

APPENDIX A – DIRECTORATE COMMENTARY

Social Care, Health and Housing (SCHH)

1. The directorate General Fund outturn position is an overspend of £2.0M after the use of reserves (same as August).

Month: September 2016	Year to date				Year				
	Budget	Actual	Proposed (use of) / contribution to Earmarked reserves	Variance	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance	Proposed (use of) / contribution to Earmarked reserves	Forecast Variance after use of earmarked reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Social Care Health and Housing									
Director of Social Care, Health, Housing	102	345	(241)	3	203	803	600	(595)	5
Housing Solutions (GF)	1,821	1,696	-	(125)	3,641	3,456	(185)	-	(185)
Care and Support	6,342	6,408	-	67	12,683	12,922	239	(84)	155
OPPD - Care Management	14,394	16,504	(70)	2,041	28,787	31,740	2,953	(140)	2,813
LD Care Management & MH Packages	10,689	10,708	-	20	21,377	21,849	472	-	472
Head of Integrated Services + Other IS	498	384	-	(114)	996	840	(156)	-	(156)
Commissioning	4,556	4,456	-	(100)	9,112	9,165	53	-	53
Resources	(4,459)	(5,127)	(70)	(738)	(8,918)	(9,968)	(1,050)	(142)	(1,192)
Total Social Care and Health	33,941	35,374	(381)	1,053	67,881	70,807	2,926	(961)	1,965

2. The Adult Social Care service (Care & Support, OPPD, Learning Disabilities/Mental Health and Integrated Services) is showing an overspend of £3.284M (excluding customer contributions).
3. This division has to absorb the risk of increasing Older People, Physical and Learning Disability package volumes and costs. People are living longer and the costs of dementia are on the increase. Demographic pressure of £4.1M has been built into the budget to reflect the impact of both an ageing population and the additional costs associated with the transition of younger people with disabilities into Adult Social Care. There are, however, significant efficiency targets for this area totalling just short of £4.2M.
4. Within the Older People 65+ external package budgets, there are projected overspends on residential and nursing placements of £1.601M offset by additional customer income which is forecast to exceed the budget by £1.108M.

There is a projected over spend on non-residential packages of £2.172M (this includes new extra care contract costs at Priory View and Greenfields). For non residential services there is a projected over achievement of customer income of £0.562M. This leaves Older People package expenditure with a net £2.103M overspend to budget.

This is after allowing for the recovery of backdated funding of £0.5M re long standing disputes regarding health and other local authority funding. Additional Better Care Fund (BCF) funding of £0.604M is currently being applied to the packages budget and additional placement costs of £0.14M relating to the Greenacre re-provision are being funded from the MANOP reserve.

5. The Directorate continues to track the impact of former self funders who exert pressure on residential and nursing placements budgets. Seventeen have required Council support during 2016/17 compared to seven that required support for the same period in 2015/16.

The full year cost is estimated to be £0.315M.

6. Within Learning Disabilities, additional budget of £1.4M has been provided to cover the impact of transitions in 2016/17 which includes the full year effect of 2015/16 new customers and the part year effect of 2016/17 new customers. The budget has also been increased to reflect carer breakdown costs for mid life customers estimated at £0.7M.

Efficiency targets for this service area amount to £1.1M. There is a projected overspend on packages of £0.078M.

7. There remain risks relating to the funding of customers being reviewed under the Winterbourne View national programme.
8. The Commissioning Service is projecting an overspend of £0.053M. The key variances are overspends within various contracts offset by Contracts and Commissioning Teams' pay.
9. The Resources division is showing a projected underspend of £1.192M the majority of which relates to a projected over achievement of customer contributions.

Better Care Fund (BCF)

10. The overall funding for 2016/17 is set out below: There has been a mandated increase in the Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (BCCG) contribution compared to last year.

11.

Funding Stream	2016/17 Plan £M
BCCG	15.276
CBC Disabled Facility Grant	1.315
CBC Additional Contribution	3.417
Under spend from 2015/16	0.586
TOTAL	20.534

12. The focus for 2016/17 will be on Out of Hospital Care, Prevention and on Protecting Social Services.
13. The BCCG funding stream includes funding paid over to CBC of £4.038M.
14. HRA is subject to a separate report.

Children's Services

15. The directorate outturn position for 2016/17 is £0.091M under budget (£0.157M overspend in August).

Month: September 2016	Year to date				Year				
	Budget	Actual	Proposed (use of) / contribution to Earmarked reserves	Variance	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance	Proposed (use of) / contribution to Earmarked reserves	Forecast Variance after use of earmarked reserves
Director	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Children's Services									
Director of Children's Services	309	356	-	47	617	617	-	-	-
Children's Services Operations	11,332	10,671	(33)	(694)	22,466	21,963	(503)	(60)	(563)
LAC Placement Costs	4,477	5,020	(48)	495	8,974	9,707	733	(95)	638
Commissioning & Partnerships	1,673	1,461	(4)	(216)	3,637	3,503	(134)	(23)	(157)
Partnerships	334	404	(51)	19	555	675	120	(120)	-
Education Services	880	1,048	(156)	12	1,553	1,827	274	(283)	(9)
Total Children's Services (ex Schools / Overheads)	19,005	18,960	(292)	(337)	37,802	38,292	490	(581)	(91)
DSG + ESG Contribution to Central Support	(678)	(678)	-	-	(1,356)	(1,356)	-	-	-
Total Children's Services (excluding Schools)	18,327	18,282	(292)	(337)	36,446	36,936	490	(581)	(91)

16. The reduction in forecast outturn of £0.248M since August is mainly due to:

- £0.109M reduction in residential care home payments as two placements have ended earlier than originally forecast and an in-house placement ending.
- £0.212M reduction in staff related budgets, including freezing two posts in Fostering Service, reductions in the Court & Permanence Team, and a consultant Social Workers salary.
- £0.014M reduction in nursery, therapeutic services and parent and baby placements
- £0.050M increased income from the Academy Central Bedfordshire

Offset by increases (£0.080M) in the Leaving care budget, due to nine additional young people since July, £0.065M Independent Fostering and Adoption (IFA) changes, five siblings move from in-house and increased Direct Payments and High Level Family Support payments due to additional "no recourse to public funds" cases.

17. Mitigating action and one off compensatory savings have been identified and achieved to cover an underlying overspend which relates to two main areas in Children's Services Operations:

- £0.690M IFA and In-House Fostering where the budget only allowed for 58 IFA's and there are currently 66 non Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children. This forecast overspend was previously reported on the risk register whilst mitigating action was sought.
- £0.253M Children with Disabilities, and is due to an additional five out of area placements made since the budget build took place for 2016/17. Mitigating action has been taken within the directorate to reduce the original forecast overspend of £0.365M. Out of area placements are made as a last resort when a high level of short break provisions can no longer meet the need and safeguard the child and/or their family.

18. The tables below reflect the increased number of Looked After Children (LAC) and non care placements.

	Sept 2015		Sept 2016		% change	Average £ per child/mnth Aug16
Number of LAC :		259		254	(1.9%)	
In House Foster Placements	113		113		n/c	1,423
Independent Foster Placements	74		67		(9.5%)	3,404
Residential Homes & Schools	20		7		(25%)	17,445
St Christopher's (Clophill & Bunyan Road)			7			11,635
St Christopher's (Stewartby)			1			13,750
Semi - Independent Living (aged 16 & 17)	14		13		(7.1%)	3,072
Placed for Adoption/ with Parents	28		31		10.7%	0 - 544
Children with Disabilities (CWD Maythorn and Residential School)	7		10		42.9%	9,334 - 20,957
Young Offenders serving custodial sentences /Temp Accom / Youth Offending	3		4		33.3%	0
Parent & Baby Units			1			15,080

	Sept 2015		Sept 2016		% change	Average £ per child/mnth Aug 16
Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children:		30		58	93.3%	
In House Foster Placements	5		9		80.0%	1,327
Independent Foster Placements	10		8		(20.0%)	3,250
Semi Independent Living (aged 16 & 17)	15		41		173.3%	1,487
Total Number of LAC:		289		312	8.0%	

(NB: The UASC numbers were not split for September 2015 reporting and are included with LAC numbers to calculate the percentage change).

	Sept 2015	Sept 2016	% change
Non care placements :			
Special Guardianship Orders	129	137	6.2%
Residential Orders	43	40	(7.0%)
Adoption Allowances	43	48	11.6%
Other information:			
Child Protection Plan	180	215	19.4%
Children in Need	1258	1412	12.2%
Number of Referrals (YTD)	1293	955	(26.1%)

	Movement YTD Inc. UASC
LAC (29 th April 302)	+10
In House Placements (April 123)	-1
Independent Foster Placements (April 79)	-4
Semi Independent Living (April 38)	16
Special Guardianship Orders (April 132)	5

19. There are currently 27.7 Full Time Equivalent (fte) agency staff across Children's Services Operations covering 59.2 fte vacant posts.

Of the 27.7 fte Agency Staff covering vacant posts, maternity and sickness absences, there are currently 0.80 Social Workers mitigating for the Assisted Years Supported Employment in the Intake & Assessment and Family Support teams due to leavers and secondments in the teams.

Community Services

20. The full year outturn position for Community Services is an underspend of £0.515M (£0.344M in August) after the use of earmarked reserves of £0.973M for one-off specific projects.

Month: September 2016	Year to date				Year				
	Budget	Actual	Proposed (use of) / contribution to Earmarked reserves	Variance	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance	Proposed (use of) / contribution to Earmarked reserves	Forecast Variance after use of earmarked reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Community Services									
Community Services Director	166	132	-	(34)	332	318	(14)	-	(14)
Highways Transportation	9,022	8,919	(44)	(147)	18,659	19,044	385	(44)	341
Environmental Services - Waste	9,700	9,511	(193)	(382)	19,117	19,179	62	(577)	(515)
Environmental Services - Other	2,458	2,137	(114)	(435)	4,966	4,991	25	(294)	(269)
Assets	2,185	2,264	-	79	4,371	4,371	-	(58)	(58)
Total Community Services	23,531	22,963	(351)	(919)	47,445	47,903	458	(973)	(515)

Highways Transportation

21. Highways and Transportation is forecasting an overall overspend of £0.341M. This is explained further in paragraphs 22 – 24.
22. Educational Transport are forecasting an overspend of £0.014M which is due to a £0.072M overspend within the schools transport contract and on staffing of £0.010M, this is offset by additional £0.064M of income in Special Educational Needs transport.
23. Highways Contracts are forecasting a £0.055M underspend. This is due to overspends of £0.208M within 3rd party costs (of which £0.130M relates to an increase in spend on emergency repairs following the new contract and £0.048M relates to vehicle crossovers), there is also an overspend of £0.066M within supplies & services. These overspends are offset by additional income of £0.222M and staffing underspends of £0.099M.
24. Passenger Transport Services – forecasting an overspend of £0.378M of which £0.129M relates to premises & transport including the contract hire of vehicles and Fleet maintenance and fuel costs, staffing costs are also forecasting an overspend of £0.261M of which £0.213M is for agency cover, additional income from vehicle hire of £0.021M has slightly offset this overspend.

Environmental Services

25. Environmental Services is forecasting an overall underspend of £0.784M. This is explained further in paragraphs 26 – 32.
26. Waste Service – is forecasting a £0.515M underspend, which is a result of an underspend of £0.090M due to staffing vacancies and reduced hours, £0.426M underspend in kerbside collection and street cleansing due to lower indexation than budgeted for and a £0.158M underspend on Household Waste Recycling Centres due to the temporary closure of Ampthill and Leighton Buzzard. These are partially offset by underachievement of recycle income of £0.122M due to levels of contamination.
27. Libraries are forecasting a £0.135M underspend, the majority of this is due to staff vacancies of £0.276M, these have been offset by income being less than budget of £0.108M (£0.047M for library services and £0.061M for Leighton Buzzard theatre), and overspends on resources for Dunstable library of £0.050M.
28. Emergency Planning – is forecasting a £0.030M underspend which is a result of £0.040M of income no longer forecast to be received offset by staffing underspends of £0.074M.
29. Public Protection – is forecasting a £0.204M overspend, the majority of this £0.198M is due to overspends on staffing costs due unachievable staff cost reduction efficiency.
30. Community Safety – is forecasting a £0.099M underspend, this is due to staff vacancies.
31. Parking – is forecasting a £0.208M underspend, this is due to additional income of £0.190M, underspend on salaries of £0.064M offset by overspends on rates of £0.027M and Professional Services of £0.020M.

32. Leisure & Active Lifestyles – is forecasting to be on budget.
33. **Assets** are forecasting to £0.058M under budget.

Regeneration and Business Support

34. The full year projected outturn position for 2016/17 is a £0.160M underspend (£0.124M in August).

Month: September 2016	Year to date				Year				
Director	Budget	Actual	Proposed (use of) / contribution to Earmarked reserves	Variance	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance	Proposed (use of) / contribution to Earmarked reserves	Forecast Variance after use of earmarked reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Regeneration and Business Support									
Director	436	331	-	(105)	872	779	(93)	-	(93)
Business & Investment	143	79	(8)	(72)	881	951	70	(40)	30
Planning	1,950	1,330	(31)	(651)	3,375	3,310	(65)	(32)	(97)
Programme Delivery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Regeneration and Business Support	2,529	1,740	(39)	(828)	5,128	5,040	(88)	(72)	(160)

35. The Director's group is forecasting underspend of £0.093M which relates to staff salaries due to vacancies.
36. Business and Investment is forecasting an overspend of £0.030M. Within this £0.122M relates to staffing costs which are forecast to exceed budget once vacancies have been filled, £0.025M relates to professional services costs. Additional income of £0.113M with £0.045M of this to cover the European Regional Development Fund posts has helped offset the overspends.
37. Planning is forecasting an underspend of £0.097M. This relates to an £0.281M underspend on staffing costs and also additional income of £0.180M within Development Management and Building Control. These underspends are offset by overspends within Professional services of £0.294M. There are also £0.070M overspends forecast which relate to flooding risk assessments in connection with the local plan.

Public Health

38. Public Health's forecast outturn is to achieve a balanced budget after proposed use of reserves. The Public Health grant is currently ringfenced so any under/overspend results in a movement against the carried forward reserve from 2015/16.

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	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Public Health									
Director of Public Health	(6,030)	(6,148)	-	(118)	(12,060)	(12,294)	(234)	234	-
Assistant Director of Public Health	6,050	6,289	-	239	12,100	12,502	402	(402)	-
Total Public Health (Excl overheads)	20	141	-	121	40	208	168	(168)	-
Contribution to Central Support	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Public Health	20	141	-	121	40	208	168	(168)	-

Improvement and Corporate Services (ICS)

39. Improvement & Corporate Services is forecasting an overspend of £0.133M (£0.035M underspend in August).

Month: September 2016	Year to date				Year				
Director	Budget	Actual	Proposed (use of) / contribution to Earmarked reserves	Variance	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance	Proposed (use of) / contribution to Earmarked reserves	Forecast Variance after use of earmarked reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Improvement and Corporate Services									
Director Improvement and Corp Services	57	141	(63)	21	113	141	28	(63)	(35)
SRO Strategy (inc Comms, Knowledge & Insight, Procurement & Legal Services)	1,355	1,316	-	(39)	2,709	2,563	(146)	-	(146)
SRO Governance (inc Scrutiny, Democratic, Registration & Coroner Services)	1,103	1,167	(54)	10	2,413	2,328	(85)	85	-
People	1,283	1,413	(200)	(70)	2,565	2,847	282	(271)	11
SRO Customers (inc IT & Customer Services)	3,938	4,233	-	295	7,876	8,179	303	-	303
Total Improvement and Corporate Services	7,736	8,270	(317)	217	15,676	16,058	382	(249)	133

40. In IT there is an overspend of £0.2M. This is mainly due to contract and software expenses, recruitment of contract staff and the purchase of professional services increasing to meet the demands of the Council's Digital Transformation programme.
41. There is also an overspend of £0.103M in Customer Services mainly due to pressures on staffing.
42. There is an unachievable efficiency in Director ICS relating to merging of common functions (£0.1M).
43. Within the Coroner Services there is an overspend of £0.108M as a result of increase of mortuary fees charged from Luton & Dunstable Hospital and increase in costs resulting from the transfer in of coroner's officers from Beds Police, these pressures being CBC's share of the total additional costs.
44. These pressures have been mitigated in part by savings from Director of ICS post (£0.135M), further expected in year savings on existing Legal Services Budget (£0.131M), Local Land Charge provision for legal costs which was not required in full (£0.082M) and small savings against the Members budget (£0.022M).

Corporate Resources and Costs

Corporate Resources & Costs

45. Overall Corporate Resources is forecasting to be £0.7M below budget after movements to and from reserves. The £5.210M contribution to reserves relates to the New Homes Bonus and also the Redundancy reserves mentioned in the main report.

Month: September 2016	Year to date				Year					
	Director	Budget	Actual	Proposed (use of) / contribution to Earmarked reserves	Variance	Approved Budget	Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance	Proposed (use of) / contribution to Earmarked reserves	Forecast Variance after use of earmarked reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Corporate Resources										
Chief Executive	155	150	-	(5)	311	311	-	-	-	-
Finance	2,417	2,413	-	(4)	5,177	5,177	-	-	-	-
Housing Benefit Subsidy	(298)	(298)	-	-	(597)	(597)	-	-	-	-
Total Corporate Resources	2,274	2,265	-	(9)	4,891	4,891	-	-	-	-
Corporate Costs										
Debt Management	6,823	6,476	-	(347)	13,646	12,946	(700)	-	-	(700)
Premature Retirement Costs	1,224	1,225	-	1	2,756	2,756	-	-	-	-
Corporate Public Health Recharges	(316)	(303)	-	13	(631)	(631)	-	-	-	-
Corporate HRA Recharges	(60)	(60)	-	-	(120)	(120)	-	-	-	-
Efficiencies	(40)	(61)	-	(21)	130	130	-	-	-	-
Contingency and Reserves*	(3,474)	(5,799)	2,325	-	(4,096)	(9,277)	(5,181)	5,181	-	-
Total Corporate Costs	4,157	1,478	2,325	(354)	11,685	5,804	(5,881)	5,181	(700)	(700)
Total Corporate	6,431	3,743	2,325	(363)	16,576	10,695	(5,881)	5,181	(700)	(700)

46. The Corporate Costs underspend of £0.7M is due to lower than budgeted interest payments and also Minimum Revenue Provision following lower spend on 2015/16 Capital Programme than budgeted.