

REPORT TO
Date of Meeting:
Report of:
Title:

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE RESOURCES
16 March 2016
Assistant Director Finance
Budget Monitoring Report to 31 December 2015

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Is this an Executive or Council Function?

Council

1. What is the report about?

This report advises Members of any material differences to the revised budget in respect of Resources Committee.

2. Recommendations:

That Members of Scrutiny Committee – Resources note the content of this report in order to be satisfied that prudent steps are being taken to address the key areas of budgetary pressure highlighted in this report.

3. Reasons for the recommendation:

Local authorities have a statutory duty to set and monitor their budgets during the year and to take any actions necessary because of potential overspending or potential shortfalls in income. Members are therefore presented with a quarterly financial update in respect of Resources.

4. What are the resource implications including non financial resources

The financial resources required to deliver Resources Services during 2015-16 are set out in the body of this report.

5. Section 151 Officer comments:

This report has been prepared on behalf of the Section 151 Officer to set out the projected financial position of Resources Services as at 31 March 2016.

6. What are the legal aspects?

Part 2 of the Local Government Act 2003 provides the legislative framework for the process of setting and managing budgets. In particular, Section 28 of the 2003 Act requires local authorities to monitor their budgets during the financial year.

7. Monitoring Officer's comments:

There are no issues to raise on the content of this report.

8. Report Details:

Resources Budget Monitoring to 31 December 2015

8.1 Key Variations from Budget

The current forecast suggests that net expenditure for this committee will decrease from the revised budget by a total of £491,380 after transfers from reserves and revenue contributions to capital, as detailed in Appendix 1. This represents a variation of 8.11% from the revised budget. This includes supplementary budgets of £145,550 already agreed previously.

8.2 The significant variations by management are:

MU Code	Management Unit	Over / (Underspend)	Detail
86A1	Revenue Collection/Benefits	(£556,830)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recovery of overpayments higher than budgeted• Underspend on pay budgets
86A6	Grants/Cent Supp/Consultation	£69,350	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pay and grants budgets are expected to overspend• New Homes Bonus funding an element of the grants overspend.
83B1	Financial Services	(£39,820)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Underspend on pay budgets
83B3	Human Resources	(£50,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Underspend on pay budgets
86B4	Legal Services	(£36,240)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Underspend on pay budgets
86B5	Corporate Support	(£94,620)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Underspend on utilities and pay budgets• The asset improvement and maintenance budget is expected to underspend• Additional rental income anticipated in respect of Civic Centre
83B8	Procurement	£34,320	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Additional agency costs

9. How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan?

Resources budgets contribute to 3 key purposes, as set out in the Corporate Plan; maintain the assets of our city, well run Council and customer access to help me with my housing and financial problem.

10. What risks are there and how can they be reduced?

An action plan addressing the key areas of budgetary risks within Resources will be included if and when they arise.

11. What is the impact of the decision on equality and diversity; health and wellbeing; safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults, community safety and the environment?

No impact

12. Are there any other options?

No

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Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1972 (as amended)

Background papers used in compiling this report:

None

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