

Finance Monitoring Report – Outturn 2021/22

To: Highways and Transport Committee

Meeting Date: 12th July 2022

From: Steve Cox – Executive Director, Place & Economy
Tom Kelly – Chief Finance Officer

Electoral division(s): All

Key decision: No

Forward Plan ref: N/A

Outcome: The report is presented to provide Committee with an opportunity to note and comment on the outturn position for 2021/2022.

Recommendation: The Committee is asked to review, note and comment upon the report,

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1. Background

- 1.1 The appendix attached provides the financial position for the whole of Place & Economy Services, and as such, not all of the budgets contained within it are the responsibility of this Committee. To aid Member reading of the finance monitoring report, budget lines that relate to the Highways and Transport Committee are unshaded and those that relate to the Environment and Green Investment Committee are shaded. Members are requested to restrict their questions to the lines for which this Committee is responsible.

2. Main Issues

- 2.1 Revenue: the revenue position at year-end was a £867K underspend which was an additional £130K underspend compared to that forecast in February.
- 2.2 Capital: across the Council there have been a range of factors causing capital rephasing this year, including delays due to the complexity of decision-making involving multiple external stakeholders, lack of capacity in project team resources, issues with sourcing, supply and lead times of obtaining materials, delays in tendering processes, delayed starts on site, restrictions on sites due to Covid and delays in condition surveys due to Covid. P&E as a whole had an in-year underspend of 19.7%.
- 2.3 The main capital variances within H&T Committee are as follows:
- **Delivering the Transport Strategy Aims – Highway Schemes** : this is due to the funding allocation and programme not being agreed until September 2021, together with the required involvement of the various district councils and the complexity of the projects
 - **Bridge Strengthening**: Reactive capital works bridge repairs needed an extra £475k for minor repairs, so funding was moved from the St Ives Flood Arches/ Town Bridge and North of Girton Bridge, both which were delayed. There were delays to other projects due to flooding, issues with road space booking and sourcing of materials.
 - **£90m Highways Maintenance Schemes**: this is due to delays in the following schemes:- Littleport, Mildenhall Road; Drove/Murrow Bank; Haddenham, Hill Row Causeway Carriageway; and Cromwell Road, Wisbech.
 - **Kings Dyke**; there were several cost savings (such as Network Rail possession costs) and the monthly risk budget has been reprofiled to better reflect when the risk items could occur in the programme, many of which have been moved into the next financial year. The construction work undertaken to date by the Contractor has also come in below forecast, due to resequencing of the work.

Further detail is available within the Finance Monitoring Report – Outturn.

- 2.4 All the in-year capital underspends are being reviewed, rolled forward and re-profiled in the (new financial year) May Finance Monitoring Report.

4. Alignment with corporate priorities

4.1 Communities at the heart of everything we do

There are no significant implications for this priority.

4.2 A good quality of life for everyone

There are no significant implications for this priority.

4.3 Helping our children learn, develop and live life to the full

There are no significant implications for this priority.

4.4 Cambridgeshire: a well-connected, safe, clean, green environment

There are no significant implications for this priority.

4.5 Protecting and caring for those who need us

There are no significant implications for this priority.

