Appendix A - DIRECTORATE COMMENTARY

Social Care Health and Housing

- 1. The directorate outturn forecast is under budget by £3.560M (gross) and under budget by £0.822M (net).
- 2. The tables below highlights the areas of spend:

SCHH Full Year Gross Budget and Forecast					
Scheme Categories	Gross Budget	Gross Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Disabled Facilities Grants Scheme	2,380	2,380	0	0	0
Empty Homes	302	200	(102)	110	8
Renewal Assistance	281	281	0	0	0
Additional Gypsy and Traveller Sites	1,575	88	(1,487)	1,525	38
MANOP Care Home Reprovision	2,000	2,000	0	0	0
MANOP Non-HRA Extra Care Schemes	50	50	0	0	0
NHS Campus Closure	638	121	(517)	517	0
Old Peoples Homes-Capital Repairs	0	200	200	0	200
Adult Social Care ICT Projects	280	0	(280)	280	0
BCF capital	0	732	732	0	732
Review of Accommodation/Day Support,	1,906	0	(1,906)	1,706	(200)
"New Approaches to Outcome"					
Total	9,412	6,052	(3,360)	4,138	778

% of Budget 64.3%

SCHH Full Year Net Budget and Forecast					
Scheme Categories	Net Budget	Net Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Disabled Facilities Grants Scheme	1,712	1,712	0	0	0
Empty Homes	292	182	(110)	110	0
Renewal Assistance	181	181	0	0	0
Additional Gypsy and Traveller Sites	675	50	(625)	625	0
MANOP Care Home Reprovision	2,000	2,000	0	0	0
MANOP Non-HRA Extra Care Schemes	50	50	0	0	0
NHS Campus Closure	143	0	(143)	143	0
Old Peoples Homes-Capital Repairs	0	0	0	0	0
Adult Social Care ICT Projects	68	0	(68)	68	0
BCF capital	0	0	0	0	0
Review of Accommodation/Day Support,	(124)	0	124	(124)	0
"New Approaches to Outcome"					
Total	4,997	4,175	(822)	822	0

% of Budget 83.6%

3. **Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG)**

The grants provided to residents through the DFG programme assist some of the poorer and most vulnerable members of the community. Without these grants in many cases the properties involved would be unsuitable for the needs of the occupiers who may then be unable to remain in their own homes. This also reduces pressure on health service resources and residential care, as without these improvements more residents would require emergency or longer term care solutions. In 2015/16 185 DFG cases were completed which resulted in 372 major adaptations.

Q2 2015/16 saw 173 adaptions compared to 191 this year.

Type of adaptation	Total Q2	Total Q2
	15/16	16/17
Level access shower/wet room	56	67
Straight stair lift	12	16
Curved stair lift	13	12
Toilet alterations	24	18
Access ramps	13	14
Dropped kerb and hard standing	2	0
Wheelchair/step lift	1	3
Through floor lift	1	3
Major extension	8	6
Kitchen alterations	2	5
Access alterations (doors etc)	26	25
Heating improvements	0	2
Garage conversions/minor additions	2	3
Safety repairs/improvements	4	5
Other	9	12
Total	173	191

- Expenditure on **Empty Homes** relates to Empty Dwelling Management Orders (EDMOs) and Empty Homes Loans. A number of Empty Homes loans are being considered for long term empty homes. Empty Homes Loan assistance is an alternative for owners of empty homes willing to work with the Council. There are 8 Empty Homes Loan cases at enquiry stage and 10 approved and in progress. There is one major scheme in Dunstable that might provide several units of accommodation.
- 6. Work has completed on one property in Houghton Regis at a cost of £0.048M. Work is in progress on one property in Leighton Buzzard. If the final EDMO is approved the total cost is expected to be tendered at around £0.084M.
- 7. Most **Renewals Assistance** is provided as Loan Assistance. The repayment of Loan Assistance is on change of ownership of the property that has been

improved with such assistance.

For the year to date, repayment is £0.052M allowing the Council to progress some of the cases being held on the waiting list. The net renewals budget of £0.181M includes slippage from 2015/16 of £0.031M. Current forecasts suggest an outturn on budget.

8. **Gypsy & Travellers** - A full planning application for Biggleswade South was determined and approved at the 29 June 2016 Development Management Committee meeting.

The decision was referred to DCLG and final notification of granting of planning permission was received on 20 July 2016. This approval will provide for a new Gypsy and Traveller site at Biggleswade South (12 pitches). This will be part funded by the General Fund and Housing Community Agency financial contributions.

- 9. The proposed scheme is now subject to a judicial review submission, made by a local resident in August. A robust defence is being prepared by the Council's legal team to block the request for a judicial review. If this is unsuccessful there will be high court hearing, which could take up to 6 months to be heard. Given this uncertainty the current forecast assumes that only contract preparation work of circa £0.050M will occur in this financial year, with a net balance of £0.625M to be deferred to 2017/18. However this position will be carefully monitored as the judicial review process progresses.
- 10. The **MANOP** programme includes strategic acquisitions to develop the care home market and facilitate the provision of new modern residential homes for older people. It is also expected that work will commence this year to increase the supply of extra care sites and providers.
- 11. The **NHS Campus Closure programme** has one potential remaining project for Central Bedfordshire. This is subject to the release of capital receipts by the NHS area team. This scheme which will be 100% externally funded.
- 12. The **Adult Social Care ICT** project comprises a number of schemes, the major one being the next phase of development of the Social Care case management system the authority has now entered into a procurement process for an adult social care case management system that will be the right technology solution to better serve CBC needs both now and in the future.
- 13. The **Review of Accommodation/Day Support project** relates to the Older People's Care Homes Re-provision project and any capital equipment and maintenance requirements for the seven older people's home transferred to local authority management in August 2014. The current forecast includes £0.2M relating to the fabric and furniture within the homes, capital enhancements, repairs to extend the useful life of boilers and lifts.
- 14. **Single Capital Pot.** Additional capital grant of £0.732M has been provided in 2016/17 through the DFG route to allow authorities to invest in broader strategic capital projects allied to the Better Care Fund (BCF) plan. Capital Grant for BCF

of £0.482M has also been carried forward from 2015/16. Further work to determine the use of this funding will take place through the BCF Programme Delivery Team. At this point it is expected to be spent in 2016/17.

Children's Services

- 15. The directorate outturn forecast is above budget by £3.080M (gross) and above budget by £3.111M (net).
- 16. The forecast expenditure outturn position for 2016/17 is £24.7M, £3.1M above the budgeted capital programme. The forecast income has reduced to £20M, requiring a net contribution of £4.76M, £3.1M above planned Council contributions for 2016/17. The increased contribution is as a result of the annual review of projects within the New School Places programme.
- 17. All but three projects within Children's Services; New School Places, Schools Access and Temporary Accommodation, are funded wholly by grant receipts that have no expenditure deadline.
- 18. The table below highlights the areas of spend:

Children's Services Full Year Gross Budget and Forecast						
Scheme Categories	Gross Budget	Gross Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend	
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	
New School Places	18,601	18,261	(340)	0	(340)	
Schools Capital Maintenance	2,000	2,268	268	0	268	
Schools Devolved Formula Capital	450	450	0	0	0	
Special Schools Provision	0	2,402	2,402	0	2,402	
Temporary Accomodation	400	400	0	0	0	
Schools Access Initiative	200	200	0	0	0	
LPSA & LAA Grant payout	0	750	750	0	750	
Total	21,651	24,731	3,080	0	3,080	

% of Budget 114.2%

Children's Services Full Year Net Budget and Forecast					
Scheme Categories	Net Budget	Net Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
New School Places	1,054	4,165	3,111	0	3,111
Schools Capital Maintenance	0	0	0	0	0
Schools Devolved Formula Capital	0	0	0	0	0
Special Schools Provision	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary Accomodation	400	400	0	0	0
Schools Access Initiative	200	200	0	0	0
LPSA & LAA Grant payout	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,654	4,765	3,111	0	3,111

% of Budget **288.1**%

19. New School Places (NSP)

This programme provides the capital investment to deliver new school places required by population growth in areas of limited surplus capacity within our schools. The Council's School Organisation Plan is the evidence base that supports the commissioning of these new school places over a rolling five year period. The programme is funded by a combination of sources including Department for Education basic need grant, developer contributions and Council borrowings and capital receipts.

- 20. The rolling five year programme is dynamic with perpetual changes in forecasts of income and expenditure across financial years including those arising from variances in S106 totals and trigger points and in the timing and therefore cost profile of many projects.
- 21. In February 2016 the Council approved the programme for 2016/17 to 2019/20 with gross expenditure of:
 - £18.2M (£0.7M net) in 2016/17
 - £25M (net nil) in 2017/18
 - £17.2M (net nil) in 2018/19
 - £15M (£3.4M net) in 2019/20.
- 22. The 2016/17 NSP programme includes expenditure on 20 separate capital projects, most of which span more than a single financial year.
- 23. These projects include the provision of 1,695 new lower school places, 720 new middle school places and 1,000 new upper school places as expansions to existing schools or new school sites. These places have been commissioned to serve the communities of Leighton Linslade, Fairfield, Stotfold, Arlesey, Ampthill, Flitwick, Marston, Cranfield, Biggleswade, Barton and Silsoe.
- 24. All of the Council's New School Places are commissioned from Ofsted Good and Outstanding schools and academies. All of these new places have been provided local to the area of demographic demand, ensuring a sense of community belonging, supporting community use and promoting sustainable modes of transport. The addition of these new places as expansions to existing schools ensures their financial and therefore educational viability. All have been briefed and designed by Council officers and school leaders to provide teaching and non teaching school facilities that are recommended by DfE guidance and complement good and outstanding teaching.
- 25. The forecasts of income and expenditure across 2016/17 to 2019/20 that were provided to inform the MTFP were taken from a snapshot of the programme's cashflow as at October 2015 that actually indicated gross expenditure of:
 - £20.2M (£2.7M net) in 2016/17
 - £25M (net nil) in 2017/18

- £19M (£1.9M net) in 2018/19
- £17.1M (£5.5M net) in 2019/20.
- 26. S106 has contributed significantly to the programme as one source of income in the past. However, S106 income will fall short of the MTFP target by £1.1M. This is due to a combination of factors that include the removal of contributions below £0.010M due to changes in the CIL regulations, the removal of a number of planning permissions that have now expired and most significantly a number of large developments that have been delayed, or have disputes over S106 contributions. Given the volatility in forecasts of S106 income the School Organisation Team will now meet each quarter with the Regeneration team and the outcome of these reviews and the impact on established forecasts within the MTFP will be reported through this capital monitoring report.
- 27. The revised forecast for the NSP programme for 2016/17 is gross expenditure of:
 - £18.3M (£4.2M net) in 2016/17
 - £10.0M (net nil) in 2017/18
 - £12.6M (net nil) 2018/19
 - £37.5M (£15.2M net) in 2019/20.
- 28. A key point to note is that in 2017/18 the programme will be holding an in year unallocated balance of £15.7M and in 2018/19 it will be £13.9M. This could be utilised to offset the Council's borrowing requirements in those years.

Also, the DfE will not announce its allocation of Basic Need for 2019/20 until February 2017 at the earliest so the forecast net contribution in that year could be revised significantly.

Schools Capital Maintenance

- 29. This rolling programme is externally funded by DfE grant but does require schools to contribute to the cost of works, as set out in a formula contained within the Central Bedfordshire Council's Scheme for Financing Schools. These contributions are invoiced once planned works are complete. The initial indications are that income from schools contributions will be circa £0.180M in 2016/17.
- 30. In February 2016 the DfE announced the 2016/17 allocation of school condition funding to the Council for strategic capital maintenance of its school buildings. The allocation for 2016/17 is £1.994M. In addition to the grant, £0.268M unallocated funds from 2015/16 are to be utilised, making a total confirmed budget of £2.27M for the 2016/17 Schools Capital Maintenance Programme.
- 31. The schools capital maintenance programme for 2016/17 is funding projects including kitchen ventilation and gas safety improvements; roof repairs, boiler

and heating replacement; emergency lighting, fire alarms, window replacements and renewal of electrical distribution boards. The 2016/17 Programme is also funding identified works at Leighton Middle School in collaboration with the new schools places programme.

32. The results of the Councils schools condition surveys in 2015 and the multi year indicative allocation of the DfE grant have enabled a three year programme of works to be developed, improving the ability to prioritise and communicate those priorities to schools for their own asset management planning.

To date, seven projects are complete and the remaining projects have progressed as programmed, with anticipated completion dates for the end of October. One project has been postponed as a result of a feasibility study. Replacement projects have been identified, approved and programmed for completion by February 2017.

33. SEND Capital Programme (Special Schools Provision)

The Council's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Capital Programme has been approved by Executive.

In 2016/17 this will be funding projects at Toddington St Georges Lower School and Parkfields Middle School to provide new spaces for children with hearing impairments. It is also funding the expansion of Oak Bank special school in Leighton Buzzard and also providing a new Autistic Spectrum Condition provision at Ardley Hill Academy in Dunstable.

34. The Secretary of State approved the application to capitalise the final underspend in the 2015/16 High Needs block of £0.784M in order to provide funding to expand the Academy of Central Bedfordshire on its Stotfold site and Ivel Valley Special School's primary phase, on its secondary site in Biggleswade. The forecast spend for 2016/17 is £2.4M.

Community Services

35. The directorate outturn forecast is below budget by £15.140M (gross) and below budget by £1.899M (net).

The table below highlights the areas of spend.

Community Services Full Year Gross Budget and Forecast					
Scheme Categories	Gross Budget	Gross Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Assets	18,285	18,285	0	0	0
Environmental Services	18,109	11,365	(6,744)	4,777	(1,967)
Libraries	0	0	0	0	0
Leisure	1,781	1,856	75	92	167
Transport	52,697	44,226	(8,471)	11,202	2,731
Total	90,872	75,732	(15,140)	16,071	931

% of Budget 83.3%

Community Services Full Year Ne	t Budget and Forecast				
Scheme Categories	Net Budget	Net Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Assets	17,362	17,362	0	0	0
Environmental Services	16,140	10,112	(6,028)	4,010	(2,018)
Libraries	0	0	0	0	0
Leisure	(1,290)	1,236	2,526	(2,526)	0
Transport	28,377	29,980	1,603	4,798	6,401
Total	60,589	58,690	(1,899)	6,282	4,383

% of Budget 96.9%

Assets

- 36. The major projects are;
 - 2016/17 Corporate Property Rolling Programme (£2.135M)
 - Thorn Turn Infrastructure (£2.000M)
 - Stratton Park Phase 5 Infrastructure (£3.012M)
 - Enhancement work for disposals (£0.972M)
 - Strategic Acquisitions (£0.200M)
 - Energy Efficiencies (£0.300M)
 - Farm Compliance (£0.302M)
 - Westbury Phase 2 Industrial Units (0.175M)
- 37. The full year forecast outturn is to come in on budget.

Environmental Services

- 38. Environmental Services are forecasting a £6.028M variance under net budget. This is due to spend below budget £2.018M and proposed slippage of £4.010M.
- Thorn Turn Waste park is forecasting a variance below budget of £5.706M of this £3.725M is being slipped into 2017/18 which is due to delays in the scheme going forward, the remaining £1.981M is an underspend which is being used to offset an overspend on HWRC and the South Depot within Transport.
- 40. CCTV if forecasting a variance of £0.185M of which £0.137M is being slipped as the project is not expected to start this year, the remainder is being utilised to offset the forecast overspend on Parking Equipment in Transport.
- 41. The HWRC is forecasting an overspend of £0.110M which is being offset by the underspend against Thorn Turn Waste Park.

Major Achievements - Environmental Services (updated quarterly)

42. Sundon Landfill Restoration – Haul Road removal completed with land surrendered to land owner. Final trimming of levels and creation of footpaths

- and tracks completed. Landscaping works are ongoing.
- 43. Waste & Recycling Containers, provision of replacement Bins & Containers 6608 bins (both domestic and public realm) and caddies of various sizes have been replaced.
- 44. Thorn Turn Waste Park. Earthworks complete. Statutory undertakers engaged and the supply of utilities underway. Many of the sites features are now clearly visible. Groundworks phase now started.
- 45. HWRC Redevelopment The Ampthill site has been completed and is now open and alterations were made to Biggleswade site to remove the kerb on the customer deck and install bollards for pedestrian protection. The pre-loading exercise at Leighton Buzzard is complete and construction has started.
- 46. Houghton Hall Park Landscape restoration works have progressed well with the construction of the kitchen garden walls and raised beds now complete. The formal garden path layout is in place and planting has commenced in the kitchen garden area. The accessible paths around the park are now all in place and are being well used. All of the landscape works have been undertaken to a very high standard. Approval was received from the Heritage Lottery Fund at the end of September for the construction of the new visitor centre so this contract has now been awarded and works will commence on site shortly.
- 47. Outdoor Access & Greenspaces Improvements. Works at Southern Meadows (installation of connecting footpath and replacement bridge) are being value engineered to reduce costs. This may have an impact on delivery timelines.
- 48. Countryside Sites Health & Safety Tree safety and fence works have begun now the bird nesting season has ended. Safety Surface works have been completed at Marston Thrift.

Leisure

49. Leisure is forecasting a £2.526M variance over budget, this is due to the external funding of 3.037M for the old Flitwick leisure centre now not expected until the next financial year and £0.511M of slippage against Dunstable leisure centre due to reprofiling of the project as construction is not expected to start until summer 2017.

Major Achievements – Leisure (updated quarterly)

- 50. Library & Leisure Centre Renewal Dunstable the design is ongoing and a Building contractor has been appointed. The tender is being planned.
- 51. Leisure Strategy Implementation the Shefford play area equipment was replaced following arson attack. Supply and fit a hammer/throwing cage for Sandy Athletics Track.

Transport

52. Transport is forecasting a £1.603M net variance over budget. This is due to an overspend of £6.401M and £4.798M of net expenditure being slipped to the

next financial year.

- Woodside Link are forecasting £2.826M over budget which relates to an in year overspend which we will be seeking formal approval to bring forward budget from 2017/18.
- Luton and Dunstable Busway is forecasting slippage of £3.695M into 2017/18. A board meeting is due in February 2017 which is when final figures for the project should be known.
- South depot is forecasting a £1.871M overspend this is being funded by the underspend within Environmental Services on the Thorn Turn Waste Park project.
- North Depot is forecasting to slip £3.673M as the bulk of the work is not expected to start until the next financial year.
- Stratton Street Railway Bridge is forecasting a £0.836M overspend which was covered in a report to Executive in October.
- Parking Equipment if forecasting a £0.147M overspend which is offset by underspends within Environmental Services.
- Leighton Buzzard Interchange is forecasting an underspend of £0.151M
- Biggleswade Transport Interchange is forecasting slippage of £0.236M into 2017/18

Major Achievements – Transport (updated quarterly)

- 53. Woodside Link Earthworks are substantially completed, surfacing operations are ongoing and street lights are being erected. The roundabouts at Sundon Road and Porz Avenue are both partially open. The scheme is on track for a completion prior to Christmas.
- 54. Stratton Street Railway Bridge The bridge deck has been replaced and the bridge is open to traffic. Temporary barriers remain in place as the final work required on the parapets has yet to be completed.
- 55. Structural Maintenance 37 carriageway resurfacing schemes have been completed covering 36.74 kms and 7 footway resurfacing schemes completed covering 1.97 kms.
- 56. Southern Highways Depot (Thorn Turn) During financial year 2016/17 funds have enabled the continuation of the Earthworks phase and the ongoing discharge of planning conditions. There has also been significant testing on the fill material to ensure suitability for build. Land drains have been created to divert surface and ground water away from the site and into adjacent water courses. Capping layer now installed. Earthworks complete. Statutory undertakers engaged and the supply of utilities underway. Many of the sites features are now clearly visible. To date, £9K has been spent on staff costs.

This includes time spent by the Quantity Surveyor in achieving a satisfactory contract price and terms. The contract has now been sealed by CBC, allowing subcontractors to be procured. Groundworks phase now started.

- 57. Northern Highways Depot (Sandy) Concept Feasibility Addedum 4c Design Approved by Board. Pre Construction Service Agreement for a Design and Build Solution of Depot issued circa £174K to Morgan Sindell. Depot Layout Value Engineering brought back "in house" optimism efficiency to deliver project within Detailed Business Case. Salt storage capacity agreed at 3500 Tonnes. Budget set aside circa £650K for Highways Team to deliver Access Road via direct management of Ringway jacobs. Project Reprofiled in SAP to reflect agreed movement in completion date.
- 58. M1 to A6 Link Road A decision is awaited on funding for the M1-A6 Relief Road from the Local Growth Fund round 3 (LGF3). Ministers are expected to make an announcement for this in the Autumn statement on the 23 November 2016.
- 59. A421 Funding: The Department for Transport (DfT) have agreed to pay £1M (2016/17) front funded development costs. Work on the Transport Business Case, to release the remaining £21.5M from DfT, is ongoing with our consultants in dialogue with DfT to get the model accepted and economic case approved.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed by CBC/Milton Keynes Council (MKC) to provide £3M each towards the total project cost estimated currently £29.134M

Land: negotiations are progressing with landowners, via an external agent acting on CBC's behalf, to secure land required for the project, a twin track approach via Compulsory Purchase Orders is currently under consideration. MKC are negotiating with land owners within MKC,

60. Fleet Replacement Programme – We have purchased two diggers for Environmental services and the tenders are out for vehicles for Community Safety, Fleet Services and Libraries.

Regeneration & Business Support

- 61. The directorate outturn forecast is under budget by £2.132M (gross) and under budget by £1.679M (net).
- 62. The table below highlights the areas of spend:

Regeneration & Business Support Full Year Gross Budget and Forecast						
Scheme Categories	Gross Budget	Gross Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend	
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	
Broadband	1,946	1,422	(524)	(524)	0	
Market Towns Programme	1,068	1,100	32	(32)	0	
Land Drainage Work Flood Defence (includes Non-Highways)	140	140	0	0	0	
Development Site Promotion (Strategic Infrastructure Investment)	140	0	(140)	0	(140)	
Dunstable highway De-Trunking and Redevelopment	250	100	(150)	150	0	
Digitising Aerial Photographs	123	123	0	0	0	
Flitwick transport Interchange	300	0	(300)	300	0	
Flitwick Station Area Car Park Development (includes Flitwick Land Purchase Further Land Assembly for the	1,131	81	(1,050)	1,050	0	
Town Centre Regeneration Scheme)	400	100	0	0	0	
Cranfield Technology Park Acceleration Dunstable Town Centre Regeneration Phase 2	100 449	100 449	0	0	0	
Rolling Social & Community Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	
Historic Building Grant Aid Scheme	8	8	0	0	0	
Total	5,655	3,523	(2,132)	944	(140)	

% of Budget 62.3%

Regeneration & Business Support Full Year Net Budget and Forecast							
Scheme Categories	Net Budget	Net Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend		
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k		
Broadband	237	(51)	(288)	288	0		
Market Towns Programme	1,068	1,068	0	0	0		
Land Drainage Work Flood Defence	120	120	0	0	0		
(includes Non-Highways)							
Development Site Promotion (Strategic	140	0	(140)	0	(140)		
Infrastructure Investment)							
Dunstable highway De-Trunking and	0	0	0	0	0		
Redevelopment							
Digitising Aerial Photographs	123	123	0	0	0		
Flitwick transport Interchange	200	0	(200)	200	0		
Flitwick Station Area Car Park	1,131	81	(1,050)	1,050	0		
Development (includes Flitwick Land							
Purchase Further Land Assembly for the							
Town Centre Regeneration Scheme)							
Cranfield Technology Park Acceleration	0	0	0	0	0		
Dunstable Town Centre Regeneration	449	449	0	0	0		
Phase 2							
Rolling Social & Community Infrastructure	1	0	(1)	0	(1)		
Fund			()				
Historic Building Grant Aid Scheme	8	8	0	0	0		
Total	3,477	1,798	(1,679)	1,538	(141)		

% of Budget 51.7%

63. The net underspend relates mainly to the Flitwick station area car park £1.05M where options for delivering a commercial and residential scheme are currently being developed; the Flitwick transport interchange £0.200M which is being developed alongside the Station Area Car Park and the current broadband scheme of £0.288M.

Major Achievements (updated Quarterly)

- 64. Dunstable Town Centre Regeneration Phase 2 The final Dorchester Close property was acquired on 22nd June 2016 and the complete Dorchester Close land and premises is now in the control of CBC.
- 65. Cranfield Technology Park Acceleration Negotiations to acquire two pieces of land in Cranfield to enable highway improvements to be carried out are progressing well with one site agreed and with Legal Services.
- 66. Broadband The second BDUK project has now commenced. This will support 8,247 premises in Central Bedfordshire to receive superfast services, taking us to 96.5% superfast coverage by 2018/19. As part of this, four new cabinets have been upgraded enabling 427 premises to receive superfast broadband services.

When combined with the BDUK 1 projects this now means 16,672 premises have been supported by the Council.

When considering the wider Central Superfast second project (covering Luton Milton Keynes and Bedford a total 13 cabinets have been enabled supporting with 1015 premises.

A national pilot testing new forms of delivery of Fibre to the Premise (offering speeds over 300 Megabits per second) has been completed in Campton and Meppershall, connecting over 200 premises.

67. Market Towns Regeneration Fund – A total of 7 bids from Ampthill, Dunstable, Flitwick, Leighton Linslade, Sandy and Shefford Town Council are progressing in the MTRF programme.

Houghton Regis declined to continue in August. Business Cases are in the final stages of sign off, and then the Grant Agreements for each of the town councils will be signed and returned.

These agreements will include an updated schedule for delivery/financial milestones, and a Measuring Success schedule to monitor impact. The town councils have started to get quotes and advice for their deliverables, including initial Highways conversations for Sandy, Flitwick, Shefford, and also Potton with our Planning Team for their new car park.

68. High Street Improvement Scheme – With the exception of Arlesey and Houghton Regis, all Town Councils confirmed they will be participating by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU lays out their roles in the process and the terms of engagement. The first round for businesses to apply for the fund (via an Expression of Interest form) was 1st September 2016. A local panel for each town met, and the applicants scoring above 75%

in this process have been invited to submit a full application for funding.

The first round attracted 24 Expression of Interest forms, with 15 businesses moving on to the next stage of full application.

There will be two further dates for applying on the 1st November 2016 (round two) and 1st February 2017 (round three).

Improvement & Corporate Services

69. The gross and net budget for ICS is £5.011M. The forecast outturn position is on budget.

The table below highlights the areas of spend:

Improvement & Corporate Services Full	Year Gross Bud	get and Forec	ast		
Scheme Categories	Gross/Net Budget	Gross/Net Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Information Assets	4,523	4,523	0	0	0
Other	488	488	0	0	0
Total	5,011	5,011	0	0	0

% of Budget 100.0%

(Note gross and Net are the same as all internally funded)

- 70. The budget includes £3.5M of funding for new 2016/17 schemes and deferred expenditure of £1.511M from previous years. There is £4.523M of budget allocated to Information Technology (IT) projects.
- 71. There are three major projects which are Digitisation (£2.0M), ICT Strategic Investment (£1.695M) & IT Infrastructure Rolling Programme (£0.828M). All are forecasting to achieve budget.
- 72. The Working Smarter project is forecast to achieve budget.