

Report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting 22 November 2021

By Director of Corporate Resources

INFORMATION REPORT

Not exempt



REPORT ON THE COUNCIL'S FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE IN 2021/22

Executive Summary

This report gives the Overview and Scrutiny Committee information to help it carry out its role of monitoring the internal and external delivery of services. The Council uses corporate performance indicators, financial reporting and review of progress against key corporate projects to show progress.

The financial performance is forecast at Month 6 of the 2021/22 financial year. Officers currently forecast an operational surplus of £1.07m. £0.9m of the forecast underspend is on leisure facilities with current performance and activities ahead of Place's Leisure (cautious) budget estimate. The remainder is the net of £0.8m underspends; mostly across investment income, Housing and Waste and £0.6m overspend mostly from parking income and property expenses. Debt over 90 days is aging and the risk associated is building, albeit being closely monitored by Property and Facilities.

Capital expenditure at Month 6 was £1.8m (22%) of the £8.3m capital programme. By comparison, spend on capital was £2.95m (35%) of the £8.5m programme at same period in 2020/21. An outturn of £6.2m or 75% is forecast by officers. In 2020/21, the outturn was £5.4m (60%). Officers are generally over-optimistic on delivery of the capital programme during the year. The impact of Covid-19 continues to subdue some capital expenditure.

An analysis of performance indicators shows 23 on or above target with 5 just outside of target and 2 below target. One relates to the attendance figures for the museum which was closed during quarter two. In all areas where targets have not been met, work is underway to make improvements.

Work on the Corporate Plan actions continued through quarter two of 2021. There are seven completed actions. Three Corporate Plan actions are currently paused which includes the development of the Cultural Strategy, planned for 2022/23. There are sixty-eight Corporate Plan actions progressing including the completion of the Highwood Community Centre public engagement consultation, which is incorporated into the proposal for Cabinet; the Covid Aware Scheme which is now fully implemented and rolled out to businesses to support their return to 'normal'; the successfully refurbished of the Museum which is now open again to the public; and the trial on the collection of food waste has commenced.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report.

Reasons for Recommendations

To enable Overview and Scrutiny to carry out its Constitutional role of monitoring the delivery of internal and external services and scrutinise any part of the Council's work.

Consultation: Senior Leadership Team, Cabinet Members.

Wards affected: All

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Background Papers:

Appendix A: Key Performance Indicators Q2

Appendix B: Budget Monitoring and Forecast Outturn summary April 2021 to September 2021

Appendix C: Capital Budget monitoring and forecast outturn at M6

Appendix D: Revenue Budget monitoring and forecast outturn at M6

Appendix E: Corporate Plan Update Q2