

Monitoring Budget Reductions - 2025/26 Quarter 1 Update

| Service | Description/Proposal | 2025/26 Budget Reduction/ (increase) | Quarter 1 Forecast | Variance (shortfall) | Comment |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---|
| Leisure | | | | | |
| Culture & Leisure | Close Northbrook Pool | 286,000 | 86,000 | (200,000) | Now closing by end of October; estimates for additional close-down costs included in forecast. |
| Culture & Leisure | Exeter Arena - seek an asset transfer opportunity | 300,000 | 0 | (300,000) | Asset transfer is not likley to take place this year and continues to operate as normal. Plans to increase block booking income to be confirmed by quarter two. |
| Culture & Leisure | Increase Marketing income | 20,000 | 20,000 | 0 | Income target forecast to be achieved |
| Culture & Leisure | Decrease Tourism costs | 29,000 | 29,000 | 0 | Service redesign expected to be completed by March 2026 |
| Car Parks | | | | | |
| Commercial Assets | Ringo transaction charge passed to customer | 80,000 | 40,000 | (40,000) | Estimated saving calculated for latter part of the year, currently out to consultation as at Q1 reporting |
| Commercial Assets | Explore commercial activity in car parks using managing agents | 50,000 | 0 | (50,000) | Saving not being achieved however development of the initiative is well under way. |
| Commercial Assets | Above inflation increase - 3% built in - extra 4% (so 7%) - takes into account no increase in 2024/25 | 88,000 | 77,000 | (11,000) | Estimated savings calculated based on changes being implemented in November 2025 |
| Commercial Assets | Howell Road & Triangle car parks - move to central zone | 370,000 | 323,000 | (47,000) | Estimated savings calculated based on changes being implemented in November 2025 |
| Commercial Assets | Cashless (Service Review Option) | 40,000 | 40,000 | 0 | Saving not being achieved however cost offset by underspend on staffing in other Car Parks areas. |
| Commercial Assets | Increase income budget - Matford Centre | 28,000 | 28,000 | 0 | Expected to meet reduction due to continued overperformance of auctioneer income against budget |
| Operations | | | | | |
| Operations | No longer clean private landowner areas without contribution | 33,080 | 33,080 | 0 | No overspend forecast so savings achieved |
| Operations | Dedicate some Engineers to capital projects only | 70,700 | 70,700 | 0 | No overspend forecast against budget lines so savings achieved |
| General Find Housing | | | | | |
| General Fund Housing | Additional HMO income | 20,000 | 20,000 | 0 | At quarter 1 the additional licence income for HMOs is on track to be achieved |
| General Fund Housing | Reduce the number of Extralet properties and replace with more cost effective properties | 21,500 | 21,500 | 0 | Savings on Extralet costs are on track to be delivered as at quarter 1 |
| Other | | | | | |
| City Centre & Net Zero | Carbon Literacy Training - sell training sessions to local organisations | 20,000 | 20,000 | 0 | Forecast to achieve income |
| Commercial Assets | Cease accepting cash and cheques at ECC sites | 88,070 | 48,070 | (40,000) | Saving not being achieved due to delay in delivery however partially offset by underspend on staffing in other Car Parks areas. |
| SUBTOTAL SERVICE REVIEW REDUCTIONS | | 1,544,350 | 856,350 | (688,000) | |
| Culture & Leisure | Remove duplication in Culture Service | 200,000 | 200,000 | 0 | Service redesign expected to be completed by March 2026 |
| Miscellaneous | Stop budgeting for Pension Contributions where individual is not in Pension Scheme | 98,310 | 89,870 | (8,440) | Small variance expected at quarter 1 |
| Miscellaneous | Implement digitalisation to improve efficiency - up to £1.2m over 3 years (£0.3m in year 1) | 300,000 | 300,000 | 0 | Implementation plan submitted to SMB in July 2025 |
| SUBTOTAL OTHER PROPOSALS | | 598,310 | 589,870 | (8,440) | |
| TOTAL | | 2,142,660 | 1,446,220 | (696,440) | |