

Report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting 21 November 2022

By 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 6 of the 2022/23 financial year. Officers currently forecast an operational surplus of £0.15m. There are forecast surpluses of £0.95m from the impact of increased interest rates on our investment income and £0.34m in parking income as customers return the town centre car parks. This is partly offset by rapidly rising costs, in particular, forecast overspends of £0.37m in Waste from the increase in HVO fuel and prices, £0.55m in Housing overspend due to increased board and lodging costs and £0.14m reduction in planning income due to a limited number of major applications being received. Debt over 90 days is aging and the risk associated is building, albeit being closely monitored by Property and Facilities, payment arrangements have now been set up and debts are expected to be settled within 12 months.

Capital expenditure at Month 6 was £1.7m (13.8%) of the £12.1m capital programme. By comparison, spend on capital was £1.8m (22%) of the £8.3m programme at same period in 2021/22. An outturn of £7.7m or 64% is forecast by officers, there are 17 schemes due to start in quarter 4. In 2021/22, the outturn was £4.7m (56%).

An analysis of performance indicators at quarter 2 shows 72% at or above target, 14% close to target and 14% outside of the target. There are five indicators that have not met target this includes the number of households in temporary accommodation and the number of households in Bed and Breakfast accommodation. Partnership work with Turning Tides on setting up accommodation at Roffey Place is underway and should be accepting single homeless households before Christmas. The number of visitors at the museum is still below target but work continues to look to improve this. The number of fly tipping incidents is also at red, work on improving how people can report incidents online is now in place and work on informing the public of their responsibilities around disposal of waste continues. There is one red indicators around collection of arrears for Business rates where work is ongoing to improve this collection rate.

Work on the Corporate Projects progressed through quarter 2 of 2022/23. Additional funding of £250K was approved by Council in October, this funding will enable further work to support residence impacted by the increase in the cost of living. Carbon data for 21/22 has been presented to PDAG and shows a 52% reduction in carbon emissions, largely due to the use of HVO fuel in the diesel fleet vehicles. There have been five key areas identified to form the backbone on the new Corporate Plan for 2023-2027. These are

- The environment at the heart of everything we do
- The right housing in the right places for our needs,

- Keeping the district a great place to live;
- Keeping Council tax low
- Supporting people through the cost of living crisis.

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 Q2

Appendix B: Budget Monitoring and Forecast Outturn summary April 2022 to September 22

Appendix C: Capital Budget monitoring and forecast outturn at M6

Appendix D: Revenue Budget monitoring and forecast outturn at M6

Appendix E: Corporate Projects Update Q2