Report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting 26 September 2022
By Interim Director of Resources
INFORMATION REPORT

Not exempt



REPORT ON THE COUNCIL'S FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE IN 2022/23

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 4 of the 2022/23 financial year. Officers currently forecast an operational surplus of £0.25m. There are forecast surpluses of £0.69m from the impact of increased interest rates on our investment income and £0.3m in parking income as customers return the town centre car parks. This is partly offset by rapidly rising costs, in particular, forecast overspends of £0.46m in Waste from the increase in HVO fuel prices, £0.18m in Housing overspend due to increased board and lodging costs and £0.1m overspend in Investment Properties for long-term vacancies. Debt over 90 days is aging and the risk associated is building, albeit being closely monitored by Property and Facilities.

Capital expenditure at Month 4 was £0.92m (8%) of the £12.1m capital programme. By comparison, spend on capital was £1.3m (16%) of the £8.3m programme at same period in 2021/22. An optimistic outturn of £10.7m or 88% is forecast by officers with several schemes due to start in the Autumn. In 2021/22, the outturn was £4.7m (56%).

An analysis of performance indicators at Month 3 shows 79% at or above target, 12% close to target and 9% outside of the target. Three indicators that have not met target include the number of households in temporary accommodation and the number of households in Bed and Breakfast accommodation as a result of the eviction ban being lifted in May 2021. A private sector leasing scheme has been launched to try and decrease this number. The number of visitors at the museum is below target but it is anticipated that these figures will increase as more people become aware that the museum is open again.

Work on the Corporate Projects progressed through quarter one of 2022/23. A public consultation looking at the long-term options for Southwater Country Park was launched, the resident's survey final report has been received with the results of this being fed into the new corporate plan for 2023-2027 and work on the skate park in Horsham Park has now started.

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

Contact: Dominic Bradley, Director of Resources. 01403 215302

Background Papers:

Appendix A: Key Performance Indicators Q1

Appendix B: Budget Monitoring and Forecast Outturn summary April 2022 to July 2022

Appendix C: Capital Budget monitoring and forecast outturn at M4 Appendix D: Revenue Budget monitoring and forecast outturn at M4

Appendix E: Corporate Projects Update Q1