

FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE REPORT – JANUARY 2017

To: Children and Young People Committee

Meeting Date: 14 March 2017

From: Executive Director: Children, Families and Adults Services
Chief Finance Officer

Electoral division(s): All

Forward Plan ref: Not applicable **Key decision:** No

Purpose: To provide the Committee with the January 2017 Finance and Performance report for Children’s, Families and Adults Services (CFA).

The report is presented to provide the Committee with the opportunity to comment on the financial and performance position as at the end of January 2017.

Recommendation: The Committee is asked to review and comment on the report.

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1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 A Finance & Performance Report for the Children, Families and Adults Directorates (CFA) is produced monthly and the most recent available report is presented to the Committee when it meets.
- 1.2 The report is presented to provide the Committee with the opportunity to comment on the financial and performance position of the services for which the Committee has responsibility.
- 1.3 This report is for the whole of the CFA Service, and as such, not all of the budgets contained within it are the responsibility of this Committee. Members are requested to restrict their attention to the budget lines for which this Committee is responsible, which are detailed in Appendix 2.
- 1.4 **Financial context**
The Council planned to save £38,294k in 2016/17, and is on course to achieve close to this with a Council-wide overspend forecast of £1.8m at the end of November.

As previously discussed at CYP Committee the major savings agenda continues with £99.2m of savings required across the Council between 2017 and 2022.

2.0 MAIN ISSUES IN THE JANUARY 2017 CFA FINANCE & PERFORMANCE REPORT

- 2.1 The January 2017 Finance and Performance report is attached at Appendix 1. At the end of January, CFA forecast an overspend of £3,273k. This is a worsening position from the previous report presented to committee when the forecast overspend was £2,012k, and from the previous month when the forecast overspend was £2,341k.

2.2 Revenue

The main changes to the revenue forecast variances within CYP Committees areas of responsibility since the previous report are as follows:

- In Children's Social Care, the CSC Units Hunts and Fenland budget is reporting an increased overspend of £706k, up £164k since November 2016. This is due to the need to employ additional agency staff to cover vacancies and the continued high volume of cases within the system.
- In Children's Social Care, the Looked After Children's reported forecast overspend has increased by £350k to £3,850k due to increased numbers of Looked After Children (LAC) with complex needs who require purchased placements until the end of the year.
- In Strategy and Commissioning the LAC Transport budget is now showing a forecast overspend of £140k reflecting the increasing overall number of LAC.
- In Learning, the Schools Partnership Service budget is now reporting a forecast underspend of -£326k, a favourable increase of £130k since November. This is a result of an increase in grant funding that supports activity previously funded from net LA budget.
- In Learning, the Catering and Cleaning Service is reporting a shortfall on the budgeted contribution of £269k. The additional pressure is a result of the

redundancy costs associated with the closure of the B4 Distribution Centre and the mothballing of the C3 Cook Freeze Centre following the end of the contract with Northamptonshire County Council.

2.3 The table below identifies the key areas of over and underspends within CYP alongside potential mitigating actions (non-DSG services only):

Children's Social Care (CSC)	<p>Excluding Looked After Children the current forecast overspend on CSC totals £2,633k and is a result of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffing above establishment to meet increasing demand and statutory responsibilities. • Additional costs of agency staff required to meet demand. • Increasing legal costs reflecting the rising number of care proceedings. <p>The mitigations in place to address this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of use of agency staff. • The implementation of the Children's Change Programme (CCP) will address the structural staffing issues and is also expected to reduce exposure to legal costs.
Looked After Children (LAC)	<p>The forecast overspend on LAC is currently £3,850k due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underlying pressure carried forward from 2015/16 • The continuing rise of children in care and those requiring high cost placements. <p>The mitigations in place to address this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A weekly Section 20 panel to review children on the edge of care, specifically looking to prevent escalation by providing timely and effective interventions.
Home to School Transport – Special	<p>The forecast underspend on Home to School Transport Special is currently £180k due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Savings on the retendering of contracts under the Council's Dynamic Purchasing System • Fewer mid-year route additions than originally budgeted.
Schools Partnership Service	<p>There is a £326k underspend forecast in the Schools Partnership Service due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a review of Education Support for Looked After Children (ESLAC) funding which has meant it has been possible to substitute grant funding in-year to create an underspend against the base budget.
Home to School Transport - Mainstream	<p>The forecast underspend on Home to School Transport Mainstream is currently £225k due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy changes to Post-16 support implemented from September 2016. • Savings on the retendering of contracts under the Council's Dynamic Purchasing System • Changes to contracts to more closely match the actual number of pupils requiring seats.

2.4 Capital

The Capital Programme Board previously recommended that services include a variation budget to account for likely slippage in the capital programme. As forecast underspends start to be reported, these are offset against the variation budget, resulting in a balanced outturn up until the point where slippage exceeds the budget set aside. The allocation for CFA's budget adjustments has been calculated as per the table below, show against the slippage forecast to date:

2016/17					
Service	Capital Programme Variations Budget £000	Forecast Variance - Outturn (Jan) £000	Capital Programme Variations Budget Used £000	Capital Programme Variations Budget Used %	Revised Forecast Variance - Outturn (Jan) £000
CFA	-10,282	-9,911	9.911	96.4%	-
Total Spending	-10,282	-9,911	9.911	96.4%	-

2.5 Performance

Of the twenty-one CFA service performance indicators nine are shown as green, five as amber and seven are red.

Of the Children and Young People Performance Indicators, four are green, five are amber and four are red. The four red performance indicators are:

1. Number of children with a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 population under 18
2. The number of looked after children per 10,000 children;
3. The FSM/Non-FSM attainment gap % achieving level 4+ in reading, writing and maths at Key Stage 2.
4. The FSM/Non-FSM attainment gap % achieving 5+ A*-C including English and maths at GCSE.

2.6 CFA Portfolio

The major change programmes and projects underway across CFA are detailed in Appendix 8 of the report – none of these is currently assessed as red.

3.0 FUTURE YEAR SAVINGS

- 3.1 In 2017-18, it is anticipated that on a quarterly basis the “**tracker**” report – a tool for summarising delivery of savings – will be made available for Members. As this methodology for monitoring is particularly central for Children's services, the tracker will also be included as an appendix at the appropriate meeting each quarter. Full forecasting of 2017-18 delivery has not yet begun, but the outline tracker format is included as Appendix 3 to this report.

4.0 ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PRIORITIES

4.1 Developing the local economy for the benefit of all

4.1.1 There are no significant implications for this priority.

4.2 Helping people live healthy and independent lives

4.2.1 There are no significant implications for this priority

4.3 Supporting and protecting vulnerable people

4.3.1 There are no significant implications for this priority

5.0 SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Resource Implications

5.1.1 This report sets out details of the overall financial position of the CFA Service.

5.2 Statutory, Risk and Legal Implications

5.2.1 There are no significant implications within this category.

5.3 Equality and Diversity Implications

5.3.1 There are no significant implications within this category.

5.4 Engagement and Consultation Implications

5.4.1 There are no significant implications within this category.

5.5 Localism and Local Member Involvement

5.5.1 There are no significant implications within this category.

5.6 Public Health Implications

5.6.1 The educational attainment gap is likely to be associated with current and future inequalities in health outcomes.

Source Documents	Location
As well as presentation of the F&PR to the Committee when it meets, the report is made available online each month.	http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/info/20043/finance_and_budget/147/finance_and_performance_reports