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**Meeting:** Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee  
**Date:** 10 October 2013  
**Subject:** Revenue Report for Community Services for the quarter ended 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2013  
**Report of:** Cllr Brian Spurr – Executive Member for Community Services  
**Summary:** Projected outturn of £36,308k resulting in under spend of £117k after the use of reserves.

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**Advising Officer:** Marcel Coiffait - Community Services Director  
**Contact Officer:** Sue Templeman, Senior Finance Manager  
**Public/Exempt:** Public  
**Wards Affected:** All  
**Function of:** Council

## **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

### **Council Priorities:**

Sound financial management contributes to the delivery of the Council's value for money, enabling the Council to successfully deliver its priorities. In particular the Community Services has direct impact on the stated Council priorities of:

- Enhancing your local community, and
- Great Universal Services.

### **Financial:**

The financial implications are set out in the report.

### **Legal:**

All expenditure is in accordance with the Constitution of the Council and Public Procurement Regulations

### **Risk Management:**

All of services have been risk rated, and actions agreed with managers to work within budget tolerances.

### **Staffing (including Trades Unions):**

A number of minor staffing changes are being implemented in line with resourcing proposals approved in the 2013/14 budgets.

### **Equalities/Human Rights:**

None

**Community Safety:**

None

**Sustainability:**

Community Services is one of the lead Directorates with regards to making Central Bedfordshire a more sustainable place to live and work.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

1. **that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee note:**
  - (a) **The projected net expenditure outturn of £36,308k;**
  - (b) **The proposed use of specific reserves of £829k, and**
  - (c) **The projected under spend of £117k after the use of specific reserves.**

**Introduction**

- 1 Community Services directorate manages a gross expenditure budget of £40,679k and income budget of £5,083k leaving a net expenditure budget of £35,596k.

**Executive Summary Revenue**

- 2 Community Services overall financial position is projected £117k under budget after the use of earmarked reserves of £829k for one-off specific projects.

The Directorate had an annual savings target of £3,729k. At the end of June, the savings delivered totalled £715k which is £166k below profile.

- 3 Table A shows the full year variance by budget group. The main financial performance changes of each group are described in the following paragraphs.

Appendices A1 to A3 provide further tables showing estimates and movements by services.

#### 4 Table A – Directorate Overall Position

Division	Approved Budget	Forecast outturn for year	Forecast variance for year (-under) / over spend	Forecast variance after use of earmarked reserves (-under) / over spend
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Community Services Director	251	251	0	0
Highways & Transportation	10,328	10,358	30	30
Environmental Services	22,100	22,772	672	-147
Libraries	2,917	2,927	10	0
<b>Total DIRECTORATE Spend</b>	<b>35,596</b>	<b>36,308</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>-117</b>

#### 5 Community Services Director

The Director's Group has projected a break even position.

#### 6 Highways & Transportation

Highways & Transport Division has forecast an overspend of £30k. This largely relates to April winter maintenance payments.

#### 7 Environmental Services

Environmental Services Division forecasts to be £147k under spent.

This is due to small salary savings in each of the individual services.

#### 8 Libraries

Libraries have projected a break even position.

### Revenue Virements

9 The Directorate's net budget has not changed.

10 Community Services was set an efficiency target of £3,729k. There were savings initiatives being implemented across the Directorate.

- At the end of June, the Directorate had achieved efficiency savings of £715k which is £166k below profile. The forecast for the year is £3,537k and includes compensatory savings of £549k. Overall, the directorate is below the target by £192k and compensatory savings are being investigated.

## Reserves

- 11 It is proposed that £829k of earmarked reserves are used to fund specific one-off projects. A breakdown is provided in Appendix C.

## Debt management

- 12 The total debt at the end of June was £308k. About 68% of debt is less than three months old. All debt recovery is in accordance with Council policy.

**Table B – Debt Outstanding**

Debt profile	>£100K	>=£50K	>=£10K	>=£1K	<£1K	Total	Age Ratio
No of debtors	2	0	4	8	40	<b>54</b>	
Current	£118	£0	£0	£0	£1	<b>£118</b>	38.4%
1 month	-£54	£0	£16	£11	£0	<b>-£27</b>	-8.6%
2 months	£56	£0	£43	£0	£0	<b>£99</b>	32.1%
3 months	£0	£0	£1	£19	£1	<b>£20</b>	6.6%
3-12 months	£0	£0	£28	£5	£2	<b>£35</b>	11.3%
> 12 months	£0	£0	£46	£0	£17	<b>£62</b>	20.3%
<b>Total Debt</b>	<b>£120</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£133</b>	<b>£35</b>	<b>£20</b>	<b>£308</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Appendices:

Appendix A1 – Revenue Summary Position by Division

Appendix A2 – Revenue Summary Position by Service

Appendix A3 – Movement in variance

Appendix B – Efficiencies

Appendix C – Earmarked Reserves

Appendix D – Debt Analysis

**Background Papers:** None

**Location of papers:** Technology House, Bedford