

| 2022/23 Revenue Budget Variations over £50,000 | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------|------------------|---|
| Description | | Budget | Variation | Comments |
| | | £ | £ | |
| Prosperity & Investment | | | | |
| BIT | Operational , Admin & other property costs | 7,023,310 | 76,425 | Various pressures across a number of proprieties including corporate assets to be sold. |
| | Utility inflation costs | | 430,000 | Impact of inflation and changes to standard charge bandings across Operational and Admin Buildings as confirmed by WME. |
| | Funded from Corporate contingency | | (430,000) | Funding from Corporate Inflation contingency |
| Housing Investment Programme | Income | (133,500) | 110,300 | DMA income - slippage of schemes |
| R&I | PIP Income | (8,890,090) | 442,000 | Growth Fund income shortfall due to slippage of scheme developments into future years along with voids which are currently being marketed. |
| | MSCP Income | (406,180) | 147,815 | Southwater car park reduced income due to a reduced return of footfall to the centre. |
| | Contribution from reserves | - | (596,000) | PIP reserves drawn down to offset above pressures |
| Development Management | Employee costs | - | 135,000 | Net cost of agency to cover a number of vacant posts which have been very difficult to recruit into. Agency resource is required to ensure delivery of Statutory responsibilities. |
| | Legal costs | 5,830 | 50,000 | Planning appeal legal costs associated with 2 solar farm applications, after applying one off reserves. |
| | Approved provider Income | 743,100 | 213,871 | Approved provider income pressure due to skill set shortage on vacant posts. This is offset by one off salary underspends from backfill arrangements of Highways Development manager. |
| | One off Reserves | - | (150,144) | Use of one off reserves |
| | Variations under £50,000 | (4,811,960) | 73,539 | |
| Total Prosperity & Investment | | (6,469,490) | 502,806 | |
| Finance & HR | | | | |

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| Treasury | | 1,166,573,690 | (3,550,000) | Benefit arising from re-profiled capital programme and use of some temporary borrowing at lower than budgeted interest rates. |
| | Variations under £50,000 | (1,152,745,266) | (209,645) | Vacant posts plus PFI additional inflation above levels assumed in October 2021 at budget setting |
| | Supplies & Services | - | (18,700) | Drawdown of inflation from central inflation contingency |
| Total Finance & HR | | 13,828,424 | (3,778,345) | |
| Policy & Governance | | | | |
| | Use of Reserves | 0 | (41,000) | Use of one off reserves |
| | Variations under £50,000 | 968,831 | 41,000 | |
| Total Policy & Governance | | 968,831 | 0 | |
| Children's Safeguarding & Family Support | | | | |
| CIC Placements | | 17,556,758 | 4,967,463 | The very significant variation compared to the placement costs budget is predominantly driven by residential placements. In particular, in the first few months of this financial year there were a number of new residential placements, a number arising from placement breakdowns, combined with some large increases in existing placement costs driven by increasing challenges and complexity presented by young people requiring specialist residential care. The scale of this upward pressure has eased over the summer and step-down plans are being pursued for a large proportion of the children in residential placements. In addition some of the pressure in this area is offset by an increased contribution from the NHS towards elements of the placements costs where the young people are presenting with health needs (see 'Health funding' line below). Future budget requirements are being analysed through a placements model which forms the basis of budget setting. The model is being reviewed in the context of the current and projected situation |
| Post 18 Staying Put & Leaving Care Support | | 542,610 | 288,488 | These costs are made up of Leaving Care, Shared Lives and Staying Put placements for young people who have previously been in care who have since turned 18. Whilst recognising that our corporate parenting responsibilities and need to support remain for young people up to the age of 25, these costs they have contributed to pressure on this budget area. |

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| Staffing - salaries | | 14,907,803 | (197,022) | There are a number of vacancies across the service, resulting in this forecast underspend, although this and service pressure are leading to an increasing need to employ agency staff, with a higher average cost compared to directly employed staff. |
| Staffing - Agency Costs | | 160,400 | 1,261,954 | As noted above a combination of vacancies and service pressures has resulted in significant agency costs being incurred. In addition to individual agency workers, two agency teams have been procured, in order to provide the capacity needed to meet the current level of resource requirements and to enable statutory safeguarding requirements to be delivered. |
| Staffing - Family Safeguarding Model | | - | 231,898 | Grant funding will contribute to the costs of the family safeguarding initiative (see income from grant and reserves below). |
| Grant funding drawn down for Family Safeguarding Project | | (119,820) | (161,168) | |
| Reserves drawn down for Family Safeguarding Project | | (30,692) | (41,625) | |
| Contribution from Reserves | | (664,131) | (300,387) | Includes additional funds drawn down for emergency duties team |
| Children with Disabilities | | 1,198,758 | 120,850 | This area is under financial pressure, in part because of recent costs increases from providers of support. A number of initiatives are underway to ensure that cost effective and appropriate support is provided to families of children with disabilities. A Direct Payments Officer has also been appointed and a robust review of current payment levels and the level of balances in fair share accounts is being undertaken to ensure that the personal budgets provided to families are at an appropriate level. |
| Children in Care Adoption Allowances | | 291,550 | (66,633) | Current projection for allowance payments is lower than budget available. |
| Joint Adoption Service (JAS) | | 774,637 | 103,801 | There is an ongoing budget pressure in JAS arising from a staffing increase some years ago that was intended to be offset by increased adoption allowance income, but this hasn't increased to a sufficient degree to offset the cost increase. In recent years, this has been mitigated by savings from staffing vacancies during the year. Adoption costs can fluctuate dependent upon the extent of adoption placements via external adoption agencies, which incur significant one-off costs. |

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| Health Funding | | (400,000) | (1,200,000) | Following the marked increase in income in 2021/22, the increased engagement with health colleagues has continued and resulted in a significant increase in contributions towards placement costs. |
| Under £50k | | 4,043,693 | 410,551 | Main contributors to the variance are projected legal costs, childminder fees, taxi costs, section 17 costs (expenditure to support children in need) and expenditure on families with no recourse to public funds. |
| TOTAL | | 38,261,566 | 5,418,169 | |
| Independent Review - Staffing | | 717,152 | (43,853) | |
| Independent Review - Under £50k | | 170,629 | 2,016 | |
| Total Children's Safeguarding & Family Support | | 39,149,347 | 5,376,332 | |
| | | | | |
| Education & Skills | | | | |
| | | | | |

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| School Transport (pre 16) | | 2,953,773 | 830,000 | <p>There is an existing pressure in this area. A large part of the overspend in 2021/22 was driven by a sharp increase in taxi costs in September 2021, which has a full year impact in 2022/23. Much of this increase was therefore due to contractual inflation and there are further contractual inflation pressures from renewed taxi contracts for September 2022. The impact of this inflation is being quantified and there is likely to be an allocation of additional budget from the corporate inflationary reserve to mitigate some of the pressure currently being reported. The data for Autumn Term 2022 transport was in the process of being compiled at the time this monitoring was completed so the year end position will become clearer once this has been completed. A number of initiatives have been undertaken to address the cost pressures impacting upon home to school transport, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to develop market – given lack of competition and increased costs of transport / taxis. • Seek continued efficiencies by reviewing routes and retendering and moving away from high cost provision. • Increase the take-up of Personal Transport Budgets to encourage alternative transport options (and enabling Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) to be utilised for high needs pupils). • Significantly increase numbers of young people receiving travel training. • Providing minibus transport rather than taxis where possible and re-tendering of taxi contracts. |
| Post 16 Transport | | 295,686 | 150,000 | <p>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 sharp increases in taxi costs. As noted above, the data for Autumn Term 2022 transport was in the process of being compiled at the time this monitoring was completed so the position will become clearer once this has been completed.</p> |
| Arthog | | 222,285 | 89,614 | <p>Following the return to normal operations after the ending of covid restrictions, there have been some cost pressures impacting upon Arthog's provision.</p> |
| Skills | | 701,253 | 67,392 | <p>There is a longstanding pressure in this area arising from a previous savings target. The service continues to seek to identify ways to achieve efficiencies, and with a return to normal levels of activity after the impact of covid, is looking to generate additional income.</p> |

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| Insurance | | (10,228) | 57,882 | Contributions from schools towards insurance costs have reduced as more schools have converted to academies and thus don't buy into council insurance cover. |
| Under £50K | | 9,789,025 | (82,238) | |
| Total Education & Skills | | 13,951,794 | 1,112,650 | |
| Adult Social Care | | | | |
| Long Term Care Purchasing | Spot Contracts-Adults with Learning Disability | 27,336,200 | 915,500 | Variance based on projected expenditure against the budget established for the Learning disabled 18-64 age group |
| | Spot Contracts-Mental Health | 4,110,740 | (166,300) | Variance based on projected expenditure against the budget established for the Mental Health 18-64 age group |
| | Spot Contracts-Older People & Physical Disability | 28,447,250 | 580,000 | Variance based on projected expenditure against the budget established for the 65+ age group |
| | Block Contracts | 3,708,640 | 998,820 | Block purchased bed contracts for all client groups |
| Short Term Care(Better Care Fund) | Reablement | 3,147,160 | 0 | The short term care budget for reablement forms part of the integrated care partnership with the NHS referred to as the "Better Care Fund". Reablement is free for up to 4 weeks. Delivery of homecare and bed based services is a function of the NHS but is commissioned by the Council. In 22/23 the expenditure pressure based on the agreed base budget is in now expected to be in excess of £6.9m. The ICB have agreed funding of around £5.5m to date with further discussions needed for the remaining £1.4m of pressure now being seen.. There is risk that this pressure could fall to the Council to find. As the costs of this should fall to the NHS monitoring reflects only the agreed budget . |
| Income from ICB | Joint Funding | (2,701,220) | (684,780) | ICB funding towards care package expenditure where the client has a health element to their care |
| My Options | Adult Services | 297,890 | 898,420 | Income no longer generated in the main from Day services where clients now receive a virtual service |
| My Options | Children's Services | 128,820 | 132,270 | Funded Summer play groups and activities |
| | Variations under £50,000 | (11,114,135) | (369,540) | |
| Total Adult Social Care | | 53,361,345 | 2,304,390 | |

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| Health & Wellbeing | | | | |
| Public Health Management | Staffing | 57,020 | (76,357) | Resulting from various staff vacancies |
| Sexual Health Services | Various | 190,000 | (51,800) | Reduced activity within contracted services |
| Stop Smoking Services | Supplies & Services | 7,650 | (171,050) | Reduced activity within contract particularly with the issuing of prescriptions |
| Other Public Health Commissioned | Variations under £50,000 | 1,428 | (73,238) | |
| Public Health Grant reserve | | | 372,445 | Transfer unapplied Public Health Grant to reserve |
| General Fund Budgets with HWB area | Variations under £50,000 | 1,969,165 | 58,004 | Libraries, T&W Coroner Service and Health Protection |
| Total Health & Wellbeing | | 2,225,263 | 58,004 | |
| Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services | | | | |
| Public Protection | Employee | 230,170 | 57,359 | Use of agency staff to cover maternity leave, partly offset by salary savings. |
| Environmental Maintenance | Various | 3,835,689 | 151,808 | Overspend against Grounds & Cleansing contract . £66k due to inflationary increases over and above inflation included within current 2022/23 budgets. |
| Contract inflation requirement from Corporate Contingency | Contribution from reserves | - | (66,107) | Drawdown of corporate contingency to offset impact of increased inflation requirement from point at which 2022/23 budget was set. |
| Concessionary Travel | Various | 1,883,320 | (57,546) | Net underspend on concessionary travel partly offset by underachievement of departure charge income |

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| Waste & Neighbourhood services | Various | 14,950,690 | (432,670) | Underspend due to reduced food tonnages and reduced residual waste tonnages. Underspend partly offset by increased demand for bulky collections. |
| Refugee Programme | Various | - | (300,000) | Underspends associated with evacuee programmes |
| Variations Under £50k | Variations under £50,000 | 11,947,108 | (7,482) | Various underspends across Neighbourhood & Enforcement services. |
| Total Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services | | 32,846,977 | (654,639) | |
| Communities, Customer & Commercial Services | | | | |
| Leisure | Income | (5,625,195) | 67,821 | Net shortfall projected against income. Service variations largely due to income pressure from the closure of Newport Pool until July for improvements to the pool and grant-funded works to reduce carbon emissions as part of our commitment to tackle climate change. Other sites performing well with projected underspends for Aspirations and swimming lessons at all other centres. |
| Housing Benefit Subsidy | Various | (190,000) | 508,559 | £189k pressure due to lower level of recovery of overpayments plus £107k adjustment to reflect impact of bad debt provision relating to the housing benefit overpayments. £212k pressure from housing benefit expenditure/subsidy variation including B & B spend whereby no subsidy can be claimed back and supported accommodation where only 60% subsidy can be claimed. |
| Education Catering | Income - net of food costs | (3,122,638) | 95,106 | Projected shortfall in school meal income due to reduced meal numbers |
| Commercial Catering | Income - net of food costs | (203,990) | 107,850 | Projected shortfall in income as Café Go and Ice Rink Café closed plus allowance made for a lower customer capacity following closure's. |
| Discretionary Awards and Welfare Benefits Team: | Staffing | 375,010 | (56,446) | Staff vacancies |
| Housing Benefit/Council Tax Support Team: | Supplies & Services | 158,388 | (64,328) | Projected savings on Print and Postage costs. |
| Cemeteries | Income | (269,250) | (62,915) | Increased income from Burials |

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| Solar Farm | Income | (775,750) | (176,626) | Additional income generated from the Power Purchase Agreement due to increase rates per kwh |
| ICT | Supplies & Services | 2,106,115 | (486,426) | Capitalisation of Microsoft Licenses |
| | Other variations under £50k | 12,653,694 | 3,933 | Variations across Communities, Customer & Commercial Services |
| Total Communities, Customer & Commercial Services | | 5,106,384 | (63,472) | |
| Housing, Employment & Infrastructure | | | | |
| Housing Solutions | Homelessness - Bed & Breakfast expenditure | - | 198,000 | Homelessness gross cost for the provision of Bed & Breakfast associated with 'Everyone In'. This is an estimate based on actual to date. |
| | Homelessness - Bed & Breakfast Income | - | (137,000) | Homelessness Housing Benefit income towards the costs above. |
| Strategic Housing & Regeneration | Income | (63,000) | 63,000 | Additional income from Affordable Housing Project to cover debt charges - business cases are being developed, it is anticipated the properties will be asap but that might span across to early 23/24, impacting on the delivery of this target in 22/23. |
| | Variations under £50,000 | 2,173,251 | (95,400) | One off vacancy underspends and other one off budgets released. |
| | Use of Reserves | 0 | (31,079) | One off reserves applied |
| Total Housing, Employment & Infrastructure | | 2,110,251 | (2,479) | |
| Corporate Communications | | | | |
| | Variations under £50,000 | 0 | (25,525) | Various underspends across Corporate Communications |
| Total Corporate Communications | | 0 | (25,525) | |
| Corporate | | | | |
| Council Wide Items | | (22,126,376) | (7,684) | variations under £50,000 |
| Health & Social Care Levy | | | (300,000) | Cancellation of Levy; Estimated Benefit November - March |
| Additional funding | | | (1,261,000) | |

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| | | £ | £ | |
| Total Corporate | | (22,126,376) | (1,568,684) | |
| Total | | 134,952,750 | 3,261,038 | |