

APPENDIX A1 – DIRECTORATE COMMENTARY

Social Care, Health and Housing

1. The directorate General Fund projected outturn position at September 2015 is an overspend of £1.0M after the use of reserves.

Month: September 2015	Year to date				Year				
Director	Budget	Actual	Use of Reserves	Variance	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance	Proposed use of Earmarked reserves	Forecast Variance after use of earmarked reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Social Care Health and Housing									
Director of Social Care, Health, Housing	98	218	(82)	38	197	466	269	(238)	31
Housing Solutions (GF)	599	858	(119)	140	1,198	1,476	278	(269)	9
Care and Support	5,627	6,107	(38)	442	11,253	11,926	673	(760)	(87)
OPPD – Care Management	14,210	15,586	(125)	1,251	28,472	30,964	2,492	(237)	2,255
LD Care Management & MH Packages	9,721	9,211	-	(510)	19,431	19,834	403	-	403
Head of Integrated Services + Other IS	450	364	-	(86)	898	833	(65)	-	(65)
Commissioning	5,184	5,039	-	(145)	10,367	10,383	16	71	87
Resources	(3,963)	(4,646)	(8)	(691)	(7,926)	(10,054)	(2,128)	451	(1,677)
Total Social Care and Health	31,926	32,737	(372)	439	63,890	65,828	1,938	(982)	956

2. The Adult Social Care service (Care & Support, OPPD, Learning Disabilities/Mental Health and Integrated Services) is showing an overspend of £2.506M after the use of reserves but excluding customer contributions.
3. Within the Older People 65+ package budgets, there are projected overspends on residential and nursing placements of £1.7M offset by additional customer income of £1.2M. There is also an overspend on non-residential packages of care of £1.3M partially offset by additional customer income of £0.5M.
4. Within Learning Disabilities, there is a projected overspend on packages of £0.445M. This is consistent with the forensic analysis of placement and packages. There remain risks relating to the funding of customers being reviewed under the Clinical Treatment Review (Winterbourne View national programme).
5. Residential Homes for Older People are reporting an underspend of £0.23M. The workforce within the homes is subject to a phased assimilation process to bring all care staff onto CBC pay grades and terms and conditions.
6. A Recovery Plan has been agreed to address the current year forecast overspend and specific areas of action and associated financial benefits are included in the forecast and are being closely tracked.
7. Any over or underspends within CBC's current revenue budgets for services positioned within the Better Care Fund are excluded from the forecast as they will now have a direct impact on the pooled fund.
8. The Resources division is showing a projected underspend of £1.7M the majority of which relates to a projected over achievement of customer contributions (partly offsets the overspend in the Adult Social Care service).
9. HRA is subject to a separate report.

Children's Services

10. The full year forecast outturn position for 2015/16 as at September 2015 is an overspend of £1.3M after £1.2M use of reserves.

Month: September 2015	Year to date				Year				
Director	Budget	Actual	Use of Reserves	Variance	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance	Proposed use of Earmarked reserves	Forecast Variance after use of earmarked reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Children's Services									
Director of Children's Services	196	308	(86)	26	392	563	171	(171)	-
Children's Services Operations	11,242	12,159	(148)	769	22,312	23,365	1,053	(305)	748
LAC Placement Costs	4,431	5,045	(211)	403	9,144	10,312	1,168	(414)	754
Commissioning & Partnerships	1,751	1,606	(56)	(201)	3,821	3,745	(76)	(110)	(186)
Joint School Commissioning Service (Transport)	3,325	3,274	-	(51)	7,639	7,648	9	-	9
Partnerships	477	517	(29)	11	593	650	57	(58)	(1)
Education Services	847	984	(118)	19	1,476	1,785	309	(238)	71
Total Children's Services (ex Schools / Overheads)	22,269	23,893	(648)	976	45,377	48,068	2,691	(1,296)	1,395
DSG + ESG Contribution to Central Support	(678)	(678)	-	0	(1,356)	(1,356)	-	-	-
Other School Budgets	-	(95)	39	(56)	-	(189)	(189)	78	(111)
Total Children's Services (excluding Schools)	21,591	23,120	(609)	920	44,021	46,523	2,502	(1,218)	1,284

11. The tables below reflects the increased number of looked after children and non care placements.

	September 2014	September 2015	% inc / (dec)
Number of LAC (excluding UASC) :			
In House Foster Placements	103	113	10%
Independent Foster Placements	94	74	(21%)
Residential Homes & Schools	25	20	(20%)
Semi - Independent Living	22	14	(36%)
Placed for Adoption/ with Parents	23	28	22%
Children with Disabilities (CWD)		7	
Secure & Temporary Accommodation, Young Offenders & NHS	5	3	(40%)
Mother & Baby Units	0	0	
Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children:	10	30	300%
In House Foster Placements	0	5	
Independent Foster Placements	1	10	1000%
Semi Independent Living	9	15	67%
Total Number of LAC:	282	289	2.5%

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	Movement YTD
LAC (April 274)	+15
In House Placements inc. UASC (April 106)	+12
Independent Foster Placements (April 88)	-4
Special Guardianship Orders (April 116)	+13

13. The movement in LAC numbers since August reporting is due to:

	September 2014	September 2015	% inc / (dec)
Non care placements :			
Special Guardianship Orders	102	129	26%
Child Arrangement Orders (Residential Orders)		43	
Adoption Allowances		43	
Other information:			
Child Protection Plan	176	180	2%
Children in Need	1387	1258	(9%)
Number of Referrals (YTD)	1135	1293	14%

14. The pressure attributed to the use of agency staff covering substantive posts across Children Services Operations is demonstrated in the table below.

All Staff	Budgeted FTE	Total FTE	No. of Perm	Vacant	No. of Agency	% of Agency	% change month
Children in Care & Care Leavers	48	50	38	5	7	14%	-8%
Family Support	55.6	57.3	38.3	6.9	12	21%	+4%
Intake & Assessment	59.1	66.1	44.7	3.4	18	27%	-1%
CWD	56.3	60.6	42.3	14.1	4.3	7%	0%
Quality Assurance	21.8	23.6	15.1	1.6	6.9	29%	-2%
Fostering & Adoption	39	42.2	34.7	2	5.5	13%	-8%
Early Intervention and Prevention	72	74	62.8	10.2	1	1%	0%
Total	351.8	373.8	275.8	43.2	54.7	15%	-1%

Social Workers	Budgeted FTE	SW FTE	No. of Perm	Vacant	No. of Agency	% of Agency
Children in Care & Care Leavers	22	22	20	0	2	9%
Family Support	31	32	20.3	2.7	9	28%
Intake & Assessment	14	17	8	0	9	53%
CWD	9.1	9.9	7.8	1.2	0.8	8%
Quality Assurance	0	0	0	0	0	n/a
Fostering & Adoption	14	15.2	14.2		1	6.5%
Early Intervention and Prevention	3	4.1	2.7	1.4	0	n/a
Total	94.3	100.2	73.1	5.3	21.8	22%

15. Of the 54.7 Agency Staff covering vacant posts, maternity and sickness absences 4 (6 in August) are above the establishment and mitigate the Assisted Years Supported Employment (AYSE's) in Children in Care & Care leavers and the Intake & Family Support teams.

16. Children in Care and Care Leavers

The full year forecast for this area is £264k over budget (£246k August reporting) due to:

- £141K Agency staff including one new agency worker for three months covering asylum seeker work.
- £58K Asylum 18+ budgets. There are six (an increase of one since August) all rights exhausted asylum seekers whose accommodation and living expenses cost total on average £838 per week and six asylum seekers costing £1,238 per week. The budgeted expenditure for this area is £48K.
- £38K mainly relates to a one off specific programme for addressing harmful sexual behaviour for one young person for a period of six weeks
- £27K increase in forecast for the Children's & Adolescent Mental Health Service due to confirmation of actual cost for 2015/16.

17. LAC Placement Costs

The full year forecast for the placement costs of the 289 LAC (including 30 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children) is £754K over budget (£474K August reporting) after the use of £404K for the introduction of the foster fee scheme, and £9k use of Corporate redundancy reserve for Maythorn.

The forecast overspend is mainly due to;

- £319k Residential Care Home Payments
- £140K Leaving Care budgets: There are now 27 young people receiving accommodation/supported living packages and costs range from £16 per day to £717 per day.

- £258K Secure Accommodation: there are currently two placements at an average cost of £5,290 per week forecast to remain until 30 November 2015 and 31 January 2016.
- £24K one new Independent Fostering & Adoption placement with high complex needs, unable to place in-house due to needing two full time carers.
- £13K Stewartby Contract, additional support costs to meet high complex needs.

18. Intake & Family Support

The full year forecast for this area is £422K over budget (£510k August) due to the use of Agency staff in the following areas:

- £59K Dunstable and Biggleswade Family Support: the overspend is due to agency costs as more vacancies are covered by agency staff. There are two ASYE's in substantive posts and one locum cover mitigating for four ASYE's. Professional services and taxi costs have risen due to more Public Law Outline and court cases in the team, two stage 2 complaints and pre-court assessments have been allocated to commissioned external social workers for completion
- £344K Intake & Assessment: covering one maternity leave, three Senior Practitioner posts, seven Social Worker vacancies, and a one point five agency staff mitigating for three AYSE's.
- £119K Access and referral Hub: covering two Social Worker posts, one Senior Practitioner, and three Access and Referral Officers.

This is offset by savings in Safeguarding External Providers and discretionary payments.

19. Fostering & Adoption

The full year forecast for this area is £356K (£325K August) over budget due to:

- £103K Residential Orders (now Child Arrangement Orders): costs range from £356 - £936 per month (average £641) forecast to remain at 44 for remainder of the year (June actual).
- £69K Inter-agency adoption: There are five inter-agency placements for 10 children. These costs range from £27K for a single placement and £43K for a sibling group. There are no further costs anticipated this financial year due to the introduction of a new grant to cover costs of all new inter agency placements, criteria to be met.
- £76K Adoption Allowances cost ranges from £363 - £851 per month (average £607) forecast to increase from 40 to 45 by the end of the financial year.
- £35K Agency staff covering vacant Resource Manager post and a social worker on maternity leave.
- £18K Special Guardianship Orders (SGO's) there are now 127 SGO's an increase of 11 since April 2015 and 42 since April 2014. A pressure of £661K was funded in 2015-16 to cover the increase number of SGO's.
- £49K Adoption & Permanence including a one off payment for adoption support, psychological assessment of a child and commissioned prospective adopter assessments.
- £7K due to agency staff covering a team manager post until 31st July, and a Resource and placement team manager not being filled.

20. Early Intervention and Prevention

Following the identification of savings, the full year forecast has been amended to £259K (£233K August) under budget. These savings have been identified to mitigate against the overall directorate overspend as follows:

- £45K Reduction to Counselling Contract
- £45K Reduce Speech and Language Therapy contract by 25%
- £25K Member of staff retiring in August 2015 position not being filled.
- £28K Non recruitment to ASYE post in Early Help Assessments
- £16K Maternity leave of three members of staff not being back filled.
- £45K Family Services Manager and Outreach Development Officer posts to be left vacant
- £29K reduction in available funding for Family Meeting Service and Childcare Panels

Additional savings have been identified in September for:

- £20K reduction for Family Group Meeting Co-ordinators
- £11K reduction for the Domestic Abuse Freedom Programme and associated crèche's.

Offset by increases in printing, stationery, car mileage budgets.

Community Services

21. Community Services' forecast outturn is an underspend of £928K.

Month: September 2015	Year to date				Year				
Director	Budget	Actual	Use of Reserves	Variance	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance	Proposed use of Earmarked reserves	Forecast Variance after use of earmarked reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Community Services									
Community Services Director	198	176	-	(22)	396	396	-	-	-
Highways Transportation	5,760	5,268	(12)	(504)	11,565	11,171	(394)	(12)	(406)
Environmental Services - Waste	9,486	9,484	(233)	(235)	18,592	18,698	106	(541)	(435)
Environmental Services - Other	2,972	3,450	(586)	(108)	6,040	6,375	335	(619)	(284)
Assets	2,133	2,217	-	84	4,266	4,463	197	-	197
Total Community Services	20,549	20,595	(831)	(785)	40,859	41,103	244	(1,172)	(928)

22. Highways and Transport is forecasting an under spend of £406K.

Highways contracts is forecasting an underspend of £102K , mainly due to underspends on busway and other highways maintenance. Transport strategy is forecasting an underspend of £385K, This is mainly due to increased income of £675K for section 38 (adoption of roads from developers), offset by additional costs of passenger transport strategy, parking strategy and bus stop maintenance totalling £270K. There are overspends of £73K within passenger transport on fleet contract hire and agency staff.

23. Environmental Services is forecasting an underspend of £719K.

There is a forecast underspend of £435K in waste. This is due to lower than expected indexation of £212K relating to the waste collection and street cleansing contract, saving from the new HWRC contract of £270K. These are offset by additional costs of £31K due to Code of Practice sampling, reduction in recycle income of £29K and increased tonnage costs of £40K.

There is a forecast underspend of £81K in parking due to increased income.

The remainder is made up of salary savings throughout the division and small non-salary savings .

Regeneration and Business Support

24. Regeneration and Business Support's forecast outturn is to achieve an underspend of £90K. The majority of this is due to salary savings and reduced spend of professional services.

Month: September 2015	Year to date				Year				
Director	Budget	Actual	Use of Reserves	Variance	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance	Proposed use of Earmarked reserves	Forecast Variance after use of earmarked reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Regeneration and Business Support									
Director	232	210	-	(22)	463	421	(42)	-	(42)
Business Support & Skills	228	95	(29)	(162)	935	972	37	(76)	(39)
Planning	1,689	1,384	10	(295)	3,417	3,481	64	(73)	(9)
Programme Delivery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Regeneration and Business Support	2,149	1,689	(19)	(479)	4,815	4,874	59	(149)	(90)

Public Health

25. Public Health's forecast outturn is to achieve a balanced budget after proposed use of reserves. The Public Health grant is currently ringfenced so any under/overspend results in a movement against the carried forward reserve from 2014/15.

Month: September 2015	Year to date				Year				
Director	Budget	Actual	Use of Reserves	Variance	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance	Proposed use of Earmarked reserves	Forecast Variance after use of earmarked reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Public Health									
Director of Public Health	(5,711)	(4,759)	-	952	(11,421)	(11,421)	-	-	-
Assistant Director of Public Health	5,713	4,874	-	(839)	11,425	11,379	(46)	46	-
Total Public Health (Excl overheads)	2	115	-	113	4	(42)	(46)	46	-

Improvement and Corporate Services (ICS)

26. The directorate is currently forecasting an underspend of £239K, this is mainly a result of expected higher than budgeted HRA recharges (income to ICS).

Month: September 2015	Year to date				Year				
Director	Budget	Actual	Use of Reserves	Variance	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance	Proposed use of Earmarked reserves	Forecast Variance after use of earmarked reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Improvement and Corporate Services									
Improvement and Corporate Services Leadership	124	186	(60)	2	248	341	93	(93)	-
Communications and Insight	420	374	-	(46)	840	840	-	-	-
Customer Services	921	968	-	47	1,841	1,785	(56)	-	(56)
Programme and Performance	182	183	-	1	365	371	6	-	6
Policy & strategy	99	97	-	(2)	197	199	2	-	2
Customer & Community Insight	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Procurement	(161)	(158)	-	3	(321)	(326)	(5)	-	(5)
People	1,276	1,194	(19)	(101)	2,551	2,535	(16)	(43)	(59)
Information Technology	3,131	3,353	-	222	6,262	6,475	213	-	213
Legal & Democratic Services	2,025	1,688	(149)	(486)	4,440	4,154	(286)	(54)	(340)
Total Improvement and Corporate Services	8,017	7,885	(228)	(360)	16,423	16,374	(49)	(190)	(239)

Corporate Resources and Costs

27. The full year budget of £16.5M is made up of:

- Corporate Resources £4.7M
- Corporate Costs £11.7M

The forecast outturn is an underspend of £385K.

Month: September 2015	Year to date				Year				
Director	Budget	Actual	Use of Reserves	Variance	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance	Proposed use of Earmarked reserves	Forecast Variance after use of earmarked reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Corporate Resources									
Chief Executive	151	148	-	(3)	302	302	-	-	-
Finance	2,290	2,064	-	(226)	4,994	4,395	(599)	415	(184)
Housing Benefit Subsidy	(273)	(273)	-	-	(547)	(547)	-	-	-
Total Corporate Resources	2,168	1,939	-	(229)	4,749	4,150	(599)	415	(184)
Corporate Costs									
Debt Management	6,568	6,318	-	(250)	13,136	12,636	(500)	-	(500)
Premature Retirement Costs	1,428	1,396	54	22	2,855	2,801	(54)	54	-
Corporate Public Health Recharges	(316)	(302)	-	14	(631)	(631)	-	-	-
Corporate HRA Recharges	(45)	(60)	-	(15)	(90)	(120)	(30)	-	(30)
Efficiencies	71	(59)	-	(130)	(187)	142	329	-	329
Contingency and Reserves*	(3,474)	(4,483)	1,008	(1)	(3,349)	(5,865)	(2,516)	2,516	-
Total Corporate Costs	4,232	2,810	1,062	(360)	11,734	8,963	(2,771)	2,570	(201)
Total Corporate	6,400	4,749	1,062	(589)	16,483	13,113	(3,370)	2,985	(385)

Corporate Resources

29. Within Finance there is an additional £0.14M contribution to overheads from the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) following recent increased levels of support provided to the service.

Corporate Costs

30. Within Debt Management there are lower than budgeted Interest Payable costs expected (£0.5M). This is as a result of no change to short term interest rates and revisions to cash flow forecasts for 2015/16.

31. There is a pressure resulting from the Customer First Phase 2 (CF2) efficiency of £0.329M being forecast as unachievable in year. This is partly due to CF2 not progressing in 2015/16 as a result of system development to meet the Care Act requirements.