

Finance Monitoring Report – October 2021

To: Environment and Green Investment Committee

Meeting Date: 16th December 2021

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 forecast position for 2021/2022.

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

And

Recommend to Strategy & Resources Committee that £1.55m of waste funding is transferred to an earmarked reserve towards the revenue costs associated with addressing the waste odour emissions work which has now slipped to next financial year.

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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 report attached as Appendix A is the Place & Economy Finance Monitoring Report as at the end of October 2021. Place and Economy is currently forecasting a £31K underspend at year end.
- 2.2 In Business Planning the waste service was allocated £638K to reflect the estimated impact of Covid but the majority of this will not be required for this specific purpose. However, it was agreed this funding will instead be directed to help address the pressure created by the works required to address the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) which requires the reduction of odour emissions from the Waterbeach facilities. This revenue pressure was previously estimated to be £850K in this financial year, however the requirement to obtain planning consent will delay implementation of the works and move the majority of this expenditure budget pressure into next financial year.

As part of the annual post-year reconciliation of volumes and payments it has been identified that some of the street-sweeping waste and trade waste which passed through the waste transfer stations were incorrectly attributed to the Council and an adjustment has been made for previous years and there is also an impact on in-year expenditure to date (and hence also the forecast). The previous year's reconciliation amount of £460K and the in-year adjustment to the forecast is estimated to be £240K.

Committee is being asked to support the recommendation to Strategy & Resources Committee to (1) transfer the £850K which was previously in the forecast for the planned emissions costs to an earmarked reserve as the costs will now fall into next financial year, and (2) also transfer the £700K to the earmarked reserve (and hence reduce the identified pressure reported in Business Planning for next financial year).

The forecasts within the Appendix assume this transfer of £1.55m is approved.

- 2.4 Capital: The capital position is detailed in Appendix 6 and the significant change in forecast relates to the waste emission works which have slipped to 2022/23.

3. Alignment with corporate priorities

3.1 Communities at the heart of everything we do

There are no significant implications for this priority.

3.2 A good quality of life for everyone

There are no significant implications for this priority.

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

There are no significant implications for this priority.

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

There are no significant implications for this priority.

3.5 Protecting and caring for those who need us

There are no significant implications for this priority.

5. Source documents guidance

5.1 Source documents

None