

Finance Monitoring Report – October 2025-26

To: Communities, Social Mobility and Inclusion Committee

Meeting Date: 15 January 2026

From: Executive Director of Place and Sustainability

Electoral division(s): All

Key decision: No

Executive Summary: This report presents financial information setting out the financial position to the end of October 2025 of the services within the remit of this Committee. The report covers revenue and capital budgets.

Recommendation: The Committee are asked to:

Note the content of the report.

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1. Creating a greener, fairer and more caring Cambridgeshire

- 1.1 This regular financial monitoring report provides the management accounts of the services within the remit of this Committee, enabling members to be aware of, and to scrutinise, the delivery of the business plan for 2025-26.

2. Background

- 2.1 Finance Monitoring Reports (FMRs) 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.
- 2.2 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.
- 2.3 Until 31 December 2025, the services within the remit of this Committee spanned two separate service areas within the Council; Regulatory Services (Registration, Coroners and Trading Standards) sitting within Place and Sustainability, with Communities, Libraries and Skills services sitting under Strategy and Partnerships.
- 2.4 Rather than presenting two separate full FMRs to this Committee, the relevant revenue and capital lines from both the Place and Sustainability and the Strategy and Partnerships 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, the Environment and Green Investment Committee, and the Strategy, Resources and Performance Committee respectively and will also be published online.
- 2.5 From 1 January 2026, all services within the remit of this Committee will fall into the Place and Sustainability directorate. Therefore, from quarter 3 onwards, the full Place and Sustainability FMR will be reported to this Committee with a covering report which will direct the Committee to the relevant content.

3. Main Issues - Revenue

- 3.1 At the end of October 2025, the revenue budgets within the remit of this Committee forecast an underspend of £626k. This level of underspend has been achieved as a direct response to the council-wide in-year financial challenges – such as the demand for placements for children in care, the increased demand for SEND services and Home to School transport – in response to these pressures services that report to this committee have been working to control expenditure where they can. Addressing these pressures in-year is vital to ensure the sustainability of the council and to mitigate increases in the budget gap for the council in future years. A fuller report on the Council's overall financial position, and actions being taken to address this, is reported to Strategy, Resources and Performance committee.

- 3.2 The Communities service is reporting an underspend position of £320k. This is due to additional Homes for Ukraine funding above the budgeted level.
- 3.3 Detailed service by service financial information can be found below.

4. Main Issues – Capital

- 4.1 Details of the capital programmes within the remit of this Committee can be found in section 5.1 below.
- 4.2 At the end of October 2025, no capital programmes within the remit of the Committee had a significant variance (>£250k) to report. Details can be found in the section 5.2 below.

Forecast Outturn Variance (Previous) £000	Committee	Note	Budget Line	Gross Budget £000	Income Budget £000	Net Budget £000	Actual £000	Forecast Outturn Variance £000	Outturn Variance %
Place & Sustainability: Regulatory Services									
12	CSMI		Registration & Citizenship Services	1,323	-2,086	-763	-494	18	2%
-39	CSMI		Coroners	3,492	-1,187	2,305	1,035	-39	-2%
0	CSMI		Trading Standards	801	-45	757	357	-45	-6%
-27			Regulatory Services Total	5,617	-3,318	2,299	898	-66	-3%
Strategy & Partnerships: Communities, Libraries & Skills									
0	CSMI		Strategic Management - C,L&S	-831	0	-831	115	0	0%
-40	CSMI		Public Library Services	5,274	-562	4,712	2,611	-40	-1%
-0	CSMI		Cambridgeshire Skills	2,400	-2,400	0	337	-0	0%
0	CSMI		Archives	486	-51	435	276	0	0%
0	CSMI		Cultural Services	369	-231	137	46	0	0%
-355	CSMI		Communities Service	1,416	-142	1,274	262	-320	-25%
-0	CSMI		Changing Futures	889	-821	68	-836	-0	0%
0	CSMI		Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Service	2,706	-538	2,169	1,494	0	0%
0	CSMI		Anti-Poverty	6,612	-6,312	300	71	-200	-67%
-395			Communities, Libraries & Skills Total	19,322	-11,058	8,264	4,375	-560	-7%
0			Overall CSMI Committee Total	24,939	-14,376	10,563	5,273	-626	-6%

5. Capital

5.1 The capital budget for 2025/26 is £1.988m with expenditure to the end of October totalling £0.643m.

Original 2025-26 Budget as per Business Plan £000	Committee	Scheme Category	Total Scheme Revised Budget £000	Total Scheme Variance £000	Budget Carried- forward 2025-26 £000	Budget Re- phasing 2025-26 £000	Additional/ Reduction in Funding 2025-26 £000	Revised Budget for 2025-26 £000	Actual Spend (Oct) £000	Forecast Outturn Variance (Oct) £000
740	CSMI	Community Fund	5,071	0	129	0	0	869	219	-84
42	CSMI	Library Minor Works	81	0	15	-15	0	42	13	-20
0	CSMI	EverySpace - Library Improvement Fund	618	0	91	0	229	320	331	30
207	CSMI	Darwin Green Library	208	0	1	-208	0	0	0	0
27	CSMI	Cherry Hinton Library	102	0	2	-2	0	27	0	0
181	CSMI	Sackville House Library	582	0	367	-88	0	460	49	-50
0	CSMI	Archives - Camera replacement	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
75	CSMI	Huntingdon Library Redesign	161	0	0	-75	7	7	1	0
350	CSMI	Mobile Library Replacement	369	0	0	-345	0	5	0	-5
200	CSMI	Replacement of 32 ageing self-service machines reaching end of life	200	0	0	0	0	200	0	0
8	CSMI	Whittlesey Library Refurbishment	166	0	0	0	0	8	0	-8
0	CSMI	March BMX Pump Track	107	0	50	0	0	50	30	0
1,830		Total	7,710	0	655	-733	236	1,988	643	-137

5.2 There are no current schemes with significant variances to list as at the end of October 2025.

6. Significant Implications

6.1 Finance Implications

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

6.2 Legal Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

6.3 Risk Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

6.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

6.5 Climate Change and Environment Implications (Key decisions only)

There are no significant implications within this category.

7. Source Documents

7.1 [Finance Monitoring Reports](#)