

## 2021/22 Revenue Budget Variations over £50,000

Description		Budget	Total Variation	Comments
		£	£	
<b>Prosperity &amp; Investment</b>				
BIT	Admin Buildings	1,850,820	111,028	Undeliverable saving, alternative options to be considered but has been stalled due to Covid lockdown.
	Operational Properties	4,907,350	119,187	Additional cleansing required across all sites to maintain Covid safety standards and ongoing Operational property pressures. Cleansing at Ironbridge toilets now funded from COMF.
R&I	PIP Income	(6,793,202)	93,000	Estimated impact of rent reductions as a result of Covid implications. Service area has received some specific requests for rent reductions and will continue to monitor the position.
	Car Park income	(543,180)	169,833	Southwater and Hall Court Car Park reduced income reflecting the Covid lockdown period and gradual return of businesses, retail and customers to centre.
	Granville Depot	83,460	31,233	Ongoing pressure with this site transferred from Neighbourhood Services. Options currently being reviewed to aid mitigation ongoing.
Other under £50k		(4,640,508)	(46,477)	
<b>Total Prosperity &amp; Investment</b>		<b>(5,135,260)</b>	<b>477,804</b>	
<b>Finance &amp; HR</b>				
Treasury		10,505,199	(3,000,000)	Benefit arising from current low interest rates and strategy to use temporary borrowing at lower than budgeted interest rates.
Revenues	Supplies & Services	311,970	(79,075)	Underspends projected on postage and printing
Payroll	Income	(894,540)	(71,560)	Projected additional income generated from external business, mainly schools
Finance	Employees	1,215,120	(66,664)	Projected staffing underspend from part year vacant posts.
Variations Under £50k		1,638,815	(347,811)	Combination of underspends from part year vacant posts, additional income, bank charges and cash collection. Covid variation relates to overtime for staff undertaking Covid duties and also £28k loss of Court Fees income from April to June.
<b>Total Finance &amp; HR</b>		<b>12,776,564</b>	<b>(3,565,110)</b>	
<b>Policy &amp; Governance</b>				
Policy & Development	Employees	851,690	(200,000)	One off underspends from a number of part year vacant posts following the service restructure.
Variations Under £50k		(1,169)	22,081	Covid pressure arising from ensuring Elections were Covid safe.
<b>Total Policy &amp; Governance</b>		<b>850,521</b>	<b>(177,919)</b>	

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<b>Children's Safeguarding &amp; Family Support</b>			
CIC Placements	17,389,447	1,721,999	There has been significant pressure on residential placement costs, with a number of existing placements becoming significantly more expensive due to the complexities and challenges being presented. In addition five young people have been placed on remand and with costs of £385 per day, this alone has added £546K to the projected costs for the year. However, since the last cabinet a number of young people have been successfully stepped down from residential placements which has mitigated some of the pressures. The placement budget is based on a detailed model which reflects anticipated placement numbers and costs. Work is ongoing to review the current projections and reflect the latest information available for planned cessations (adoption, stepdown, reunification).
Post 18 Staying Put & Leaving Care Support	428,208	138,198	The demography of higher cost placements, with a significant number of teenagers approaching adulthood, has contributed to budget pressure in this area.
Health Funding	(400,000)	234,299	Health representatives now attend the weekly RAMP Panel to discuss new placement costs. They are involved in all discussions where the service considers there to be a requirement for funding linked to health needs. This increased engagement has been helpful and led to contributions from health increasing compared to 2020/21. This increased engagement is to be reinforced by meetings with the CCG to discuss existing placements where the child or young person has health needs.
Staffing - salaries	13,255,425	(442,006)	There have been a number of vacancies during the year, which have contributed to this underspend. Recruitment is proving increasingly challenging for T&W, reflecting the national situation and this is beginning to push up agency costs (see below). Work is underway to address this by ensuring that our recruitment package is competitive for areas of staffing pressure.
Staffing - Agency Costs	160,000	205,217	Agency staff are covering maternity/sickness absence in the service, but also increasingly covering for posts which are proving difficult to recruit to.
Staffing - Family Safeguarding Model	0	512,588	Grant funding will contribute to the costs of the Family Safeguarding initiative which has commenced this year (see matching income below).
Grant funding drawn down for Family Safeguarding project	0	(512,588)	
Contribution from Reserves	(578,991)	(111,916)	
Children with Disabilities	1,198,298	(123,275)	This area spent less in 2020/21 than the 2021/22 budget, but it is expected that as CV19 restrictions reduce, activity will return to more usual levels.
Children in Care Adoption Allowances	291,400	(47,900)	

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Joint Adoption Service	774,417	51,972	External adoption agency fees have led to the forecast overspend. The 2021/22 outturn for this area will also potentially be impacted by the ongoing review of the Adoption Support Fund being undertaken by Shropshire, as this will determine whether the current assumptions for monies claimed but needing to be returned are accurate.
Under £50k	3,619,000	610,227	Contributors to the variance include legal costs, assessment fees and contributions to property adaptations.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36,137,205</b>	<b>2,236,815</b>	
Independent Review - Staffing	701,610	(97,008)	
Independent Review - Under £50k	193,849	12,361	
<b>Total Children's Safeguarding &amp; Family Support</b>	<b>37,032,664</b>	<b>2,152,168</b>	
<b>Education &amp; Skills</b>			
Traded Advisory Service	88,081	68,935	The Department for Education (DfE) has announced that the amount of School Improvement Grant allocated from September 2021 will be reduced to reflect academy conversions in local authorities in recent years. The projections reflect this reduction.
Home to school transport	2,854,632	503,428	There is an existing pressure in this area which has been exacerbated by a sharp increase in taxi costs from September 2021. There are a number of factors contributing to this. Competition in the local area has reduced. Subsequently the largest local operator increased prices by 20% and in addition the local market for taxi drivers is tight, leading to upward pressure on costs. A number of initiatives are underway to address these issues, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work to develop market – given lack of competition and increased costs of transport/taxis.</li> <li>• Seek continued efficiencies by reviewing routes and retendering and moving away from high cost provision.</li> <li>• Increasing the take-up Personal Transport Budgets to encourage alternative transport options (and enabling Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) to be utilised for high needs pupils).</li> <li>• Significantly increase numbers of young people receiving travel training.</li> <li>• Providing minibus transport rather than taxis where possible and re-tendering of taxi contracts.</li> </ul>
Post 16 transport	295,970	158,536	There is an existing pressure in this area, due to a number of post 16 young people with high needs needing individual transport arrangements. As with pre 16 transport this pressure has been supplemented by a sharp increase in taxi costs from September.
Work Ready, Life Ready	530,934	59,721	Education Business Partnership income is currently projected to be lower than budgeted because the usual work experience placements in the Spring weren't able to take place because of CV19 restrictions in place at the time. The service generates income from schools for each placement.

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Skills Service Delivery		(109,352)	125,432	There is an existing pressure in this area. The service continues to seek to identify ways to achieve efficiencies, but the impact of CV19 on normal income generating activities has made this more challenging.
Arthog		292,626	336,299	Summer term bookings for Arthog have been fundamentally impacted by restrictions caused by CV19. Since lockdown began in 2020, Arthog's ability to operate has been severely restricted. The financial projections currently assume that from Autumn onwards a more normal pattern of activity is resumed.
Variation under £50K		9,926,837	(136,134)	
<b>Total Education &amp; Skills</b>		<b>13,879,728</b>	<b>1,116,217</b>	
<b>Adult Social Care</b>				
Long Term Care Purchasing	Residential/Residential(Dementia) care, Nursing/Nursing (Dementia) care, Homecare, Direct Payments, Shared Lives, Supported Accommodation and Supported Living, Daycare: Spot and Block contracts	57,847,675	2,769,068	Long term block and spot care expenditure pressure currently forecast.
Purchasing - Short Term Reablement care (through BCF)	Bed based care and homecare for up to six weeks	3,114,795	3,140,985	Current projected enablement gross spend. This will be partly offset by income from the CCG as part of the risk share agreement and further income, also from the CCG, which relates to specific initiatives and Covid related costs-see below
Income	Recharges to the CCG		(1,529,170)	This income covers costs arising from services commissioned by the Local Authority where funding is held by the CCG or is Commissioned on behalf of the CCG.i.e. Hospital Discharge Programme, Winter Pressures etc.
Income	Joint Funding	(1,681,218)	(718,782)	Additional funding projected relating to clients who have part of their care funded by the CCG. There is still a small amount of recharges unpaid relating to 20/21 and some differences relating to the quarter 1 recharge, but these are actively being chased by ASC Finance. Any reduction in the amount payable will have an adverse impact on this reported position.
Operational Teams	All team costs and non controllable spend	9,654,597	422,988	Following a review of agency numbers and spend to date it now seems likely that agency workers will be extended longer than projected earlier on in the financial year and so this variance is based on the assumption that all current SW agency staff will remain until March 22. This is due in part to difficulties recruiting to Social Worker vacancies and the increase in clients during 2021.

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Variation under £50K		(20,953,808)	(47,456)	(500,000) Agreed use of reserves to offset increased short-term care costs as agreed in the budget strategy
<b>Total Adult Social Care</b>		<b>47,982,041</b>	<b>3,537,633</b>	
<b>Health, Wellbeing &amp; Commissioning</b>				
Sexual Health Services		190,000	(253,921)	This is due to reduced service capacity and attendance due to COVID-19 in both the integrated sexual health service and primary care. Activity is starting to increase with additional clinic being delivered to meet an increasing demand.
0-19 Commissioning		0	(223,902)	Additional implementation funding which was awarded to the provider on a non-recurring basis to support new developments to meet the service needs, was not implemented as a result of COVID-19. The service is now fully operating and therefore this work is now progressing.
Stop Smoking Service		7,904	(107,219)	There are vacancies within the team but plans are being progressed to recruit to these posts, which are needed to deliver elements of the Health Inequalities plan. In addition there is an underspend against the prescribing budget as a result of problems with the national supply chain. Discussions are taking place with the CCG and local medicines management to agree pathways to address this.
Library Service		1,392,207	84,240	Full year savings target not yet achieved due to delay in implementation of restructure and loss of income from Book fines/photocopying due to library closures due to Covid -19.
Health Protection Contribution to Public Health Reserve		50	(73,384) 705,234	Use of Public Health Grant to fund Health Protection SDM freeing up base budget Eligibility criteria determining the use of Public Health grant result in the unapplied grant (due to reduced expenditure on eligible services) being carried forward
Variation under £50K		804,786	(129,900)	
<b>Total Health, Wellbeing &amp; Commissioning</b>		<b>2,394,947</b>	<b>1,148</b>	
<b>Neighbourhood &amp; Enforcement Services</b>				
New Roads & Streetworks Act	Various	(448,130)	(148,828)	Underspend predominately arising from part year vacant posts £106k, plus additional income projected over and above income target for NRSWA.
Variations Under £50k		31,172,904	72,813	£20k income pressure from Ironbridge Car Parks
<b>Total Neighbourhood &amp; Enforcement Services</b>		<b>30,724,774</b>	<b>(76,015)</b>	

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<b>Communities, Customer &amp; Commercial Services</b>				
Leisure	Income	(5,269,155)	688,636	Net shortfall projected against income due to the impact of closures and social distancing restrictions during Q1 as a result of Covid. Service Variations include income pressure from the closure of Newport Pool from December until the end of March for improvements to the pool and grant-funded works to reduce carbon emissions as part of our commitment to tackle climate change
Education Catering	Income - net of food costs	(3,189,085)	459,736	Net impact on School catering based on meal numbers up to October half term, with issues arising due to the numbers of children isolating. This does not account for any charges to schools for UIFSM not taken. The position is expected to remain challenging due to the number of Covid cases in schools.
Commercial catering	Income - net of food costs	(203,990)	180,214	Projected shortfall in income as Café Go and Ice Rink Café closed part year due to Covid plus allowance made for a lower customer capacity once open.
ICT - Corporate Income	Income	(332,345)	91,353	Shortfall anticipated against project income
ICT - External	Various	(54)	66,341	Projected shortfall in income due to the loss of income from one school academy chain, offset by reduction in Microsoft Enterprise Agreement below and securing new school contracts.
ICT - MFD's	Various	(104,191)	89,391	Shortfall against income from MFD's due to lower printing volumes as a result of home working. This loss assumes that staff return to the office for 2 days a week from the end of July. Corresponding underspends will be held within Service budgets.
ICT - Telephone Recharges	Various	(48,944)	(99,196)	Impact of reduction in VOIP charges.
Oakengates Theatre	Income	(528,510)	173,928	Covid pressure is due to net loss on income from shows for April to June. Service pressure reflects shortfalls in income anticipated for the rest of the year.
Co Operative Council	Income	(50,920)	50,920	Historic £75k private wire saving not able to be delivered, other savings identified to reduce this target to £51k. Proposal is to generate additional savings through delivery of carbon reduction projects funded by the climate change capital budget.
Customer Contact Centre	Employees	720,770	98,257	Not fully achieving the savings target of £104k. This is being covered by additional welfare reform grants beings received by the Benefits team
Housing Benefit Subsidy	Various	(190,000)	399,266	£98k pressure due to lower level of recovery of overpayments. £78k pressure from B & B spend whereby no subsidy can be claimed back and also £785k lost subsidy from Charity landlords where only 60% subsidy can be claimed back.
Housing Benefit/Council Tax Support Team	Supplies & Services	158,388	(67,763)	Projected savings on Print and Postage costs.
Housing Benefit/Council Tax Support Team	Income	(910,075)	(89,461)	Projected additional grants achieved.

2021/22 Revenue Budget Variations over £50,000				
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		£	£	
Births, Deaths & Marriages	Various	(64,090)	64,073	Projected income shortfalls as a result of reduction in number of ceremonies in the early part of the financial year, however ceremonies are now returning to pre-Covid levels. This income shortfall is offset by reduction in staffing costs.
Other variations under £50k		13,848,404	(64,311)	
<b>Total Communities, Customer &amp; Commercial Services</b>		<b>3,836,203</b>	<b>2,041,384</b>	

2021/22 Revenue Budget Variations over £50,000				
Description		Budget	Total Variation	Comments
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<b>Housing, Employment &amp; Infrastructure</b>				
Housing	Homelessness B&B gross cost	-	272,071	Homelessness gross cost of £272k estimated for the provision of Bed & Breakfast associated with 'Everyone In' including NRPF (no recourse to public funds) clients, This is an improved position from last year as a result of the anticipated benefit of the Next Steps programme from MHCLG.
	Homelessness B&B - Housing benefit Income	-	(191,934)	Housing benefit income to offset B&B Homelessness clients.
Private Sector Housing	Employees	-	55,647	Agency costs associated with backfilling long term sickness.
II&BS	Employees	(50,458)	53,303	PIOHS Capital funding no longer available.to fund post.
Other under £50k		2,034,079	10,970	
<b>Total Housing, Employment &amp; Infrastructure</b>		<b>1,983,621</b>	<b>200,057</b>	
<b>Corporate Communications</b>				
<b>Total Corporate Communications</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Corporate</b>				
Council Wide Items (incl. Covid Funding)		(16,128,108)	(5,178,982)	
Shropshire Pension Fund	Compensation payments/prepayment discount		(477,000)	The benefit/discount received from prepaying the employers pension contribution in April 2020.
Purchase Rebates	Income	(172,500)	172,500	Impact of no dividend from WME in 2021/22.
Staff Miscellaneous	Employees	988,390	(165,730)	Underspend projected against pension charges from Shropshire Pension Fund
<b>Total Corporate</b>		<b>(15,312,218)</b>	<b>(5,649,212)</b>	
<b>Total</b>		<b>131,013,585</b>	<b>58,155</b>	
		131,013,585	58,155	
		131,013,585	58,155	