

Service	Revised Budget 2025/26	Forecast Outturn	Total Variance	Total Variance to Budget	Commentary
	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	
Chief Executive	201	207	6	3.0%	There is a projected overspend of £6k due to the 3% vacancy control factor built into the budget which will not be achieved. The Council has operated a vacancy control factor for several years as part of its approach to effective financial management. In local government, a vacancy control factor is an assumed level of staff turnover-factored into service budgets.
Human Resources	757	767	10	1.3%	There is a projected overspend of £10k mainly due to the 3% vacancy control factor built into the budget being partly achieved.
Legal & Support Services	1,867	1,893	26	1.4%	There is a projected overspend of £26k due to the 3% vacancy control factor built into the budget which will not be achieved of £18k and external recruitment fees of £8k.
<b>Total Chief Executive Directorate</b>	<b>2,825</b>	<b>2,867</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	
Strategic Director of Place	138	138	0	0.0%	
Property and Economic Regeneration	718	744	26	3.6%	There is a projected overspend of £26k due to a combination of voids within the commercial leasehold property portfolio £11k (which are budgeted at 100% occupancy) and salary related expenditure of £15k.
Planning & Infrastructure	1,100	1,100	0	0.0%	
Joint Strategic Planning	(5)	(5)	0	0.0%	
<b>Total Place Directorate</b>	<b>1,951</b>	<b>1,977</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	
Director of Community Services	111	111	0	0.0%	
Community Services	6,339	6,709	370	5.8%	There is a projected overspend of £170k in the main to the service not being able to meet the 3% vacancy control factor savings on front-line service posts, largely statutory roles in waste, street cleansing, enforcement and Head of Service. With the delay related to the waste container review the costs to maintain an increasingly aging fleet are realising increased cost pressures related to vehicle hire, repair costs and parts resulting in a projected overspend of £160k. Forecasting a shortfall on income of £40k due to the lack of take up of market stalls and units including Outdoor market. Officers seeking to attract new traders and holding themed market events that have been popular with the traders but footfall low, which affects their return bookings. Finance will continue to work with budget holders to reduce the overspend, any overspend at the end of the year will be funded from the contingency fund.
Strategic Housing	540	540	0	0.0%	
<b>Total Community Services Directorate</b>	<b>6,990</b>	<b>7,360</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	
Strategic Director of Resources	237	237	0	0.0%	
Audit	130	116	(14)	(10.8%)	There is a projected underspend of (£14k) due to a part-year vacancy pending recruitment. The Audit Service moved from Chief Executive Directorate to Resources Directorate.
Finance	1,111	1,111	0	0.0%	
Revenues and Benefits	1,212	1,217	5	0.4%	There is a projected overspend of £5k on discretionary housing payments, which is a demand led budget and is therefore volatile.
ICT	1,252	1,252	0	0.0%	

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Customer Services	1,011	1,021	10	1.0%	There is a projected overspend of £10k on salaries due to the use of agency staff to ensure service continuity.
Business Change	0	0	0	0.0%	Expenditure is funded from reserves
<b>Total Resources Directorate</b>	<b>4,953</b>	<b>4,954</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	
Non Distributed - Revenue Expenditure on Surplus Assets and Retirement Benefits	187	187	0	0.0%	
Estimated Pay Award and Inflation Contingency	2,567	2,135	(432)	(16.8%)	£40k due to the pay award 2025/26 being agreed at 3.2%, an increase of 0.2% when compared to the budgeted 3% will be funded from contingency in Quarter 2. The pay award above budget for 2023/24 and 2024/25 will also be transferred to Services from contingency. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) grant additional anticipated payment of £432k to be transferred to contingency to meet eligible costs.
Corporate & Democratic Core & Other Budgets	109	109	0	0.0%	
<b>Total Corporate &amp; Democratic Core &amp; Other Budgets</b>	<b>2,863</b>	<b>2,431</b>	<b>(432)</b>	<b>(15.1%)</b>	
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES</b>	<b>19,582</b>	<b>19,589</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	
Net Recharges from General Fund	(1,714)	(1,714)	0	0.0%	
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES AFTER RECHARGES</b>	<b>17,868</b>	<b>17,875</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	
Total Corporate Items and Financing	1,638	1,518	(120)	(7.3%)	£120k additional investment income due to higher interest rates and investment balances compared to budget.
<b>NET REVENUE EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>19,506</b>	<b>19,393</b>	<b>(113)</b>	<b>(0.6%)</b>	
Contribution to/(from) Balances/Reserves	0	0	0	0.0%	
<b>NET EXPENDITURE (AFTER RESERVE CONTRIBUTIONS)</b>	<b>19,506</b>	<b>19,393</b>	<b>(113)</b>	<b>(0.6%)</b>	
<b>FUNDING TOTAL</b>	<b>(19,506)</b>	<b>(19,506)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	
<b>FORECAST (UNDERSPEND) / OVERSPEND</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(113)</b>	<b>(113)</b>		