performance to date in the current financial year is very positive.

Multi-let industrial estate

- only one vacant industrial unit.
- rent collection 93%.

Hale Leys Shopping Centre

- footfall retuning. Feb 199,200. Increase of 8% month on month.
- four new tenants including Wimpy and New York Kitchen helping to diversify the offer and support evening economy.

Development sites

- Raban's Lane: planning applications submitted July 2020. Commercial/residential mix. Central Area Planning Committee 30 March.
- Stocklake: Planning application submitted March 2021. Commercial. Central Area Planning Committee 30 March (Committee will be updated at the meeting).

Distribution

- £340k to the council in March 22. £40k over forecast.

AVE - Business Plan Highlights 2022-2025

- Target a distribution of £600,000 pa increasing towards end of the business plan cycle as income increases particularly from new commercial developments
- Pay off expensive debt to reduce cost of finance and reduce amortisation
- Reinvest any excess funds to further enhance income stream
- Maintain current levels of occupancy within the industrial portfolio
- Hale Leys - maintain current tenants, let vacant units and improve future income stream

Main focus for 2022/23 will be promoting the Rabans Lane residential site for sale and bringing forward the commercial developments for Rabans Lane and Stocklake. achieving planning permission for the Raban's Lane and Stocklake developments. This will enable Raban's Lane residential sale and also Stocklake and Raban's Lane commercial developments to proceed

Main objectives of Consilio Property Ltd

The main aim of this company is to enable the new development of residential property on surplus land on the council's existing estate to:

- Increase the amount of good quality affordable and key worker housing stock for Buckinghamshire's residents
- Increase the supply of private housing to meet the Council's housing needs under the adopted Local Plan
- Promote and showcase by delivery Buckinghamshire Council's affordable Housing aspirations
- Where viability allows to provide a financial return to the Council for the benefit of its residents
- To consider securing Registered Housing Provider status for the company to maintain control and value of all types of tenure housing assets
- To maintain a sustainable financial self-sufficiency whilst also delivering a return to the shareholder.

Consilio - Summary of Performance

- The company has made good progress to date in the current financial year.
 - The objectives of the company have been re-aligned to support delivery of the Council's key worker and affordable housing aspirations.
 - The company has been re-structured to reflect the future role of the company.
 - Consilio has achieved its return on investment target and is well placed to drive forward its business plan in 2022/2023.

Consilio - Business Plan Highlights 2021- 2023

In 2022/2023, the focus will be:

- Consider applying for Registered Provider of social housing status to enable lettings at the company owned Tatling End, Denham housing development as affordable tenancies and make managing affordable rented property easier.

RSL status would also facilitate access to potential grants to support further development.

- Reviewing a number of housing development opportunities within the Council portfolio to assist the delivery of build to rent schemes, for affordable and market housing and possibly key worker housing where deemed appropriate.
- The on-going review and monitoring of the performance of its existing commercial investments, reporting back regularly to the Council with any recommendations.

Other companies

London Road Management Company

- Acquired at the same time as the former Buckinghamshire County Council acquired the High Wycombe Business Park in April 2016, this is a not-for-profit company as the sole basis of the company is to meet and recharge out the shared costs of the business park to all the occupiers of the site.

Buckinghamshire Advantage (BA)

- The Council is the sole member of the company after Bucks Business First surrendered its membership earlier in the year.
- In 2014, BA entered into a promotion agreement with landowners of the Woodlands site, Aston Clinton, focused on securing planning consent and disposing of the consented site.
- The primary business of the company for the year has been to secure the planning consent which it anticipates achieving in April 2022.
- Following consent, the purpose of this company is to promote the disposal of the site to enable the development plans to be delivered.

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