

Policy, Finance and Development Committee

Tuesday, 17 July 2018

Matter for Information

Report Title: Provisional Committee Outturn (2017/18)

Report Author(s): Chris Raymakers (Head of Finance Revenues and Benefits)

| Purpose of Report: | This report provides Members with details of the Committee's provisional outturn position for capital and revenue in 2017/18. |
|---|---|
| Report Summary: | The Committee's Revenue budgets have finished the year £170,000 underspent against the revised budget. |
| Recommendation(s): | That the contents of the report and appendices are noted. |
| Responsible Strategic Director, Head of Service and Officer Contact(s): | Stephen Hinds (Director of Finance & Transformation) (0116) 257 2681 stephen.hinds@oadby-wigston.gov.uk |
| | Chris Raymakers (Head of Finance, Revenues and Benefits) (0116) 257 2891 crhris.raymakers@oadby-wigston.gov.uk |
| Corporate Priorities: | An Inclusive and Engaged Borough (CP1) Effective Service Provision (CP2) |
| Vision and Values: | "A Strong Borough Together" (Vision) Accountability (V1) |
| Report Implications:- | |
| Legal: | There are no implications arising from the report. |
| Financial: | The implications are as set out in the report. |
| Corporate Risk Management: | Decreasing Financial Resources (CR1) Reputation Damage (CR4) Economy/Regeneration (CR9) |
| Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA): | There are no implications arising from the report. EA not applicable. |
| Human Rights: | There are no implications arising from the report. |
| Statutory Officers' Comments:- | |
| Head of Paid Service: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Chief Finance Officer: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Monitoring Officer: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Consultees: | None. |
| | |

| Background Papers: | None. |
|--------------------|--|
| Appendices: | Provisional Committee Outturn Summary (2017/18) Capital Programme Provisional Outturn (2017/18) |

1. Introduction

1.1 The outturn position is still only provisional as, at the time of writing, the Council's Statement of Accounts although completed is currently under scrutiny by the Council's external auditors. As a result of the audit, some technical adjustments may be necessary.

2. Revenue Budget

- 2.1 In February 2017, the Council approved a 2017/18 General Fund budget for this Committee of £2.328 million. These estimates were later revised to £2.360 million and were approved at Council in February 2018. Officers were set ambitious savings targets, within the budget, which were required in order for the Council to maintain a robust financial position.
- 2.2 The provisional outturn position for 2017/18 is £2.191 million which represents a £137,000 underspend for the financial year as compared to the original budget and £169,000 underspend against the Revised Estimate.
- 2.3 The variance for each service is detailed in **Appendix 1**.
- 2.4 When the 2017/18 budget was set, £283,000 of savings were built into this Committee, these were to be met across the whole authority rather than by this Committee alone. The headline variances are explained below:
 - Legal fees were overspent by £66,000, this was due to the continuation of the protracted dispute between the Council and two former employees;
 - During 2017/18 the Council hired consultants to review its Minimum Revenue Provision methodology and calculation, this review cost £40,000. However looking ahead the Council will accrue significant financial benefit when this review is implemented;
 - £70,000 of pension fund strain was required to fund one redundancy and one ill health retirement;
 - The Council's strong debt recovery work has allowed £75,000 to be saved via bad debt provisions and write-offs;
 - The Council made further savings on Benefits of around £27,000;
 - £19,000 has been saved in revenue costs relating to the Horsewell Lane Pavilion Project; and
 - A technical credit of £180,000 has charged to this committee in relation to notional pension costs. This is however neutralised elsewhere in the accounts.

3. Capital Programme

- 3.1 The revised capital programme for this Committee had a total budgeted cost of £714,700. The provisional outturn for these schemes is £260,401 which represents an under spend of £503,706. This however includes £350,000 set aside for the Compulsory Purchase of 41 Canal Street which should now go ahead in 2018/19 with the new estimated cost being about £180,000.
- 3.2 Details of each scheme are given in **Appendix 2.**