

EXETER CITY COUNCIL

**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - COMMUNITY
2 SEPTEMBER 2008**

COMMUNITY SERVICES STEWARDSHIP TO 30 JUNE 2008

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report advises Members of any major differences by management unit to the revised budget.

2. STEWARDSHIP TO 30 JUNE 2008

- 2.1 The current forecast suggests that net expenditure for this committee will decrease from the revised budget by a total of £152,780 which represents a variation of 0.9% from the revised budget.

- 2.3 The main variations by management unit are detailed below:

	£
2007-2008 REVISED ESTIMATE	16,957,340
81A1 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	(3,220)
A vacancy in the litter enforcement team has resulted in a net saving.	
81A2 CLEANSING SERVICES	(177,500)
A Local Public Service Agreement in respect of Street Cleansing will result in the receipt of a Performance Reward Grant.	
Savings are anticipated on staffing costs in the Street Cleansing and Refuse Collection services.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Action Point – the 2009/10 estimates will reflect the reduced staffing costs in these services.	
81A3 LICENSING, FOOD, HEALTH & SAFETY	(33,000)
Savings have arisen in respect of vacant posts in the unit. Additional income has been generated from the Licensing activities.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Action Point – the 2009/10 estimates will reflect the reduced staffing costs in this service.	

81A4	TECHNICAL AND AGENDA 21	3,000
	Net income from an external contract is expected to be less than the estimated level.	
81A5	WATERWAYS & COUNTRYSIDE	95,400
	Agency staff costs have been incurred due to the need to cover long-term sickness.	
	Further costs are expected to arise due to the ongoing work towards the new harbour authority; these additional costs will be funded from general reserves as approved by Executive in June 2003.	
	The cost of utilities is expected to exceed the estimate.	
	Staff costs in Countryside Services will exceed the estimate due to the extension of a post within the section; savings on a post within the Community Outreach service (81B5) will cover the additional costs.	
81A6	GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	32,600
	Grass cutting costs are expected to exceed the estimate due to weather conditions.	
	There has been a restructure affecting this service and Cemeteries & Crematorium (81B2), which will result in additional costs in this unit and a corresponding saving in 81B2.	
	The post of Temporary Arboricultural Assistant has been vacant resulting in reduced staffing costs in the tree management service; it is estimated that this will reduce the transfer required from the tree management earmarked reserve from the amount included in the original budget by £7,000.	
81A7	MUSEUMS SERVICE	(11,470)
	The estimate for staff will not be fully spent due to vacancies; in addition there will be a saving on pension costs.	
	Utility costs at the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (Royal Albert Memorial Museum) are expected to exceed the estimate.	
	National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) in respect of the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and the new museum store are expected to be less than estimated.	
	There has been a reduction in income from a non-operational property.	
81A8	CONTRACTED SPORTS FACILITIES	2,500
	Additional costs have arisen in respect of NNDR.	

81A9	OTHER SPORTS FACILITIES	0
	No material variance is expected to arise.	
81B2	CEMETERIES & CREMATORIUM	(32,620)
	There has been a restructure affecting this service and Grounds Maintenance (81A6), which will result in a saving in this unit and corresponding additional costs in 81A6.	
81B3	PROPERTIES	(9,240)
	Additional net income is expected to arise in this service.	
81B5	COMMUNITY OUTREACH	(25,840)
	A saving is expected on staffing costs due to a vacant post; part of this saving will be used to cover additional staff costs in the Countryside Service (81A5).	
81B6	RECYCLING	(59,520)
	A saving has arisen on staffing costs due to vacant posts. Income from the sale of recycled materials is expected to exceed the estimates. Additional income will arise from a Local Area Agreement.	
81B9	ADMINISTRATION SERVICE	0
	No material variance is expected to arise.	
81C1	HOME AID	(2,030)
	Additional income from grant work is expected to arise.	
81C2	ADVISORY SERVICES	73,400
	Expenditure on repairing private sector leased properties when they are handed back is expected to exceed the estimate.	
	A saving is expected on salary costs due to vacant posts; these savings will be partially offset by expenditure on agency staff.	
	The use of bed and breakfast accommodation to meet homelessness demand is expected to result in expenditure exceeding the original estimate. An additional contracted property will mean the serviced temporary accommodation estimate will be exceeded; this additional property is expected to reduce the use of bed and breakfast accommodation in the long term.	
81C3	HOUSING PARTNERSHIP	1,810
	No material variance is expected to arise.	

81C4 PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING (7,050)

Savings have arisen in respect of staffing and administrative costs.
Additional income is expected to arise.

81C6 CONTRACTS AND DIRECT SERVICES 0

The costs of this unit are fully recharged to its clients, and there is
therefore no direct impact on this committee.

2008-2009 EXPECTED FINAL OUTTURN **16,804,560**

EXPECTED TRANSFERS TO / FROM RESERVES **(83,090)**

EXPECTED TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE **16,721,470**

3. RECOMMENDED

That Scrutiny Committee Community note this report.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY
AND ENVIRONMENT

HEAD OF TREASURY SERVICES

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended)
Background papers used in compiling this report

None