

BUDGET MONITORING - KEY SERVICE AREAS 2014/15
1 APRIL 2014 - 28 FEBRUARY 2015

Main Code	Service Area	Latest Approved Budget	Budget to Period 11	Adjusted Actual to Period 11	-----Variance-----		Projected Full Year Variance () = Favourable		
					Adverse	Favourable			
		£	£	£	£	£	£		
General Expenses									
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>									
050	Waste Management Contractor Costs	2,046,970	1,710,808	1,704,616	-	6,192	(8,230)	☺☺	Monthly V.Os vary depending on the level of works required. Current V.Os have remained low and if this trend continues could lead to an underspend at the year end.
372	Rent Rebates - Non HRA	7,480	68,567	72,267	3,700	-	(3,081)	☺☺	Due to the volatile nature of benefit subsidy generally and the fact that levels of B&B usage may rise or fall, caution should be exercised with regard to any prediction made. During period 10 we went into the middle threshold due to overpayments, this has continued in period 11. The claimant errors have also increased which in turn is effecting the overall percentage. In line with Government and DWP policy and initiatives around detecting fraud and error, we are experiencing a negative effect and this is likely to continue into 2015/16. As we become more efficient in identifying fraud and error there is a risk of increased volatility in this budget.
373	Rent Rebates-HRA Properties (Net)	(70,460)	(64,588)	(290,602)	-	226,014	7,507	☹	The percentage subsidy predicted is higher than is actually being received. One of the reasons behind this is the claimant error running higher than in previous years due to increased proactive work to identify any fraud and error. As we become more efficient in identifying fraud and error there is a risk of increased volatility in this budget, however overpayment recovery has reversed the adverse variance at this current time. Further investigation to determine exact causes for the issues is currently being undertaken. Higher eligible overpayments which attract less subsidy,.
375	Rent Allowance Payments (Net)	(75,290)	(69,213)	(47,891)	21,322	-	(18,620)	☺☺	Employee related costs have been investigated to find overspend is due to budget being set before restructure. New processes in place for claiming HB for B&B costs have delayed income matching to expenditure. Contract work overspend are due to one off costs on leased property. Priority need grant expenditure is overspent however some may be offset by income for recharges of housing deposit schemes.
410	Homelessness	102,000	116,930	136,193	19,263	-	5,000	☹	Although Council Tax benefit is no longer being granted there is a potential impact in this year associated with adjustments made in respect of benefit awarded or related to prior years (principally clawback of benefit or additional entitlement). The year end prediction reflects this potential impact as it stands in the current year. Current figures are: Awarded: £5,902.69, Reclaimed: £35,550.09. Total income £29,647.40. There is an overspend which is attributable to an incorrectly coded invoice, which is to be moved via journal.
685	Council Tax Benefit Payments (Net)	9,740	8,928	13,522	4,594	-	(3,000)	☺☺	

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		<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>Adverse £</i>	<i>Favourable £</i>	<i>Favourable £</i>
	General Expenses						
	Total Expenditure	2,020,440	1,771,432	1,588,105	48,879	(219,822)	(20,424)

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	<u>INCOME</u>						
050	Waste Management Income	822,440	691,650	812,502		120,852	(4,790) 😊😊
							Commingled recycling has seen a slight decline in January and February and therefore the year end estimated tonnages have decreased slightly. Green waste credits continue to perform well. Additional income has also been received for the street sweeping credits now that the rate has been agreed.
120	Car Park Income	576,300	523,402	525,355		1,953	0 😊
							Car parking income continues to perform well with long stay income up 13% and short stay up 0.3% on 13/14. There is the potential that parking fees income will exceed budgeted expectations at the year end (forecasts estimate in the region of £5-10k). However, there is still uncertainty over the enforcement and notice processing costs and income as reported in January . It is hoped that the additional income from car parks, providing the trend continues, will offset any variances from reduced number of PCNs.
300	Cattle Market Income	377,380	292,908	278,445	14,463		24,380 😞
							The performance of the cattle market, although declining, has been fairly constant for the last few months. Information for February not yet received, therefore comment and forecast based on January information. Current forecast assumes animal auctions will be 8% below that achieved in 13/14. It should also be noted that the tavern and exhibition hall income has adversely impacted on the budget this year with a loss of income due to the reduced fee agreement of £16,710 for April-December 14.
340	Planning Application Fees	352,820	323,918	481,677		157,759	(130,000) 😊😊
							Income continues to exceed expectations due to a number of major applications received which attract the higher fee and an increase in the number of applications received. Virements have been completed to agency costs to assist with the increased workload as a result.
355	Building Control Fees	149,880	137,757	117,775	19,982		0 😊
							Lower application numbers has resulted in below expected income. A virement from Development Control has been completed.
470	Parkside Income	380,970	403,080	404,602		1,522	0 😊
							The budget is anticipated to be met for the year. A review of all licences is currently being undertaken.
472	Phoenix House Income	71,630	66,135	60,034	6,101	-	0 😊
							The budget is anticipated to be met for the year. The projected shortfall based on current occupants of £24k has been negated by a virement from NNDR as 50% of the NNDR for the year has been charged to the Me and My Learning project. Negotiations are underway with EMAS to rent additional space and the Hub to use the ground floor but this will not impact on this year's budget.

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General Expenses							
570	Industrial Estates - Rents	128,790	125,490	127,162		1,672	0 ☺
730	Collection Fund Surplus/Deficit	2,590					(7,000) ☺☺
730	Retained Business Rates	1,297,944	1,239,548	1,335,540		120,000	0 ☺
Total Income		4,160,744	3,803,888	4,143,092	40,546	403,758	(117,410)
Net Position		-2,140,304	-2,032,456	-2,554,987	89,425	183,936	-137,834

No vacancies expected at the moment and no significant variances expected at the year end. There is still a delay in receiving information on outstanding rents due / any arrears from Bentons.

Predicted amount of collection fund deficit attributable to MBC which will impact on Council Tax setting for 2015/16 based on information provided to LCC as part of the quarterly monitoring of Council Tax and Business Rates. The items which make up the retained business rates figures have been clarified to a much improved degree with the surplus on the collection fund not expected to impact until 2015/16. The £120k is expected to be retained in the Business Rate Retention Equalisation Reserve.