

**Children Services  
Overview and Scrutiny  
Committee  
1st April 2014**

**Budget Monitoring  
Q3 – December 2013/14**

# Revenue

Key points to note (see link to the Executive report for details):

- The 2013/14 forecast outturn is to overspend by £2.622M (£2.633M Q2).
- The overspend is after the use of £3.8M of Earmarked Reserves brought forward from 2012/13.
- The Year to Date (YTD) spend is £1.522M above budget (£1.3M Q2).
- Total debt for Children's Services is £918k of which £180k is debt over 61 days.

# Revenue

Key points to note (cont):

- Although there has been little movement overall since quarter two, increased pressures due to a rise in the number of Looked After Children (£0.89M), have been managed within the directorate.
- As at December, there have been 46 new independent fostering agency placements since the beginning of the financial year, where the average cost is £39k. Most of these placements are part sibling groups. This is in line with the increased numbers in Looked After Children. Three of these admissions are children or babies with disabilities who have higher than average annual costs
- All risks are now included in the current forecast. There is no further reduction anticipated in the Education Services Grant due to schools converting to Academy during 2013/14

# Revenue

Key points to note (cont):

- The table below indicates the upward trajectory and pressure on the budget

	Total as at December 2012	Total as at December 2013	% Increase
Number of LAC	238	279	17.2%
In-House Placements	85	90	5.9%
Independent Placements	87	108	24.1%
Child Protection Plans	249	264	6%
Children in Need	1,711	1,562	(8.7%)
Number of Referrals (YTD)	1,798	1,982	10.2%

# Revenue Forecast Outturn

	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Variance after Use of Reserves
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Director CS	385	597	(39)
AD – CSO	28,681	33,466	1,505
AD – L & SC	4,425	4,121	(342)
AD – School Improvement	1,218	1,221	(55)
Transport	7,012	7,617	581
Partnerships	610	643	(7)
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>42,331</b>	<b>47,665</b>	<b>1,643</b>
DSG Contribution to Central Support	(1,567)	(719)	848
ESG contribution to Central Support	(1,558)	(1,428)	130
<b>Total Children Services</b>	<b>39,206</b>	<b>45,518</b>	<b>2,621</b>
Schools Individual Budgets	86,638	86,638	0
Supported by DSG/EFA	(86,638)	(86,519)	0
<b>Total Schools</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Children's Services</b>	<b>39,206</b>	<b>45,637</b>	<b>2,621</b>

# Capital Position

Key points to note:

- The capital budget for 2013/14 is £27.4m (£0.7m net).  
The main issues to note are:
- Gross forecast is to spend £22m, below the original budget by £5.465m following the capital review process.
- Gross spend to date is £13.5m (£7.8m Q2), slightly ahead of profiled budget of £13.2m.
- All but two projects, Schools Access and Temporary Accommodation are funded wholly by grant receipts that have no expenditure deadline.

# Capital Outturn

Scheme Title	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
New School Places	15,837	12,000	(3,837)
2 year old entitlement	450	150	(300)
Temporary Accommodation	352	159	(193)
Schools Devolved Formula Capital	1,380	1,380	0
All Saints Academy	557	557	0
University Technology College	139	29	0
Schools Access Initiative	247	69	(178)
Alternative Secondary Provision (Free School)	3,522	3,631	0
LPSA & LAA Grant payout	200	255	55
Schools Capital Maintenance	4,515	3,150	(1,365)
Short Breaks	197	550	353
<b>Children's Services</b>	<b>£27,395</b>	<b>£21,930</b>	<b>(5,465)</b>