

## Appendix A - DIRECTORATE COMMENTARY

### Social Care Health and Housing

- The full year forecast is below gross budget by £2M and the net position is below budget by £0.6M. The gross spend below budget primarily relates to the Additional Gypsy and Traveller sites, NHS Campus Closure and Disabled Facilities Grants Scheme projects.

The table 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
Additional Gypsy and Traveller Sites	1,557	440	(1,117)	1,117	0
Review of Accommodation/Day Support, "New Approaches to Outcome"	2,030	2,030	0	0	0
Empty Homes	300	300	0	0	0
Renewal Assistance	150	200	50	0	50
Disabled Facilities Grants Scheme	2,750	2,500	(250)	0	(250)
NHS Campus Closure	698	50	(648)	648	0
Social Care Single Capital Pot	0	15	15	0	15
Adult Social Care ICT Projects	289	289	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,774</b>	<b>5,824</b>	<b>(1,950)</b>	<b>1,765</b>	<b>(185)</b>
<b>% of Budget</b>		<b>74.9%</b>			

SCHH Full Year Net Budget and Forecast					
Scheme Categories	Net Budget	Net Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Additional Gypsy and Traveller Sites	582	290	(292)	292	0
Empty Homes	300	300	0	0	0
Renewal Assistance	100	140	40	0	40
Disabled Facilities Grants Scheme	1,962	1,660	(302)	0	(302)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,944</b>	<b>2,390</b>	<b>(554)</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>(262)</b>
<b>% of Budget</b>		<b>81.2%</b>			

- The Review of Accommodation/Day Support project**

Detailed plans to improve residential and day care services are still subject to consultation and Executive approval. This includes spend relating to the capital maintenance requirements of the seven homes which transferred back to the Authority in August 2014 – work is underway to identify and prioritise these. At the moment this is shown as unspent whilst the business case is developed as timing is uncertain. All externally funded.

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.

4. Information on the types of DFGs and the number completed are reported on a quarterly basis. The table below provides detail of activity for the first quarter of 2015-16.

Type of adaptation	Total Q1 15/16	Total Q1 2014/15	CBC tenants	Others
Level access shower/wet room	24	32	3	21
Straight stair lift	8	16	1	7
Curved stair lift	3	5	0	3
Toilet alterations	10	5	1	9
Access ramps	5	7	2	3
Dropped kerb and hard standing	2	0	0	2
Wheelchair/step lift	1	2	0	1
Major extension	2	2	0	2
Kitchen alterations	1	1	0	1
Access alterations (doors etc.)	9	9	0	9
Garage conversions/minor additions	2	0	1	1
Safety repairs/improvements	1	0	0	1
Other	5	7	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>65</b>

5. The **NHS Campus Closure programme** has one potential remaining project for Central Bedfordshire. This is subject to the release of capital receipts by Propco (NHS). No business case exists as yet for this scheme which will be 100% externally funded.
6. The Adult Social Care IT project comprises a number of schemes. The developments of the Social Care system are subject to further review with the software provider with a view to possible implementation in 2015/16.
7. The work to support the implementation of the Care Act will determine the likely IT implications required to support the Council's new responsibilities. Additional capital grant will be made available in 2015/16 to support some of this work.

(Note : Since the quarter results were published the Government has announced a delay to phase 2 of the Care Act to 2020. The implications of this are currently being reviewed).

## Children's Services

8. Children's Services annual capital expenditure budget for 2015/16 is £31.3M. The income budget is £28.6M, a net expenditure budget of £2.7M.
9. The forecast expenditure outturn for 2015/16 is £29.8M, £1.5M below the approved 2015/16 Children's Services gross capital budget, due to the annual review of projects within the New School Places programme. The Council contribution of £2.1M to the New School Places programme is no longer required for 2015/16. All but two projects within Children's Services, Schools Access and Temporary Accommodation, are funded wholly by grant receipts that have no expenditure deadline.

The table below highlights the areas of spend

<b>Children's Services Full Year Gross Budget and Forecast</b>					
Scheme Categories	Gross Budget	Gross Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Schools Devolved Formula Capital	460	460	0	0	0
New School Places	28,151	25,729	(2,422)	0	(2,422)
Temporary Accommodation	400	400	0	0	0
Schools Capital Maintenance	2,100	2,790	690	0	690
Schools Access Initiative	200	200	0	0	0
LPSA & LAA Grant payout	0	200	200	0	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,311</b>	<b>29,779</b>	<b>(1,532)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,532)</b>
% of Budget		95.1%			

<b>Children's Services Full Year Net Budget and Forecast</b>					
Scheme Categories	Net Budget	Net Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
New School Places	2,110	0	(2,110)	0	(2,110)
Temporary Accommodation	400	400	0	0	0
Schools Access Initiative	200	200	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,710</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>(2,110)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2,110)</b>
% of Budget		22.1%			

## 10. **New School Places**

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.

11. In February 2015 the Council approved the programme 2015/16 to 2018/19 with gross expenditure of £28.2M (£2.1M net) in 15/16, £25.4M (£7.3M net) in 2016/17, £35.3M (18.3M net) in 2017/18 and £18M (£11.8M net) in 2018/19.

12. In February 2015 the DfE announced the Basic Need allocation for 2017/18 of £21M which had previously been anticipated to be at levels similar to 2015/16 (£6.2M). This reduced the Council's forecast deficit/net cost of the approved programme in 2017/18 to £3.5M.
13. Total Basic Need grant provided to our immediate Local Authority neighbours for the period 2011-18 is £44M for Luton BC and £22.5M for Bedford BC, whereas Central Bedfordshire will receive £68.4M.
14. The Council's School Organisation Plan has now been subject to its annual review and the New School Places Programme is likewise being reviewed to reflect the changes in demographic forecasts from the previous year.
15. The 2015/16 NSP programme includes expenditure on 19 separate capital projects, most of which span more than a single financial year. These projects include the provision of 1,425 new lower school places on new school sites, 975 new lower school places as expansions to existing schools on their current sites, 480 new middle school places on new school sites, 480 middle school places as expansions to existing schools and 700 new upper school places as expansions to existing schools.

### Community Services

16. The Community Services Capital Programme in 2015/16 is made up of 81 schemes which includes large groupings of projects that relate to Environmental services, Libraries, Leisure, Transport and Assets. The gross budget for Community Services now includes Assets and is £89.7M.
17. The forecast outturn is £81.1M, below budget by £8.6M. This is driven by the A421 Scheme forecast of £1M, which is the level of grant secured. The forecast will be updated later during the year once the position is clearer regarding the remaining grant.

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	8,857	8,857	0	0	0
Environmental Services	16,673	11,451	(5,222)	3,291	(1,931)
Libraries	148	148	0	0	0
Leisure	11,257	11,431	174	527	701
Transport	52,761	49,200	(3,561)	4,022	461
<b>Total</b>	<b>89,696</b>	<b>81,087</b>	<b>(8,609)</b>	<b>7,840</b>	<b>(769)</b>

% of Budget 90.4%

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	8,557	8,557	0	0	0
Environmental Services	15,416	9,611	(5,805)	3,305	(2,500)
Libraries	148	148	0	0	0
Leisure	10,638	10,111	(527)	527	0
Transport	25,238	28,019	2,781	(2,716)	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>59,997</b>	<b>56,446</b>	<b>(3,551)</b>	<b>1,116</b>	<b>(2,435)</b>

% of Budget 94.1%

## Highways and Transport

18. Activity completed so far includes:

- **(a) A421 M1 Junction 13** -To complete the upgrading of the A421, between Bedford and Milton Keynes it is proposed to upgrade, to dual two lane carriageway, the section between Eagle Farm Roundabout and the M1/J13. Amey are currently working on the outline design for the scheme. They have also provided CBC with updated plans outlining the land ownership boundaries. The NEPRO request to appoint specialist professional services for the land negotiation and acquisition has been submitted .It has been determined that the scheme does not require an Environmental Impact Assessment and therefore does not require planning permission. However, significant (bridge) structures will require planning permission.
- **(b) A1 South Roundabout – Biggleswade** - The A1 roundabout is complete and open to traffic
- **(c) Highways Structural Main Block** – To date: 12 carriageway schemes have been resurfaced totalling 5.895km and 5 footway schemes have been resurfaced totalling 2.053km. The investment in the structural maintenance programme ensures that we maintain our £1.6 billion highway asset in a safe and useable condition.
- A total of 75 street lighting columns and 617 lanterns have been replaced. These lanterns have replaced the inefficient and failing SOX orange lighting with highly efficient LED white lighting which gives an on going saving in our energy usage and carbon footprint and life expired columns. The replacement deck for Stratton Street Railway Bridge, Biggleswade has been checked. Planned maintenance spend has been on hiring the Velocity Patcher to undertake patching schemes
- **(d) South Depot** - The Highways Elements of Thorn Turn include Office and Welfare Accommodation, Highways yard, Fleet Vehicle Maintenance, Fleet vehicle stabling, Dry stores, bunkered fuel and Landscaping equipment storage. To date there has been no direct invoicing for design services, however these are forecast at £272K which will be paid over the next quarter. Construction services will be delivered by the same contractor as the Waste Park and are currently forecast at £3.8M to be paid over a 14 month period starting in September 2015.
- **(e) North Depot** - This facility is proposed to manage the demands of Highway Maintenance in the North of the Authority area. It will provide the same facilities as Thorn Turn but reduced in scale. To date there has been no direct invoicing for design services, however these are forecast at £250K which will be paid over the next 2 quarters. Construction services will be delivered by the same contractor as Thorn Turn and are currently forecast at approximately £3M. This is subject to a Feasibility study where costs and timescales will be confirmed.

19. **Waste**

Activity completed so far includes:

- **(a) Sundon Landfill Restoration** – Approximately 15 weeks of soil importation remaining (material/weather dependant). Remediation agreed with Environment Agency for Slip Area. The removal of haulage road agreed works on target – costing in final stages. Trees from Phase 1 & 2 are establishing well following planting.
- **(b) Waste & Recycling Containers (Rolling Programme)** – Successful procurement and purchase of 20 plastic litter bins, 18 -1100 litre (5 with sound deafening liner), 100 x 140 litre, 360 x 360 litre, 1464 x 240 litre containers.
- **(c) Thorn Turn** - Thorn Turn is a planned Waste Park comprising a new HWRC, a Waste Transfer station and a re-sale Shop, co-located with a Highways depot. The majority of costs in the first quarter of this year are associated with Developed Design and the submission of planning. Spend in the first quarter is £321K.  
A tender process for Construction Services has concluded and a contractor appointed. Construction Services are forecast at £13M to be paid over a 14 months period starting September 2015
- **(d)HWRC Re-Development** – All 4 of CBCs Household Waste Recycling Centres are to undergo major change. Existing sites at Ampthill, Biggleswade and Leighton Buzzard are to be re-developed and the Dunstable site will be closed and replaced by a new facility at Thorn Turn. The majority of costs in the first quarter of this year are attributable to Technical design and the resolution of pre-commencement planning conditions. Spend in the first quarter is £227K. A tender process for Construction Services has concluded and a contractor appointed. Construction Services are forecast at £4.2M, to be paid over a 15 month period.
- **(e) Virement** - The waste enhancement scheme is now split in separate elements of HWRC and Thorn Turn Waste Park . The 2014/15 slippage was all allocated to HWRC project and on present forecasts this and the original 2015/16 needs to be reallocated to the Thorn Turn Waste Park and Depot and Salt Barn in the North. The current forecast for the depot and salt barn in the north includes purchase of land. The virement requested to be approved by Executive is :

HWRC Redevelopment	(2,437)
Thorn Turn Waste Park	1,299
Depot and salt barn - North	1,138
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>

- There will also be a small adjustment to 2016/17 budgets which will be done as part of the MTFP process. Overall there will be an underspend of £2.5M across these projects in 2015/16.

20. **Countryside and Access**

Activity completed so far includes:

- **(a) Transport Schemes** - No spend occurred on Rights of Way and Countryside Sites in quarter 1 but orders have been raised for Health and Safety works to the trees on the Tree Avenue at Rushmere Country Park, bridge replacements on footpaths in Lidlington, Billington and Northill and a topographical survey on Whipsnade BW1. Quotes are also being obtained for surfacing works on bridleways in Ampthill and Stotfold as well as bank stabilisation for a lakeside public footpath in Marston Moretaine.
- **(b) Leisure and Culture Schemes** - Work has started on Stage 2 of the Houghton Hall Park Renaissance and Renewal Project following the award of £2.2M of funding from Parks for People. £45k was paid to the Shuttleworth Trust as match funding towards the delivery of the £2.6M Stage 2 Heritage Lottery funded improvements to the Swiss Garden. Restoration works are now complete and the Garden was officially re-opened to the public in August 2014. The 2015-16 funding will be spent on interpretation, developing the outreach programme and construction of a new equipment compound.
- **(c) Outdoor Access and Greenspace Improvement Projects** achievements included surfacing improvements on Route 51 (National Cycle Route) and Holywell Lane Cranfield. Additional improvements have been made to the steel railings on Sandy Bridleway 8 and orders have been raised for additional sculptures at Rushmere Country Park and surfacing improvements on the Dunstable Downs Multi User route which will be delivered in Q2 2015.

21. **Leisure**

Activity completed so far includes:

- **(a) Flitwick Leisure Centre** – The project is progressing well and on programme. The front car park and the entrance area blockwork have completed. The main part of the roof is complete and the perimeter flat roofing is well underway. The services have been installed in the hall changing area. The learner pool has been constructed and is being tested, and the main pool construction is also complete.
- **(b) Library and Leisure Centre - Dunstable** – The project has had an asbestos refurbishment survey carried out as part of the feasibility study, with no major issues raised. This allows the next stage of the programme to progress.
- **(c) Stock Condition** – Work was carried out to Saxon Pool Leisure Centre with a main extract fan installed, and work on the BMS installation at Tiddenfoot Leisure Centre.

## Assets

22. The current net capital programme for Assets is £8.557M. The major Projects are 15/16 Corporate Property Rolling Programme (£2M), Stratton Park Phase 5 Infrastructure (£2M), Stratton Park Phase 4 Access (£0.91M), Ivel Medical Centre including slippage (£0.975M), Enhancement work for disposals (£0.750M), Strategic Acquisitions (£0.5M), Health & Safety Rolling programme (£0.4M) and Energy Efficiencies (£0.388M).
23. The forecast outturn position for Assets is currently expected to be on budget of £8.557M. Overall there is a small year to date (YTD) under spend in Assets Capital of £0.066M across all major schemes and Corporate programmes.

### Regeneration & Business Support

24. The budget for Regeneration is £3.54M the forecast is a gross overspend of £1.8M and a net overspend of £0.5M (funded by CBC) due to acceleration of the Local Broadband Infrastructure project. This is a drawing forward of expenditure previously planned for 2016/17.

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
Market Towns Programme	435	150	(285)	285	0
Development site promotion	75	25	(50)	50	0
Flood defence strategy schemes	195	195	0	0	0
Local Broadband Infrastructure	1,899	4,073	2,174	(2,174)	0
Land Drainage Work ( Non Highways)	60	60	0	0	0
Flitwick Land Purchase Further land assembly for the Town Centre Regeneration Scheme.	81	82	1	(1)	0
Dunstable Town Centre Regeneration Phase 2	489	489	0	0	0
Historic Building Grant Aid Scheme	8	8	0	0	0
Cranfield Technology Park Acceleration	298	298	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,540</b>	<b>5,380</b>	<b>1,840</b>	<b>(1,840)</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>% of Budget</b>		<b>152.0%</b>			

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
Market Towns Programme	435	150	(285)	285	0
Development site promotion	75	25	(50)	50	0
Flood defence strategy schemes	195	195	0	0	0
Local Broadband Infrastructure	0	802	802	(802)	0
Land Drainage Work ( Non Highways)	60	60	0	0	0
Flitwick Land Purchase Further land assembly for the Town Centre Regeneration Scheme.	95	82	(13)	13	0
Dunstable Town Centre Regeneration Phase 2	489	489	0	0	0
Historic Building Grant Aid Scheme	8	8	0	0	0
Cranfield Technology Park Acceleration	(2)	(2)	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,355</b>	<b>1,809</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>(454)</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>% of Budget</b>		<b>133.5%</b>			

25. **Broadband** - The total homes passed in Central Bedfordshire were 744 as at 30 June, Each quarter deployment varies across the three areas within the scheme taken into consideration unforeseen circumstances and the most resourceful means of deployment.
26. CBC has achieved overall 9,761 out of 15,500 premises expected since inception of the project. (63% of the overall local target).Phase 5 deployment is now underway and surveys and planning have begun for Phase 6.The Phase 5 target is a further 6,781 premises, across the project. The project is on target and has passed the value for money analysis by BDUK. BDUK have rated the Central Superfast Project as 'Green'.In addition, the Central Superfast project is also currently achieving 17.27% take up which is approaching 'Best in Class' for the size and age of the project.

### Improvement & Corporate Services

27. The gross and net budget for ICS is £6.2M. The forecast is to achieve budget. The table below highlights the areas of spend

<b>Improvement &amp; Corporate Services Full Year Net Budget and Forecast</b>					
Scheme Categories	Net Budget	Net Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Information Assets	5,643	5,643	0	0	0
Other	515	515	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,158</b>	<b>6,158</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

% of Budget

100.0%

<b>Corporate Resources Full Year Gross Budget and Forecast</b>					
Scheme Categories	Gross/Net Budget	Gross/Net Forecast	Variance	Deferred Spend	Over / (Under) spend
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Civica Revenue Module	45	45	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

% of Budget

100.0%

### **Information Technology**

- 28 The current net capital programme for IT is £5.643M. There are a number of major projects which include Customer First Phase 2: Care Act implementation (£1.067M), 15/16 ICT Strategic Investment (£1.000M), Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) Rollout (£0.500M), Applications Architecture Phase 3 (£0.500m), Public Services Network (PSN) Phase 3 (£0.500M) & IT Infrastructure Rolling Programme 15/16 (£0.500M). There are other smaller projects totalling £1.576M.

- 29 Of the £5.643M budget in IT all of it is expected to be used in 15/16. At this stage there are no costs expected to be incurred in future financial years. There is a year to date (YTD) underspend in IT Capital of -£0.493M. This is mainly due to a number of key projects not having started yet.

### **Other ICS Projects**

- 30 The current net capital programme for Other Corporate Resources projects is £0.560M. The major project is Office Rationalisation (£0.500M) with a number of smaller projects totalling £0.060M. These schemes are forecast to achieve budget.

### **CAPITAL RECEIPTS**

31. The overall budget for Capital receipts is £13.101M. The current forecast is also £13.101M which includes an anticipated receipt of £4.8M from Bedford Borough Council for Bell Farm and County Hall as part of the disaggregation agreement.
32. The year to date position is £204K. The sale of Plot C at Stratton Business Park, £185K, has completed. Reviews of the estate for the sale of plots, houses, underutilised/redundant buildings and restrictive covenant releases are being undertaken. There is focus on larger strategic projects in order to build a pipeline for future months and years.