

**EXETER CITY COUNCIL**  
**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - COMMUNITY**  
**10 NOVEMBER 2009**

**COMMUNITY SERVICES STEWARDSHIP TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2009**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

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

**2. STEWARDSHIP TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2009**

- 2.1 The current forecast suggests that net expenditure for this committee will increase from the revised budget by a total of £43,080, which represents a variation of 0.3% from the revised budget.
- 2.2 The main variations by management unit are detailed below:

	£
<b>2009-10 REVISED ESTIMATE</b>	13,322,530
<b>81A1 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION</b>	42,660
<p>The estimates included income from the Department of Health which was received in 2008/09 rather than 2009/10 and is therefore included in the closing figures for the previous year.</p> <p>The cost of maintaining the Home Call Alarm service equipment has been transferred into this unit without a budget, leading to a further over-spend.</p> <p>These are partially offset by income in excess of the estimates, savings in respect of utilities and equipment maintenance.</p>	
<b>81A2 CLEANSING SERVICES</b>	6,420
<p>Increased utility and National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) costs have arisen in the Public Conveniences.</p>	
<b>81A3 LICENSING, FOOD, HEALTH &amp; SAFETY</b>	(36,910)
<p>Savings have arisen in respect of vacant posts in the unit. Additional income has been generated from the Licensing activities. The estimated surplus in respect of vehicle licensing will be transferred to an earmarked reserve.</p>	
<b>81A4 TECHNICAL AND AGENDA 21</b>	10,420
<p>An external contract was not renewed thereby reducing the income for this unit.</p>	

<b>81A5</b>	<b>WATERWAYS &amp; COUNTRYSIDE</b>	(3,390)
	A vacant post has led to a saving. This is partly offset by maintenance required at Turf Locks.	
<b>81A6</b>	<b>GROUNDS MAINTENANCE</b>	(57,330)
	A vacant post will lead to a saving, and a budget for agency staff is not required. Expenditure on dealing with illegal campers and tree management is expected to be less than the estimate.	
<b>81A7</b>	<b>MUSEUMS SERVICE</b>	18,300
	Expenditure on NNDR for the library facility will exceed the estimate. Utility and premises maintenance costs for the Royal Albert Memorial Museum are also expected to exceed the estimates. Income will be less than expected for St Nicholas Priory. These additional costs will be partially offset by savings arising from vacant posts across the Museums Service.	
<b>81A8</b>	<b>CONTRACTED SPORTS FACILITIES</b>	(12,680)
	Expenditure on NNDR for the Pyramids Sports Centre will be less than estimated.	
<b>81A9</b>	<b>OTHER SPORTS FACILITIES</b>	(7,980)
	Expenditure on superannuation will exceed the estimate.	
	Income has been received from the Isca Centre in respect of annual maintenance and carpet replacement; this will be transferred to an earmarked reserve to be utilised as required.	
<b>81B2</b>	<b>CEMETERIES &amp; CREMATORIUM</b>	(2,860)
	Vacancies will lead to savings in respect of pay. Fleet costs are less than the estimate. These savings are partially offset by reduced income and the cost of purchasing equipment in excess of the estimate.	
<b>81B3</b>	<b>PROPERTIES</b>	820
	No material variances to report.	
<b>81B5</b>	<b>SPORTS &amp; PLAY DEVELOPMENT</b>	4,030
	The cost of temporary staff and events will exceed the estimate.	
<b>81B6</b>	<b>RECYCLING</b>	(38,240)
	Net savings have arisen in respect of staffing costs. Net income from the sale of materials has exceeded the estimates in the first half year. Freight costs and materials processing costs have been less than estimated.	
<b>81B9</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATION &amp; PROJECTS SERVICE</b>	0
	No material variances to report	

<b>81C1 HOME AID</b>	8,000
<p>There is a reduction in the income received in respect of Improvement Grant administration. This is due to a reduction in the number of Grants issued in the current year.</p>	
<b>81C2 ADVISORY SERVICES</b>	117,950
<p>There is an increase in the cost of Private Sector Leasing mainly as a result of an increase in void properties. Because of our success in reducing the use of temporary accommodation, many of these are due to be handed back. The loss of income has been partly offset by a reduction in rental expenditure.</p> <p>There was an increase in the amount spent on bed and breakfast in the first quarter, although this has now been stabilised with bed and breakfast usage currently very low. Serviced Accommodation costs have increased over the budget for 2009/10. This has been partly offset by additional Housing Benefit income.</p>	
<b>81C3 HOUSING PARTNERSHIP</b>	(3,510)
<p>Staffing costs are expected to be less than the estimate, and additional grant income will be received. This is partially offset by additional net accommodation costs. In addition, £5,190 will be funded from the Housing Assessment earmarked reserve.</p>	
<b>81C4 PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING</b>	710
<p>Additional costs will arise in respect of the cost of the Private Sector Housing Condition Survey. This is partially offset by savings in respect of staffing and administrative costs and additional income.</p>	
<b>81C6 CONTRACTS AND DIRECT SERVICES</b>	0
<p>The costs of this unit are fully recharged to its clients, and there is therefore no direct impact on this committee.</p>	
<b>2009-10 EXPECTED FINAL OUTTURN</b>	<b>13,368,940</b>
<b>EXPECTED TRANSFERS TO / (FROM) RESERVES</b>	<u><b>(147,890)</b></u>
<b>EXPECTED TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE</b>	<u><b>13,221,050</b></u>

### **3. RECOMMENDED**

- 1) That Scrutiny Committee – Community note this report.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT  
HEAD OF TREASURY SERVICES

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE

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