

High Wycombe Town Committee Special Expenses Quarter 1 2022/23

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Introduction

Committee are asked to consider and acknowledge the Q1 forecast position for 2022/23. This report sets out the 2022/23 revenue forecast position and the forecast impact on working balances by year end for High Wycombe Town Committee.

Special Expenses Q1 Forecast 2022/23

The net forecast outturn position for 2022/23 is £417k, a favourable variance of £11k against a total budget of £428k. The table below provides the detail at activity level.

Activity Area	Analysis	2022/23 Budget	YTD Actuals	FY Forecast	Variance
		£	£	£	£
Footway Lighting	Ехр	1,800	0	1,800	0
	Inc	0	0	0	0
	Net Exp	1,800	0	1,800	0
Cemetery	Ехр	431,863	71,867	431,863	0
	Inc	-229,184	-60,516	-240,000	-10,816
	Net Exp	202,679	11,351	191,863	-10,816
	Ехр	3,000	0	3,000	0
Town Twinning	Inc	0	0	0	0
	Net Exp	3,000	0	3,000	0
Community Grants	Ехр	22,765	0	22,765	0
	Inc	0	0	0	0
	Net Exp	22,765	0	22,765	0
Recreation Grounds (Local)	Ехр	148,971	4,718	148,971	0
	Inc	0	-400	0	0
	Net Exp	148,971	4,318	148,971	0
Allotments	Ехр	45,429	3,966	45,429	0
	Inc	-60	0	-60	0
	Net Exp	45,369	3,966	45,369	0
War Memorial	Ехр	3,000	0	3,000	0
	Inc	0	0	0	0
	Net Exp	3,000	0	3,000	0
TOTAL	Exp	656,828	80,551	656,828	0
	Inc	-229,244	-60,916	-240,060	-10,816
	Net Exp	427,584	19,635	416,768	-10,816

Commentary on variances

Cemetery

Burials started at Penn Rd in August 2022. This has led to an increased forecast in income for the year but some of this increased income can still be attributed to Covid. During the summer months the excess death rate nationally has been above the 5 year average with circulatory diseases and diabetes believed to be behind the increase as a result of indirect effects of the pandemic (BMJ).

Community Grants

Although no grants were awarded in Q1, the following has been approved since then. There are currently no grants in the pipeline or grants that have been declined.

The following grant applications have been approved this year:

Name	Date	Amount
Lighthouse Cressex - provides a week-long		
summer holiday programme for children aged 4-		
11 including activities such as drama, craft,		
sport, action songs and discovery sessions		
exploring Christian themes. All children are		
welcome to attend, regardless of faith. There is		
no charge for attendance - costs are covered by		
funding, local church donations and parental		
voluntary contributions.	06/09/2022	£ 1,500.00
	Total	£ 1,500.00

Impact on Working Balances

The impact of 2021/22 activities are given in the table below:

	£	£
Balance at 1st April 2022		-540,726
Revenue Expenditure Forecast	416,768	
Precept	-395,712	
Interest	-3,750	
Movement in reserves		17,306
Balance c/f 31st March 2023		-523,420

The forecast working balance as at 30th June 2022 is £523k which is higher than the recommended minimum level of £150k. Note that the year-end accounting for the council is not yet finalised, which includes these provisional figures. This amount is set aside as an earmarked reserve and therefore ring-fenced for HWTC.

Penn Road Cemetery

The fit out for the Penn Road Cemetery is in progress with the remaining CIL funding (£96k) being used for set-up and fit out costs including signage, shoring, soil removal as well as the physical office fit out (furniture / fittings, H&S equipment, etc). This will be finished in 2022/23.