

Appendix A – Detailed Directorate Commentary

Social Care Health and Housing

1. The directorate outturn forecast is under gross budget by £5.4M and under net budget by £2.9M.
2. The tables below highlight 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	2,453	1,770	(683)	300	(383)
Empty Homes	210	233	23	0	23
Renewal Assistance	386	215	(171)	106	(65)
Additional Gypsy and Traveller Sites	1,770	583	(1,187)	1,187	0
MANOP Care Home Reprovision	1,026	770	(256)	256	0
MANOP Non-HRA Extra Care Schemes	2,550	1,913	(637)	637	0
NHS Campus Closure	517	0	(517)	517	0
Adult Social Care ICT Projects	280	50	(230)	230	0
Review of Accommodation/Day Support, "New Approaches to Outcome"	1,906	100	(1,806)	1,806	0
Better Care Fund Capital Grant	0	100	100	0	100
Total	11,098	5,734	(5,364)	5,039	(325)
% of Budget					51.7%

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	1,785	943	(842)	300	(542)
Empty Homes	200	200	0	0	0
Renewal Assistance	286	180	(106)	106	0
Additional Gypsy and Traveller Sites	870	(92)	(962)	962	0
MANOP Care Home Reprovision	1,026	770	(256)	256	0
MANOP Non-HRA Extra Care Schemes	2,550	1,913	(637)	637	0
NHS Campus Closure	143	0	(143)	143	0
Adult Social Care ICT Projects	68	0	(68)	68	0
Social Care Single Capital Pot	0	0	0	0	0
Review of Accommodation/Day Support, "New Approaches to Outcome"	(124)	0	124	(124)	0
Better Care Fund Capital Grant	0	0	0	0	0
Total	6,804	3,914	(2,890)	2,348	(542)
% of Budget					57.5%

Housing General Fund (GF)

3. The grants provided to residents through the **Disabled Facility Grant** 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.
4. Information on the types of Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) and the number completed are reported on a quarterly basis. The table below provides details for quarter 3, 2017/18, compared to the same period last year. There was a decrease in the number of adaptations completed.

Type of adaptation	Total Q3 16/17	Total Q3 17/18
Level access shower/wet room	115	52
Straight stair lift	29	12
Curved stair lift	28	14
Toilet alterations	48	24
Access ramps	27	17
Dropped kerb and hard standing	7	1
Wheelchair/step lift	3	1
Through floor lift	2	4
Major extension	12	6
Kitchen alterations	11	3
Access alterations (doors etc)	54	29
Heating improvements	3	5
Garage conversions/minor additions	5	8
Safety repairs/improvements	5	2
Other	23	26
Total	372	204

5. There have been 197 referrals to Housing in the year to date, an average of 22 per month, compared with 235 referrals at an average of 26 per month for the same period in 2016/17. As a result £1.205M of grant payments has been made to date. If this rate continues for the rest of the year this would result in a total of 263 referrals.

OT Referrals at December 2017									
Previous years									
2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17		
367	606	508	533	437	343	329	305		
Current Year 2017/18									
Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
27	22	16	27	16	25	21	24	19	
Referrals YTD		197							
Referrals FYF		263							
Referrals Average		22							

6. Requests for OT Assessments provide a further indication of demand. In the year to date there have been 560 referral requests (404 to December in 2016/17). At the end of December the waiting list was maintained at 227, the same level as at the end of November. The extent to which these convert into DFG referrals will be closely monitored.
7. Having regard to all matters considered above, gross expenditure is forecast to outturn at £1.77M, an underspend of £0.38M and a proposed deferral of £0.3M spend. This is a result of many complex cases that require additional discussions with OT colleagues. There are additional requirements for Officers to complete, including Asbestos reports for each case and CDM Risk Assessments, which require client consent. The value of “out to estimate” works has reduced by nearly £0.1M, due to some cases cancelled by customers. There is also a downward trend in demand for DFG’s since 2012/13, potentially due to the more robust approach taken by Occupational Therapists in recent years.
8. Income is mainly from the Better Care Fund (BCF) and is forecast to outturn at £0.83M. In the current year, BCF funding is significantly higher than anticipated, at £1.445M; the Council is receiving national guidance on how to use this funding differently alongside DFGs. The additional income (£0.86M) has been transferred to the Better Care Fund Capital project.
9. Having regard for demographic changes and the ageing population, the main way to reduce the need for DFG’s is through the delivery of accessible homes (in all housing tenures) through future development.
10. The **Renewals Assistance** programme includes Safety Security Emergency Repair assistance, which is an “emergency” type of assistance for the most vulnerable households, for example dangerous wiring, a condemned boiler, etc.
11. Home Improvement Assistance will remedy hazardous and/or non decent homes occupied by vulnerable households, for example leaking roofs, rotten windows and defective heating systems. Most defects remedied would in all likelihood have affected the health of occupants.
12. 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.

13. The net Renewals budget of £0.29M includes deferred expenditure from 2016/17, of £0.09M. Current forecasts suggest an outturn of £0.18M with a proposed £0.11M deferral. However, this could change significantly if the recent bid for the “Government Warm Homes” funding is successful and if further discretionary adaptations works are progressed, as anticipated.
14. 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 30 Empty Homes Loan cases at enquiry stage and 12 approved and in progress.
15. Work has completed on one EDMO property in Leighton Buzzard and the property is housing UASC following discussions with Children’s Services.
16. There is action to progress two further EDMO at this stage but is likely to complete in 2018/19. The level of interest for loan assistance from owners of various properties in Dunstable town centre far exceeds current budget. The timing is, however, uncertain and the majority of this cost is unlikely to materialise in the current financial year, so will need close monitoring. The Reserve of a further £0.2M may be needed in 2017/18 but this will depend on how these projects progress. The Empty Homes Programme is forecast to outturn on budget of £0.2M.
17. In December 2016 Executive approved a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) in respect of a long term empty property, which would have been renovated and sold at a higher value to cover purchase, renovation, compensation, and legal costs. The current owner is, however, now beginning to sell the property, so the intention is to take further recommendations to Executive for CPO of other long term and complex empty properties. If the sale is delayed, the CPO will be progressed.
18. A full planning application for a new **Gypsy and Traveller site** was approved at the June 2016 Development Management Committee meeting; the decision was referred to DCLG and final notification of granting of planning permission was received in July 2016. This approval will provide for a new site at Biggleswade South (12 pitches). This will be part funded by the General Fund and Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) financial contributions.
19. The proposal for additional funding following the tendering process was put forward to Executive in June 2017 and has been approved for an additional £0.2M of funding. The current net Gypsy and Traveller site forecasts suggest an outturn at £0.09M with a deferred spend proposed of £0.96M into 2018/19; this is due to a delay in the planning process and a revised start on site date in November 2017.

Health and Social Care

20. There is a residual budget of £0.14M for the **NHS Campus Closure programme**. There is no plan for a further project as this would be contingent on the release of capital receipts by NHS PropCo to ensure that the Programme remains 100% externally funded. A proposed deferral of £0.14M is reported on the remaining budget.
21. The **Adult Social Care ICT** budget will part-fund procurement of a new Adult Social Care case management system. A business case has been developed by the Directorate and was approved at CMT in May 2017. It is estimated that further additional funding from corporate IT budgets of £1.7M will be required to deliver the project.
22. The **Review of Accommodation/Day Support** project includes provision for capital costs arising from the Adult Social Care Transformation Programme as well as funding for fabric and furniture within the residential homes for older people, capital enhancements to those homes and repairs to extend the useful life of boilers and lifts. The budget for this project has been re-profiled to align with the Transformation Programme.
23. Additional capital grant of £0.86M has been provided in 2017/18 through the DFG route to allow authorities to invest in broader strategic capital projects allied to the **Better Care Fund (BCF)** plan. There are also brought forward capital grants of £1.1M with the same purpose. Further work to determine the use of this funding will take place through the BCF Programme Delivery Team including the development of a business case. IT hardware costs of £0.1M are included within the current forecast.
24. In respect of care home re-provision the current budget includes deferring the spend of £1M to support the acquisition of a site in West Mid Beds to facilitate the replacement of capacity in the Ferndale Older Persons Home (OPH) and a smaller amount in respect of Westlands where a replacement site (in Leighton Buzzard) was acquired in 2016/17. The proposal for Ferndale is for a new residential home via the development of the former Flitwick Leisure Centre site. For the Leighton Buzzard site, the process to procure an operator to purchase the site and fund the development will commence in January 18 and will conclude by the middle of 2018/19. Further costs will be incurred in respect of site demolition. The deferral of £0.9M into 2018/19 is now forecast which allows for demolition works on the Leighton Buzzard site and funds to purchase one further site for residential care.
25. The expenditure on the Non-HRA Extra Care Schemes planned for 2017/18 includes deferring £0.05M in respect of professional fees in bringing forward a scheme for Ivel Valley (Sorrel Way, Biggleswade) and £2.5M for a scheme in West Mid Beds. The Sorrel Way scheme is now being taken forward in conjunction with the disposal of Saxon Drive and should progress to a start on site during 2018/19. The West Mid Beds scheme will now be included in the redevelopment of the former Flitwick Leisure centre site. This frees up the capital funding originally approved for the West Mid Beds Scheme, although this needs to be viewed in relation to the capital receipt foregone from the non-disposal of the former Flitwick Leisure Centre.

Children's Services

26. The directorate outturn forecast is £18.2M, above budget by £5.1M (gross) and on budget (net). The increased expenditure is funded wholly by grant and S106 receipts and as a result of the annual review of projects within the New School Places programme.
27. All but two projects within Children's Services Schools Access and Temporary Accommodation are funded wholly by grant receipts that have no expenditure deadline.
28. 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	10,094	15,157	5,063	0	5,063
Schools Capital Maintenance	2,000	2,030	30	0	30
Schools Devolved Formula Capital	450	450	0	0	0
Special Schools Provision	0	20	20	0	20
Temporary Accommodation	360	360	0	0	0
Schools Access Initiative	180	180	0	0	0
LPSA & LAA Grant payout	0	0	0	0	0
2 year old entitlement grant	0	0	0	0	0
Total	13,084	18,197	5,113	0	5,113
% of Budget					139.1%

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	0	0	0	0	0
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 Accommodation	360	360	0	0	0
Schools Access Initiative	180	178	(2)	0	(2)
LPSA & LAA Grant payout	0	0	0	0	0
2 year old entitlement grant	0	0	0	0	0
Total	540	538	(2)	0	(2)
% of Budget					99.6%

New School Places (NSP)

29. 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.

30. 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.
31. In March 2017 the Council approved the programme for 2017/18 to 2020/21 with gross expenditure of:
 - £10M (net nil) in 2017/18
 - £12.5M (net nil) in 2018/19
 - £37.5M (£15M net) in 2019/20
 - £11M (net nil) in 2020/21
32. The forecasts on income and expenditure across 2017/18 to 2020/21 that were provided to inform the MTFP were taken from a snapshot of the programme's expenditure and income profile as at September 2016.
33. The revised forecast for the NSP programme for 2017/18 is gross expenditure of:
 - £15.2M (net nil) in 2017/18
 - £4.3M (net nil) in 2018/19
 - £8.5M (net nil) 2019/20
 - £12.3M (net nil) in 2020/21.
34. This is as a result of additions to the programme and re-profiling of costs for expansions at Arnold Academy, Church End Lower Phase 2, Henlow C of E Academy, Holywell Middle and Leighton Middle. Other projects such as Clipstone Brook Lower, Roecroft Lower and Silsoe Lower have been re-profiled by the Project Manager.
35. The 2017/18 NSP programme includes expenditure on 16 separate capital projects, most of which span more than a single financial year.
36. These projects include the provision of 1,500 new lower school places, 720 new middle school places and 285 new upper school places as expansions to existing schools or new school sites.
37. These places have been commissioned to serve the communities of Ampthill, Fairfield, Flitwick, Biggleswade, Barton, Cranfield, Henlow, Leighton Linlade, Marston, Shefford, Silsoe and Stotfold.
38. 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 where possible, 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.

Schools Capital Maintenance

39. This rolling programme is externally funded by a Department for Education (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 contributions agreed to date indicate that income from schools contributions will be circa £0.14M in 2017/18.
40. In April 2017 the DfE announced the 2017/18 allocation of school condition funding to the Council for strategic capital maintenance of its school buildings. The allocation for 2017/18 is £2M. In addition to the grant, £0.2M unallocated funds from 2016/17 are to be utilised, making a total budget of £2.2M for the 2017/18 Schools Capital Maintenance Programme.
41. The schools capital maintenance programme for 2017/18 is funding projects including kitchen ventilation; roof repairs; boiler and heating replacement; lighting; fire alarms and renewal of electrical distribution boards.
42. The results of the Council's schools condition surveys in 2015 and the multi year indicative allocation of the DfE grant have enabled a five year programme of works to be developed, improving the ability to prioritise and communicate those priorities to schools for their own asset management planning. Thirteen projects are now complete and remaining projects are on site and progressing to programme. Two projects are on hold pending agreement of the schools' contribution (Leedon Lower and Shelton Lower). The forecast spend has been reduced by £0.1M to account for the fact that there are not any Invest to Save Projects committed this financial year.

School Devolved Formula Capital

43. The allocation to Schools is for use on capital condition / improvement works on their buildings in line with the priorities in their School Improvement Plan. The schools have three years to spend the grant.
44. The forecast gross expenditure for 2017/18 is £0.45M.

Temporary Accommodation

45. The primary purpose of the Council's temporary accommodation programme is to meet either short term needs at schools where there is a small, or temporary rise in numbers which cannot be physically accommodated through alternative means, but for which an alternative funding stream, e.g. S106 capital investment/Basic Need grant is unavailable and/or where this results in the need for organisational changes in structure to meet Key Stage 1 class size legislation.
46. The secondary purpose of the programme is to replace temporary accommodation, which is reaching the end of its design life, with permanent build to meet a permanent need for places.

47. The capital budget allocation for 2017/18 is £0.38M which is forecast to be fully utilised on the replacement of temporary accommodation which has reached its design life with permanent build. The School Capital Maintenance Project Manager prepared a report which highlighted the schools where replacing the temporary units was a priority. Priorities are based on condition survey data and school site visits. It has not been possible to confirm a project for delivery within the timescale available and there is a risk that the funding will not now be fully spent. The report has highlighted the fact that in any given year there is insufficient budget to replace temporary accommodation with permanent build for even just one project. Currently £0.324M remains unallocated in the Programme. Funding of £0.05M has been allocated to the permanent build to replace temporary accommodation at Dunton School.

School Access Initiative

48. Central Bedfordshire Council provides capital funding to enable pupils with disabilities access to mainstream education. All Central Bedfordshire maintained schools (with the exception of Voluntary Aided Schools and also Academies who access funding through an alternative mechanism) can apply for funding on an application basis. In exceptional circumstances where an EHC Plan (Education Health and Care) has named an academy or VA school, an application may be considered. The application must be based on the specific needs of a child who has been, or is due to be, admitted to that school. Applications are assessed by a Panel, comprising of Council officers and representatives from Central Bedfordshire Special Schools, who sit in April and October of each financial year. Funding is awarded on a priority basis, as identified in the Council's Accessibility Strategy.
49. The budget allocation for 2017/18 is £0.18M and is forecast to be fully utilised. Demand has been high again this year and the majority of funding (£0.145M) was allocated at the first Panel meeting on 25 April 2017. The second and final Panel took place on the 3 October 2017.

Community Services

50. The directorate forecast outturn is below budget by £18.2M (gross) and below budget by £7.5M (net). In addition, the Information Technology (IT) budget of £3.5M is forecast to be spent in full.
51. 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	18,201	7,896	(10,305)	10,610	305
Environmental Services	1,742	1,017	(725)	534	(191)
Libraries	0	0	0	0	0
Leisure	7,008	10,258	3,250	(3,255)	(5)
Transport	36,333	25,902	(10,431)	8,521	(1,910)
IT	3,500	3,500	0	0	0
Total	66,784	48,573	(18,211)	16,410	(1,801)
% of Budget		72.7%			

Community Services Full Year Net Budget and Forecast					
Scheme Categories	Net Budget	Net Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Assets	18,201	7,275	(10,926)	10,610	(316)
Environmental Services	1,247	627	(620)	534	(86)
Libraries	0	0	0	0	0
Leisure	2,947	9,116	6,169	(6,237)	(68)
Transport	16,475	14,331	(2,144)	2,217	73
IT	3,500	3,500	0	0	0
Total	42,370	34,849	(7,521)	7,124	(397)
% of Budget		82.2%			

Assets

52. The major projects are;

- CBC Built Asset Programme (£2.7M),
- Thorn Turn Infrastructure (£0.9M),
- Enhancement work for disposals (£0.64M),
- Strategic Acquisitions (£8.15M),
- Energy Efficiency Improvement (0.38M),
- Farm Compliance (£0.56M),
- Westbury Phase 2 Industrial Units (£0.8M),
- Biggleswade Property Regeneration (£1.0M),
- Working Smarter (£0.32M),
- the new Crematorium (£2.0M),
- and Car Parks (£0.65M)

53. The net forecast outturn position for Assets is £7.3M. There is total proposed deferred expenditure of £10.6M as detailed below:-

- £1.73M for the crematorium where various options are being assessed and the outcome of which will be subject to Executive approval in April 2018.
- Deferral of £1.0M for the Biggleswade Property Regeneration (Century House), in relation to the Quadrant Accommodation Plan. This project has now been moved to the Capital Reserve List for 2018/19 and so any spend will be subject to the necessary approval.
- £0.6M for car parks where the option study is being updated to ensure

that it is still relevant before progressing to feasibility options.

- £0.8M for works on the Westbury portfolio where a report is being drafted for the end of March 2018 to determine the future of the units.
- £0.23M for Energy Efficiency where there are a number of options being assessed, with some expenditure this year e.g. £0.08M spent at Tiddenfoot.
- £0.045M for the Integrated Asset Management System (Technology Forge) where further improvements are to be scoped in February 2018.
- A forecast overspend of £0.3M on the Stratton scheme due to payment to Highways England for the A1 Biggleswade junction improvements, however there will be compensating income from the sale. An overspend on Thorn Turn infrastructure of £0.4M will also be covered by additional income.
- £0.3M for Farms works is to be delivered in 2018/19.
- £6m for Strategic Acquisitions where it is unlikely that we will be able to source a suitable transaction in this financial year.
- £0.83M from the Built Asset where a number of major projects have been deferred or amended. Priory House mezzanine flooring of £0.25M has been deferred as it is awaiting the outcome of the Accommodation plan. The Sandy Leisure Centre refurbishment for £0.12M is no longer required. The replacement of heating at Watling House £0.112M has been deferred until the future use of the building has been confirmed. The Schools Fire Alarm replacement project has been reduced to 1 site an amendment of £0.15M. The design and specification for the car parking and access at Rushmere Park of £0.15M will also be on site in 18/19.

54. Within the Stratton development at Biggleswade, there is one remaining plot at Stratton Phase 5 (all others sold to owner occupiers). An outline Business Case is already approved (included in MTFP) for £2.70m to build a new industrial unit, (Plot 5a - 25,000 sqft), with a corresponding efficiency of £60k in 2019/20 and a further £100k in 2020/21 from rental income. This proposal will increase the rental value by a further £100K per annum as well as increasing NNDR (business rates) by a further £45K per annum.

55. Specific negotiations are underway with a local business, who requires a larger unit (36,500 sqft), to build on a pre-let basis (subject to Agreement to Lease - minimal risk to CBC). An estimated £1.3m of additional capital is required to build the larger unit (total construction cost £4.0m including contingency).

56. The overall directorate (Assets) forecast is an underspend of £0.3M.

Environmental Services

Environmental Services are forecasting to be £0.62M (net) below budget:-

57. • CCTV is forecasting £0.48M deferred expenditure into the next financial year, this is as it is anticipated the expenditure will occur in early 2018/19 following tendering and procurement work this year.

- Integrated Environmental Management System is forecast to defer £0.03M into 2018/19.
- Sundon/Bluewater Landfill sites are forecasting an underspend of £0.05M due to lower than expected costs.

Leisure

58. Leisure are forecasting a £6.17M (net) variance above budget, due to the external funding of £3.04M for the old Flitwick leisure centre now not expected until the next financial year following the decision to consider the site for an independent living scheme. Dunstable Leisure Centre is showing a £3.52M overspend as funding is being brought forward from the 2018/19 programme, which indicates work will have progressed more than budgeted for this financial year (this does not impact on the overall cost of the project). Leisure Centre Stock Condition is deferring £0.32M into 2018/19.

Transport

59. Transport is forecasting a £2.14M net variance under budget, due to an overspend of £0.07M and £2.22M of net expenditure being deferred into financial year 2018/19.

The variance relates to the following projects;

- Tree backlog is forecasting deferred spend of £0.27M.
- Fleet replacement programme has brought forward £0.88M from future years.
- Luton and Dunstable Busway is forecast deferred spend of £0.2M which is being held for possible compensation payments which can take up to 7 years to materialise, the remaining £0.8M is forecast as an underspend.
- Woodside Link is forecast above budget by £0.99M, This reflect the income from SEMLEP, S106 and refund from UKPN. The remaining S106 monies are expected in later years.
- North Depot is forecasting deferred expenditure of £2.175M where work will continue until 2018/19.
- A421 is forecasting deferred expenditure of £0.09M as funding is yet to be agreed with DfT. Currently showing £0.17M expenditure that exceeds DfT funding.
- Walking routes to schools is forecasting deferred expenditure of £0.3M, work is now starting on looking at routes.
- HRA Match Funding related works have not yet commenced, hence spend deferred to 2018/19.

Information Technology

60. The current net capital programme for IT is £3.5M. There are three major projects which are Digitisation (£2M), ICT Strategic Investment (£1M) & IT Infrastructure Rolling Programme (£0.5M).
61. The full year forecast for IT is currently on budget. There is not expected to be any overspend against a full year budget of £3.5M. There is also currently no proposed deferred budget to future years.

Regeneration

62. The directorate forecast outturn is under gross budget by £12.5M and under net budget by £7.6M. Of this £12.24M gross and £7.6M net is proposed to defer to 2018/19. With a small net overspend forecast in 2017/18 (£0.01M).

63. The table below highlights the areas of spend:

Regeneration & Business Full Year Gross Budget and Forecast					
Scheme Categories	Gross Budget	Gross Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Strategic Infrastructure	9,779	2,187	(7,592)	7,357	(235)
Other	9,990	5,095	(4,895)	4,887	(8)
Total	19,769	7,282	(12,487)	12,244	(243)
% of Budget	36.8%				

Regeneration & Business Full Year Net Budget and Forecast					
Scheme Categories	Net Budget	Net Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Strategic Infrastructure	5,804	496	(5,308)	5,323	15
Other	3,846	1,526	(2,320)	2,312	(8)
Total	9,650	2,022	(7,628)	7,635	7
% of Budget	21.0%				

64. An underspend of £5.31M relates to Strategic Infrastructure, with £4.95M deferring to 2018/19 and a small overspend of £0.015M (re: the Dunstable High Street regeneration) in the current year.

65. A deferred spend of £3.02M is forecast, against the M1-A6 Phase 1 and 2 project, with work on supporting the programme being necessary to support submission of the full business case and progression of the project to implementation, which recently commenced and is largely due to workload and resource being focused on the A421 scheme. This is now moving forward with additional capacity being provided by Ringway Jacobs.

66. East West Rail is forecasting deferred expenditure of £0.53M, in relation to the development of Ridgmont Station to allow for increased future capacity due to the EWR western section. The delay is due to a short-term staffing capacity which will be resolved through the current Regeneration & Business Restructure.

67. The Flitwick Interchange/station redevelopment project is moving forward, with the April 2017 Executive agreeing the mixed use regeneration of the site. Agreement was obtained on the next stages of delivering the scheme at the December 2017 Executive meeting. £1.145M is proposed to be deferred into 2018/19 when delivery commences. Biggleswade (£0.26M) and Leighton Buzzard (£0.18M) are both to defer into 2018/19 due to delays in commencement.

68. Regeneration Other is forecasting a net underspend variance of £2.32M, made up of £0.01M underspend and £2.31M deferred expenditure into the next financial year.
69. The Local Broadband Infrastructure schemes are forecasting deferred expenditure of £0.38M. The first scheme has now been completed but has underspent by £0.29M of this figure. In accordance with the contractual terms, any underspends are ring-fenced and therefore will be re-invested into future projects.
70. Market Town Regeneration Fund (MTRF) has identified the need to extend some elements of delivery into the next financial year, forecasting £1.93M to roll into 2018/19. Elements relating to Ringway Jacobs has taken longer to develop than anticipated, with the majority of delivery scheduled for completion in Q1, 2018/19. The HSIS programme will begin in Q4, 2017/18, completing in Q1, 2018/19. The delay is due to protracted engagement with some shopowners in signing off designs/costings, along with the requirement to set specific timeslots for work to take place.. The MTRF Board continues to meet quarterly to review progress.