

Finance Monitoring Report – August 2023

To: Communities, Social Mobility and Inclusion Committee

Meeting Date: 19 October 2023

From: Executive Director of Strategy and Partnerships
Service Director of Finance and Procurement

Electoral division(s): All

Key decision: No

Outcome: To provide the Committee with the August 2023 financial position for the services within the remit of the Committee.

The report is presented to provide the Committee with the opportunity to comment on the financial position as at the end of August 2023.

Recommendation: The Committee is recommended to:

Note the contents of the report.

Officer contact:

Name: Clare Andrews
Post: Senior Finance Business Partner
Email: clare.andrews@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01223 699758

1. Background

- 1.1 Finance Monitoring Reports (FMR) are produced monthly, except for April, by all services. They report on a range of financial information to enable a view of each service's financial position to be taken.
- 1.2 Budgets for services are agreed by Full Council in the business plan in February of each year and can be amended in-year by budget virements. In particular, the FMR provides a revenue budget forecast showing the current projection of whether services expect to be over or underspent at the end of the current financial year against those budgets.
- 1.3 The services within the remit of the Communities, Social Mobility and Inclusion Committee span two separate service areas within the Council; Regulatory Services (Registration, Coroners and Trading Standards) sit within Place and Sustainability, whilst Communities, Employment and Skills services (including Libraries) and the Local Assistance Scheme are within Strategy and Partnerships.
- 1.4 Rather than presenting two separate FMRs to this Committee, the relevant revenue and capital lines from both the Place and Sustainability and the Strategy and Partnership's FMRs are summarised below. The full reports for Place and Sustainability and Strategy and Partnerships, which contain additional technical appendices, will be presented to the Highways and Transport Committee, and the Strategy and Resources Committee respectively and will also be published online (as set out in paragraph 6.2 of this report).
- 1.5 The budgets are now being shown gross and net, to provide details of any income or grant funding associated with each policy line, and to align with the presentation within in the business plan. This is the first version of the FMR presenting the budgets in this way and the process will be further refined in the coming months.

2. Main Issues - Revenue

- 2.1 At the end of August 2023, the revenue budgets within the remit of the Committee are currently forecasting an outturn overspend position of £69k. There are no significant issues to report (adverse / positive variance greater than 2% of annual budget or £100,000, whichever is greater).
- 2.2 Detailed service by service financial information is set out in the table below.

Forecast Outturn Variance (Previous) £000	Committee		Gross Budget £000	Income Budget £000	Net Budget £000	Actual £000	Forecast Outturn Variance £000	Forecast Outturn Variance %
		Place & Sustainability: Community Safety & Regulatory Service						
50	COSMIC	Registration & Citizenship Services	1,148	-1,955	-807	-286	0	0%
17	COSMIC	Coroners	3,316	-1,236	2,080	952	37	2%
-8	COSMIC	Trading Standards	739	-24	715	90	-9	-1%
59		Community Safety and Regulatory Service Total	5,203	-3,215	1,988	755	29	1%
		Strategy & Partnerships: Communities Employment & Skills						
0	COSMIC	Strategic Management - CES	160	-106	54	10,581	0	0%
40	COSMIC	Public Library Services	4,657	-816	3,841	1,638	40	1%
0	COSMIC	Cambridgeshire Skills	2,300	-2,300	0	414	0	0%
0	COSMIC	Archives	431	-31	400	163	0	0%
0	COSMIC	Cultural Services	352	-233	118	18	0	0%
0	COSMIC	Communities Service	1,243	-55	1,188	397	0	0%
0	COSMIC	Changing Futures	1,091	-1,023	68	499	0	0%
0	COSMIC	Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Service	3,211	-1,228	1,982	255	0	0%
40		Communities Employment & Skills Total	13,444	-5,792	7,652	-8,195	40	1%
		Strategy & Partnerships: Other						
0	COSMIC	Local Assistance Scheme	300	0	300	71	0	0%
99		COSMIC Committee Services Total	18,947	-9,007	9,940	-7,369	69	1%

3. Main Issues - Capital

- 3.1 At the end of August 2023, the capital programmes within the remit of the Committee have no significant variances to report.
- 3.2 The revised capital budget for 2023/24 is £3.241m, with total expenditure to the end of August totalling £137k.

Scheme category	Schemes Budget £000	Schemes Forecast variance £000	2023-24 budget £000	2023-24 actuals £000	2023-24 forecast outturn variance £000
Capitalisation of Policy, Insight & Programmes	12,612		1,682	96	
Community Fund	5,000		1,641	0	
Histon Library Rebuild	97		5	5	
Libraries - Open access & touchdown facilities	1,172		875	30	(850)
Library Minor Works	85		71	3	
EverySpace - Library Improvement Fund	389		310	3	(164)
Darwin Green Library	152		152	0	
Cherry Hinton Library	55		55	0	(45)
Sackville House Library	582		61	0	
Capital Programme Variations	(2,016)		(1,677)	0	1,059
Capitalisation of Interest	66		66	0	
Strategy & Partnerships Total	18,194		3,241	137	0

- 3.3 The schemes with significant variances (>£250k) either due to changes in phasing or changes in overall scheme costs can be found below:

Ref	Service / Committee	Commentary vs previous month	Scheme	Scheme Budget £m	2023-24 Budget £m	Forecast Outturn Variance £m	Cause	Commentary
1a	Strategy, Resources and Performance & COSMIC	Previous month	Libraries: Open Access & Touchdown	1,172	0.875	-0.85	Phasing	The pilot will be reviewed in the autumn, and feed into a new plan for review later this year.

3.4 Capital Variations Budget

Variation budgets are set annually and reflect an estimate of the average variation experienced across all capital schemes, and reduce the overall borrowing required to finance our capital programme. There are typically delays in some form across the capital programme due to unforeseen events, but we cannot project this for each individual scheme. The Council therefore

budgets centrally for some level of delay. Any known delays are budgeted for and reported at scheme level. If forecast underspends are reported, these are offset with a forecast outturn for the variation budget, leading to a balanced outturn overall up to the point when rephasing exceeds this budget. The capital variations budget is -£1,677k for Strategy and Partnerships.

4. Alignment with ambitions

- 4.1 Net zero carbon emissions for Cambridgeshire by 2045, and our communities and natural environment are supported to adapt and thrive as the climate changes
There are no significant implications for this priority.
- 4.2 Travel across the county is safer and more environmentally sustainable
There are no significant implications for this priority.
- 4.3 Health inequalities are reduced
There are no significant implications for this priority.
- 4.4 People enjoy healthy, safe, and independent lives through timely support that is most suited to their needs
There are no significant implications for this priority.
- 4.5 Helping people out of poverty and income inequality
There are no significant implications for this priority.
- 4.6 Places and communities prosper because they have a resilient and inclusive economy, access to good quality public services and social justice is prioritised
There are no significant implications for this priority.
- 4.7 Children and young people have opportunities to thrive
There are no significant implications for this priority.

5. Significant Implications

5.1 Resource Implications

This report sets out details of the overall financial position of the services within the remit of the Committee.

5.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

5.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

5.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

5.5 Engagement and Communications Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

5.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement

There are no significant implications within this category.

5.7 Public Health Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

5.8 Environment and Climate Change Implications on Priority Areas:

There are no significant implications within this category.

5.8.1 Implication 1: Energy efficient, low carbon buildings.

Positive/neutral/negative Status: Neutral / N/A

Explanation:

5.8.2 Implication 2: Low carbon transport.

Positive/neutral/negative Status: Neutral / N/A

Explanation:

5.8.3 Implication 3: Green spaces, peatland, afforestation, habitats and land management.

Positive/neutral/negative Status: Neutral / N/A

Explanation:

5.8.4 Implication 4: Waste Management and Tackling Plastic Pollution.

Positive/neutral/negative Status: Neutral / N/A

Explanation:

5.8.5 Implication 5: Water use, availability and management:

Positive/neutral/negative Status: Neutral / N/A

Explanation:

5.8.6 Implication 6: Air Pollution.

Positive/neutral/negative Status: Neutral / N/A

Explanation:

5.8.7 Implication 7: Resilience of our services and infrastructure, and supporting vulnerable people to cope with climate change.

Positive/neutral/negative Status: Neutral / N/A

Explanation:

Have the resource implications been cleared by Finance? Yes

Name of Financial Officer: Martin Wade / Clare Andrews

Have the procurement/contractual/ Council Contract Procedure Rules implications been cleared by the Head of Procurement? N/A

Name of Officer:

Has the impact on statutory, legal and risk implications been cleared by the Council's Monitoring Officer or Pathfinder Legal? N/A

Name of Legal Officer:

Have the equality and diversity implications been cleared by your EqIA Super User?

N/A

Name of Officer:

Have any engagement and communication implications been cleared by Communications?

N/A

Name of Officer:

Have any localism and Local Member involvement issues been cleared by your Service Contact? N/A

Name of Officer:

Have any Public Health implications been cleared by Public Health?

N/A

Name of Officer:

If a Key decision, have any Environment and Climate Change implications been cleared by the Climate Change Officer?

N/A

Name of Officer:

6. Source Documents

- 6.1 As well as presentation of the FMR to Committees, reports are made available online each month - [Finance monitoring reports - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)