



**Policy Finance &  
Development  
Committee**

**21 July 2015**

**Matter for  
information**

Title: **Provisional Committee Budget Outturn Report –  
2014/15**

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## **1 Introduction**

This report provides Members with details of the Committee's provisional outturn position for capital and revenue for 2014/15. The Council's full provisional outturn position is being reported in a further report on this agenda

## **2 Recommendations**

That Members:

Note the outturn positions for 2014/15 (Appendix 1)

## **3 Information**

The outturn position for 2014/15 is still only provisional because at the time of writing, it is still subject to audit.

### General Fund

In February 2014, the Council approved a 2014/15 budget for this committee of £2.631m. These estimates were later revised to £2.416m, which was approved at Council in February 2014. The provisional outturn position for 2014/15 is £1.953m, which represents a £463,000 under spend for the financial year as compared with the revised estimate.

The provisional outturn position figures shown in Appendix 1 have been adjusted to remove those technical accounting adjustments, such as depreciation and impairment, that would normally be shown in the statutory year end Statement of Accounts but do not affect the balance on the General Fund. This makes the figures comparable to the approved budgets for the year.

The headline reasons for the variance are explained below.

- Whilst not all variances relating to the salaries budgets relate specifically to this committee, comment on them, in their entirety, is included as this committee is responsible for establishment. A salaries vacancy provision of £153,000 was provided for within the financial year. The actual outturn on salaries showed a saving of £693,000. In net terms, this resulted in a saving of £540,000. However, during the period a £258,000 over spend on hired staff was incurred. The salaries budget was revised in January 2015 to take this into account. At year end the saving on the General Fund when compared to the revised budget is £75,000.
- The Council has during 2014/15 been able to identify overpayments of housing benefit faster than previously, due to an improvement in information from the DWP. This in turn, has lead to a substantial increase in the recovery of these overpayments of benefit which has increased income in the year by £94,000

Other savings within the financial year related to this committee are shown below.

	£ 000's
Fewer Bad Debts Write offs	31
Administrative Penalties Issued by Benefits	18
Additional Council Tax Court Cost Income	18
Bank Charges	10
Recruitment Expenses	30
Member Special Responsibility Allowance	15

Significant variances (Over £10,000) are shown in Appendix 2 of this report.

Officers are currently investigating the reasons for the under spend with the view of improving the accuracy of budgeting in the future and to improve the early identification of savings against budget.

### Capital Programme

The revised capital programme for this committee had a total budgeted cost of £719,420. The provisional outturn for these schemes is £306,245 which represents an under spend of £413,175.

Details of each scheme are given in Appendix 3.

### Carry Forwards

Details of requested carry forward budgets for capital only (no revenue requested) have been included for approval in the main Council outturn report elsewhere on this agenda but are shown for information at Appendix 4.

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Background Papers: Report to Council on 19 February 2015 – Budget  
Proposals and Associated Strategies

<b>Implications</b>	
Financial (PL)	Incorporated within the body of the report
Risk (PL)	CR1 Decreasing Financial Resources CR9 Economy
Equalities	No significant implications
Legal	No significant implications