

Monitoring Budget Reductions - 2023/24 Quarter 4 Update

Appendix 5

Service	Description/Proposal	2023/24 Budget Reduction/ (increase)	Actual	Variance (shortfall)	Comment
PA Team	Remove 2 vacant posts / merge with LM su	£43,210	£43,210	£0	Post removed therefore saving achieved
Guildhall Chambers	Reduce Mace Sergeants (reduction 60%)	£17,730	£2,416	(£15,314)	Supplementary budget requested so saving not achieved
Green Accord	Green Accord - additional income	£3,000	£0	(£3,000)	Budget has been increased, scheme being relaunched in Quarter 4
Net Zero & Business Admin	Removal of small budgets	£1,400	£1,310	(£90)	No forecast spend
Business Projects	Removal of skills function and budgets - replaced by management of UKSPF project for 3 years. Building Greater Exeter - funded from UKSPF (2 years)	£83,740	£83,740	£0	Savings achieved
Commercialisation	Removal of temporary post	£54,700	£54,700	£0	Post removed therefore saving achieved
Highways	Removal of budget paying DCC for improved maintenance	£34,550	£49,440	£14,890	Renegotiated DCC contract
Arts & Events	Removal of part of budget to fund other NPO organisations	£100,000	£90,000	(£10,000)	£10k supplementary added in quarter 1
Exeter Corn Exchange	Design events programme to break even	£35,660	£35,660	£0	Saving to be achieved
Communications & Marketing Tourism	Marketing income budget	£369,670	£268,571	(£101,099)	No longer saving from post deletion and reduction in marketing activity for Exeter City Living Ltd
SUB TOTAL DISCRETIONARY SERVICE REDUCTIONS		£743,660	£629,047	(£114,613)	
Public and Green Spaces	Engineering pay capitalisation	£36,750	£36,750	£0	Capitalisation of Senior Capital Delivery Officer
Corporate Property	Assets restructure	£65,500	£83,300	£17,800	The Assets team restructure is still on-going and is unlikely to be in place by the end of the calendar year. As well as £65.5k saving there has been an additional saving in salaries due to vacant posts

Revenues, Benefits and Customer Access	Move HB Overpayment Collection back to Benefits. Restructure; Delete 3 vacant posts, regrade 1 post, create 2 x technical posts	£27,310	£27,310	£0	Budget removed and saving achieved
Corporate Property	Estates reduced admin support	£11,550	£11,550	£0	Balance removed; saving achieved
Executive Support	Terminate subscription for Exeter Data Mill and reduce public transport budget	£10,250	£10,250	£0	Subscription not renewed therefore saving achieved
Public & Green Spaces	Technical support reduction; reduce one vacant post. Facilities; 85% reduction travellers and camper costs, aboriculture sub-contractor cost reductions, 8% reduction in sub-contractor costs based on spend analysis	£55,760	£54,132	(£1,628)	Post removed from establishment structure
Democratic & Civic Support	Smooth Elections budget to reflect variable cost over 4 years	£48,750	£48,750	£0	Outturn budget variances to be managed via movements to/from reserves as budgets smoothed over MTFP
Democratic & Civic Support	Stop undertaking empty property canvass	£2,800	£2,800	£0	Currently forecast to stay within remaining budget
Democratic & Civic Support	Recharges to self-financing services to cover meetings; Taxi Forum and Council Housing Advisory Board	£3,750	£3,750	£0	Recharge made
Democratic & Civic Support	Remove vending machines in the Civic Centre	£2,600	£2,600	£0	Currently, savings forecast to be met. However, pending the outcome of contract payments/negotiations
Revenues, Benefits and Customer Access	1 x post accepted voluntary redundancy	£13,300	£13,300	£0	Budget removed and saving achieved
Exchequer and Accountancy	Minor budget reductions (stationery, public transport, seminar costs)	£2,250	£2,250	£0	Saving achieved in these budget headings
Exchequer and Accountancy	Financial support service costs to be met from Guildhall Shopping Centre surplus that would otherwise be for capital purposes	£27,550	£27,550	£0	Recharged to the Guildhall Shopping Centre, achieved

Exchequer and Accountancy	Reinstate 0.60 FTE Finance Technician (deleted in 2022/23 budget cycle)	(£19,596)	(£12,100)	£7,496	Post occupied from 16/08/2023 therefore £7.5k savings against budget (this includes pay award)
Corporate Property	Estates additional fees; EBC and ECQT	£8,000	£8,000	£0	Included in annual charge; saving achieved
Corporate Property	New rental income stream from acquisition of 83 Fore Street	£45,500	£45,500	£0	No adverse forecast to budget; saving achieved
Housing Needs and Homelessness	Reduction in Housing Options budgets, including Sanctuary scheme and storage and removals	£3,000	£3,000	£0	Budget removed and saving achieved
Housing Needs and Homelessness	Reduction in Housing Options budgets, including Sanctuary scheme and storage and removals	£2,500	£2,500	£0	Budget removed and saving achieved
Housing Needs and Homelessness	Reduction in Temporary Accommodation budgets, various budget headings relating to Glencoe, Haven, Queens Rd:	£23,500	£23,500	£0	Budget removed and saving achieved
City Development	Delete vacant post	£35,460	£35,460	£0	Budget removed and saving achieved
City Development	Delete part-time post	£15,290	£15,290	£0	Budget removed and saving achieved
City Development	Create Enforcement Officer post	(£54,290)	(£54,290)	£0	Budget created
City Development	Utilise Planning uplift income, through reduction in budget for miscellaneous expenditure to meet cost of Enforcement Officer post	£39,000	£39,000	£0	Budget removed and saving achieved
City Development	Reduction on other expenses budget	£21,130	£21,130	£0	Budget removed and saving achieved
City Development	Increase Service Lead salary allocation to Land Charges from 10% to 25%	£12,290	£12,290	£0	Salary allocations updated and saving achieved
City Development	Minor budget reductions	£8,490	£8,490	£0	Budgets removed and saving achieved
Legal	Remove 2 vacant posts	£32,800	£32,800	£0	Budgets removed and saving achieved
Legal	Change in Property Lawyer role (increase hour)	(£7,400)	(£7,400)	£0	Hours increased for new PL role; recruited into
Legal	Change in Litigation Lawyer role (increase hours)	(£7,400)	(£7,400)	£0	Hours increased for new LL; recruited into
Legal	Minor budget reductions (car mileage, mobile phones and Hays DX)	£3,094	£2,973	(£121)	Small level of spend

Recycling & Fleet	Not procuring 3 food waste vehicles following rationalisation of rounds - saving in fleet hire costs (C050 54006), leaving 5 vehicles	£90,000	£90,000	£0	Budget reduction effected, likely to underspend remaining budget
Recycling & Fleet	Revenue saving from capitalising of lease costs (maintenance and interest charges) from 3 existing food waste vehicle	£20,490	£20,490	£0	Capitalisation of costs expected to proceed
Environmental Health and Community Safety	Noise recharge to HRA for assistance with cases/contribution to equipment maintenance	£2,500	£2,500	£0	Recharges processed
Environmental Health and Community Safety	Deletion of vacant post	£26,690	£26,690	£0	Post removed from structure
Environmental Health and Community Safety	Re designation of Technician role	£7,010	£7,010	£0	Saving achieved
Environmental Health and Community Safety	Salary realignment following changes in duties of staff to licence related income work	£20,000	£20,000	£0	Significant churn of staff has occurred - some agency cover has been necessary which has dampened down savings, but this target has been achieved
Public and Green Spaces	Play area sub-contractor budget reductions, removal of 35% of sub-contractor budget will result in play offering minimal remedial maintenance only. Site development and equipment replacement costs will be capital or S106 dependent	£34,000	£34,000	£0	Service lived within restricted means, underspending reduced budget and not touching one-off funding allocation rolled forward from 22/23. Better use of capital project / s106 money where available
Public and Green Spaces	Street cleansing redesign	£101,850	£101,850	£0	Saving achieved and good progress on achieving savings against second half of this savings programme, as profiled over more than one financial year
Public and Green Spaces	Reduce grass maintenance provision, reduction of 2 vacant posts	£48,900	£48,900	£0	Posts removed
Housing Needs and Homelessness	0.30 FTE Housing Casework officer vacancy to be funded by Homeless Prevention Grant (50% of 0.60 FTE).	£12,850	£12,850	£0	Budget removed and saving achieved

Markets & Halls and Visitor Facilities	Additional income at Matford Centre	£8,500	£8,500	£0	Saving to be achieved
Legal	Reduce agency from £66k to £61k budget used to perform work for recharging to third parties (ECL), whilst maintaining income at £87k	£5,000	£5,000	£0	No forecast overspend on agency staff. However, forecast income for recharges to third parties has been significantly reduced due to reduction in work from ECL
Environmental Health and Community Safety	Energy Company Obligation (ECO) income from declarations	£15,000	£1,900	(£13,100)	Income very slow to start coming in on this - only 5 referrals YTD, 3 of which were actually in March. Target is 150
Net Zero and Business	Reduce discount from 75% to 60% for standard price season tickets	£137,340	£68,444	(£68,896)	Lower demand for season tickets due to an increase in individuals working from home
Net Zero and Business	Cease discounted season parking business permit	£71,270	£0	(£71,270)	Delayed full implementation, but reducing discount on a phased basis
Net Zero and Business	Review the use of events being held in car parks, currently provided FOC and no policy	£5,000	£0	(£5,000)	Delayed implementation
Net Zero and Business	Charge for the electricity used by EV in public car parks at 30p pkwh	£28,180	£22,987	(£5,193)	Reflects commencement of billing in mid May
	SUB TOTAL SERVICE REVIEW REDUCTIONS	£1,104,068	£964,156	(£139,912)	
Car Park income	Rezoning car parks, evening and night time parking charge	£872,080	£480,836	(£391,244)	Car park income lower than budget. Contributing factors include a reduction in commuter parking and competition arising from reduced bus fares. Partially improved by extending hours.
Car Park income	Budget to improve car parks	(£72,080)	(£23,580)	£48,500	Budget not fully spent
Management Team Reductions	Initial reductions in the top levels of management within the Council	£268,997	£256,600	(£12,397)	One senior manager remained in post until May
Management Team Reductions	Maintain budget for support with elections	(£20,000)	£0	£20,000	Budget not used in 2023/24
Active & Healthy Staff Costs	Sport England to fund Programme Lead post (3 years)	£82,600	£82,600	£0	Budget removed and saving is achievable
RAMM	RAMM - Delete Vacant post	£13,480	£13,480	£0	Post deleted therefore savings achieved

Strata Data	Strata Data Centre Costs, charge EDDC & TDC for proportion of energy costs	£56,688	£38,241	(£18,447)	Utilities recharge lower than budget
	OTHER PROPOSALS	£1,201,765	£848,177	(£353,588)	
	TOTAL	£3,049,493	£2,441,380	(£608,113)	