

Public Agenda Pack



EXECUTIVE

Wednesday, 15 January 2025

10.00 am

**John Meikle Room, The Deane House,
Belvedere Road, Taunton TA1 1HE**

SUPPLEMENT TO THE AGENDA

To: The members of the Executive

We are now able to enclose the following information which was unavailable when the agenda was published:

Agenda Item 7 2024/25 General Fund Revenue Budget Monitoring Report - Month
7 (Pages 3 - 96)

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Decision Report

Committee: Executive

Meeting Date – 15/01/2025

Key Decision – No



2024/25 General Fund Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report – Month 7 – End of October 2024

Chair of Committee: Cllr Bill Revans Leader of the Council and Lead Member for Governance & Communications

Executive Member(s): Cllr Liz Leyshon Deputy Leader of the Council and Lead Member for Finance, Procurement and Performance

Local Member(s) and Division(s) affected: All

Executive Director: Maria G. Christofi Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer)

Executive Summary

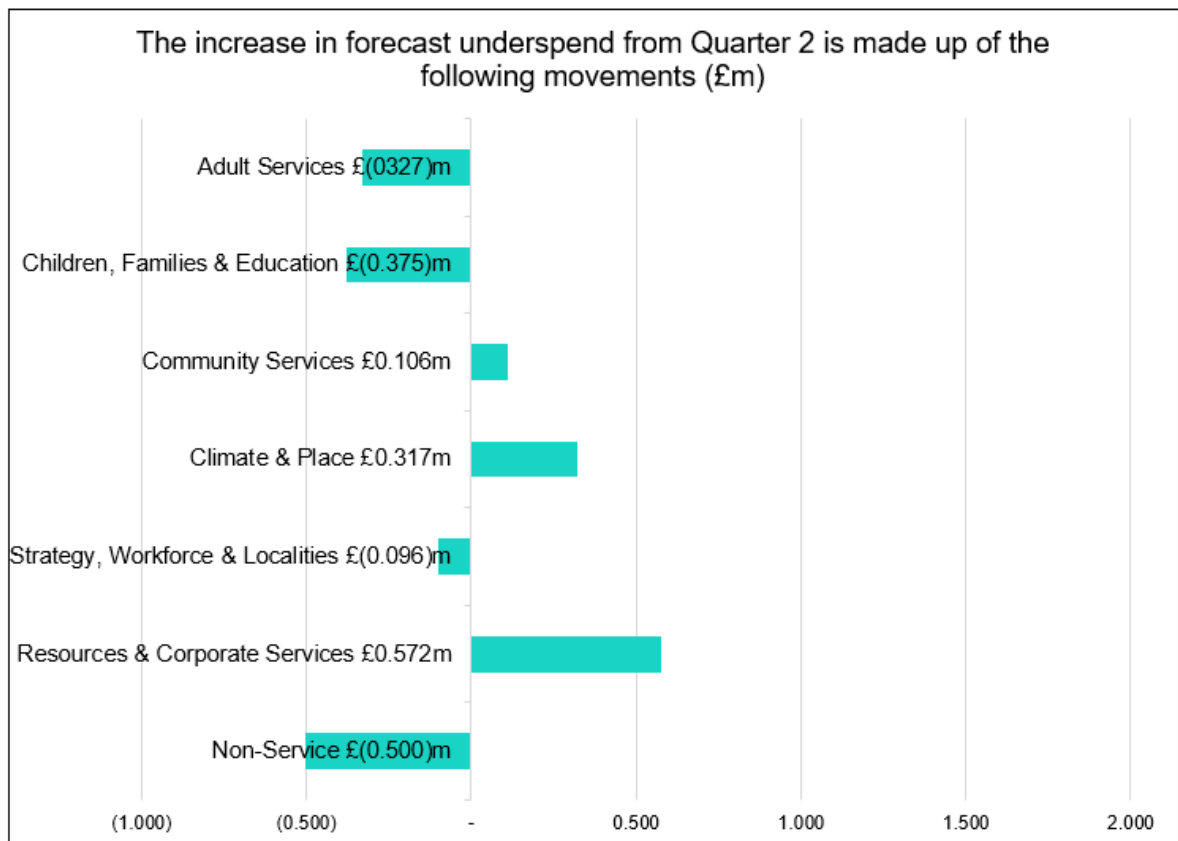
1. This is the General Fund Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report for the end of October 2024 (Month 7). The purpose of this report is to provide Members with a forecast of the 2024/25 year-end spend (Outturn) against the Council's approved Revenue budget and Capital Programme budget as at the end of October 2024, and to explain projected variances against individual revenue budgets, capital projects, and the capital programme as a whole.

General Fund Revenue

2. The last report Executive received was the General Fund Revenue Budget Monitoring Report for Quarter 2, as at the end of September 2024, which reported the revenue budget as on-budget.
3. The Council is still forecasting a **balanced revenue position** (on-budget). There is a forecast **underspend** of **£2.722m** within **Service Directorates** for 2024/25. The Corporate contingency of £6.000m remains unallocated but released into the forecast, leading to a **revenue forecast underspend of £8.782m** within budget lines. The **£8.782m** will **reduce the drawdown** from **Earmarked Reserves** to **£30.717m** which were utilised to balance the 2024/25 budget.
4. There has been an **increase of £0.303m** in the revenue forecast underspend position of £8.479m reported in Quarter 2. The main movements are reported in the following areas:
5. The most significant movements since Quarter 2 are as follows:
 - **Adults Services** has an increased underspend of **£0.327m** mainly due to lower demand, reduced costs, and growth being less than originally anticipated.
 - **Children, Families & Education Services**, has a decreased overspend of **£0.375m** mainly due to lower demand, reduced costs, and holding staff vacancies.

- **Climate & Place Services** has an increased overspend of **£0.317m** mainly due to an unachievable saving identified within **Waste Services**.
 - **Resources & Corporate Services** has a decreased underspend of **£0.572m** largely due to no longer using the Investment Risk Reserve to offset the overspend in Commercial Investment Properties.
 - **Non-Service** has an increased underspend of **£0.500m** due to the general fund proportion of the **Pension Deficit** charge being lower than anticipated at budget setting.
6. Work continues to ensure that assumptions within the forecast are relevant and robust. This is a priority in those areas with demand led budgets and pressures.
7. **Chart 1** is a graph showing the largest changes in revenue forecast outturn position from Quarter 2 (reported to the Executive on the 02 December 2024), and Month 7.

Chart 1: Movement in revenue forecast outturn position from Quarter 2



Recommendations

8. That the Executive:

- a) Notes Council is now **forecasting a balanced revenue position** (on-budget).
- b) Notes the total Council revenue forecast underspend of **£8.782m** for the year. There is a forecast **underspend of £2.722m within Service Directorates** for 2024/25 and the Corporate Contingency of £6.000m, whilst remains unallocated it has been released into the forecast outturn within budget lines **Table 1**.
- c) Note that the planned use of reserves of £36.800m for Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Support towards the budget is forecast to **reduce by £8.782m to £28.018m**, due to the forecast underspend within budget lines (**section 18**).
- d) Agree that mitigating actions are to be identified in order to reduce any overspends, to take action and to contribute to the long-term financial sustainability of the authority.
- e) Agree that the **Council continues with the aim of avoiding a Section 114 notice** by taking all of the necessary actions and continuing to operate as if one has been issued.
- f) Note the progress and **delivered savings of £17.050m** of the approved savings programme as set out in **Table 2** and **Appendix J**.
- g) Notes that work will continue to find mitigating or substitute savings for the **£1.239m** of Red unachievable savings, deliver the **£5.004m** Amber at risk savings and the **£16.584m** Green on track savings.
- h) Note the in-year forecast overspend on the Dedicated Schools Grant of **£32.767m, an increase of £4.508m** from Quarter 2 (**in section 12**).
- i) Note the total forecast Dedicated Schools Grant year-end **deficit of £68.707m** as set out in **Appendix C**.
- j) Note the collection rates for Council Tax and Business Rates as set out in **section 19**.
- k) Note the Capital Programme forecast outturn at Month 7 is £113.678m.
- l) Approve that any application for **Exceptional Financial Support** for the 2025/26 budget is delegated to the Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) as detailed in **section 31** of this report.

Reasons for Proposals

To ensure that the Council continues to work to a balanced revenue and capital outturn and to maintain tight financial control over its budget.

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Main report and supporting information

Background and purpose of report

General Fund Revenue

9. Full Council approved the 2024/25 budget in February 2024, and **Table 1** provides a summary of budget, forecasts, and variances on a service-by-service basis as at the end of October 2024. This table shows a breakdown of the budget into expenditure and income to give the net budget for each service. Further details and mitigations being taken by the responsible director are outlined in **Appendices A to M**.

Table 1: 2024/25 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

Service Area	Current Expenditure Budget £m	Current Income Budget £m	Current Net Budget £m	Full Year Projection £m	Month 7 Variance £m	Overspend / (Underspend)	RAG Status	Ongoing Pressure £m	One-off Pressures £m	Movement From Month 6 £m
Adult Social Care Operations:										
Physical Disability/Sensory Loss/65 Plus	166.108	(27.873)	138.235	134.630	(3.605)	Underspend	Green	-	8.220	(0.354)
Mental Health	43.367	(6.348)	37.019	36.185	(0.834)	Underspend	Green	-	0.872	(0.004)
Learning Disabilities	145.385	(7.802)	137.583	134.407	(3.176)	Underspend	Green	-	4.053	(0.562)
Adult Social Care - Commissioning	21.595	(94.900)	(73.305)	(69.513)	3.792	Overspend	Red	-	3.792	0.593
Adult Services Total	376.455	(136.923)	239.532	235.709	(3.823)	Underspend	Green	-	16.937	(0.327)
Children & Families	115.076	(16.570)	98.506	108.621	10.115	Overspend	Red	14.701	0.197	0.205
Commissioning & Performance	19.106	(7.521)	11.585	10.954	(0.631)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.104)
Education	59.014	(26.607)	32.407	31.548	(0.859)	Underspend	Green	0.181	1.235	(0.523)
Childrens Services	0.330	(0.001)	0.329	0.084	(0.245)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.047
Children, Family & Education Services Total	193.526	(50.699)	142.827	151.207	8.380	Overspend	Red	14.882	1.432	(0.375)
Housing	14.485	(7.865)	6.620	6.620	-	On-budget	Green	-	0.530	(0.022)
Customer Services	8.856	(3.321)	5.535	5.535	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Cultural Services	12.738	(3.625)	9.113	7.927	(1.186)	Underspend	Green	-	0.120	0.128
Regulatory & Operational Services	24.735	(11.591)	13.144	12.864	(0.280)	Underspend	Green	-	0.454	-
Community Services Total	60.814	(26.402)	34.412	32.946	(1.466)	Underspend	Green	-	1.104	0.106
Climate, Environment & Sustainability	66.838	(8.899)	57.939	61.418	3.479	Overspend	Red	3.000	0.567	0.377
Infrastructure & Transport	49.916	(27.188)	22.728	22.691	(0.037)	Underspend	Green	-	0.914	(0.005)
Economy, Employment & Planning	20.200	(10.264)	9.936	10.084	0.148	Overspend	Amber	-	0.256	(0.050)
Accountable Bodies	4.157	(0.559)	3.598	3.538	(0.060)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.005)
Climate & Place Total	141.111	(46.910)	94.201	97.731	3.530	Overspend	Red	3.000	1.737	0.317
Partnership & Localities	3.109	(0.225)	2.884	2.884	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Strategy & Performance	7.544	(1.059)	6.485	5.795	(0.690)	Underspend	Green	0.140	-	-
Workforce	10.186	(3.963)	6.223	5.391	(0.832)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.048)
Governance, Democratic & Legal Services	11.254	(1.465)	9.789	10.600	0.811	Overspend	Red	1.300	0.023	(0.048)
Strategy, Workforce & Localities Total	32.093	(6.712)	25.381	24.670	(0.711)	Underspend	Green	1.477	0.023	(0.096)
Finance & Procurement	120.475	(106.088)	14.387	13.759	(0.628)	Underspend	Green	0.483	0.601	(0.148)
Strategic Asset Management	19.491	(24.161)	(4.670)	(4.068)	0.602	Underachievement	Red	-	0.860	0.703
Information Communication Technology	20.249	(2.891)	17.358	16.056	(1.302)	Underspend	Green	0.168	0.116	0.017
Resources & Corporate Services Total	160.215	(133.140)	27.075	25.747	(1.328)	Underspend	Green	0.651	1.577	0.572
Public Health	24.039	(23.000)	1.039	1.039	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Corporate Management	1.575	(0.103)	1.472	1.491	0.019	Overspend	Amber	-	0.019	-
Non-Service	78.584	(10.912)	67.672	60.349	(7.323)	Underspend	Green	0.125	-	(0.500)
Traded Services	-	-	-	-	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Total Service Position	1,068.412	(434.801)	633.611	630.889	(2.722)	Underspend	Green	20.135	22.829	(0.303)
Corporate Contingency	6.000	-	6.000	-	(6.000)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
Total After Contingencies	1,074.412	(434.801)	639.611	630.889	(8.722)	Underspend	Green	20.135	22.829	(0.303)
Council Tax	-	(361.071)	(361.071)	(361.071)	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Business Rates	-	(128.447)	(128.447)	(128.447)	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Grants	-	(65.997)	(65.997)	(66.057)	(0.060)	Overachievement	Green	-	0.001	-
Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit	-	(7.713)	(7.713)	(7.713)	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Total After Funding	1,074.412	(998.029)	76.383	67.601	(8.782)	Underspend	Green	20.135	22.830	(0.303)
Reserves	-	(39.499)	(39.499)	(30.717)	8.782	Reduced draw	Green	-	8.782	0.303
Capitalisation Direction	-	(36.884)	(36.884)	(36.884)	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Total Position	1,074.412	(1,074.412)	-	-	-	On-budget	Green	20.135	31.612	-

Key Variances and Movements

10. The final two sections below 'total after contingencies' of **Table 1** above show the different sources of funding to balance the budget for 2024/25. The financial challenges facing the Council are significant and the 2024/25 budget was set with significant one-off resources. Use of **Earmarked Reserves of £36.800m** was budgeted and **Exceptional Financial Support with a Capitalisation Direction of £36.884m** from Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) have been used to close the budget gap and set a balanced budget for 2024/25. Due the forecast underspends within service lines it has been forecast that the draw from Earmarked Reserves will reduce in order to bring the authority in on budget. This reduces the forecast by £8.782m, from £36.800m to £28.018m.

11. The main revenue variances at Month 7 are:

- **Adult Services** is forecasting an **underspend of £3.823m** (1.6% of budget). This is an **increase of £0.327m** from Quarter 2. This is due to commissioning work carried out within the market to reduce weekly residential and nursing fees. The decrease within the Older People and Learning Disabilities budgets are due to growth being less than originally anticipated. The service will continue to monitor this throughout the financial year.
- **Children's Services** is forecasting an **overspend of £8.380m** (5.9% of budget). This is a **decrease of £0.375m** from Quarter 2. This is mainly due to an overspend of £11.846m (£14.701m gross less £2.854m Children's management contingency) on the External Placements budget due to the rising numbers of children moving into high cost residential and unregistered placements. Forecast underspends in Home to School Transport and Special Education Needs (SEN) Transport have increased by £0.523m from Quarter 2 due to reduced average costs per child.
- **Community Services** is forecasting an **underspend of £1.466m** (4.3% of budget). This is a **decrease of £0.106m** from Quarter 2. This is due to legacy budgets of £1.2m still being held in Leisure services. Underspends have also been identified in Museums and Tourism due to devolution or closure of the service, and Regulations and Operations have projected underspends due to updated salary forecasts, and reducing service spend without impacting the delivery of the service and a decrease in Visitor Centre income within Cultural Services.
- **Climate & Place** is forecasting an **overspend of £3.530m** (3.7% of budget). This is an **increase of £0.317m** from Quarter 2. This is due to increased contract costs in Waste Services, and increased expenditure for safety defects, vehicle, and salaries within Highways. There are also overspends within Infrastructures Programme Group due to a review of eligible salary costs that can be allocated to capital projects. Land Charges highlight an income budget that has not yet been achieved, partially offset by holding vacancies and a saving which has now been identified as unachievable within Waste Services.

- **Strategy, Workforce & Localities** is forecasting an **underspend of £0.711m** (2.8% of budget). This is an **increase of £0.096m** from Quarter 2. This is mainly due to a forecast overspend in Legal Services due to reliance on locum/agency lawyers, to deliver statutory and demand led services, because of recruitment challenges offset by savings in staff vacancies.
- **Resources & Corporate Services** is forecasting an **underspend of £1.328m** (4.9% of budget). This is a **decrease of £0.572m** from Quarter 2. This is due to pressures including one-off external audit costs, income not yet achieved, and Health & Safety costs on property, as well as savings on Microsoft products within Information Communications Technology, and the Mendip 5C contract. The decrease is due to a change in approach to offset the overspend in Commercial Investment Properties from service underspends rather than the Investment Risk Reserve.
- **Non-Service** has a forecast outturn **underspend of £7.323m** (10.8% of budget) this is an **increase of £0.500m** from Quarter 2. This is due to the council's debt charges now forecast to be lower than anticipated at budget setting, whilst investment income is expected to be higher by the end of the financial year and the proportion of the Pension Deficit charge to the General Fund being lower than estimated at budget setting.
- The Corporate Contingency budget remains unallocated, however **all £6.000m has been released into the forecast outturn.**
- The **overachievement of £0.060m** income forecast for **grants** is due to receiving confirmation that the 2024/25 Services grant will be more than budgeted. There is no change from Quarter 2.

12. The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) budget for Quarter 2 forecasts an in-year **overspend of £32.767m** on the High Needs Block, this is an **increased overspend of £4.508m** from Quarter 2. The High Needs block budget was set with a budgeted deficit of £18.853m for 2024/25. The cause remains to be mainly due to the Mainstream Top Ups and Costed Plans budgets have had an increase to the average rate of a costed plan of approximately 10%, as well as an increase in the profile of need to higher banded children and the average number of places being higher than anticipated for the financial year within the Independent Non-Maintained School (INMS) and Children Looked After (CLA) Pre-16 budget.

Mitigations

13. To pull back the revenue overspend forecast within Service Directorates, to a balanced position for outturn, and protect the Council's reserves position, the following elements of the budget are being reviewed:

- A focus on Commissioning of suitable Children's Placements including step down

- Capital programme - reviews and reprofiling have been undertaken and will continue. The reduction in the capital financing has been reflected in the revenue forecast outturn
- Alternative funding sources
- Recharges across to Housing Revenue Account (HRA), Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), Public Health Grant (PHG) – recharges are being reviewed throughout the year to ensure that eligible expenditure is being recharged to these
- Invoiced income versus alternative payment methods
- Fees and charges
- Annual underspends (review from 2023/24 outturn) – A review has been undertaken and savings have been identified and reflected in the forecast outturn.

14. Service Directorates that are forecasting overspends are required to identify mitigating actions to address the full forecast overspends, both one-off and ongoing. This is to ensure a balanced outturn position in-year and prevent any pressures rolling forward into 2025/26. The mitigating actions can be found in the service directorate **Appendices A-I**.

MTFP Savings Monitoring

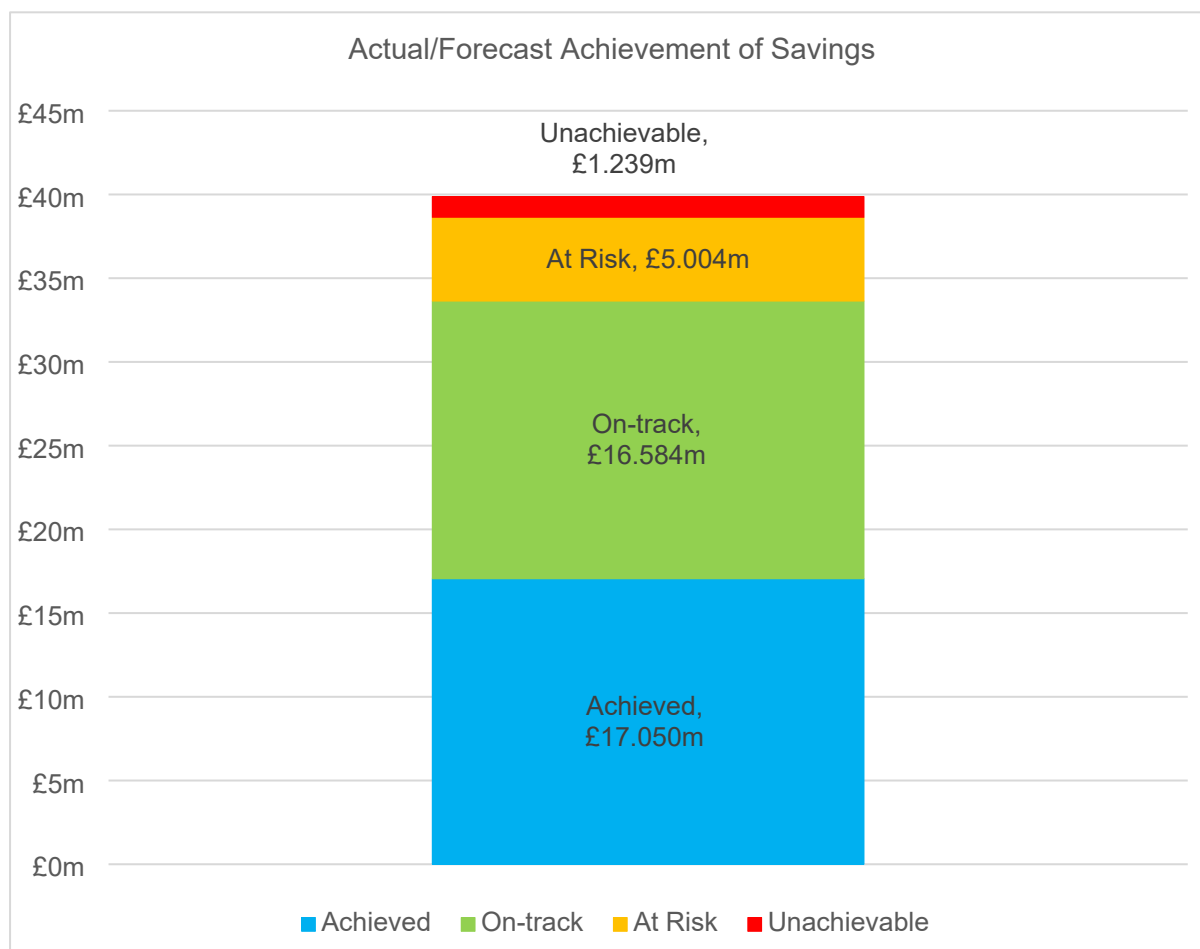
15. The Council's 2024/25 revenue budget included **£34.977m** of approved MTFP savings proposals. In addition to this **£4.9m** of savings which were not achieved in 2023/24 have been rolled forward to 2024/25. Therefore, the total savings to be delivered in 2024/25 is **£39.877m**.

16. **Table 2** shows the Month 7 forecast achievement of savings against the approved amounts. Services monitor these monthly based on their achievement to date and the forecast profile for realising the savings over the year. The forecast positions are reflected in the outturn position.

Table 2: Performance of Agreed Savings Proposals as at end of October 2024 (Month 7)

Service Area	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adults Services	(3.900)	(9.808)	(13.708)	(8.908)	(4.800)	-	-
Children & Family Services	(1.000)	(9.570)	(10.570)	(4.097)	(2.172)	(4.266)	(0.035)
Community Services	-	(2.866)	(2.866)	(0.115)	(2.412)	(0.225)	(0.114)
Climate & Place	-	(5.637)	(5.637)	(2.844)	(1.310)	(0.506)	(0.977)
Strategy, Workforce & Localities	-	(0.484)	(0.484)	(0.402)	(0.082)	-	-
Resources & Corporate Services	-	(2.564)	(2.564)	(0.684)	(1.760)	(0.007)	(0.113)
Public Health	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Service	-	(4.048)	(4.048)	-	(4.048)	-	-
Total	(4.900)	(34.977)	(39.877)	(17.050)	(16.584)	(5.004)	(1.239)
Percentages - Month 7			100%	43%	42%	12%	3%
Percentages - Quarter 2			100%	34%	52%	13%	1%

Chart 2: Actual/Forecast Achievement of Savings during 2024/25



17. Delivery of the savings is vital to ensure the current and future financial viability of the Council. Where savings are not forecast to be achieved then the relevant service directors are working on the development of alternative recovery or mitigation measures. These measures will be listed in future reports.

Reserves

18. The current budget for reserves is £39.499m as detailed in **Table 1**. This is made up of £36.800m of earmarked reserves used to balance the budget and £2.699m of additional service drawdowns. The forecast underspend of £8.782m is due to a reduction in the forecast draw from the £36.800m of reserves used to balance the budget. This brings the authority from an underspend to an on-budget position and protecting the authority’s reserves increasing financial sustainability.

Collection Fund

19. For 2024/25, the amount of Council Tax collected at the end of Month 7 was **66.1%** against a target of 65.82%. The amount of Business Rates collected by the end of

Month 7 was **64.89%** against a target of 63.22%. Both of these collections are ahead of the in-year profile as at Month 7.

Capital Programme

20. This report is for the General Fund and does not include anything in relation to the Council's Housing Revenue Account. The General Fund (GF) mainstream Capital programme that includes all the departments and represents schemes which are funded from Council resources (capital receipts or borrowing). It is the area of the programme where the Council has the greatest discretion.
21. A high-level update on the significant schemes that are planned to be delivered is provided. Each scheme has a nominated Budget Manager who is responsible for ensuring the scheme stays within budget, and who provides the forecast the spend, working with the Capital Finance team and Finance Business Partnering Team.
22. Capital investment decisions are now required to be underpinned by a robust business plan that sets out the full costs and risks and any expected financial return alongside the broader outcomes including economic and social benefits. Where possible the project initiation document/business cases have been collected to provide details on each project. Officers are responsible for monitoring and delivering projects within approved budgets and reporting variances.
23. The Capital and Finance Business Partnering Teams are working closely with Budget Managers to review their capital schemes, with particular focus on the spend profile against that budgeted for 2024/25. The effect of which can be seen in **Table 3** below where the 2024/25 capital budget is now set at £119.319m. This will also allow the Treasury Management Team to forecast more accurately the borrowing requirement for the year.

Table 3: 2024/25 Quarter 2 Capital profiling comparison to original budget and Month 7 budget.

Service	Original Budget 2024/25 £m	Revised Budget per Q2 Report 2024/25 £m	Revised M7 Budget (including £m	Budget slipped into future years £m	Month 7 Variance £m	Overspend / (Underspend)
Adult Services	4.689	4.132	4.132	0.557	-	On-budget
Children, Families & Education Services	40.556	14.166	14.166	26.391	-	On-budget
Community Services	18.689	5.833	6.757	11.957	(0.025)	Underspend
Climate & Place	183.792	88.982	88.982	94.810	-	On-budget
Resources & Corporate Services	20.625	6.071	5.147	15.619	(0.141)	Underspend
Strategy, Workforce & Localities	0.370	0.135	0.135	0.235	-	On-budget
Total Services	268.721	119.319	119.319	149.568	(0.166)	Underspend

Capital Spend for 2024/25

24. Total spending for 2024/25 per **Table 4** below, is estimated to be **£113.678m**; Against the reprofiled budget of £119.319m there is a total variance of £5.640m

being forecast; slippage of £5.475m and an underspend of £0.166m. The slippage will be reviewed and collated over the next two months and any relevant recommendations included in the Quarter 3 report.

25. **Table 4** provides a Directorate level breakdown of the reprofiled 2024/25 budget and spend to Month 7. The slippage mainly relates to the Staplegrove Housing Infrastructure project in Climate & Place, for which a £14.216m grant was received with a spend deadline of 31 March 2025. The delivery of the project is delayed, and negotiations are underway to extend the deadline, however, should the deadline not be extended it is possible that £9.000m can be committed and there is a risk that £5.216m may need to be returned.

a) The net £0.166m underspend is mainly in Property Services following a detailed review of the projects, which identified a number of projects that were completed or old projects brought forward in legacy District budgets that are no longer expected to be delivered.

Table 4: Directorate summary of 2024/25 spend against budget

Capital Programme General Fund	Reprofiled Budget 2024/25 M7 £m	Forecast Outturn 2024/25 M7 £m	Total Variance (under)/ overspend £m	Slippage Forecast to Budget £m	Month 7 Variance £m	Overspend / (Underspend)
Adult Services	4.132	4.132	-	-	-	On-budget
Children, Families & Education Services	14.166	14.166	-	-	-	On-budget
Community Services	6.757	6.752	(0.005)	0.020	(0.025)	Underspend
Climate & Place	88.982	83.549	(5.433)	(5.433)	-	Underspend
Resources & Corporate Services	5.147	4.944	(0.203)	(0.061)	(0.141)	Underspend
Strategy, Workforce & Localities	0.135	0.135	-	-	-	On-budget
Total Services	119.319	113.678	(5.640)	(5.475)	(0.166)	Underspend

26. A summary by Service and Directorate is in **Appendix K**.

External Funding Additions to the Programme since Quarter 2 report for 2024/25

27. There are no **additions** to the capital programme in Month 7 which Members are recommended to approve

Financing of the 2024/25 Capital Programme

28. The financing of the forecast capital outturn is in **Table 5** below. The Grants and Contributions is £94.019m, being made up of Central Government funding of £87.987m (of which £9.000m relates to the Staplegrove Infrastructure Project), Other Grants of £0.788m, and £5.244m of CIL/S106. Borrowings at £18.277m constitute 16.1% of the funding required.

Table 5: Expected Financing of 2024/25 Forecast Spend

Capital Programme General Fund	Forecast Outturn 2024/25	Grant and Contributions	Capital Receipts	RCCO and Reserves	Borrowing
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adult Services	4.132	4.132	-	-	-
Children, Families & Education Services	14.166	8.964	0.009	(0.085)	5.277
Community Services	6.752	2.399	-	0.100	4.253
Climate & Place	83.549	78.132	1.089	0.069	4.259
Resources & Corporate Services	4.944	0.256	0.075	0.126	4.487
Strategy, Workforce & Localities	0.135	0.135	-	-	-
Total Services	113.678	94.019	1.172	0.210	18.277

Capital Programme 2024/25 to 2027/28

29. **Appendix L** shows the total capital programme for 2024/25 to 2027/28, in terms of the Budgeted spend for each year and the total funding.

Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) for the 2025/26 budget

30. The 2024/25 budget was set with the use of significant one-off resources, including use of earmarked reserves (£36.800m) and Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) in the form of a capitalisation direction (£36.884m), approved by MHCLG.

31. As outlined in the Budget Proposals 2025/26 to 2029/30 Report, which went to Executive in December 2024, the current budget gap identified for 2025/26 after taking into account initial savings proposals now stands at £53.846m. The Authority is in discussions with MHCLG regarding an application for Exceptional Financial Support for 2025/26 should this be required. Discussions are in the early stages and will be detailed in future budget update reports. It is requested that any application for EFS for the 2025/26 budget is delegated to the Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) as per **recommendation I** in this report.

Links to Council Plan and Medium-Term Financial Plan

32. The 2024/25 Revenue Budget was approved by Council in February 2024 as part of the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and is the financial resourcing plan to deliver the Council Plan.

33. The 2024/25 Capital Budget was approved by Council in February 2024 alongside the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and is the financial resourcing plan to deliver the Council Plan. Monitoring of the agreed programme has been delegated to Executive and is undertaken on a quarterly basis.

Other options considered

34. No other options were considered as continuing to monitor the budget on a monthly basis is considered best practice.

Key considerations for the Council

Scrutiny comments/recommendations:

35. This report was presented to Scrutiny for Corporate & Resources Committee, on 6 January 2025

Consultation and feedback

36. A consultation is not required for this report.

Financial and Risk Implications

Current Risk Score:

There are two relevant Strategic Risks which are ORG0083 Revenue Budget overspend for 2024/25 and ORG0057 Sustainable Medium Term Financial Plan.					
ORG0057 Sustainable Medium Term Financial Plan					
Likelihood	5	Impact	5	Risk Score	25
This has a current risk score of 25 which is an increase to the previous score of 20. The increase is in recognition of the issues set out in this report, and the Medium Term Financial Plan & Strategy Update report, which went to Executive on 7 October. Despite all the actions taken and mitigations put in place, the risk is set at 25, the highest risk score possible.					
ORG0083 Revenue Budget overspend for 2024/25 – A significant budget overspend in current financial year (2024/25) that would have to be funded from council reserves reducing them to dangerously low levels affecting the Council's Financial Resilience and potential S114 notice.					
Likelihood	3	Impact	4	Risk Score	12

Without agreement of the Exceptional Financial Support and the DSG override continuing a Section 114 notice would be required. The authority is working closely with MHCLG with regard to these items. Updates will be included in future reports as necessary.

Legal and Procurement Implications

37. There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

HR / Workforce Implications

38. There are no specific HR/Workforce implications arising from this report.

Equalities Implications

39. There are no specific equalities implications arising from this report.

Community Safety Implications

40. There are no community safety implications arising from this report.

Climate Change and Sustainability Implications

41. There are no climate change and sustainability implications arising from this report.

Health and Safety Implications

42. There are no health and safety implications arising from this report.

Health and Wellbeing Implications

43. There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.

Social Value

44. There are no social value implications arising from this report.

Background Papers

- Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2025/26 to 2029/30 report to Executive and Council April 2024.
- 2024/25 Budget, Medium-Term Financial Plan & Council Tax Setting report to Council in February 2024.
- 2024/25 General Fund Revenue Budget Monitoring Outturn Report to Scrutiny for Corporate & Resources and Executive in September 2024.
- Budget Monitoring Report – 2024/25 Emerging Issues & 2023/24 Provisional Outturn to Executive and Scrutiny for Corporate & Resources in July 2024.
- 2024/25 General Fund Capital Budget Monitoring Report - Qtr1 to Scrutiny in August 2024 and to Executive in September 2024.
- 2024/25 General Fund Revenue Budget Monitoring Report – Month 4 – End of July 2024 to Scrutiny in September 2024 and Executive in October 2024
- 2024/25 General Fund Revenue Budget Monitoring Report – Month 5 – End of August 2024 to Scrutiny in October 2024 and Executive in November 2024.
- 2024/25 General Fund Capital MTFP Budget report to Corporate & Resources Scrutiny, Executive, and Full Council February 2024.
- 2023/24 Month 12 (Qtr. 4) Capital Budget report to Corporate & Resources Scrutiny & Executive September 2024.
- 2024/25 General Fund Revenue Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 2 – End of September 2024 to Scrutiny in November 2024 and Executive in December 2024.

Appendices

Appendix A: Adults Services
 Appendix B: Children, Families & Education Services
 Appendix C: Dedicated Schools Grant
 Appendix D: Community Services
 Appendix E: Climate & Place (including Accountable Bodies)
 Appendix F: Strategy, Workforce & Localities
 Appendix G: Resources & Corporate Services
 Appendix H: Public Health
 Appendix I: Other service areas
 Appendix J: MTFP Savings Monitoring
 Appendix K: General Fund Capital Programme Outturn Forecast 2024-25
 Appendix L: General Fund Capital Programme Budget & Funding
 Appendix M: 2024/25 Summary Updates for Major General Fund Capital Projects

Report assurance

	Officer Name	Date Completed
Legal & Governance Implications	Jill Byron/Alyn Jones/Steven Hellard	23/12/2024
Finance & Procurement	Nicola Hix	20/12/2024
Workforce (*)	Dawn Bettridge	23/12/2024
Asset Management (*)	Simon Lewis	N/A
Executive Director	Maria G Christofi	20/12/2024
Executive Lead Member	Cllr Liz Leyshon	22/12/2024
Consulted:		
Local Division Members	All	N/A
Opposition Spokesperson(s)	Cllr Mandy Chilcott Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Opposition Spokesperson for Resources and Performance	23/12/2024
Relevant Scrutiny Chair(s)	Cllr Bob Filmer, Chair - Scrutiny Corporate & Resources Committee	23/12/2024

Appendix A - Adult Services

Lead Member for Adult Services: Cllr Sarah Wakefield

Executive Director: Mel Lock

Service Directors

- Adult Social Care Operations: Emily Fulbrook
- Adult Social Care Commissioning: Paul Coles

Adult Services Finance Oversight Board update

The last meeting of the board was the 25 October 2024. Key topics of discussion were the Medium-Term Financial Plan update with all savings being achieved or on-track for 2024/25. Adults Directors highlighted work being carried out on the formation on the 2025/26 Adult Social Care budget.

An update was provided on Mental Health Transformation and a member of the Integrated Care Board team provided an update on their current financial position.

Chart 1: Budget versus forecast outturn graph

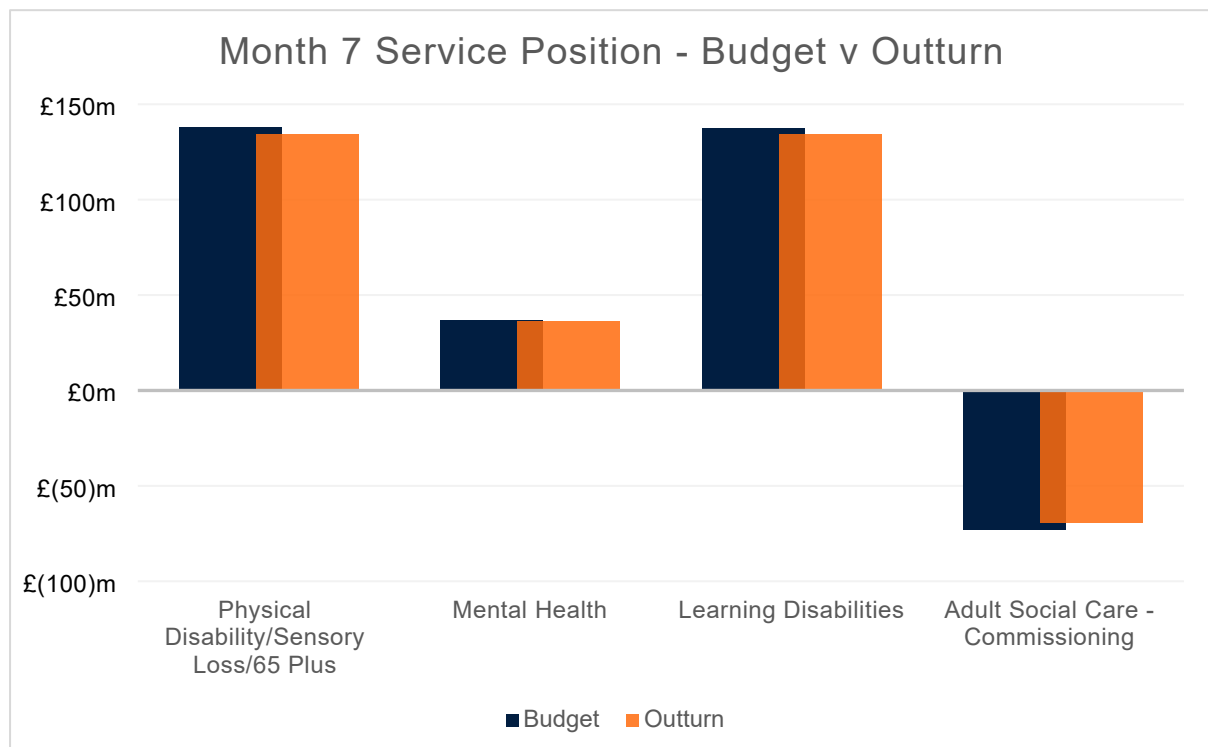


Table 1: 2024/25 Adult Services as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

- 2024/25 net budget £239.532m, forecasting an underspend of £3.823m, an increase of £0.327m from Quarter 2
- 2023/24 net budget £190.8m, outturn overspend £17.5m

Service Area	Current Expenditure Budget £m	Current Income Budget £m	Current Net Budget £m	Full Year Projection £m	Month 7 Variance £m	Overspend / (Underspend)	RAG Status	Ongoing Pressure £m	One-off Pressures £m	Movement From Month 6 £m
Adult Social Care Operations										
Physical Disability/Sensory Loss/65 Plus										
PD/SL65P Residential & Nursing	95.763	(21.831)	73.932	64.577	(9.355)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.173)
Home Care	29.816	(2.263)	27.553	33.880	6.327	Overspend	Red	-	6.327	(0.045)
Direct Payments	19.134	(2.096)	17.038	15.330	(1.708)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.035)
Staffing Costs	16.605	(0.366)	16.239	15.477	(0.762)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.010)
Transport, Daycare & Other	4.790	(1.317)	3.473	5.366	1.893	Overspend	Red	-	1.893	(0.091)
sub total	166.108	(27.873)	138.235	134.630	(3.605)	Underspend	Green	-	8.220	(0.354)
Mental Health										
MH Residential & Nursing	27.625	(4.218)	23.407	22.102	(1.305)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.006
Home Care/Supported Living	10.210	(1.894)	8.316	7.915	(0.401)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.035
Staffing/Deprivation of Liberty, Safeguards	3.141	(0.011)	3.130	3.260	0.130	Overspend	Red	-	0.130	0.006
Direct Payments, Day Care & Transport	2.391	(0.225)	2.166	2.908	0.742	Overspend	Red	-	0.742	(0.051)
sub total	43.367	(6.348)	37.019	36.185	(0.834)	Underspend	Green	-	0.872	(0.004)
Learning Disabilities										
LD Residential & Nursing	36.213	(2.200)	34.013	29.225	(4.788)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.106
Supported Living/Home Care	46.077	(2.003)	44.074	45.326	1.252	Overspend	Red	-	1.252	(0.362)
Direct Payments/In Control	13.423	(1.317)	12.106	13.534	1.428	Overspend	Red	-	1.428	(0.390)
Day Care	8.107	(0.124)	7.983	8.227	0.244	Overspend	Red	-	0.244	(0.011)
Discovery	35.140	(1.118)	34.022	32.143	(1.879)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.276)
Transport, Shared Lives & Other	4.032	(1.040)	2.992	2.430	(0.562)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.004
Central & Salaries	2.393	-	2.393	3.522	1.129	Overspend	Red	-	1.129	0.367
sub total	145.385	(7.802)	137.583	134.407	(3.176)	Underspend	Green	-	4.053	(0.562)
Adult Social Care - Commissioning										
ASC Commissioning	6.115	(0.351)	5.764	5.809	0.045	Overspend	Amber	-	0.045	0.056
Intermediate Care	8.805	(2.849)	5.956	8.556	2.600	Overspend	Red	-	2.600	0.048
Staffing Costs	3.106	(0.192)	2.914	2.950	0.036	Overspend	Amber	-	0.036	0.031
Grants & Pooled Budget Income	3.569	(91.508)	(87.939)	(86.828)	1.111	Underachievement	Red	-	1.111	0.458
sub total	21.595	(94.900)	(73.305)	(69.513)	3.792	Underachievement	Red	-	3.792	0.593
Total	376.455	(136.923)	239.532	235.709	(3.823)	Underspend	Green	-	16.937	(0.327)

Adult Services - key explanations of variances

Overall, Adult Services are forecasting an underspend of £3.823m. This is mainly due to the commissioning work carried out within the market to reduce residential and nursing weekly fees. This links to international recruitment and the change in use of costly agency staff, and CPI/energy costs coming down. The service is also seeing a reduction in residential care placements in line with our promoting independence transformation programme, and an increase in domiciliary care, supporting individuals to live in their own homes.

Adult Social Care - Physical Disability/Sensory Loss/65 Plus

This area of Adult Services is forecasting an underspend of £3.605m an increase of £0.354m from Quarter 2. This is within residential and nursing due to the demand being less than anticipated and a decrease in costs associated with transport and daycare of £0.091m.

Since April 2024 the service started to see new placements within residential and nursing homes coming either just below or around the budgeting figure built into the budget as part of the MTFP process. As people move services or services cease, the service will start to see the overall average cost of placements reduce across the year.

Mental Health

This budget includes individuals who have a diagnosis of dementia. Direct payments are forecasting a decrease of £0.051m from Quarter 2, due to surplus refunds being higher than anticipated.

The budget continues to be an area of growth for the past few years, and this has been recognised in the MTFP for 2024/25 with an increase of £11.700m. Currently Mental Health is forecasting an underspend of £0.834m. Homecare and Supported Living

continues to be an area of growth, this is in line with enabling people to remain in their homes.

Learning Disabilities

Overall, the cost of Learning Disabilities is forecasting an underspend of £3.176m. However, this is a pooled budget 75/25 and therefore any underspend will be split with Integrated Care Board (ICB). The pressure of this split is reported within Commissioning. The increase in underspend of £0.562m from Quarter 2 is due to the growth being less than originally anticipated, and the service will continue to monitor this throughout the financial year.

Commissioning

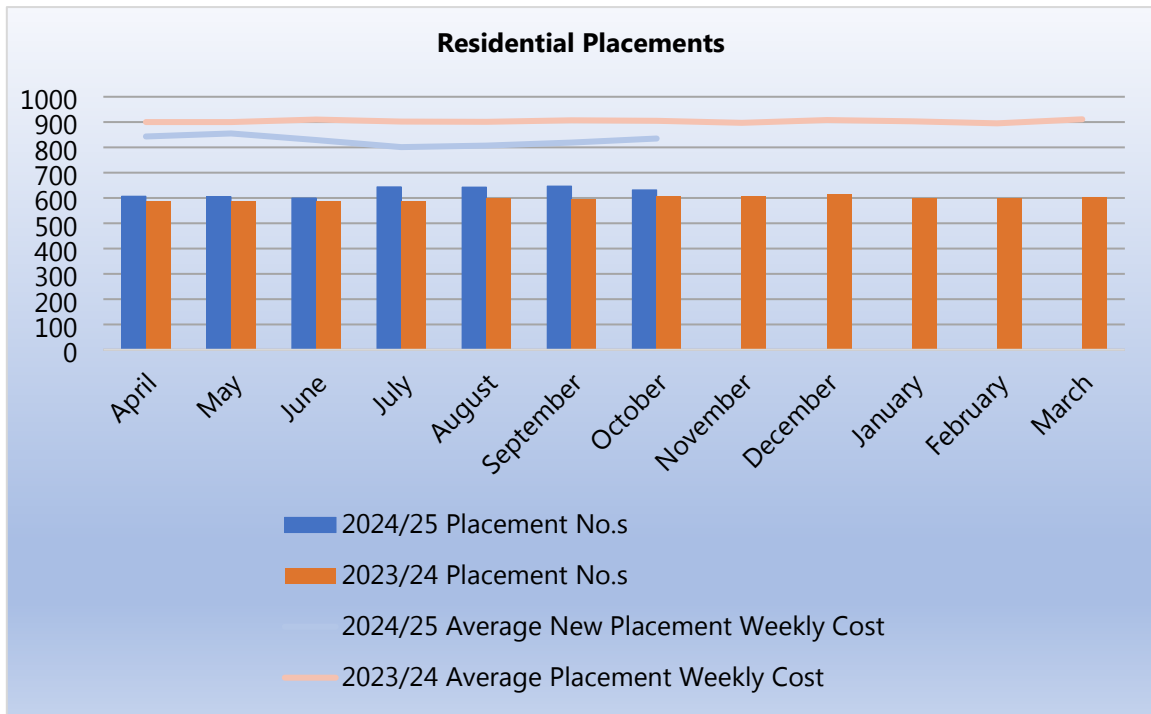
Commissioning is forecasting an overspend of £3.792m, due to continued demand with intermediate care and the Learning Disabilities (LD) pooled budget. The increase of £0.593m from Quarter 2 is due to the pooled budget forecast being updated in line with the LD underspend as reported against the LD operations line while the cost 25% return to the ICB shows within Commissioning.

Adult Services – Actions and Mitigations

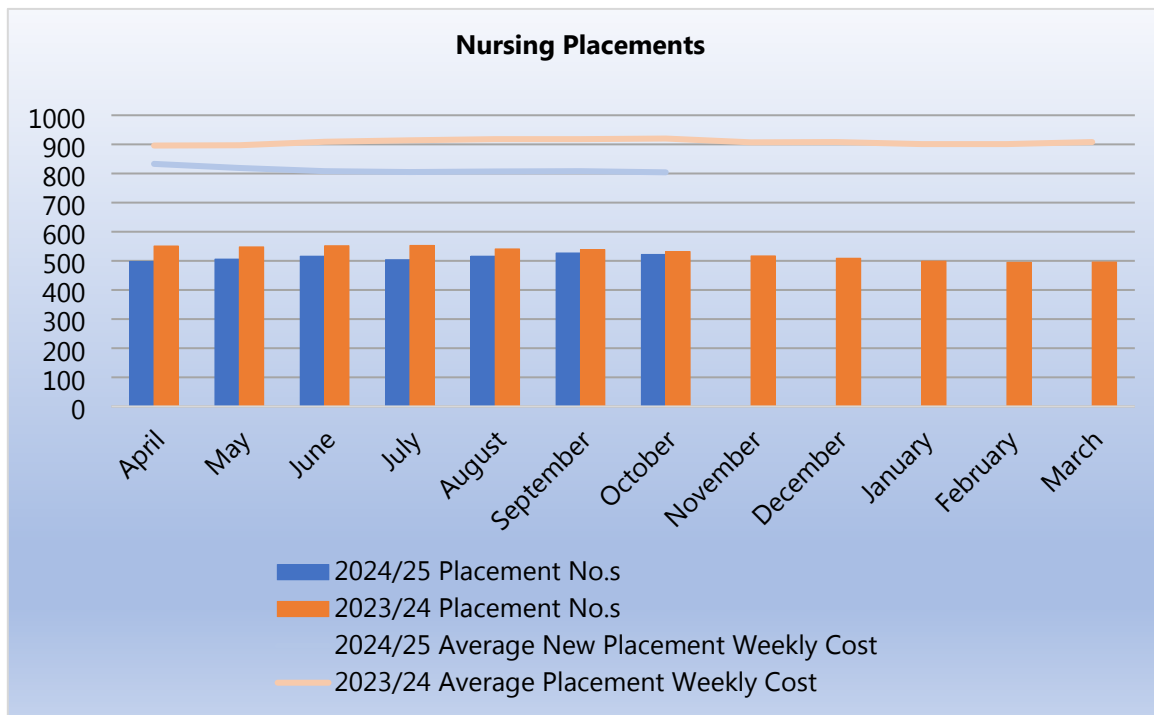
Adults Commissioning is forecasting an overspend of £3.792m; however, in order to mitigate this the Executive Director for Adults has directed that the other services in the Directorate hold their underspends to cover this, therefore overall Adults has an underspend of £3.823m. Mitigations will continue to be sought for Adults Commissioning and included into future budget monitoring reports as applicable.

Adult Services - Key performance cost drivers

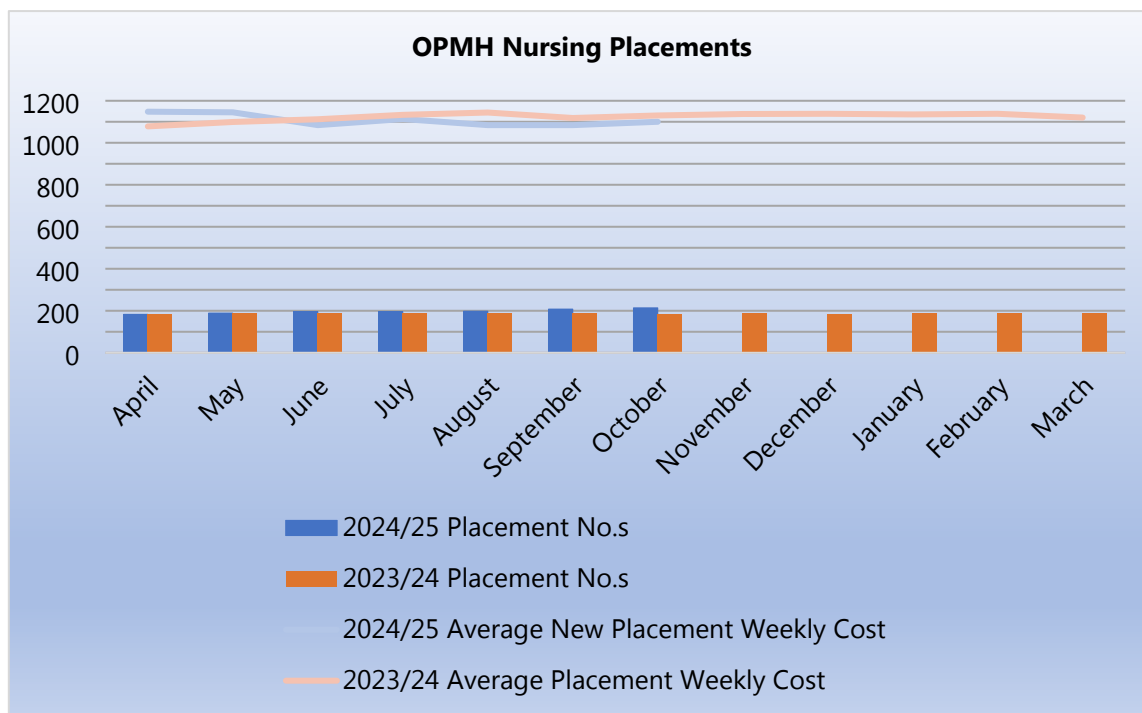
The Service has a target of 52 placements per month, across residential and nursing over 65's. The new placement numbers during Month 7 was 49 this is below our current target taking into consideration those that leave the service. The savings attached to this is reported as part of the My Life, My Future transformation programme.



Within 2024/25 there has been an increase of 25 people placed within a residential setting (residential placements), from 607 to 632. The current weekly average cost of a residential placement is £835 per week.



Nursing placements increased by 24 since April 2024 from 498 to 522. The current new placement cost for Nursing is £804 per placement.



The number of Older People Mental Health (OPMH) Nursing placements has increased by 31 placements from 183 to 224 placements. The current weekly average cost for OPMH Nursing is £1,100 per placement.

Adult Services - Key risks, future issues & opportunities

There is a risk that expenditure could increase as 90% of the ASC budget is spent on individual care and support needs. The international recruitment impact of this is yet to be seen both locally and nationally, this could influence the market cost.

Adult Services - Performance of agreed savings proposals

There are 11 agreed savings proposals for 2024/25 across Adult Services totalling £9.808m, with an additional £3.900m carried forward from 2023/24 in relation to My Life, My Future. As at Month 7 Adults £8.908m or 61% of the savings reported have been achieved. With £4.800m or 35% of the savings reported are on track to be achieved.

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Appendix B – Month 7 Children, Families & Education Services

Children & Family Services

Lead Member for Children, Families & Education: Cllr Heather Shearer

Executive Director: Claire Winter

Service Directors:

- Children and Families: Jayne Shelbourn-Barrow
- Commissioning and Performance: Richard Selwyn
- Education: Amelia Walker

Children’s Financial Recovery Board update

The Children’s Financial Recovery Board meets on a 6-weekly basis (to move to monthly). The board members include Senior Management from both Finance and Children’s Services, and Cllr Shearer as Lead Member for Children’s Services. The Board is chaired by the Section 151 Officer. The purpose of the Board is to identify and track the mitigating actions to resolve any forecast overspends. Also, to identify substitute savings for any MTFP savings which are ‘at risk’ or ‘unachievable’. This is to help the Service balance their budget at outturn.

There are significant budget forecast overspends at present, particularly in external placements. At this stage there are insufficient service mitigations to enable the Children’s Services budget to balance by the end of this financial year (see mitigating actions that need financial amounts to be allocated).

Chart 1: Budget versus forecast outturn graph

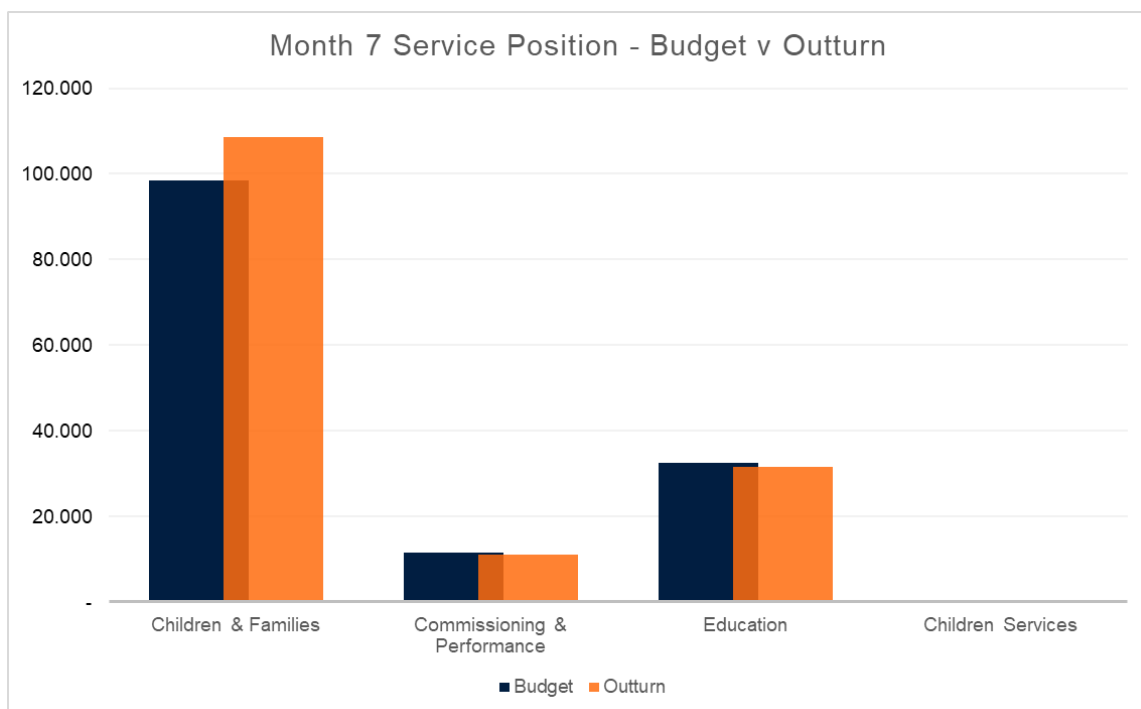


Table 1: 2024/25 Children & Family Services as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

- 2024/25 net budget £142.827m, forecasting an overspend of £8.380m, a decrease of £0.375m from Quarter 2.
- 2023/24 net budget £127.1m, outturn overspend £12.3m

2024/25 Children, Families & Education Services as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

Service Area	Current Expenditure Budget £m	Current Income Budget £m	Current Net Budget £m	Full Year Projection £m	Month 7 Variance £m	Overspend / (Underspend)	RAG Status	Ongoing Pressure £m	One-off Pressures £m	Movement From Month 6 £m
Children & Families										
Prevention Services	7.404	(1.223)	6.181	6.124	(0.057)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
Fostering and Permanence	13.528	(0.052)	13.476	13.103	(0.373)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.102
External Placements	60.049	(14.133)	45.916	60.617	14.701	Overspend	Red	14.701	-	0.234
Fieldwork East	4.978	-	4.978	4.551	(0.427)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.012)
Fieldwork West	5.753	-	5.753	4.798	(0.955)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.052
Disabilities	8.036	(0.333)	7.703	7.203	(0.500)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.024
Partnership, Audit & Quality	3.206	(0.315)	2.891	2.885	(0.006)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.001
CLA East	2.879	-	2.879	2.816	(0.063)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.015)
CLA West	2.135	-	2.135	2.303	0.168	Overspend	Red	-	0.168	(0.026)
Leaving Care	2.886	(0.417)	2.469	2.498	0.029	Overspend	Amber	-	0.029	(0.050)
CSC Management	4.222	(0.097)	4.125	1.723	(2.402)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.105)
sub total	115.076	(16.570)	98.506	108.621	10.115	Overspend	Red	14.701	0.197	0.205
Commissioning & Performance										
C&P Commissioning	10.385	(7.410)	2.975	2.870	(0.105)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.030)
Performance and Transformation	3.423	0.026	3.449	3.022	(0.427)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
Business Support	5.298	(0.137)	5.161	5.062	(0.099)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.074)
sub total	19.106	(7.521)	11.585	10.954	(0.631)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.104)
Education										
Special Educational Needs and Disabilities	4.980	(2.006)	2.974	3.155	0.181	Overspend	Red	0.181	-	(0.023)
Vulnerable Learners	5.479	(5.353)	0.126	0.028	(0.098)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.141)
Educational Psychology	3.068	(1.150)	1.918	1.916	(0.002)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.003)
Inclusion Transformation and Partnerships	13.735	(0.354)	13.381	12.529	(0.852)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.354)
Inclusion Strategic Management	1.653	(1.750)	(0.097)	0.648	0.745	Underachievement	Red	-	0.745	0.032
Education Leadership	1.488	(1.617)	(0.129)	(0.306)	(0.177)	Overachievement	Green	-	-	(0.002)
Education Operations	4.824	(5.371)	(0.547)	(0.685)	(0.138)	Overachievement	Green	-	-	(0.032)
Curriculum and Literacy	3.555	(3.665)	(0.110)	(0.013)	0.097	Underachievement	Red	-	0.097	0.004
Education Places	15.858	(2.227)	13.631	12.623	(1.008)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.030
EPS Management	4.374	(3.114)	1.260	1.653	0.393	Overspend	Red	-	0.393	(0.034)
sub total	59.014	(26.607)	32.407	31.548	(0.859)	Underspend	Green	0.181	1.235	(0.523)
Children Services										
Children, Families & Education Team	0.330	(0.001)	0.329	0.084	(0.245)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.047
sub total	0.330	(0.001)	0.329	0.084	(0.245)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.047
Children, Families & Education Services Total	193.526	(50.699)	142.827	151.207	8.380	Overspend	Red	14.882	1.432	(0.375)

Children & Family Services - key explanations of variances

External Placements

The external placements budget is forecasting an overspend of £14.701m which is partly offset by the £2.854m external placements inflation fund held in Children's Social Care (CSC) Management resulting in a net overspend of £11.846m. This is an increase of £0.234m from Quarter 2. The forecast includes an assumption of additional placements in the future months that are not currently being provided for and includes an additional placement for both secure and unregistered built into the Month 7 forecast. Action to prevent this forecast demand will need to be taken otherwise the forecast outturn will become the actual outturn.

This overspend is predominately due to there being a current lack of foster carers. Where children would be placed with foster carers, there is now an increased possibility of them being placed in external residential placements, which means

children would not have the family care that they need and purely from a financial perspective there is a considerable increase in cost. This is reflected in the year end forecast within external placements.

Further mitigations need to be identified and implemented so the current forecast overspend is reduced to a balance outturn position.

The savings from a commissioned contract for supported accommodation for young people aged 16 plus (Thrive 16 plus) are in part currently at risk due to insufficiency of social housing for young people to move on to and high costs in the private rental sector. A savings substitution will need to be identified to mitigate this.

Fieldwork

The fieldwork east and west budgets have a forecast underspend of £1.382m. In emergencies and when ordered to do so by the court, the service has provided 24/7 supervision of families in their own home. This is an expensive and usually externalised service. However, much of this service has been provided in-house during 24/25 and the majority now only court ordered therefore resulting in a significant decrease in costs. Difficulty in recruiting social workers has also reduced staffing costs temporarily in this area.

Fostering and Permanence

The fostering and permanence budget has a forecast underspend of £0.373m. This is a decrease of £0.102m from Quarter 2. This is due to special guardianship allowances where family members are supported financially to offer both short- and longer-term care for children who are looked after by the local authority. Some adoption allowances have also been extended due to individual circumstances.

Children's Commissioning

This service is forecasting an underspend of £0.631m, an increase of £0.104m from Quarter 2. This relates to holding staffing vacancies and contract costs being less than anticipated.

Education and Home to Schools Transport for Mainstream and SEN

There is a forecast underspend of £0.859m, an increase of £0.523m from Quarter 2. This relates to additional forecast underspends within SEND transport services of £0.354m from Quarter 2. This is due to continuing work undertaken by the Local Authority transport teams to retender contracts using an innovative procurement pilot, reconfigure routes, utilise centralised pick-up points, negotiate additional PTPs, increase the number of providers of home to school transport all of which has resulted in reductions in the average cost per child.

There is a forecast overspend of £0.334m in SEND due to increasing costs from mediation of £0.129m and Local Government Ombudsman fines within SEND services of £0.205m. Where fault has resulted in a loss of educational provision, the Ombudsman usually recommend a remedy payment of between £900 to £2,400 per term to acknowledge the impact of that loss.

Children and Family Service - actions and mitigations

The following mitigations have been identified for the Children’s Directorate forecast overspend of £8.380m. The Directorate needs to identify the financial amounts associated with each mitigating action by Month 8. Progress on implementation of the mitigating actions to also be included in the Month 8 report.

Table 2: Service management actions included in the forecast outturn

Service Management Actions	Quarter 2 £m	Month 7 £m	Movement £m	Comments
None	-	-	-	
Total Management Actions	-	-	-	

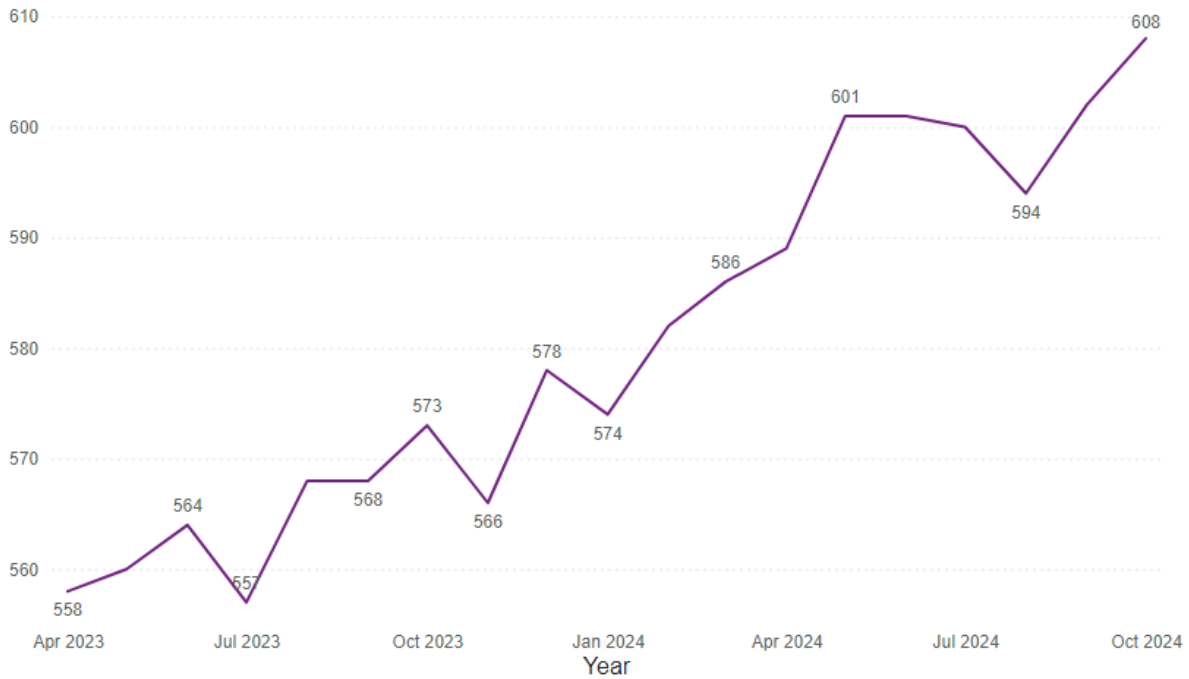
Table 3: Mitigating Actions Identified not yet included in the forecast outturn

In-Year Mitigation Proposed	Quarter 2 £m	Month 7 £m	Movement £m	One-Off Mitigation £m	Ongoing Mitigation £m	Comments
To be Mitigated	9.910	10.115	0.205			Overspend in Children & Families
In-house Foster Care - increase number of children in in-house fostering	TBC	(0.100)	(0.100)	-	(0.100)	Commitment to promoting fostering Somerset children at every opportunity Engage with local business to offer carers support and recognition, to build retention. Develop emergency support for foster homes where children and carers are struggling, to enable children to stay in their home Mitigation is based on moving 1 child into an in-house foster placement from residential

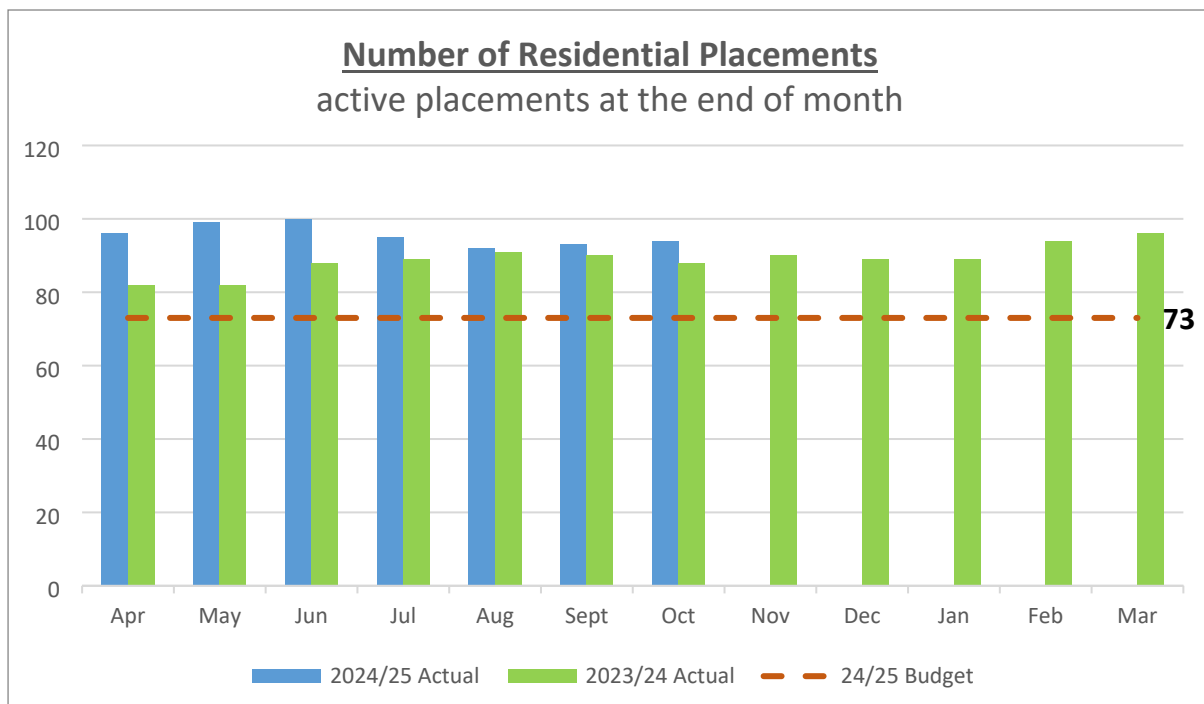
In-Year Mitigation Proposed	Quarter 2 £m	Month 7 £m	Movement £m	One-Off Mitigation £m	Ongoing Mitigation £m	Comments
Independent Foster Care Agencies (IFA) - Increase placements	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	Director of Childrens Services led meeting with Independent Foster Care Agencies Chief Exec Officers December 2024, to develop shared approach to innovatively meeting need, to increase availability of Somerset IFA homes for children. Develop consortia approach to emergency support for foster homes where children and carers are struggling, to enable children to stay in their home.
Increase number of children able to leave the care system to return to family care prior to 18	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	Service Training Programme on good reunification practice. Prioritise resources for children where a plan of reunification is viable.
Commissioning activity to reduce costs of care	-	-	-	-	-	Work with providers to develop high quality, low-cost residential care for children where fostering is the most appropriate option but not currently available with planned transition to foster care.
Homes & Horizons - Increase occupancy rates - NEW	-	(0.235)	(0.235)	-	(0.235)	Increase Homes and Horizons occupancy rate. Currently 11 but next home due to open and matching process for other homes in progress
Housing benefit claims for UASC - NEW	-	(0.043)	(0.043)	-	(0.043)	Re-working of Housing Benefit for UASC
Total Mitigations Identified to be Actioned	-	(0.378)	(0.378)	-	(0.378)	Financial amounts to be quantified for all mitigations by Month 8
Still to be Mitigated	9.910	9.737	(0.173)			To be reduced to a balanced position by Month 8

Children's Services - key performance cost drivers

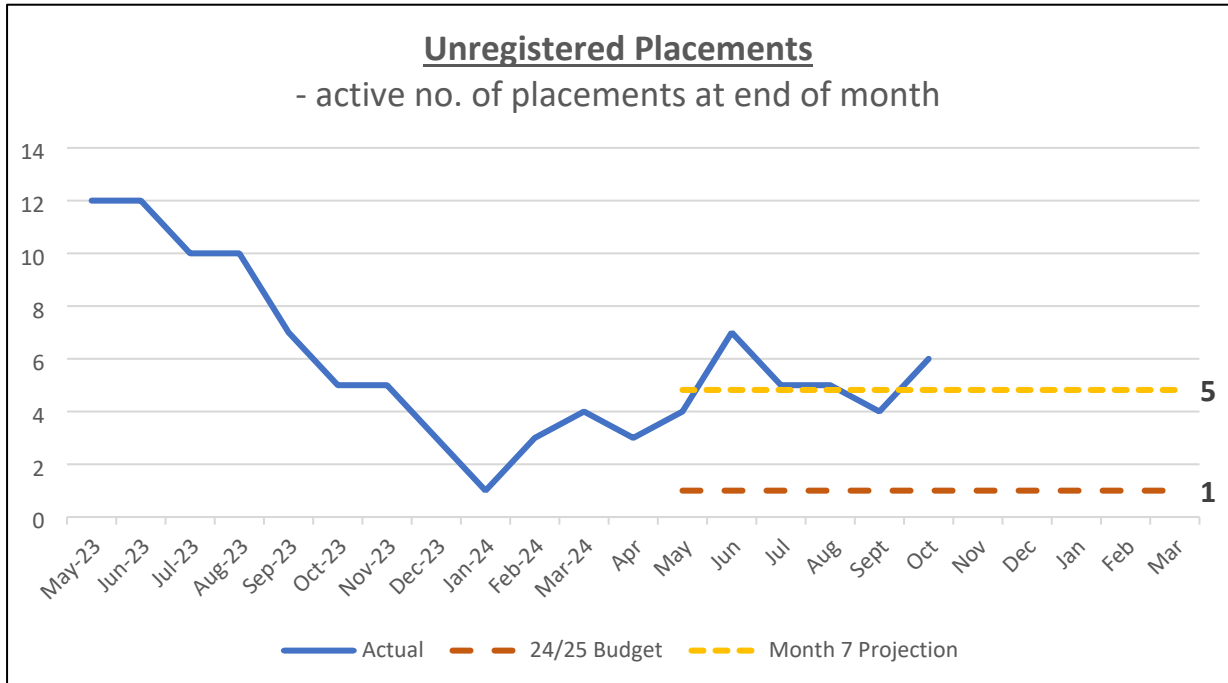
CLA Total by Month



In the last 12 months to October 2024, there has been an increase of 35 children looked after (CLA) with the more recent numbers coming into care moving into high-cost residential placements. The graph below shows the trend in the number of active residential placements, excluding Homes and Horizons, at the end of each month during 2024/25. The budgeted number of residential placements for 2024/25 is 73.



Although the increase in unregistered placements from January 2024 has now started to level off, there has been an increase in active number of placements from Quarter 2 with 6 placements at the end of October 2024. The budgeted number of unregistered placements for 2024/25 is 1.



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Appendix C – Month 7 – Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)

Children & Family Services

Lead Member for Children, Families & Education: Cllr Heather Shearer

Executive Director: Claire Winter

Service Director: Education: Amelia Walker

Service	Original Budget £m	Current Budget £m	Full Year Projection £m	Month 7 Variance £m	RAG Status	Movement From Month 6 £m
Schools	2.082	2.082	2.082	-	Green	-
Central Schools	4.689	4.689	4.829	0.140	Red	0.154
Early Years	51.283	50.443	50.401	(0.042)	Green	(0.042)
High Needs	77.421	77.496	110.165	32.669	Red	4.397
Total	135.474	134.709	167.476	32.767	Red	4.508

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)

The forecast is an overspend of £32.767m on the High Needs Block, an increase in overspend of £4.508m from Quarter 2. The High Needs block budget was set with a budgeted deficit of £18.853m for 2024/25.

There continues to be significant pressure on costs within the High Needs Block, which relates to low inflationary increases to mainstream school funding, a range of factors putting pressures on school budgets and historic underfunding of Special Educational Needs (SEND). These factors combined along with lack of sufficient appropriate places are driving higher use of Independent Non-Maintained School (INMS) provision.

The forecast deficit as of 31 March 2025 is now **£68.707m** as set out below.

	Balance b/fwd at 1 Apr 2024 surplus/ (deficit) £m	Forecast in-year variance (over)/ under spend £m	Forecast carry forward 31 Mar 2025 £m
Forecast deficit carry forward	£m	£m	£m
Schools	1.090	-	1.090
Central Schools	5.977	(0.140)	5.837
Early Years	1.878	0.042	1.920
High Needs	(44.885)	(32.669)	(77.554)
Total	(35.940)	(32.767)	(68.707)

High Needs Block budget 2024/25

There is a forecast overspend of £32.669m and increase of £4.397m. This is the main risk area for the DSG is within the High Needs Block. A detailed summary of the High Needs Block budget and the forecast outturn position as of Month 7 is set out below:

	Current Budget 2024/25	Forecast Outturn 2024/25	Variance Over/ (Under)	Movement from month 6 Over / (Under)	%
	£m	£m	£m	£m	%
Mainstream	12.510	20.642	8.132	3.057	39%
INMS & CLA Pre 16	32.842	37.060	4.218	1.652	11%
Post 16	8.883	9.936	1.053	0.166	11%
Special Schools	24.728	25.177	0.449	(0.326)	2%
Autism Spectrum Disorder Bas	2.152	2.306	0.154	0.008	7%
Other	2.255	2.137	(0.118)	(0.202)	-6%
Pupil Referral Units	8.916	8.916	-	-	0%
Advisory Services and Virtual	4.063	3.990	(0.073)	0.041	-2%
Total	96.349	110.165	13.816	4.397	13%
Allocation after deductions	77.496	77.496	-	-	0%
In year deficit	(18.853)	(32.669)	13.816	4.397	-42%

The most significant variances from Quarter 2 are within mainstream education (top ups and costed plans), Independent Non-Maintained Schools (INMS) and Education for Children Looked After (CLA) pre-16. Explanations for the increases in overspends from Quarter 2 are set out below:

Mainstream top ups and costed plans are forecasting an overspend of £8.132m, an increase of £3.057m from Quarter 2. The forecast overspend for Month 7 now includes an estimate of the costs of a further 125 costed plans being issued for the remainder of 2024/25 that have not yet happened.

The budget was prepared on the basis that the average cost of mainstream top ups and costed plans was £5,889 per child for 2,119 children. However, the average cost of top ups and costed plans for the year to date is £8,075, for 2,126 children. This is a further increase of 45 children from quarter 2 in mainstream schools with EHCPs and an increase in average cost of £214 per child from last month.

Several factors have contributed to this increase including: a backlog of prior year claims from 2023/24, an increase in the average cost of a costed plan of approximately 10%, and a shift in the profile of need to higher banded children.

INMS & CLA Pre-16 are forecasting an overspend of £4.218m overspend at Month 7, an increase of £1.652m from Quarter 2.

The budget for INMS & CLA placements forecast an average number of placements of 503 for the financial year 2024/25. Of this, 415 were INMS placements. Current forecasts project an average of 463 for the year, an increase of 10 from Quarter 2.

The average cost per INMS placement is forecast to be £0.070m, an increase of £0.004m since Quarter 2. This average increase per new placement is contributing to increased overspend on the budget.

A revised forecast for the full year has been prepared for Special Schools as of Month 7 based on a revision to the top up expenditure which has resulted in a decrease of £0.326m since Quarter 2.

Post 16 is forecasting a further overspend of £0.166m from Quarter 2, this is due to an additional 3 Independent placements being approved.

Other expenditure is forecasting a decrease of £0.202m due to reduced forecast expenditure on SEND transformation.

Children and Family Services – Local Authority (LA) Maintained Schools Revenue Reserves

LA Maintained Schools - key risks, issues, and mitigations

As of 31 March 2024, 14 schools shared a cumulative revenue reserve deficit position of £2.433m and 104 schools shared a cumulative surplus of £23.657m.

Budget plans submitted for 2024/25 indicated significant budget pressures on schools. However, Quarter 2 forecasts received to date for 90 out of 106 schools indicate that this position has improved, with 74 out of 90 schools (82%) forecasting a better position than originally budgeted.

Deficit recovery plans and Local Authority meetings with schools with the most significant deficits will continue over the next few months, along with reviewing actions from the most recent SRMA visits.

Appendix D – Community Services

Lead Member for Communities, Housing Revenue Account, Culture and Equalities & Diversity: Cllr Federica Smith-Roberts

Lead Member for Adults Services, Housing and Homelessness: Cllr Sarah Wakefield

Executive Director: Chris Hall

Service Directors:

- Housing: Kirsty Larkins
- Culture: Elizabeth Dawson
- Customers: Jan Stafford
- Regulatory and Operational: Sarah Dowden

▪ **Chart 1: Budget versus forecast outturn graph**

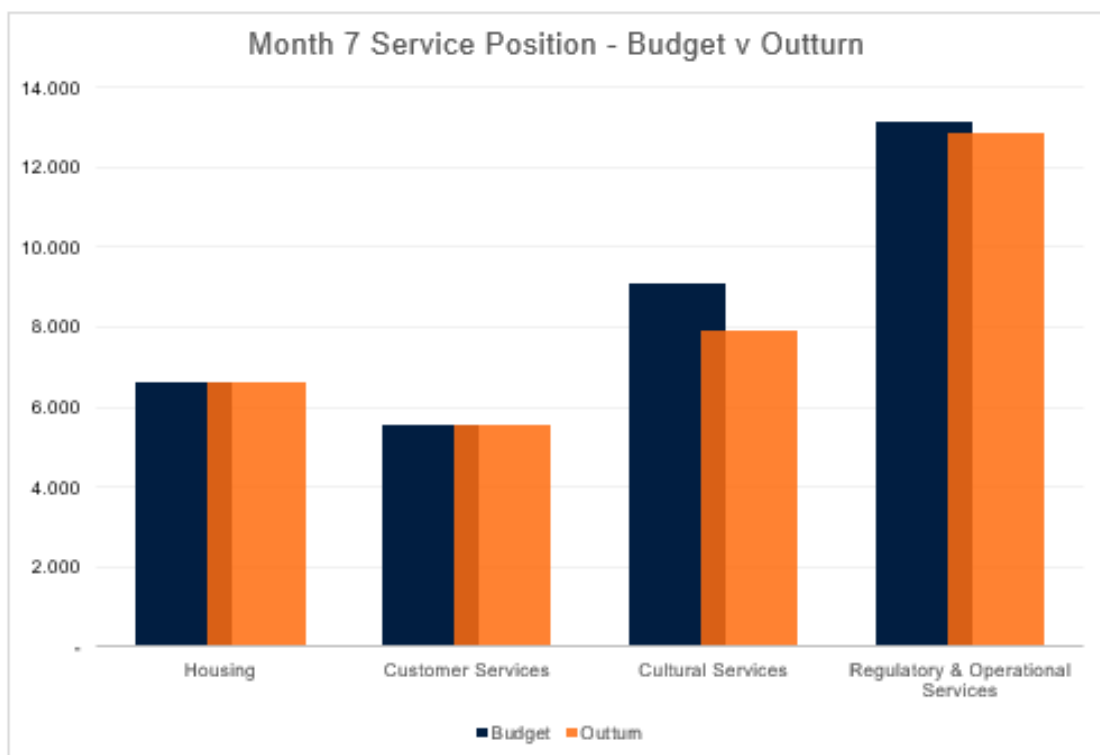


Table 1: 2024/25 Community Services as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

- 2024/25 net budget £34.412m, forecast underspend of £1.466m, a decrease of £0.106m since Quarter 2.
- 2023/24 net budget £37.4m, outturn underspend of £3.9m.

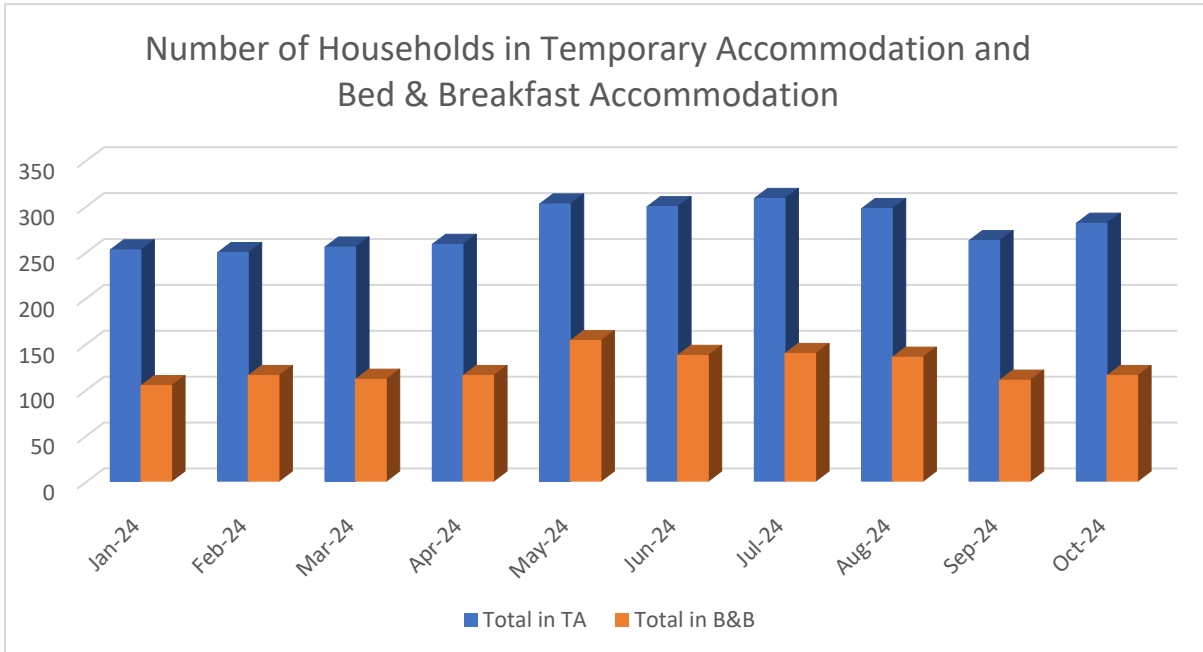
Service Area	Current Expenditure Budget £m	Current Income Budget £m	Current Net Budget £m	Full Year Projection £m	Month 7 Variance £m	Overspend / (Underspend)	RAG Status	Ongoing Pressure £m	One-off Pressures £m	Movement From Month 6 £m
Housing										
Service Director - Housing	0.146	-	0.146	0.115	(0.031)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.001
Housing Strategy	0.407	(0.285)	0.122	0.242	0.120	Overspend	Red	-	0.120	(0.000)
Housing Options	10.828	(5.545)	5.283	5.693	0.410	Overspend	Red	-	0.410	0.014
Housing Enabling	0.682	(0.143)	0.539	0.438	(0.101)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.000)
Private Sector Support/ DFG's (SIP)	1.353	(0.823)	0.530	0.132	(0.398)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.037)
Displaced Person Service	1.069	(1.069)	-	-	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
sub total	14.485	(7.865)	6.620	6.620	-	On-budget	Green	-	0.530	(0.022)
Customer Services										
Customer Services	6.619	(0.721)	5.898	5.898	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Somerset Lifeline	2.237	(2.600)	(0.363)	(0.363)	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
sub total	8.856	(3.321)	5.535	5.535	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Cultural Services										
Service Director - Cultural Services	0.146	-	0.146	0.146	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Library Service	4.954	(0.738)	4.216	4.216	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Heritage Service	1.749	-	1.749	1.749	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Leisure - Sports Centre	2.864	(0.494)	2.370	1.170	(1.200)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
Museums	0.044	(0.003)	0.041	0.012	(0.029)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.008
Theatres	2.587	(1.975)	0.612	0.612	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Visitor Centres	0.262	(0.404)	(0.142)	(0.022)	0.120	Underachievement	Red	-	0.120	0.120
Tourism	0.111	(0.010)	0.101	0.024	(0.077)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
(wellbeing) Community Grants	0.021	(0.001)	0.020	0.020	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
sub total	12.738	(3.625)	9.113	7.927	(1.186)	Underspend	Green	-	0.120	0.128
Regulatory & Operational Services										
Registration	1.985	(2.047)	(0.062)	(0.062)	(0.000)	Overachievement	Green	-	-	-
Environmental Health	4.516	(0.328)	4.188	3.955	(0.233)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
Bereavement Services	1.035	(2.444)	(1.409)	(1.401)	0.008	Underachievement	Amber	-	0.008	-
Harbours	0.066	(0.028)	0.038	0.037	(0.001)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
Ports	0.230	(0.148)	0.082	0.022	(0.060)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
Street Cleansing	5.766	(0.872)	4.894	4.534	(0.360)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
Open Spaces	5.879	(2.542)	3.337	3.557	0.220	Overspend	Red	-	0.220	-
Public Conveniences	0.558	(0.474)	0.084	0.092	0.008	Overspend	Red	-	0.008	-
(wellbeing) Community Safety	0.012	-	0.012	0.005	(0.007)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
CCTV	0.841	(0.594)	0.247	0.288	0.041	Overspend	Red	-	0.041	-
Licensing	0.759	(1.058)	(0.299)	(0.367)	(0.068)	Overachievement	Green	-	-	-
Resorts	0.388	(0.204)	0.184	0.240	0.056	Overspend	Red	-	0.056	-
Coroners	1.344	-	1.344	1.464	0.120	Overspend	Red	-	0.120	-
Operational Support	0.689	(0.103)	0.586	0.586	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Scientific Services	0.437	(0.414)	0.023	0.024	0.001	Overspend	Amber	-	0.001	-
Markets	0.230	(0.335)	(0.105)	(0.110)	(0.005)	Overachievement	Green	-	-	0.000
sub total	24.735	(11.591)	13.144	12.864	(0.280)	Underspend	Green	-	0.454	0.000
Community Services Total	60.814	(26.402)	34.412	32.946	(1.466)	Underspend	Green	-	1.104	0.106

Community Services - key explanations, actions & mitigating controls

Housing

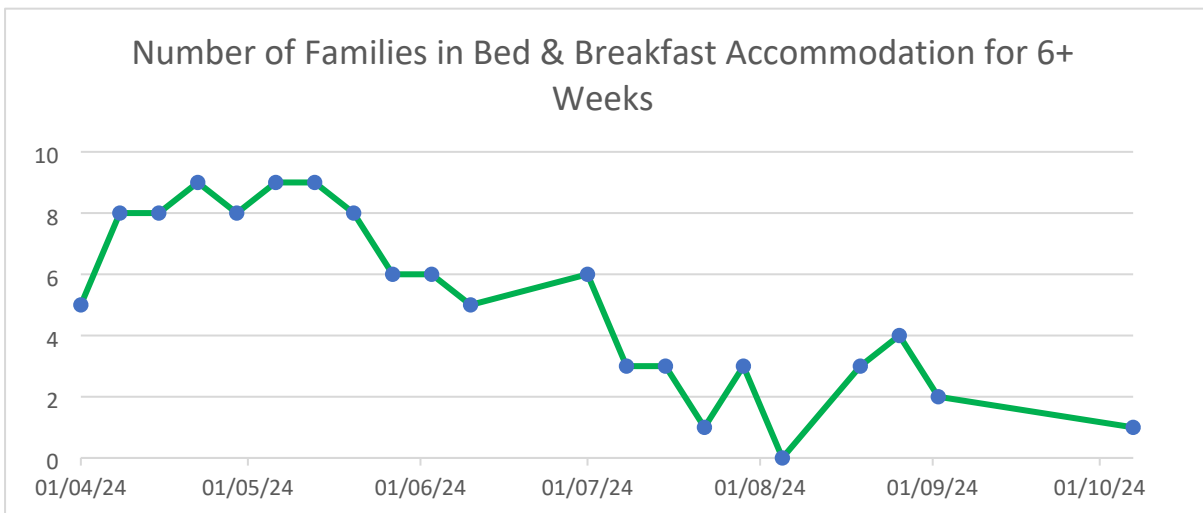
The General Fund Housing Service is currently forecasting a balanced outturn position for 2024/25.

The Housing Options service has seen an increase in the numbers approaching the service and the number of cases which the Council has a responsibility to provide relief or main duty accommodation. This continued demand for temporary accommodation within the last ten months is demonstrated as follows:



Actions are being progressed by the service to mitigate the need for Bed & Breakfast accommodation, and we are striving towards reducing the necessity of temporary staffing following the restructure and streamlining processes within the service.

Despite seeing an increase in demand on Bed & Breakfast accommodation, the service is endeavouring to remove this as a long-term option for families, demonstrated as follows:



The Housing Options service is forecasting an overspend of £0.410m, an increase of £0.014m from Quarter 2. Earmarked Reserves ringfenced for this service area may offset additional pressures within 2024/25.

Savings on permanent staffing budgets within the Housing Enabling and Housing Director services have offset pressures, derived from historical income budgets unable to be achieved, within the Housing Strategy service.

Cultural Services

For the financial year 2024/25 cultural services are forecasting an underspend of £1.186m, a decrease of £0.128m since Quarter 2. This is due to a reduction in income being achieved in the Visitor Centres against the budget.

Mitigations

Table 2: Service Management Actions included in the forecast outturn

Service Management Actions	Quarter 2	Month 7	Movement	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	
Housing	0.022	0.022	-	Housing overspends now absorbed by the service
Total Management Actions	0.022	0.022	-	

Table 3: Mitigating Actions Identified, not yet included in the forecast outturn

In-Year Mitigation Proposed	Quarter 2	Month 7	Movement	One-Off Mitigation	Ongoing Mitigation	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
To be Mitigated	0.574	0.574	-			Overspend in Cultural Services, and Regulatory & Operational Services
Cultural Services	-	(0.120)	(0.120)	(0.120)	-	The Executive Director for Community Place and Economy has directed that Services hold any underspends across the service to mitigate pressures seen within Cultural Services
Regulatory & Operational Services	-	(0.454)	(0.454)	(0.454)	-	The Executive Director for Community Place and Economy has directed that Services hold any underspends across the service to mitigate pressures seen within Regulatory & Operational Services
Total Mitigations Identified	-	(0.574)	(0.574)	(0.574)	-	

In-Year Mitigation Proposed	Quarter 2	Month 7	Movement	One-Off Mitigation	Ongoing Mitigation	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
to be Actioned						
Still to be Mitigated	0.574	-	(0.574)			To be reduced to a balanced position by Month 8

Performance of agreed savings proposals

Community Services have 36 agreed savings proposals for 2024/25 totalling £2.866m. Whilst budgets have been adjusted to reflect the savings these are monitored throughout the year to ensure that these are achieved, or alternative substitute savings are sought to offset any unachievable savings.

As at the end of October 4% totalling £0.115m of the savings have been achieved. 84% of the savings totalling £2.412m have been identified as on track, to achieve these savings services will need to cease and income through Fees and Charges needs to be achieved. 12% of the savings totalling £0.339m have been identified as at risk or unachievable. The unachievable savings are in the main due to income generation through and agreed savings prior to amalgamating 5 authorities into one. Where savings are unachievable Community Services are exploring alternative savings or reducing expenditure to ensure that these are achieved. Finance will continue to work with the service to monitor all of the agreed savings' proposals closely.

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Appendix E – Climate & Place, (including Accountable Bodies)

Climate & Place

Lead Members:

- Public Health, Climate Change and Environment: Cllr Graham Oakes
- Transport and Waste Services: Cllr Richard Wilkins
- Economic Development, Planning & Assets: Cllr Mike Rigby

Executive Director: Chris Hall

Service Directors:

- Climate, Environment & Sustainability: Paul Hickson
- Infrastructure & Transport: Mike O’Dowd-Jones
- Economy, Employment & Planning: Paul Hickson

Accountable Bodies

Lead Members:

- Transport and Waste Services: Cllr Richard Wilkins
- Economic Development, Planning & Assets: Cllr Mike Rigby
- Public Health, Climate Change and Environment: Cllr Graham Oakes

Executive Director: Mickey Green

Service Directors:

- Somerset Rivers Authority: Paul Hickson
- Local Enterprise Partnership and Connecting Devon & Somerset: Paul Hickson

Chart 1: Budget versus forecast outturn graph

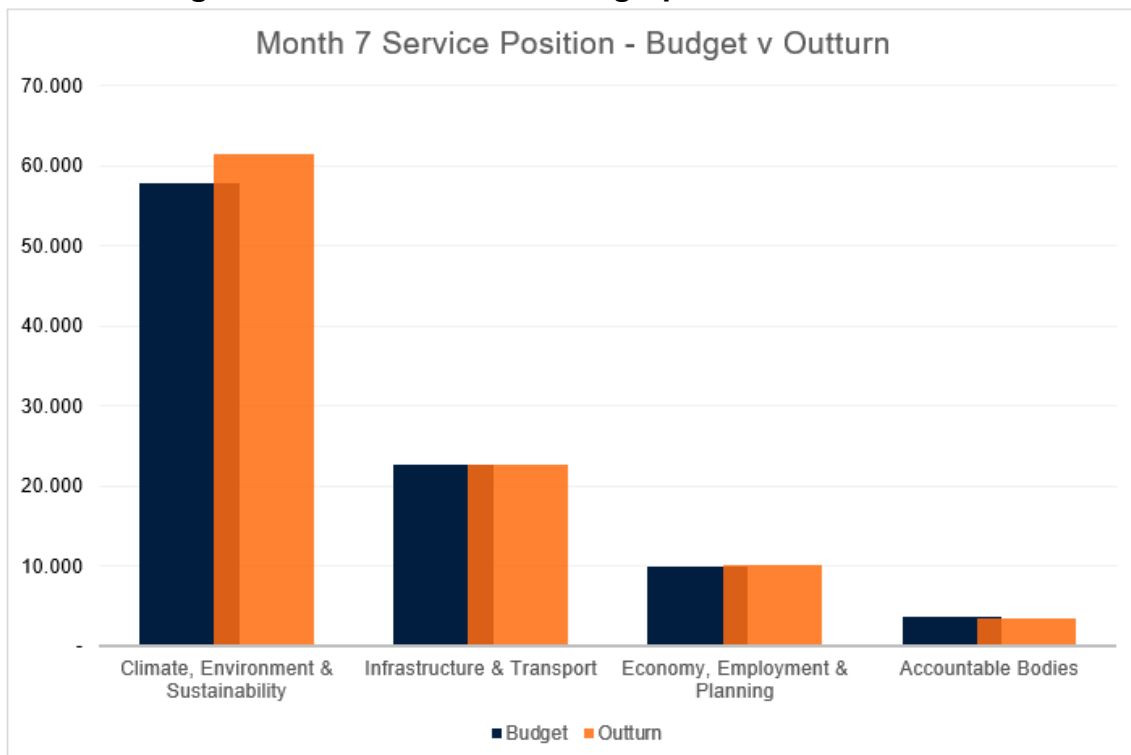


Table 1: 2024/25 Climate & Place, (including Accountable Bodies) as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

- 2024/25 Current net budget £94.201m, forecast overspend of £3.530m, an increase of £0.317m from Quarter 2.
- 2023/24 Final net budget £90.9m, outturn underspend of £14.1m

Service Area	Current Expenditure Budget £m	Current Income Budget £m	Current Net Budget £m	Full Year Projection £m	Month 7 Variance £m	Overspend / (Underspend)	RAG Status	Ongoing Pressure £m	One-off Pressures £m	Movement From Month 6 £m
Climate, Environment & Sustainability										
Climate & Place Management	0.304	-	0.304	0.304	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Business Support	0.799	(0.018)	0.781	0.731	(0.050)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.050)
Waste Services	58.103	(6.769)	51.334	54.886	3.552	Overspend	Red	3.000	0.552	0.452
Drainage Board Levy	2.295	-	2.295	2.295	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Climate & Natural Environment	4.089	(2.071)	2.018	1.980	(0.038)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
Resilience & Adaptation	1.248	(0.041)	1.207	1.222	0.015	Overspend	Amber	-	0.015	(0.025)
sub total	66.838	(8.899)	57.939	61.418	3.479	Overspend	Red	3.000	0.567	0.377
Infrastructure & Transport										
Highways & Transport Commissioning	2.269	(0.735)	1.534	1.284	(0.250)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
Infrastructure Programmes Group	1.526	(1.294)	0.232	0.507	0.275	Overspend	Red	-	0.275	-
Highways	18.604	(0.832)	17.772	18.411	0.639	Overspend	Red	-	0.639	(0.005)
Traffic Management	5.065	(4.668)	0.397	(0.003)	(0.400)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
Transporting Somerset	15.568	(6.277)	9.291	9.291	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Car Parks	6.003	(13.037)	(7.034)	(7.335)	(0.301)	Overachievement	Green	-	-	-
Fleet Management	0.881	(0.345)	0.536	0.536	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
sub total	49.916	(27.188)	22.728	22.691	(0.037)	Underspend	Green	-	0.914	(0.005)
Economy, Employment & Planning										
Development Control	7.294	(5.229)	2.065	2.065	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Planning Policy	3.010	(0.013)	2.997	2.997	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Economic Development	5.820	(1.952)	3.868	3.761	(0.107)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.051)
Building Control	2.187	(1.533)	0.654	0.654	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	0.001
Regeneration and Major Projects	0.389	(0.157)	0.232	0.288	0.056	Overspend	Red	-	0.056	0.001
Land Charges	0.496	(1.132)	(0.636)	(0.436)	0.200	Underachievement	Red	-	0.200	-
Resources, Integration, Minerals & Waste	0.836	(0.122)	0.714	0.713	(0.001)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.001)
Placemaking & Projects	0.168	(0.126)	0.042	0.042	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
sub total	20.200	(10.264)	9.936	10.084	0.148	Overspend	Amber	-	0.256	(0.050)
Accountable Bodies										
Somerset Rivers Authority	3.079	(0.020)	3.059	3.059	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Connecting Devon & Somerset (CDS)	1.078	(0.539)	0.539	0.479	(0.060)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.005)
sub total	4.157	(0.559)	3.598	3.538	(0.060)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.005)
Climate & Place Total	141.111	(46.910)	94.201	97.731	3.530	Overspend	Red	3.000	1.737	0.317

Climate & Place - key explanations, actions, & mitigating controls

Climate and Place (including Accountable Bodies) is forecasting an overspend of £3.530m at Month 7, an increase of £0.317m since Quarter 2.

The key explanation, actions and mitigating controls are as follows:

Climate, Environment and Sustainability

Resilience and Adaptation is forecasting an overspend of £0.015m due to consultants' costs. The costs where possible have been offset by vacant posts within Flood Defence and Land Drainage.

Waste Services is forecasting an overspend of £3.552m, an increase of £0.452 from Quarter 2. This is due to the saving for changes at the recycling centres now being shown as unachievable. The full value of the saving was £0.882m and this has been partially mitigated by overachieving on other savings and other budget movements to the value of £0.430m. The most significant of these movements being the following. Overachieving on other savings of £0.310m, savings on head office and communications of £0.082m, reduction in tonnage related costs of £0.072m, savings on site maintenance, licenses & depot transfer costs of £0.082m. Offset by reduced income from recycle sales of £0.153m, and clinical collection cost increase of £0.067m.

It is worth noting that the service is volatile and is subject to fluctuating demands with outside influences such as the weather, impacting the volumes of waste presented at both the kerbside, and recycling centres. The value of recycled materials can be impacted by the market and therefore may impact income generation within the service.

Business Support is forecasting an underspend of £0.050m, a increase of £0.050m from Quarter 2. This is due to vacant posts within the service area.

Infrastructure and Transport

Infrastructure and Transport are forecasting an underspend of £0.037m, an increase of £0.005m from Quarter 2.

Highways is forecasting an overspend of £0.639m, a decrease of £0.005m from Quarter 2, this is due to vacant posts.

Ongoing pressures are across Infrastructure and Transport as per the below:

Highways is forecasting an overspend within the safety defects budget £0.600m, increased vehicle costs £0.071m, and an increase to the Insurance Premium for Public Liability £0.272m. The overspends can be mitigated in part through underspends across Street Lighting £0.322m, and vacant posts £0.163m. It is important to note that Street Lighting will have the Black Distribution rates at the end of November, this may provide further savings that can be used to help mitigate the overspend further.

Infrastructure Programmes Group is forecasting an overspend due to ongoing pressures seen in an MTFP saving to attribute salary costs to capital schemes. Work continues to understand if this can be reduced or mitigated in the future.

Economy, Employment and Planning

Economy, Employment and Planning is forecasting an overspend of £0.148m, a decrease of £0.051 from Quarter 2.

Economic Development is forecasting an underspend of £0.107m, an increase of £0.051 from Quarter 2. This is due to external funding that has produced a one-off saving in 2024/25.

The underspend within Economic Development is currently being used to help mitigate the following pressures:

The pressure in the **Land Charges** budget resulting from over-estimation of income for the service. Applications appear to be slowing so this pressure may increase in the next couple of months.

Regeneration and Major Projects is forecasting an overspend of £0.056m, this is due to salary costs that are not budgeted for. It has been agreed that Economic Development underspends will be used to offset this cost.

Accountable Bodies

Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) is forecasting to spend this year's precept on allocated projects, any additional spend from prior year's projects will be funded from the SRA reserve. If any of the 2024/25 precept is not spent at the end of the year it will be transferred to the reserve.

Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) programme is forecasting an underspend of £0.060m. This is largely due to the reduced use of consultants and internal staff recharges. CDS are continuing to monitor and review contractors' performance.

Table 2: Service Management Actions included in the forecast outturn

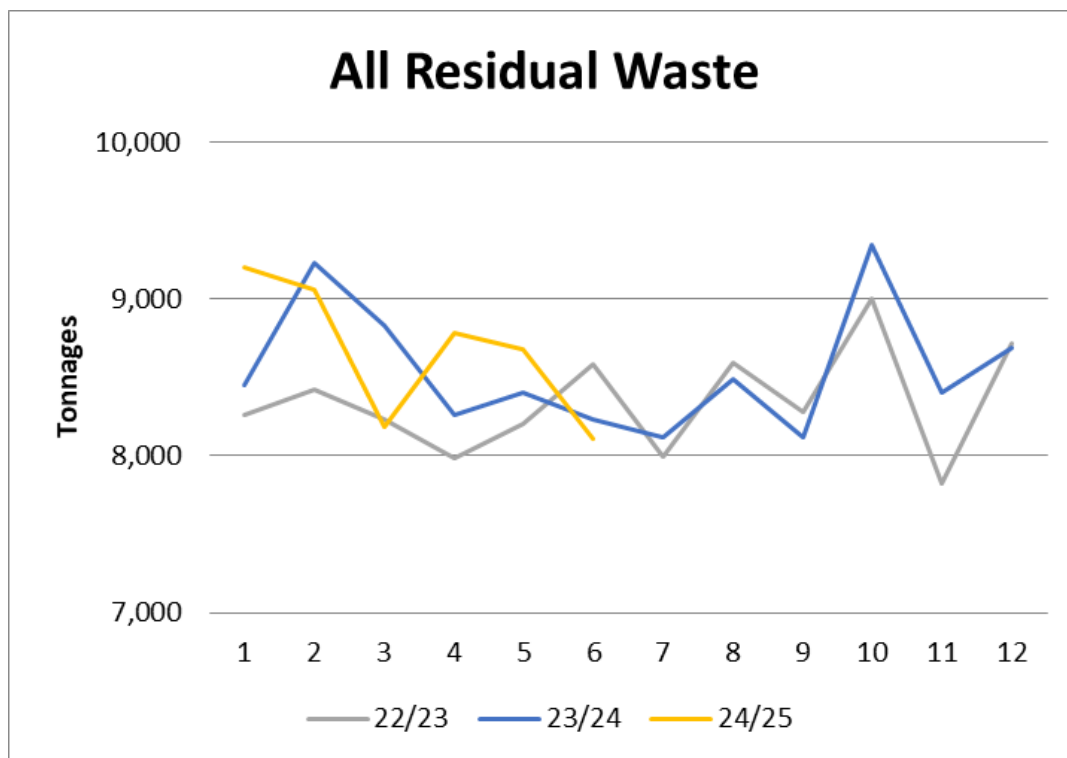
Service Management Actions	Quarter 2	Month 7	Movement	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	
None	-	-	-	
Total Management Actions	-	-	-	

Table 3: Mitigating Actions Identified, not yet included in the forecast outturn

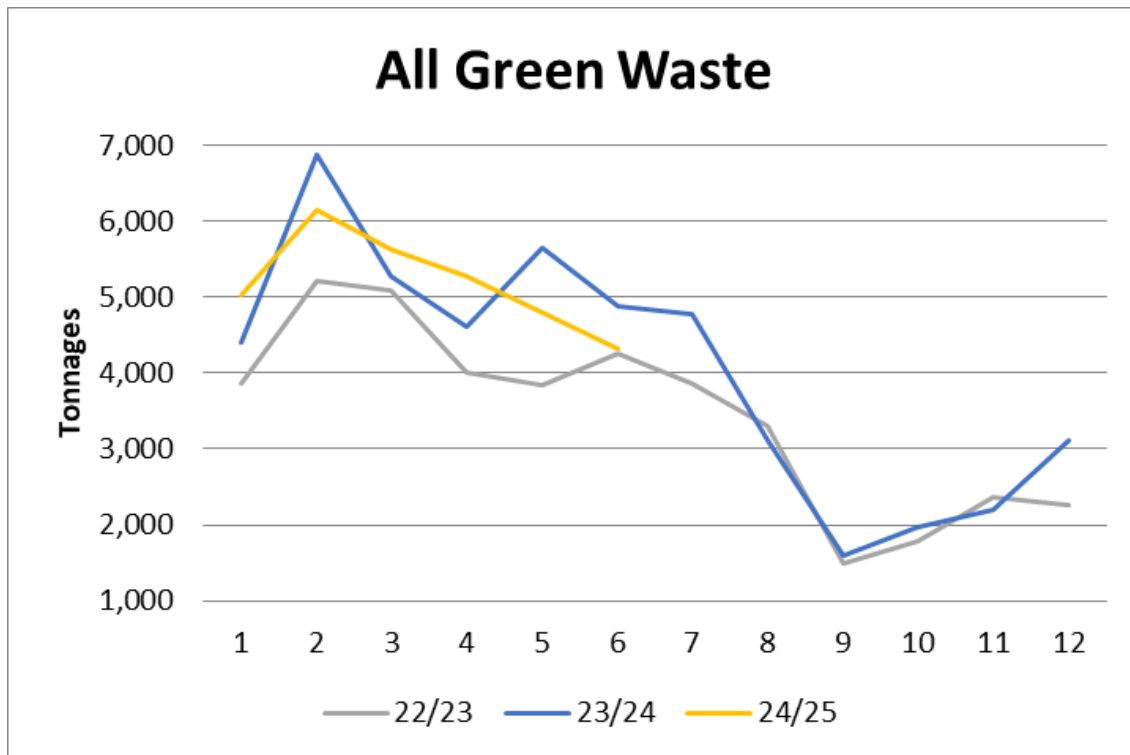
In-Year Mitigation Proposed	Quarter 2	Month 7	Movement	One-Off Mitigation	Ongoing Mitigation	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
To be Mitigated	3.300	3.627	0.327			Overspend in Climate, Environment & Sustainability, and Economy, Employment & Planning
Climate, Environment & Sustainability	-	(3.479)	(3.479)	(3.479)	-	The pressure seen with in Climate, Environment and Sustainability mainly relates to Waste Services, as yet further mitigating actions have no further actions have been identified to offset

						the full pressure within the service
Economy, Employment & Planning	-	(0.148)	(0.148)	(0.148)	-	Whilst Economy, Employment and Planning can mitigate some of the pressures by holding savings within Economic Development, no further actions have been identified to offset the pressure within Land Charges
Total Mitigations Identified to be Actioned	-	(3.627)	(3.627)	(3.627)	-	
Still to be Mitigated	3.300	-	(3.300)			

Climate & Place - key performance cost drivers



The above graph shows the residual waste (per tonnage) per month. The residual waste includes Kerbside collected waste and waste deposited at the recycling centre.



The above graph shows the green waste (per tonnage) per month. Green waste volumes are significantly impacted by the weather conditions during the growing season.

Climate & Place - key risks, future issues & opportunities

Due to the current economic climate, there are several key risks and future issues that need to be taken into consideration:

It is important to note that winter maintenance, salt purchase, and emergency budgets are all currently forecast as on budget. The budgets are impacted by extreme weather throughout the year, and it is difficult to know the true impact until later in the year. Finance will continue to monitor these budgets with the service and will adjust forecasts accordingly.

- Income generation.** Many Climate and Place services are financed wholly or in part by fees and charges. Throughout the MTFP process savings have been based on additional income projections. These services are typically demand driven and dependant and, in many cases, influenced by the economic cycle and construction rates. In some cases, changes to government policy have given users and customers of the services additional powers to seek the return of income linked to service delivery timescales. All these factors imply risks for climate and place services meeting income targets. It is also important to note that some services are demand led and are reliant on services being used, should the demand for the service reduce it will have an impact on income budgets being achievable.

- **Commercial viability of public transport services.** The future financial sustainability of public transport bus services remains uncertain. Any reduction in public transport grants by the incoming Government could trigger significant withdrawal of commercial services and increase pressure on the council to subsidise services that are no longer commercially viable.
- Risks can be identified due to the **change in climate**. It is exceedingly difficult to be able to identify financially what the impact of climate change will be year on year, but risks with a potential financial impact include poor weather which can affect many areas in climate and place. It is important to note that this may impact winter maintenance, salt purchase, and emergency budgets within Highways as well as other service areas.

Performance of agreed savings proposals

There are 43 agreed savings targets for 2024/25 across climate and place totalling £5.637m.

There are 18 savings showing as on track, most of these are waiting for grant payments or income to be received into the accounts before these can be moved to achievable at present there is no risk relating to these savings. Four savings are showing as at risk of not being achieved. In the main these relate to capitalisation of salaries and the reduction in Fleet costs across the authority, work continues to ensure that where these savings are not achieved, mitigating actions are in place to offset these. Three savings are now being reported as not achievable, these all relate to Waste Services. The service continues to look for mitigating actions or substitute savings to offset the pressure of not achieving the anticipated saving.

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Appendix F – Strategy, Workforce and Localities

Lead Members:

- Governance and Communications: Cllr Bill Revans
- Finance, Procurement and Performance: Cllr Liz Leyshon
- Transformation, Human Resources, Localities and Digital: Cllr Theo Butt Philip

Executive Director: Alyn Jones

Service Directors:

- Partnership and Localities: Sara Skirton
- Strategy and Performance: Sara Cretney
- Governance, Democratic and Legal Services: David Clark
- Workforce (interim): Dawn Bettridge

Chart 1: Budget versus forecast outturn graph

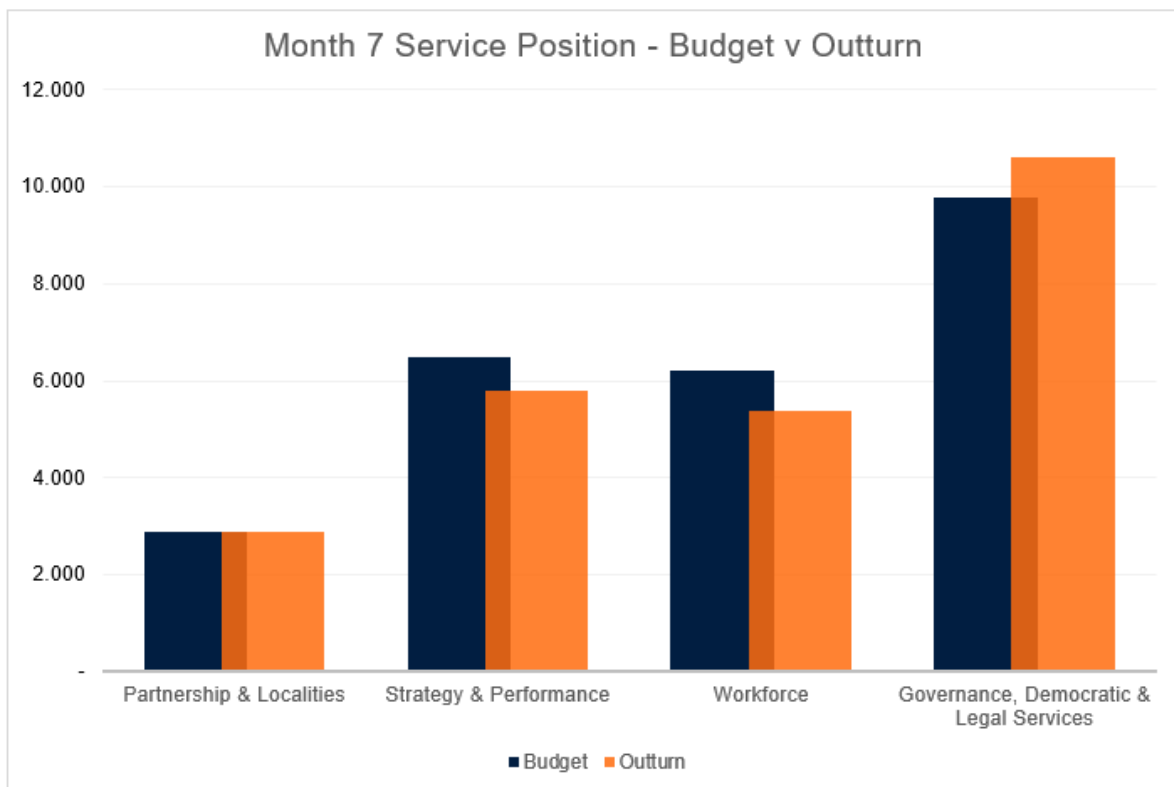


Table 1: 2024/25 Strategy, Workforce and Localities as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

- 2024/25 net budget £25.381m, forecasting an underspend £0.711m, an increase of £0.096m from Quarter 2
- 2023/24 net budget £25.7m, outturn underspend of £0.8m.

Service Area	Current Expenditure Budget £m	Current Income Budget £m	Current Net Budget £m	Full Year Projection £m	Month 7 Variance £m	Overspend / (Underspend)	RAG Status	Ongoing Pressure £m	One-off Pressures £m	Movement From Month 6 £m
Partnership & Localities										
Localities	1.509	(0.224)	1.285	1.285	-	On-budget	Green	0.037	-	-
Strategic Partnerships	1.600	(0.001)	1.599	1.599	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
sub total	3.109	(0.225)	2.884	2.884	-	On-budget	Green	0.037	-	-
Strategy & Performance										
Communications	1.752	(0.255)	1.497	1.434	(0.063)	Underspend	Green	0.040	-	-
Transformation & Change	4.950	(0.782)	4.168	3.541	(0.627)	Underspend	Green	0.100	-	-
Performance	0.842	(0.022)	0.820	0.820	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
sub total	7.544	(1.059)	6.485	5.795	(0.690)	Underspend	Green	0.140	-	-
Workforce										
Human Resources & Organisational Development	7.297	(2.106)	5.191	4.557	(0.634)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
Learning & Development	2.889	(1.857)	1.032	0.834	(0.198)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.048)
sub total	10.186	(3.963)	6.223	5.391	(0.832)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.048)
Governance, Democratic & Legal Services										
Democratic Services	4.549	(0.469)	4.080	3.782	(0.298)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.028)
Legal Services	4.976	(0.791)	4.185	5.508	1.323	Overspend	Red	1.300	0.023	-
Info Governance	0.794	(0.195)	0.599	0.474	(0.125)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
Elections	0.935	(0.010)	0.925	0.836	(0.089)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.020)
sub total	11.254	(1.465)	9.789	10.600	0.811	Overspend	Red	1.300	0.023	(0.048)
Strategy, Workforce & Localities Total	32.093	(6.712)	25.381	24.670	(0.711)	Underspend	Green	1.477	0.023	(0.096)

Strategy, Workforce & Localities – Key explanations of variances

Strategy, Workforce & Localities are forecasting an underspend of £0.711m, an increase of £0.096m from Quarter 2.

Partnerships & Localities

Currently forecasting on budget for Quarter 2. The ongoing pressure of £0.037m relates to income budgets not yet achieved in connection with St Matthews Fair and is currently being absorbed by the service during 2024/25.

Strategy & Performance

Communications is forecasting an underspend of £0.063m, no movement from Quarter 2. This is due to updated full year forecasts for staffing costs and more analysis of legacy council Communications budgets and due holding vacancies and a decrease in printing and publicity costs mainly due to an interim structure being in place. These savings have been offset by the ongoing pressure of £0.040m due to reduced income from Public Health arising from the realignment of the Public Health grant which was an MTFP decision in 2023/24.

Transformation and Change is forecasting an underspend of £0.627m, no movement from Quarter 2. This is due to updated full year forecasts for staffing costs once more knowledge was gained about redundant posts in 2024/25 and due to holding vacancies which have been offset by reduced income generation in Digital Services, mainly due to the limitations of an interim structure. Also offsetting this underspend is the ongoing pressure of £0.040m of reduced income from Public Health due to the realignment of the Public Health grant, which was an MTFP decision in 2023/24, as well as income not yet achieved of £0.060m in Digital Services.

Workforce

Workforce is forecasting an underspend of £0.832m, an increase of £0.048m from Quarter 2. This is due to an increase to the forecast income to be achieved from the purchase of additional leave and the newly reported underspend on the training budget

and due to holding vacancies pending the implementation of the proposed new structure and an underspend on the corporate training budget.

Governance, Democratic and Legal Services

Governance, Democratic and Legal Services is forecasting an overspend of £0.811m, an decrease of £0.048m from Quarter 2. This is due to updated full year forecasts for staffing costs and a slight decrease in the forecast position for Legal Services.

Legal Services is forecasting a net overspend of £1.323m, this is mainly due to the costs incurred for the provision of the legal childcare support, which is a statutory and demand led service. This is an area of specialism which is extremely difficult to recruit to and as a consequence the Council is currently reliant on locums. The uncertainty of the wider transformation and increase programme has led to further staff departures across the wider legal service, with these positions difficult to recruit to, thereby inevitably increasing reliance on a temporary or locum workforce. As was the case in previous years, the use of remote locums tends to lead to an increase in Counsel fees (note: the use of local counsel can be a cost-effective way to cover some in person hearings).

The overspend in Legal Services is being mitigated in year in part by £0.512m of underspends in Democratic Services, Information Governance and Elections Services from holding staff vacancies, as well as underspends across both Strategy, Workforce & Localities and Resources & Corporate Services as a whole.

Resources & Corporate Services – Actions and mitigations

Table 2: Service Management Actions included in the forecast outturn

Service Management Actions	Quarter 2	Month 7	Movement	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	
None	-	-	-	
Total Management Actions	-	-	-	

Table 3: Mitigating Actions Identified, not yet included in the forecast outturn

In-Year Mitigation Proposed	Quarter 2	Month 7	Movement	One-Off Mitigation	Ongoing Mitigation	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
To be Mitigated	0.859	0.811	(0.048)			Overspend in Governance, Democratic &

						Legal Services
Strategy & Performance	(0.075)	-	0.075	-	-	Reported underspends within Strategy & Performance are being held to fund the overspend in Legal Services.
Workforce	(0.784)	(0.811)	(0.027)	(0.811)	-	Reported underspends within Workforce are being held to fund the overspend in Legal Services.
Total Mitigations Identified to be Actioned	(0.859)	(0.811)	0.048	(0.811)	-	
Still to be Mitigated	-	-	-			

Resources & Corporate Services - Key risks, future issues & opportunities

As mentioned above there are ongoing pressures in Partnerships & Localities of £0.037m and Strategy & Performance of £0.140m, which the services are able to mitigate by offsetting this against ongoing savings within service from 2025/26 onwards.

There is an ongoing pressure in Legal Services of £1.300m. To address the ongoing pressure in Legal Services, several strategic measures are being implemented. This includes redesigning the service structure and conducting a thorough review of childcare cases and their associated processes. Additionally, work to collaborate with the courts to explore ways to expedite cases and minimise the need for lengthy procedures has commenced. These efforts aim to enhance efficiency and reduce costs while maintaining the quality of legal services provided.

Appendix G - Resources & Corporate Services

Lead Members:

- Economic Development, Planning & Assets: Cllr Mike Rigby
- Finance, Procurement and Performance: Cllr Liz Leyshon
- Transport and Waste Services: Cllr Richard Wilkins

Executive Directors:

- Maria G Christofi, Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer)
- Alyn Jones (Strategic Asset Management and Information, Communication, Technology)

Service Directors:

- Finance & Procurement: Nicola Hix
- Strategic Asset Management: Simon Lewis (Interim Head of Property)
- Information, Communication, Technology: Andy Kennell

Chart 1: Budget versus forecast outturn graph

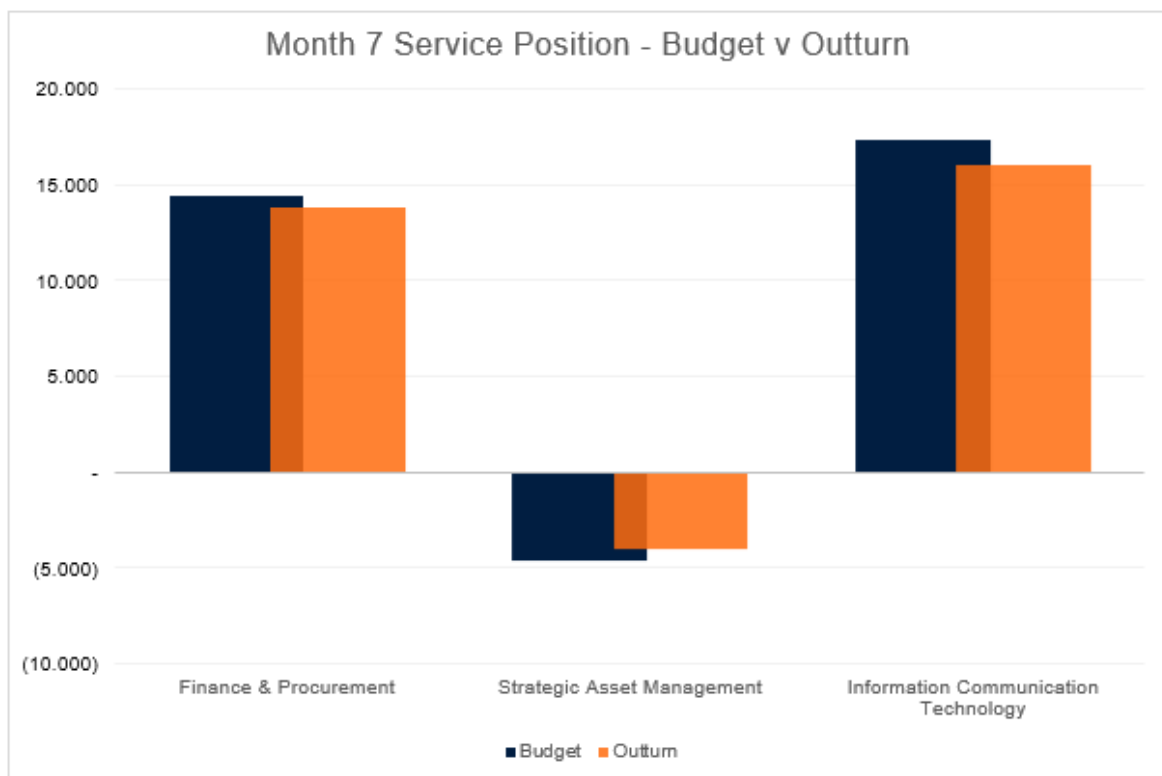


Table 1: 2024/25 Resources & Corporate Services as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

- 2024/25 net budget £27.075m, forecasting an underspend of £1.328m, a decrease of £0.572m from Quarter 2
- 2023/24 net budget £23.6m, Outturn underspend of £2.3m.

Service Area	Current Expenditure Budget £m	Current Income Budget £m	Current Net Budget £m	Full Year Projection £m	Month 7 Variance £m	Overspend / (Underspend)	RAG Status	Ongoing Pressure £m	One-off Pressures £m	Movement From Month 6 £m
Finance & Procurement										
Finance	11.159	(2.238)	8.921	9.720	0.799	Overspend	Red	0.483	0.601	0.224
Procurement	14.564	(12.278)	2.286	1.519	(0.767)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.192)
Revenues	5.019	(2.522)	2.497	2.263	(0.234)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.132)
Housing Benefits	89.733	(89.050)	0.683	0.257	(0.426)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.048)
sub total	120.475	(106.088)	14.387	13.759	(0.628)	Underspend	Green	0.483	0.601	(0.148)
Strategic Asset Management										
Property Services	18.529	(7.802)	10.727	10.469	(0.258)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.157)
Commercial Investment Properties	0.962	(16.359)	(15.397)	(14.537)	0.860	Underachievement	Red	-	0.860	0.860
sub total	19.491	(24.161)	(4.670)	(4.068)	0.602	Underachievement	Red	-	0.860	0.703
Information Communication Technology										
Hardware & Software	9.679	(0.003)	9.676	9.083	(0.593)	Underspend	Green	-	-	0.270
ICT General	9.263	(2.521)	6.742	5.822	(0.920)	Underspend	Green	0.073	-	(0.222)
ICT Traded	0.496	(0.367)	0.129	0.318	0.189	Overspend	Red	0.095	0.094	0.126
Telecommunications	0.811	-	0.811	0.833	0.022	Overspend	Amber	-	0.022	(0.157)
sub total	20.249	(2.891)	17.358	16.056	(1.302)	Underspend	Green	0.168	0.116	0.017
Resources & Corporate Services Total	160.215	(133.140)	27.075	25.747	(1.328)	Underspend	Green	0.651	1.577	0.572

Resources & Corporate Services – Key explanations of variances

The forecast outturn reported for Resources & Corporate Services takes into account the position on MTFP Savings as disclosed in Appendix J.

Finance & Procurement

Finance & Procurement, excluding Revenues and Housing Benefits are forecasting an overspend of £0.032m, an increase of £0.032m from Quarter 2. This is due to essential staff posts being filled for the remainder of 2024/25. Ongoing pressures have arisen regarding the internal income budgets not yet achieved (£0.209m), reduced Investment Team income (£0.050m), reduced Finance Business Partners' income from Connecting Devon & Somerset (£0.068m) and reduced income from the Customer Access project (£0.156m). There is also a one-off pressure for prior year statement of accounts audits (£0.601m). These pressures have been offset in part by the full year impact of holding staff vacancies (£0.307m). This overspend is also being mitigated by a forecast underspend in Procurement of £0.767m which is due to savings on the Mendip 5 Council contract due to a decrease in the services being delivered (£0.415m) and holding staff vacancies (£0.349m) in the Commercial & Procurement Team.

Revenues & Benefits are forecasting an underspend of £0.660m, an increase of £0.180m from Quarter 2. This is due to the recognition of the full-year effect of staff vacancies and the result of an increase regarding the court costs recoupment budget (£0.308m), holding staff vacancies (£0.172m) and reduced Mendip 5 Council contract recharges (£0.180m).

Strategic Asset Management

Property Services is forecasting an underspend of £0.258m, an increase of £0.157m from Quarter 2. This is due to a forecast reduction in project costs for the re-modelling works in B Block, County Hall, following the Taunton office accommodation review.

The service is holding several vacancies, resulting in employee budget savings and income forecast to be higher than budgeted due to property rationalisation, and the

resultant income from partners. These savings are being part offset by one-off property holding costs and a forecast pressure in post and scanning.

Commercial Investment Properties is forecasting an overspend of £0.860m, an increase of £0.860m from Quarter 2. This relates to a change in principle where in previous months this overspend was being offset against the Investment Risk Reserve, whereas we will now look to offset this overspend against underspends from other services within Resources & Corporate Services.

The overspend of £0.860m relates to required landlord repairs to two properties of £0.200m, cost of sales of five properties to date of £0.155m, recharge of officer time of £0.305m and income loss on voids at Northgate Yard of £0.200m.

Information Communication Technology

Information Communication Technology is forecasting an underspend of £1.302m, a decrease of £0.017m from Quarter 2. The underspend arises from negotiated contractual cost decreases in Microsoft and other contracts (£0.593m) and holding staff vacancies (£0.920m). This is offset in part by ongoing pressures of income budgets not yet achieved due to the withdrawal of both the Education Core Offer (£0.064m – full year impact of £0.095m) and the external contract with Tameside BC (£0.073m).

Resources & Corporate Services – Actions and mitigations

Table 2: Service Management Actions included in the forecast outturn

Service Management Actions	Quarter 2	Month 7	Movement	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	
None	-	-	-	
Total Management Actions	-	-	-	

Table 3: Mitigating Actions Identified, not yet included in the forecast outturn

In-Year Mitigation Proposed	Quarter 2	Month 7	Movement	One-Off Mitigation	Ongoing Mitigation	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
To be Mitigated	0.000	0.602	0.602			Overspend in Commercial Investment Properties

In-Year Mitigation Proposed	Quarter 2 £m	Month 7 £m	Movement £m	One-Off Mitigation £m	Ongoing Mitigation £m	Comments
Information Communication Technology	-	(0.602)	(0.602)	(0.602)	-	Reported underspends within Information Communication Technology are being held to fund the overspend in Investment Properties.
Total Mitigations Identified to be Actioned	-	(0.602)	(0.602)	(0.602)	-	
Still to be Mitigated	-	-	-			

Resources & Corporate Services - Key risks, future issues & opportunities

As mentioned above there are ongoing pressures in Finance of £0.483m from income budgets that have not yet been achieved. The service will mitigate this ongoing pressure by offsetting this against ongoing savings from the Capita 5C contract within service from 2025/26 onwards.

There are also ongoing pressures in ICT of £0.168m. ICT is planning to mitigate this ongoing pressure by offsetting this against ongoing savings within service from 2025/26 onwards.

Appendix H - Public Health

Lead Member for Public Health, Climate Change and Environment: Cllr Graham Oakes

Executive Director: Professor Trudi Grant

Deputy Director Public Health: Lou Woolway

2024/25 Public Health as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

- 2024/25 Net Budget £1.039m, no variance
- 2023/24 Net Budget £1.3m, outturn underspend £0.1m

Service Area	Current Expenditure Budget £m	Current Income Budget £m	Current Net Budget £m	Full Year Projection £m	Month 7 Variance £m	Overspend / (Underspend)	RAG Status	Ongoing Pressure £m	One-off Pressures £m	Movement From Month 6 £m
Public Health Grant	23.000	(23.000)	-	-	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Somerset Council Budget	1.039	-	1.039	1.039	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Public Health Total	24.039	(23.000)	1.039	1.039	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-

Public Health - key explanations, actions & mitigating controls

The Public Health budget is currently forecast to be on budget for both the ringfenced grant and the Somerset Council budget.

Public Health - key risks, future issues & opportunities

Both the Public Health Grant and the Somerset Council funding managed by Public Health are facing significant future pressures caused by unfunded contract and pay inflationary increases. The Council have not yet been notified of the Public Health Grant for the 2025/26 financial year.

There is a systemic underfunding of public health in Somerset. The Public Health Grant is significantly below the national average being 141st out of 153 local authorities nationally. Improvements in whole population health are not achievable within the constraints of the public health budget. A new operating model for public health is underway which focuses the activity of the Public Health Team towards influencing policy, commissioning and spend right across the Somerset system to improve health and tackle inequalities. This new model puts a significant focus on the need to maintain a well-resourced and specialist public health team as opposed to using the grant to fund nonmandated services.

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Appendix I – Other Service Areas (including Collection Fund)

Corporate Management

Lead Member for Corporate Management: Cllr Liz Leyshon

Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer): Maria G. Christofi

Chart 1: Budget versus forecast outturn graph

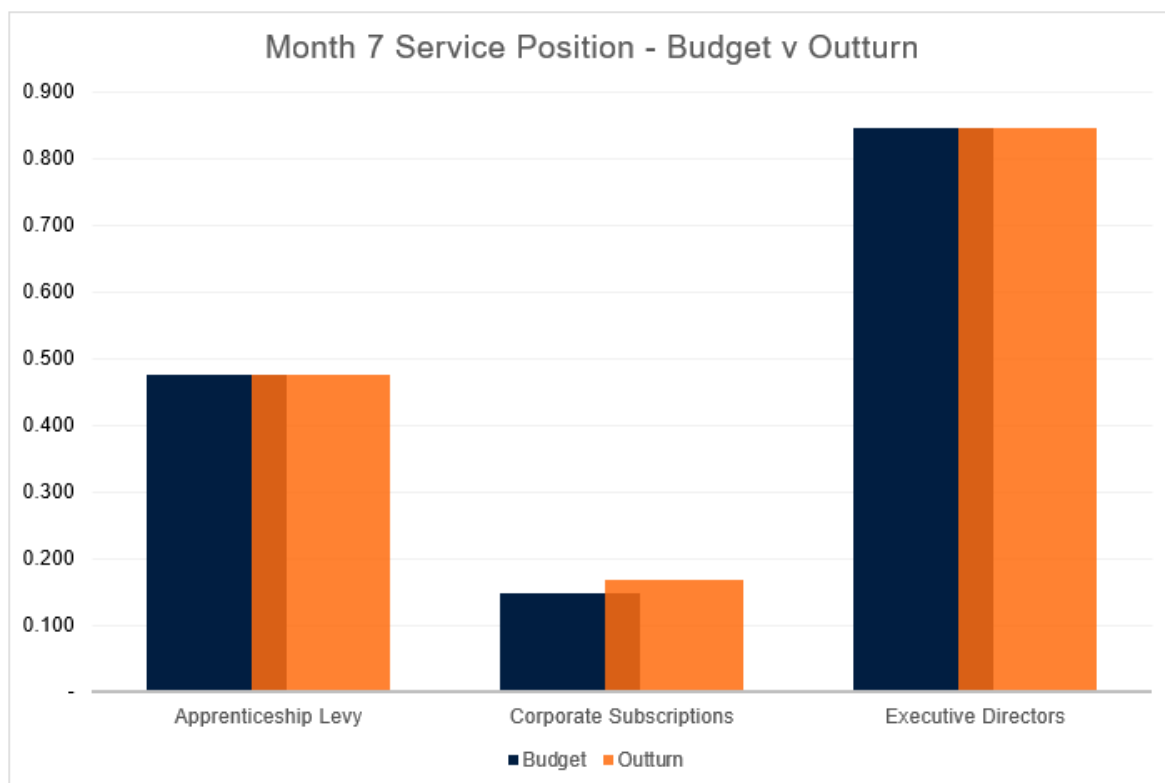


Table 1: 2024/25 Corporate Management as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

- 2024/25 net budget £1.472m, forecasting an overspend of £0.019m, no change from Quarter 2
- 2023/24 net budget £0.8m, outturn overspend £0.8m

Service Area	Current Expenditure Budget £m	Current Income Budget £m	Current Net Budget £m	Full Year Projection £m	Month 7 Variance £m	Overspend / (Underspend)	RAG Status	Ongoing Pressure £m	One-off Pressures £m	Movement From Month 6 £m
Apprenticeship Levy	0.477	-	0.477	0.477	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Central Redundancies	-	-	-	-	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Corporate Subscriptions	0.149	-	0.149	0.168	0.019	Overspend	Red	-	0.019	-
Executive Directors	0.949	(0.103)	0.846	0.846	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Corporate Management Total	1.575	(0.103)	1.472	1.491	0.019	Overspend	Amber	-	0.019	-

Corporate Management - Key explanations of variances

The Corporate Subscriptions budget is forecasting an overspend of £0.019m due to inflationary increases on combined subscriptions costs for Somerset Council.

Corporate Management – Actions and mitigations

Table 2: Mitigating Actions Identified, not yet included in the forecast outturn

In-Year Mitigation Proposed	Quarter 2	Month 7	Movement	One-Off Mitigation	Ongoing Mitigation	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
To be Mitigated	0.019	0.019	0.000			Overspend in Corporate Subscriptions
Non-Service	(0.019)	(0.019)	-	(0.019)		
Total Mitigations Identified to be Actioned	(0.019)	(0.019)	-	(0.019)	-	
Still to be Mitigated	-	-	-			

Non-Service

Lead Member for Non-Service: Cllr Liz Leyshon

Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer): Maria G. Christofi

Chart 2: Budget versus forecast outturn graph

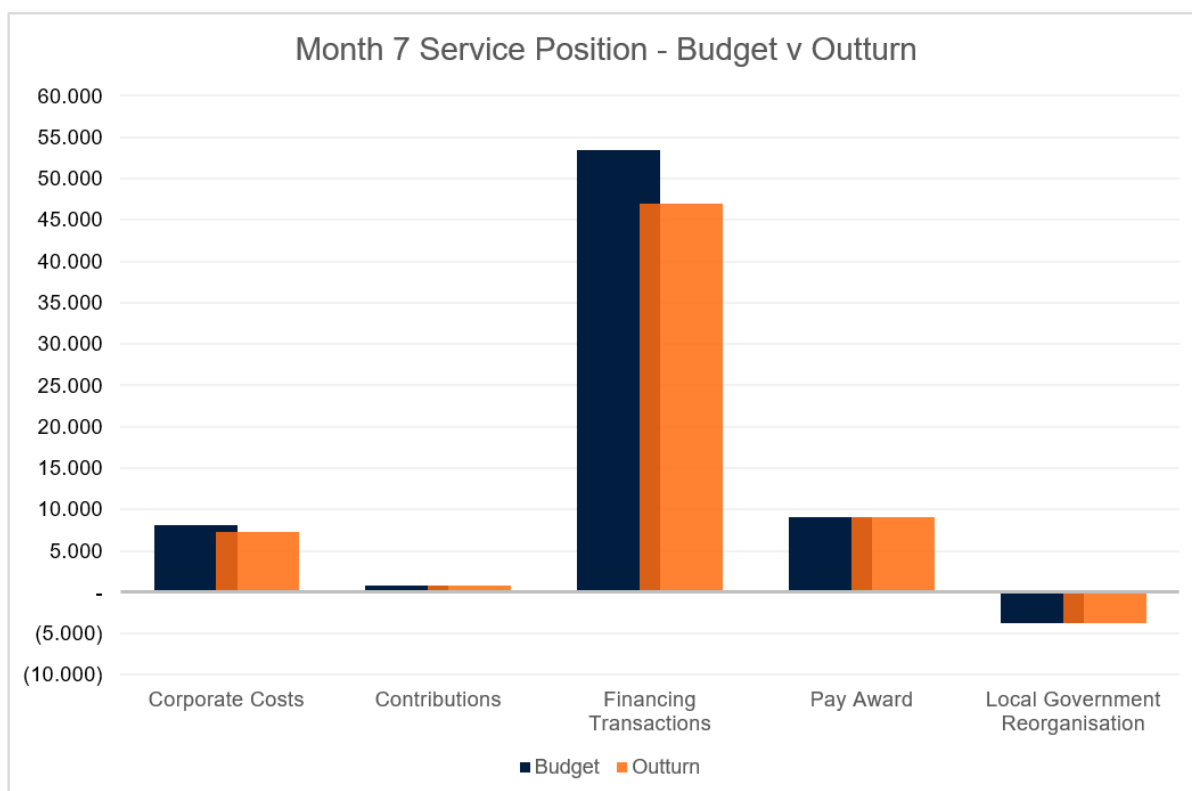


Table 3: 2024/25 Non-Service as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

- 2024/25 net budget £67.672m, forecasting an underspend of £7.323m, an increase of £0.500m from Quarter 2
- 2023/24 net budget £55.3m, outturn underspend £10.1m

Service Area	Original Budget	Current Expenditure Budget	Current Income Budget	Current Net Budget	Full Year Projection	Month 7 Variance	Overspend / (Underspend)	RAG Status	Ongoing Pressure	One-off Pressures	Movement From Month 6
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m			£m	£m	£m
Corporate Costs	7.091	8.281	(0.172)	8.109	7.298	(0.811)	Underspend	Green	-	-	(0.513)
Contributions	0.768	0.902	(0.134)	0.768	0.768	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Financing Transactions	53.621	59.695	(6.251)	53.444	46.932	(6.512)	Underspend	Green	0.125	-	0.013
Pay Award	10.323	9.060	-	9.060	9.060	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Local Government Reorganisation	(4.355)	0.646	(4.355)	(3.709)	(3.709)	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Non-Service Total	67.448	78.584	(10.912)	67.672	60.349	(7.323)	Underspend	Green	0.125	-	(0.500)

Non-Service - Key explanations of variances

Financing Transactions

Financing Transactions are forecasting an underspend of £6.512m a decrease of £0.013m from Quarter 2. The underspend is due to the council's debt charges which are forecast to be lower than anticipated at budget setting, whilst investment income is expected to be higher by the end of the financial year. As interest rates are volatile, there is a risk that investment income could fall later in the year. A review of leased buildings has been completed and the figures confirmed for 2024/25 which has led to an underspend of £0.609m. This is offset by a £0.075m overspend for interest received on service loans.

Corporate Costs

Corporate Costs is forecasting an underspend of £0.811m, an increase of £0.513m from Quarter 2. This is due to the general fund proportion of the Pension Deficit charge being lower than anticipated at budget setting, leading to a £1.016m underspend. This underspend is partly offset by an overspend of £0.205m within the Discontinued Services budget, due to increased costs arising from a variation in the number of individuals for whom the SCC Pension Fund charges SCC for compensation for loss of office.

Traded Services

Lead Member for Traded Services: Cllr Heather Shearer
Executive Director: Claire Winter

Table 4: 2024/25 Traded Services as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

- Traded Services are required to set a net nil budget with full costs offset by income generated.

Service Area	Current Expenditure Budget £m	Current Income Budget £m	Current Net Budget £m	Full Year Projection £m	Month 7 Variance £m	Overspend / (Underspend)	RAG Status	Ongoing Pressure £m	One-off Pressures £m	Movement From Month 6 £m
Dillington	-	-	-	-	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Traded Services Total	-	-	-	-	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-

Traded Services - Key explanations of variances

The Traded Services budget is forecasting a balanced position at outturn.

Contingencies

Lead Member for Contingencies: Cllr Liz Leyshon
Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer): Maria G. Christofi

Table 5: 2024/25 Contingencies as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

- 2024/25 net budget £6.000m, forecasting an underspend of £6.000m, no change from Quarter 2
- 2023/24 net budget £6.000m, outturn underspend £0.600m

Service Area	Current Expenditure Budget £m	Current Income Budget £m	Current Net Budget £m	Full Year Projection £m	Month 7 Variance £m	Overspend / (Underspend)	RAG Status	Ongoing Pressure £m	One-off Pressures £m	Movement From Month 6 £m
Corporate Contingency	6.000	-	6.000	-	(6.000)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-
Contingencies Total	6.000	-	6.000	-	(6.000)	Underspend	Green	-	-	-

Contingencies - Key explanations of variances

The contingency budget is unutilised at month 7.

Core Revenue Funding

Lead Member for Core Revenue Funding: Cllr Liz Leyshon
Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer): Maria G. Christofi

Table 6: 2024/25 Core Revenue Funding as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

- 2024/25 net budget (£639.611m), forecasting a reduced draw on reserves of £8.782m, an increased draw of £0.303m from Quarter 2
- 2023/24 net budget (£651.300m), outturn overachievement of £0.500m

Service Area	Current Expenditure Budget £m	Current Income Budget £m	Current Net Budget £m	Full Year Projection £m	Month 7 Variance £m	Reduction / Increase in Funding	RAG Status	Ongoing Pressure £m	One-off Pressures £m	Movement From Month 6 £m
Use of Reserves	(39.499)	-	(39.499)	(30.717)	8.782	Reduced draw	Red	-	8.782	0.303
Council Tax	- (361.071)		(361.071)	(361.071)	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Business Rates	- (128.447)		(128.447)	(128.447)	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Grants	- (65.997)		(65.997)	(66.057)	(0.060)	Increase	Green	-	0.001	-
Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit	- (7.713)		(7.713)	(7.713)	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Capitilisation Direction	- (36.884)		(36.884)	(36.884)	-	On-budget	Green	-	-	-
Core Revenue Funding Total	(39.499)	(600.112)	(639.611)	(630.889)	8.722	Reduced draw	Red	-	8.783	0.303

Core Revenue Funding - Key explanations of variances

Grants

The overachievement of £0.060m forecast for grants is due to receiving confirmation that the 2024/25 Services grant will be more than budgeted as the grant confirmation was received after the budget setting process.

At 2024/25 budget setting, a planned one-off use of Earmarked Reserves of £36.800m was included to support the budget. This planned use of reserves is forecast to reduce by £8.782m to £30.717m, due to the forecast underspend within service budget lines.

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Appendix J – Update on Savings Proposals

Table 1: Performance of Agreed Savings Proposals as at the end of October 2024 (Month 7)

Service Area	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adults Services	(3.900)	(9.808)	(13.708)	(8.908)	(4.800)	-	-
Children & Family Services	(1.000)	(9.570)	(10.570)	(4.097)	(2.172)	(4.266)	(0.035)
Community Services	-	(2.866)	(2.866)	(0.115)	(2.412)	(0.225)	(0.114)
Climate & Place	-	(5.637)	(5.637)	(2.844)	(1.310)	(0.506)	(0.977)
Strategy, Workforce & Localities	-	(0.484)	(0.484)	(0.402)	(0.082)	-	-
Resources & Corporate Services	-	(2.564)	(2.564)	(0.684)	(1.760)	(0.007)	(0.113)
Public Health	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Service	-	(4.048)	(4.048)	-	(4.048)	-	-
Total	(4.900)	(34.977)	(39.877)	(17.050)	(16.584)	(5.004)	(1.239)

Percentages - Month 7	100%	43%	42%	12%	3%
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Percentages - Quarter 2	100%	34%	52%	13%	1%
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Chart 1: Actual and forecast achievement of savings:

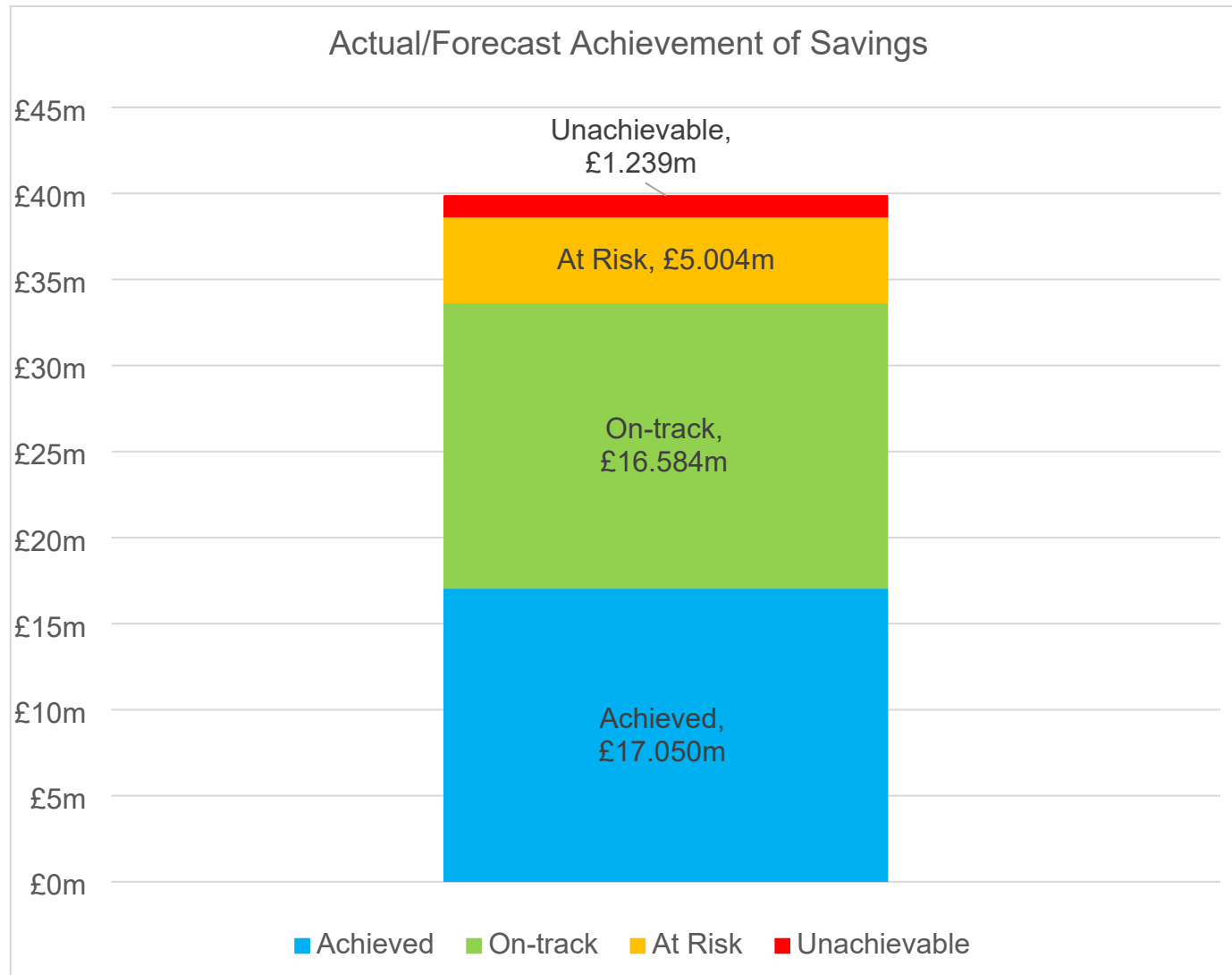


Table 2: Detailed Savings Tracker

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adults Services										
2022/23	AD-2324-LTSIGP-02	Adults & Health Operations	To support people to live independent lives.	(3.900)	(5.000)	(8.900)	(5.000)	(3.900)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-ADS-014	Adults & Health Operations	Maximising fees and charges across Adult Social Care	-	(3.400)	(3.400)	(2.500)	(0.900)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-ADS-004	Adults & Health Operations	Service that supports people with a combination of mental health need and substance misuse.	-	(0.420)	(0.420)	(0.420)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-ADS-002	Adults & Health Operations	Reviewing support for individuals	-	(0.300)	(0.300)	(0.300)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-ADS-001	Adults & Health Operations	Reviewing our Supported Living accommodation and Extra Care Housing	-	(0.200)	(0.200)	(0.200)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-ADS-005	Adults & Health Operations	Learning Disability Supporting Employment Service	-	(0.141)	(0.141)	(0.141)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-ADS-007	Adults & Health Operations	Floating Dementia Support Services	-	(0.117)	(0.117)	(0.117)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-ADS-012	Adults & Health Operations	Citizens advice - local assistance scheme	-	(0.107)	(0.107)	(0.107)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-ADS-013	Adults & Health Operations	Information and guidance and support for Older People	-	(0.061)	(0.061)	(0.061)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-ADS-006	Adults & Health Operations	Employment Service - for Carers and individuals with Mental Health needs	-	(0.034)	(0.034)	(0.034)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-ADS-008	Adults & Health Operations	Key Ring Service	-	(0.028)	(0.028)	(0.028)	-	-	-

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adults Services Total				(3.900)	(9.808)	(13.708)	(8.908)	(4.800)	-	-
Children & Family Services										
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CFE-016	Commissioning & Performance	New homes for young people aged 16 to 25 years who are ready to live in supported accommodation on their journey towards independent living	-	(3.386)	(3.386)	-	(1.762)	(1.624)	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CFE-017	Commissioning & Performance	Support children and young people in a loving Homes & Horizons home	-	(1.715)	(1.715)	(1.715)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CFE-018	Commissioning & Performance	Support eight young people in care who are currently living in residential homes, who are ready to live in supported accommodation on their journey towards independent living	-	(1.586)	(1.586)	(0.168)	-	(1.418)	-
2022/23	CS-2324-LTSIGP-05	Children & Families Operations	Reduction in the cost of providing residential placements for Children in Care	-	(1.109)	(1.109)	(0.692)	-	(0.417)	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CFE-005	Inclusion	Fund the Virtual School for Children in Care using the Pupil Premium Plus grant	-	(0.410)	(0.410)	-	(0.410)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CFE-003	Education, Partnerships & Skills	The Council will deliver a greater proportion of the support provided to Early Years settings through centrally retained	-	(0.398)	(0.398)	(0.398)	-	-	-

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
			funding, reducing its use of external partners.							
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CFE-001	Inclusion	More efficient delivery of home to school travel	-	(0.325)	(0.325)	(0.325)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CFE-007	Inclusion	Educational Psychology Service Budget Reduction	-	(0.141)	(0.141)	(0.141)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CFE-006	Inclusion	Reduction of four of nine vacant posts in the Special Educational Needs (SEND) team.	-	(0.132)	(0.132)	(0.132)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CFE-009	Inclusion	SEND delivery of Education Health & Care Plans	-	(0.125)	(0.125)	-	-	(0.090)	(0.035)
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CFE-008	Inclusion	External funding for the service to support young people who are at risk of not being in education, training or employment post 16	-	(0.100)	(0.100)	(0.100)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CFE-015	Commissioning & Performance	Support five children in care who are currently living in residential homes to move to a foster family so they experience a caring family home	(1.000)	(0.067)	(1.067)	(0.350)	-	(0.717)	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CFE-012	Commissioning & Performance	Stop out of hours security checks for three Somerset Council supported accommodation homes for young adults aged 18+	-	(0.035)	(0.035)	(0.035)		-	-

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CFE-013	Children & Families Operations	Special Guardianship Support	-	(0.030)	(0.030)	(0.030)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CFE-010	Children & Families Operations	Mind of My Own	-	(0.011)	(0.011)	(0.011)	-	-	-
Children & Family Services Total				(1.000)	(9.570)	(10.570)	(4.097)	(2.172)	(4.266)	(0.035)
Community Services										
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-053	Regulatory & Operational Services	Contributions towards the CCTV Service	-	(0.489)	(0.489)	-	(0.489)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-018	Regulatory & Operational Services	Closure of all Council owned public toilets.	-	(0.301)	(0.301)	-	(0.301)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-041	Regulatory & Operational Services	Reduction in operational budgets in Operational Services	-	(0.199)	(0.199)	-	(0.199)	-	-
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-226	Customer Services	Lifeline Services - alignment of fees and charges for new customers from April 2023	-	(0.195)	(0.195)	-	(0.089)	(0.106)	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-029	Cultural Services	Continued temporary closure of the Octagon Theatre in Yeovil	-	(0.174)	(0.174)	-	(0.174)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-040	Regulatory & Operational Services	Pause of Play Area Replacement Programme across Somerset	-	(0.168)	(0.168)	-	(0.168)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-005	Regulatory & Operational Services	Registration Ceremony inflationary fees and charges increase from 1st April 2024	-	(0.150)	(0.150)	-	(0.150)	-	-

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-050	Cultural Services	Westlands Entertainment Venue - changes to operation of service	-	(0.116)	(0.116)	-	(0.116)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-034	Cultural Services	Funding for Taunton Visitor Information centre	-	(0.114)	(0.114)	-	-	-	(0.114)
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-026	Cultural Services	Devolve Yeovil Recreation ground to Yeovil Town Council	-	(0.110)	(0.110)	-	(0.110)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-047	Regulatory & Operational Services	Taunton Crematorium Fee Increase	-	(0.108)	(0.108)	-	(0.108)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-045	Cultural Services	Unused sport and development budget	-	(0.085)	(0.085)	-	(0.085)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-032	Cultural Services	Reduce discretionary cultural budget	-	(0.071)	(0.071)	-	(0.071)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-033	Cultural Services	Closure of South Somerset Visitor Information Centre	-	(0.053)	(0.053)	-	(0.053)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-051b	Regulatory & Operational Services	Closure of Yeovil Nursery and reducing planting across Somerset Council Parks	-	(0.052)	(0.052)	-	(0.052)	-	-
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-260	Regulatory & Operational Services	Contract rationalisation for grounds maintenance contracts	-	(0.050)	(0.050)	-	-	(0.050)	-
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-262	Regulatory & Operational Services	Contract rationalisation for street cleansing contracts	-	(0.050)	(0.050)	-	-	(0.050)	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-051a	Regulatory & Operational Services	Closure of Taunton Nursery and reducing planting across Somerset Council Parks	-	(0.047)	(0.047)	-	(0.047)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-001	Regulatory & Operational Services	Remove historical (Somerset West and Taunton) grants to Parishes for open spaces maintenance	-	(0.040)	(0.040)	(0.040)	-	-	-

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-004	Regulatory & Operational Services	Cease funding for Operation Clean Sweep	-	(0.040)	(0.040)	(0.040)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-049	Regulatory & Operational Services	Increase in Environmental Health Fees and Charges	-	(0.036)	(0.036)	-	(0.036)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-007	Cultural Services	Remove Relief Staff Budget in Statutory Libraries	-	(0.025)	(0.025)	-	(0.025)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-044	Regulatory & Operational Services	Environmental Health budget reductions	-	(0.024)	(0.024)	-	(0.024)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-003	Regulatory & Operational Services	Somerset Scientific Services inflationary fees and charges increase for analysing samples from 1st April 2024	-	(0.023)	(0.023)	-	(0.023)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-002	Regulatory & Operational Services	Remove historical (Somerset West and Taunton) Grants to Parishes for bereavement services	-	(0.020)	(0.020)	(0.020)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-025	Cultural Services	Minor Reductions to Statutory Library Service budgets	-	(0.018)	(0.018)	-	(0.018)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-052	Regulatory & Operational Services	Funding for Parish Ranger scheme (South area)	-	(0.016)	(0.016)	-	(0.016)	-	-

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-014	Regulatory & Operational Services	Funding for overnight locking and morning reopening of Wellington, Blenheim and Vivary parks	-	(0.015)	(0.015)	(0.015)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-031	Cultural Services	Phased reduction of funding to Taunton Brewhouse	-	(0.013)	(0.013)	-	(0.013)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-028	Cultural Services	Cease funding to Burnham swimming pool	-	(0.012)	(0.012)	-	(0.012)	-	-
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-125	Regulatory & Operational Services	Increased Berrow & Brean Beach Parking fees	-	(0.012)	(0.012)	-	-	(0.012)	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-042	Regulatory & Operational Services	Fees and Charges - Annual inflationary increases Minehead Harbour Fees	-	(0.011)	(0.011)	-	(0.011)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-022	Regulatory & Operational Services	Cease provision of temporary toilets for Bridgwater Carnival	-	(0.009)	(0.009)	-	(0.009)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-023	Regulatory & Operational Services	Cease providing barrier protection around some of the open spaces around the Bridgwater Carnival route during the procession.	-	(0.007)	(0.007)	-	(0.007)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-043	Regulatory & Operational Services	Fees and Charges - Beach Parking at Berrow and Brean Beaches	-	(0.007)	(0.007)	-	-	(0.007)	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-048	Regulatory & Operational Services	Cemeteries Fee Increase - Somerset East	-	(0.006)	(0.006)	-	(0.006)	-	-
Community Services Total				-	(2.866)	(2.866)	(0.115)	(2.412)	(0.225)	(0.114)

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Climate and Place Services										
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-015	Climate, Environment & Sustainability	Make savings from the Core Contract for Household Waste Recycling Centres	-	(0.883)	(0.883)				(0.883)
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-045	Infrastructure & Transport	Increase in fees for Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) to cover corporate overheads	-	(0.460)	(0.460)	(0.460)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-014	Economy, Employment & Planning	Economic Development activity spend reduction	-	(0.450)	(0.450)	(0.450)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-041	Infrastructure & Transport	Increasing parking charges in line with inflation	-	(0.400)	(0.400)	(0.400)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-013	Economy, Employment & Planning	Planning fees income	-	(0.300)	(0.300)		(0.300)		
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-035	Infrastructure & Transport	Recover costs of infrastructure programmes through an increase in rates	-	(0.275)	(0.275)			(0.275)	
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-051	Infrastructure & Transport	Taunton Park and Ride Service	-	(0.220)	(0.220)	(0.220)			

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-046	Economy, Employment & Planning	Capitalisation of staff costs - regeneration programmes	-	(0.216)	(0.216)		(0.216)		
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-019	Climate, Environment & Sustainability	Income generation - Waste	-	(0.205)	(0.205)		(0.205)		
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-016	Climate, Environment & Sustainability	Reduction in the number of Waste Vehicles	-	(0.202)	(0.202)	(0.202)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-056	Infrastructure & Transport	Fleet - Consolidation, Rationalisation and reallocation	-	(0.200)	(0.200)			(0.200)	
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-005	Infrastructure & Transport	Reduction in maintenance budget for 20 miles an hour when lights show signs	-	(0.175)	(0.175)	(0.175)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-036	Economy, Employment & Planning	Tourism Related Savings	-	(0.169)	(0.169)	(0.169)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-057	Climate, Environment & Sustainability	Contractual Changes - Waste EfW	-	(0.153)	(0.153)		(0.153)		
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-043	Infrastructure & Transport	Reduction in Road Safety (& Transport data) budget	-	(0.150)	(0.150)	(0.150)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-044	Infrastructure & Transport	Forecasted increase in income for Street Works	-	(0.110)	(0.110)		(0.110)		
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-010	Infrastructure & Transport	Reduction of Highways Assets Commissioning Posts	-	(0.102)	(0.102)	(0.102)			

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-033	Economy, Employment & Planning	Building Control income	-	(0.100)	(0.100)		(0.100)		
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-048	Infrastructure & Transport	Reallocating funding so that Two Active Travel Posts are funded from a Department for Transport capability Fund instead of through the Somerset Council revenue budget	-	(0.090)	(0.090)	(0.090)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-058	Infrastructure & Transport	Funding two posts from time-limited Levelling up grant	-	(0.090)	(0.090)	(0.090)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CMS-054	Climate, Environment & Sustainability	Devolve Yeovil Country Park to Yeovil Town Council	-	(0.080)	(0.080)		(0.053)	(0.027)	
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-SWL-018	Economy, Employment & Planning	Reduction in contract costs for Land Charges	-	(0.075)	(0.075)	(0.075)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-018	Climate, Environment & Sustainability	Contractual change - Waste	-	(0.070)	(0.070)	(0.057)	(0.013)		
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-180	Economy, Employment & Planning	Economic Development - integrated operating model for workspace	-	(0.060)	(0.060)		(0.060)		

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-049	Infrastructure & Transport	Reallocating funding so that a Commissioning Service manager post is funded from a Department for Transport Public Transport Capability Grant instead of the Somerset Council Revenue Budget.	-	(0.054)	(0.054)	(0.054)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-038	Climate, Environment & Sustainability	Recharge of Salary to LNRS Grant	-	(0.053)	(0.053)		(0.053)		
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-001	Climate, Environment & Sustainability	Replacement of Black Recycling Box with a lower cost alternative.	-	(0.050)	(0.050)				(0.050)
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-017	Climate, Environment & Sustainability	Introduction of a countywide booking/permit scheme for household recycling centres	-	(0.044)	(0.044)				(0.044)
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-202	Infrastructure & Transport	Bridges - Contract Inflation	-	(0.036)	(0.036)	(0.036)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-047	Infrastructure & Transport	Reduction in transport policy posts	-	(0.035)	(0.035)	(0.035)			
2021/22	EC-TSIGP-2223-02	Infrastructure & Transport	Advertising on roundabouts and Council vehicles.	-	(0.025)	(0.025)	(0.025)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-039	Climate, Environment & Sustainability	Recharge of Salary – BNG	-	(0.023)	(0.023)		(0.023)		
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-012	Infrastructure & Transport	School Crossing Patrols	-	(0.020)	(0.020)	(0.020)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-011	Infrastructure & Transport	Reduce funding for Transport Assessment Review and Modelling Advice	-	(0.017)	(0.017)	(0.017)			
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-229	Infrastructure & Transport	Additional Park and Ride income	-	(0.017)	(0.017)	(0.017)			
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-034	Economy, Employment & Planning	Do I need planning permission - reintroduce charge	-	(0.010)	(0.010)		(0.010)		

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-CAP-029	Infrastructure & Transport	Internal order advertising	-	(0.004)	(0.004)			(0.004)	
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-179	Economy, Employment & Planning	Economic Development - fees and charges from the Somerset Business Hub	-	(0.004)	(0.004)		(0.004)		
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-174	Economy, Employment & Planning	Trading Standards - reduced premises requirements at Chelston Depot	-	(0.003)	(0.003)		(0.003)		
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-77	Economy, Employment & Planning	Charging for Fire Risk Assessments	-	(0.002)	(0.002)		(0.002)		
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-78	Economy, Employment & Planning	Charging for Standard Assessment Procedures (SAP) & Air Testing	-	(0.002)	(0.002)		(0.002)		
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-79	Economy, Employment & Planning	Charging Simplified Building Energy Model (SBEM)	-	(0.002)	(0.002)		(0.002)		
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-80	Economy, Employment & Planning	Charging for Energy Performance Certificates	-	(0.001)	(0.001)		(0.001)		
Climate & Place Total				-	(5.637)	(5.637)	(2.844)	(1.310)	(0.506)	(0.977)
Strategy, Workforce & Localities										
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-SWL-001	Workforce	Remove the budget for the Pathway to Employment Scheme	-	(0.113)	(0.113)	(0.113)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-SWL-020	Strategy & Performance	Software Licence Fees	-	(0.100)	(0.100)	(0.100)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-SWL-005	Governance, Democratic & Legal Services	Electoral services savings - non staffing budgets	-	(0.075)	(0.075)	-	(0.075)	-	-

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-SWL-017	Partnerships & Localities	Decision not to provide a directly funded community grants scheme and not to renew community grants that had been provided by predecessor authorities	-	(0.070)	(0.070)	(0.070)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-SWL-015	Governance, Democratic & Legal Services	Reduction in membership of the Executive	-	(0.040)	(0.040)	(0.040)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-SWL-004	Workforce	Reduction of £30k from Learning and Development Budgets for Somerset Council Staff.	-	(0.030)	(0.030)	(0.030)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-SWL-002	Workforce	Removal of Rapid Access to Physiotherapy Contract for staff	-	(0.025)	(0.025)	(0.025)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-SWL-013	Governance, Democratic & Legal Services	Reduction in elected member training and support	-	(0.013)	(0.013)	(0.013)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-SWL-003	Workforce	Staff Recognition/Long Service Awards Budget	-	(0.011)	(0.011)	(0.011)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-SWL-019	Strategy & Performance	Increase Fees & Charges in relation to Street Naming and Numbering (SNN)	-	(0.007)	(0.007)	-	(0.007)	-	-
Strategy, Workforce & Localities Total				-	(0.484)	(0.484)	(0.402)	(0.082)	-	-
Resources and Corporate										
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-016	Finance & Procurement	Increase in the Government Council Tax admin grant	-	(0.570)	(0.570)	-	(0.570)	-	-

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-018	Strategic Asset Management	Reduction in energy costs - Electricity	-	(0.350)	(0.350)	-	(0.350)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-019	Strategic Asset Management	Reduction in energy costs (gas) - decarbonisation and energy efficiency	-	(0.325)	(0.325)	-	(0.325)	-	-
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-282	Strategic Asset Management	Property Rationalisation and running costs	-	(0.225)	(0.225)	(0.225)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-017	Strategic Asset Management	Reduce cleaning specification at larger sites	-	(0.188)	(0.188)	(0.188)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-008	Information Communication Technology	Change the support contract for Microsoft software	-	(0.100)	(0.100)	(0.100)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-021	Finance & Procurement	Council Tax & Business Rate Court Costs	-	(0.100)	(0.100)	-	(0.100)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-002	Finance & Procurement	Revenues & Benefits Budget Realignment from LGR	-	(0.100)	(0.100)	(0.100)	-	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-007	Information Communication Technology	Reduction in Microsoft licences to reflect a smaller workforce	-	(0.090)	(0.090)	-	(0.090)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-012	Information Communication Technology	Removal of BT Exchange lines	-	(0.076)	(0.076)	-	-	-	(0.076)
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-010	Information Communication Technology	Consolidation of support for the Environmental Health case management system	-	(0.075)	(0.075)	-	(0.075)	-	-

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-006	Information Communication Technology	Reduce ICT Operational support contracts	-	(0.050)	(0.050)	(0.050)	-	-	-
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-12	Strategic Asset Management	Consolidation of Maintenance and Facilities Management Services.	-	(0.050)	(0.050)	-	(0.050)	-	-
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-270	Information Communication Technology	Use of new communication software	-	(0.050)	(0.050)	-	(0.050)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-005	Information Communication Technology	Consolidation of County Hall Internet connectivity	-	(0.036)	(0.036)	-	(0.036)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-004	Information Communication Technology	Consolidation of data centre infrastructure	-	(0.036)	(0.036)	-	(0.036)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-009	Information Communication Technology	Reduction in the number of staff mobile phones	-	(0.036)	(0.036)	-	(0.036)	-	-
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-003	Information Communication Technology	Migrate Azure (Microsoft Cloud Storage) to a more cost-effective contract	-	(0.025)	(0.025)	-	-	-	(0.025)
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-020	Strategic Asset Management	Reduce post, print and digital mail costs	-	(0.025)	(0.025)	-	(0.025)	-	-
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-34	Information Communication Technology	Reduction in the number of licences for the email security software	-	(0.017)	(0.017)	-	(0.017)	-	-
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-03	Strategic Asset Management	Additional Rental Income from Yeovil Town Football club and Avon and Somerset Police	-	(0.016)	(0.016)	(0.016)	-	-	-
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-55	Information Communication Technology	E-mail security contract	-	(0.012)	(0.012)	-	-	-	(0.012)

Year Approved	Saving Reference	Service	Title	Savings Rolled Forward from 2023/24	Savings for 2024/25	Total Savings to be Delivered	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
				£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
2023/24	TSIGP-2425-RCS-023	Strategic Asset Management	Increase in fees for the Asbestos team in line with inflation.	-	(0.007)	(0.007)	-	-	(0.007)	-
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-35	Information Communication Technology	Consolidation of the Firewall contract that protects the Councils IT systems	-	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.003)	-	-	-
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-36	Information Communication Technology	Sedgemoor District Council - FortiAnalyzer	-	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	-	-	-
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-37	Information Communication Technology	Sedgemoor District Council - FortiGate VPN	-	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	-	-	-
Resources & Corporate Services Total				-	(2.564)	(2.564)	(0.684)	(1.760)	(0.007)	(0.113)
Non-Service										
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-271	Local Government Reorganisation	Expected saving in staffing costs from Local Government Reorganisation	-	(4.000)	(4.000)	-	(4.000)	-	-
2022/23	NS-2324-TSIGP-129	Non-Service	Savings in the cost of Internal Audit	-	(0.048)	(0.048)	-	(0.048)	-	-
Non-Service Total				-	(4.048)	(4.048)	-	(4.048)	-	-
TOTAL				(4.900)	(34.977)	(39.877)	(17.050)	(16.584)	(5.004)	(1.239)

Appendix K: General Fund Capital Programme Outturn Forecast 2024/25

Service / Project	Total Approved budget	2024/25 Budget at at Quarter 1	Actual Spend at Month 7	Forecast Outturn	Q1 to M7 (Slippage)/ Acceleration	Forecast Outturn Variance	Additions /Deletions	Virements	2024/25 Revised Budget as at Month 7
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adults Residential Programme	1.891	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disabled Facilities Grant	4.032	4.032	0.964	4.032	-	-	-	-	4.032
Learning Disabilities	0.133	0.100	-	0.100	-	-	-	-	0.100
Adults and Health Total	6.057	4.132	0.964	4.132	-	-	-	-	4.132
Children's Residential	5.852	2.015	0.673	2.015	-	-	-	-	2.015
Children Looked After	0.435	0.200	-	0.050	(0.150)	-	-	-	0.050
Special Education Needs	11.357	5.500	0.639	1.666	(3.834)	-	-	-	1.666
Schools Access Initiative	0.111	0.111	0.046	0.111	-	-	-	-	0.111
Early Years	0.477	0.477	0.318	0.477	-	-	-	-	0.477
Schools - DFCG & Energy Efficiency	1.861	1.215	0.534	0.925	(0.290)	-	-	-	0.925
Schools - Basic Need	16.616	16.516	2.635	5.512	(11.003)	-	-	-	5.512
Schools Condition	21.146	8.939	3.426	3.409	(5.530)	0.000	-	-	3.409
Children's Services Total	57.854	34.973	8.271	14.166	(20.808)	0.000	-	-	14.166
Flood & Water Management (Non SRA)	4.923	0.468	0.227	0.452	-	(0.016)	-	-	0.468
Somerset Waste Partnership	2.428	1.689	0.669	1.689	-	-	-	-	1.689
Chard Reservoir Dam Works	0.547	0.054	0.021	0.528	-	-	-	0.474	0.528
North Hill Cliff Stabilisation	0.963	0.100	0.001	0.100	-	-	-	-	0.100
Gas Control System - Birchfield	0.434	0.435	-	0.434	(0.001)	-	-	-	0.434
Climate & Place Other Services Total	9.295	2.746	0.917	3.204	(0.001)	(0.016)	-	0.474	3.219
Business Growth Fund & Other Projects	2.845	0.750	0.604	0.750	-	-	-	-	0.750
Taunton Digital Innovation Centre	0.555	0.225	0.109	0.109	(0.000)	(0.116)	-	-	0.225
Bridgwater Town Deal	19.705	12.713	1.522	3.455	(9.263)	0.005	-	-	3.450
Bridgwater Levelling Up Fund	17.470	11.310	0.731	1.293	(10.110)	0.093	-	-	1.200
Glastonbury Town Deal	17.477	10.000	3.962	9.599	(0.400)	(0.001)	-	-	9.600
Saxonvale, Frome	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Taunton Town Centre Regeneration	0.977	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Phosphates/Nutrient Mitigation Projects	9.600	9.600	-	1.000	(8.600)	-	-	-	1.000
Firepool Development FHSF Phase	5.867	3.500	2.654	3.500	-	-	-	-	3.500
Chard Regeneration	0.814	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yeovil Refresh	12.051	10.001	3.256	4.703	(5.878)	0.002	-	0.578	4.701
Staplegrave Housing Infrastructure Fund	14.216	14.216	-	9.000	-	(5.216)	-	-	14.216
Contribution to CDS Broadband	0.550	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Frome Enterprise Centre	0.825	0.550	-	-	(0.550)	-	-	-	-
UKSPF capital funding	1.005	1.005	0.318	0.207	(0.755)	(0.043)	-	-	0.250
Climate & Place Economy and Regeneration Total	103.957	73.870	13.156	33.616	(35.556)	(5.276)	-	0.578	38.892

Appendix K: General Fund Capital Programme Outturn Forecast 2024/25 (continued)

Service / Project	Total Approved budget	2024/25 Budget at at Quarter 1	Actual Spend at Month 7	Forecast Outturn	Q1 to M7 (Slippage) / Acceleration	Forecast Outturn Variance	Additions /Deletions	Virements	2024/25 Revised Budget as at Month 7
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Bridge Structures	22.874	6.467	2.827	4.292	(2.093)	(0.082)	-	-	4.374
Road Structures	71.886	32.110	5.933	26.200	(5.601)	-	-	(0.309)	26.200
Traffic Control	11.908	4.007	2.241	5.241	1.201	0.033	-	-	5.208
Active Travel	5.167	3.495	0.586	0.500	(2.890)	-	-	(0.105)	0.500
Integrated Transport	0.293	(0.288)	0.440	0.293	0.167	-	-	0.414	0.293
Small Improvement Schemes	2.326	0.326	1.489	1.351	1.024	0.001	-	-	1.350
Highway Lighting	5.011	1.011	0.062	1.011	-	-	-	-	1.011
Rights of Way	7.209	1.250	0.315	1.178	0.000	(0.072)	-	-	1.250
Car Parks & Parking Services	0.485	0.237	0.039	0.054	(0.162)	(0.021)	-	-	0.075
M5 Junction 25 Improvements	1.875	0.500	0.012	0.060	(0.425)	(0.015)	-	-	0.075
Toneway Corridor Capacity Improvements	2.216	0.250	0.227	0.206	(0.050)	0.006	-	-	0.200
Trenchard Way Residual Works	-	-	0.000	(0.000)	(0.501)	-	-	0.501	-
Major Road Network	1.859	0.500	0.097	0.334	(0.150)	(0.016)	-	-	0.350
A38 Chelston Link	4.783	0.350	0.019	0.057	(0.275)	(0.018)	-	-	0.075
J23 Dunball Improvements	4.613	4.613	0.105	2.500	(2.113)	-	-	-	2.500
Blue Anchor Coast Protection	0.158	0.158	0.073	0.158	-	-	-	-	0.158
Various Other Schemes	2.458	1.150	0.075	0.342	0.236	0.035	-	(1.079)	0.307
Fleet Management	6.248	1.000	0.401	1.151	0.135	0.016	-	-	1.135
Bus Service Improvement Programme	7.980	7.980	0.054	0.549	(7.430)	(0.001)	-	-	0.550
Highway & Transport Commissioning	1.110	-	0.623	1.110	1.110	-	-	-	1.110
Toneworks	19.188	-	0.025	0.072	0.100	(0.028)	-	-	0.100
Green Pits 2020/0158/FUL	-	-	0.016	0.020	0.000	0.020	-	-	0.000
Silk Mills Park & Ride Security Measures	0.125	0.125	0.016	0.050	(0.075)	-	-	-	0.050
Climate & Place Infrastructure Total	179.771	65.241	15.678	46.729	(17.792)	(0.142)	-	(0.578)	46.871
Wellington Library Improvements	0.521	0.521	0.720	0.717	0.001	0.195	-	-	0.522
Library Services	0.673	0.200	0.055	0.010	(0.190)	-	-	-	0.010
Cultural and Heritage Services	-	0.002	0.103	0.028	(0.223)	0.028	-	-	(0.221)
Grants to Registered Social Landlords (RSL)	0.975	0.975	-	0.220	(0.755)	-	-	-	0.220
IAC Staffing and Support	0.408	0.204	-	0.204	-	-	-	-	0.204
Energy Efficiency Grants	0.223	0.062	-	0.062	-	-	-	-	0.062
Home Maintenance	0.222	0.108	-	0.108	-	-	-	-	0.108
Prevention Grants	0.071	0.071	-	-	(0.071)	-	-	-	-
GF C HUG 1+2 Home Upgrades	1.962	0.260	-	1.962	1.702	-	-	-	1.962
Other Schemes (S106 funded)	2.700	0.249	0.789	1.177	0.278	(0.053)	-	-	0.527
Wellington Leisure Centre	2.082	1.084	1.695	2.082	-	-	-	0.998	2.082
Norton Fitzwarren Playing Pitches (S106)	0.078	0.078	0.027	0.053	(0.001)	(0.025)	-	-	0.077
Octagon Redevelopment	14.523	0.500	(0.004)	0.100	(0.250)	(0.150)	-	-	0.250
Navigation Aids and Brue Beacons	0.030	0.030	-	0.030	-	-	-	-	0.030
Ports and Harbours	0.070	0.070	-	-	(0.070)	-	-	-	-
Dredging Port of Bridgewater and Brue River	0.030	0.030	-	-	(0.030)	-	-	-	-
Community Services Total	24.568	4.444	3.385	6.752	0.391	(0.005)	-	0.998	5.833

Appendix K: General Fund Capital Programme Outturn Forecast 2024/25 (continued)

Service / Project	Total Approved budget	2024/25 Budget at at Quarter 1	Actual Spend at Month 7	Forecast Outturn	Q1 to M7 (Slippage)/ Acceleration	Forecast Outturn Variance	Additions /Deletions	Virements	2024/25 Revised Budget as at Month 7
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Finance - Capital Programme Contingency	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Corporate ICT Investment	4.409	3.117	0.723	2.901	(0.216)	-	-	-	2.901
Property Services General	3.449	3.300	0.512	0.979	(0.750)	(0.101)	-	(0.546)	2.004
Bridgwater Library Improvements	1.377	0.444	0.000	0.096	(0.444)	-	-	-	-
Building Compliance Health & Safety	0.398	0.248	0.072	-	(0.148)	(0.004)	-	-	0.100
Asset Rationalisation	-	0.200	-	-	-	-	-	(0.200)	-
New Somerset Council Signage	-	-	-	-	(0.013)	-	-	0.013	-
Office Rationalisation	0.673	0.473	0.065	0.400	(0.273)	-	-	0.200	0.400
Building Condition Programme (Non School)	2.702	0.418	0.056	0.127	0.230	(0.023)	-	(0.498)	0.150
Saltlands Solar Park	-	-	-	(0.048)	(0.059)	(0.048)	-	0.059	(0.000)
South West Heritage Trust Building Condit	0.400	0.250	-	-	(0.200)	(0.050)	-	-	0.050
Outdoor Education Centres Building Condit	2.068	0.533	0.008	0.053	(0.470)	(0.010)	-	-	0.063
Estate De-carbonisation	0.379	0.105	0.112	0.112	0.500	0.007	-	(0.500)	0.105
Smart Metering Technology	0.049	-	0.016	0.014	0.049	(0.035)	-	-	0.049
Leisure Centres	-	-	0.000	0.060	(0.000)	0.060	-	-	(0.000)
Dulverton Weir	-	0.030	-	-	(0.030)	-	-	-	-
Closed Churchyards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Works for Investment Properties	1.583	0.250	0.067	0.250	-	-	-	-	0.250
Resources & Corporate Services Total	17.485	9.368	1.630	4.944	(1.825)	(0.203)	-	(1.472)	6.071
Hinkley CIM Funded SWT Projects	0.100	0.100	-	-	(0.100)	-	-	-	-
Various Other Schemes	0.406	0.135	-	0.135	-	-	-	-	0.135
Strategy and Workforce Total	0.506	0.235	-	0.135	(0.100)	-	-	-	0.135
Grand Total	399.493	195.009	44.001	113.678	(75.691)	(5.641)	-	(0.000)	119.319

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Appendix L: General Fund Capital Programme Budget and Funding

General Fund Capital Programme	Budget					Funding				
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total	Grants & Contributions	Capital Receipts	RCCO & Reserves	Borrowing	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adult Social Care	-	1.616	0.275	-	1.891	-	-	-	1.891	1.891
Disabled Facilities Grant	4.032	-	-	-	4.032	4.032	-	-	-	4.032
Learning Disabilities	0.100	0.033	-	-	0.133	0.110	-	-	0.024	0.133
Adult and Health Services Total	4.132	1.649	0.275	-	6.057	4.142	-	-	1.915	6.057
Children's Residential	2.015	3.694	0.143	-	5.852	1.143	-	-	4.709	5.852
Children Looked After	0.050	0.150	0.150	0.085	0.435	0.024	-	-	0.411	0.435
Special Education Needs	1.666	6.500	3.191	-	11.357	11.357	-	-	-	11.357
Schools Access Initiative	0.111	-	-	-	0.111	0.111	-	-	-	0.111
Early Years	0.477	-	-	-	0.477	0.477	-	-	-	0.477
Schools - DFCG & Energy Efficiency	0.925	0.936	-	-	1.861	1.861	-	-	-	1.861
Schools - Basic Need	5.512	8.645	2.459	-	16.616	12.667	0.009	(0.085)	4.025	16.616
Schools Condition	3.409	8.700	9.037	-	21.146	6.000	-	-	15.146	21.146
Children's Services Total	14.166	28.624	14.979	0.085	57.854	33.640	0.009	(0.085)	24.230	57.854
Flood & Water Management (Non SRA)	0.468	2.228	2.227	-	4.923	4.923	-	-	-	4.923
Somerset Waste Partnership	1.689	0.739	-	-	2.428	-	-	-	2.428	2.428
Chard Reservoir Dam Works	0.528	0.019	-	-	0.547	-	-	-	0.547	0.547
North Hill Cliff Stabilisation	0.100	0.863	-	-	0.963	-	-	-	0.963	0.963
Gas Control System - Birchfield	0.434	-	-	-	0.434	-	-	-	0.434	0.434
Climate & Place - Other Services	3.219	3.849	2.227	-	9.295	4.923	-	-	4.372	9.295
Business Growth Fund & Other Projects	0.750	0.750	0.750	0.595	2.845	0.263	1.684	0.100	0.799	2.845
Taunton Digital Innovation Centre	0.225	0.330	-	-	0.555	0.055	-	0.500	-	0.555
Bridgwater Town Deal	3.450	7.265	8.990	-	19.705	18.682	-	-	1.023	19.705
Bridgwater Levelling Up Fund	1.200	6.160	10.110	-	17.470	17.470	-	-	-	17.470
Glastonbury Town Deal	9.600	6.508	1.369	-	17.477	17.477	-	-	-	17.477
Saxonvale, Frome	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Taunton Town Centre Regeneration	-	0.977	-	-	0.977	0.977	-	-	-	0.977
Phosphates	1.000	8.600	-	-	9.600	9.600	-	-	-	9.600
Firepool Development FHSF Phase	3.500	2.367	-	-	5.867	5.867	-	-	-	5.867
Chard Regeneration	-	0.814	-	-	0.814	0.814	-	-	-	0.814
Yeovil Refresh	4.701	7.350	-	-	12.051	8.827	-	0.396	2.828	12.051
Staplegrave Housing Infrastructure Fund	14.216	-	-	-	14.216	14.216	-	-	-	14.216
Contribution to CDS Broadband	-	0.550	-	-	0.550	-	-	-	0.550	0.550
Frome Enterprise Centre	-	0.825	-	-	0.825	-	-	-	0.825	0.825
UKSPF capital funding	0.250	0.755	-	-	1.005	-	-	-	1.005	1.005
Climate & Place - Economy, Employment & Planning	38.892	43.250	21.220	0.595	103.957	94.248	1.684	0.996	7.030	103.957

Appendix L: General Fund Capital Programme Budget and Funding (continued)

General Fund Capital Programme	Budget					Funding				
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total	Grants & Contributions	Capital Receipts	RCCO & Reserves	Borrowing	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Bridge Structures	4.374	4.000	4.000	10.500	22.874	22.874	-	-	-	22.874
Road Structures	26.200	45.686	-	-	71.886	71.886	-	-	-	71.886
Traffic Control	5.208	1.200	1.200	4.300	11.908	11.908	-	-	-	11.908
Active Travel	0.500	1.777	2.890	-	5.167	5.167	-	-	-	5.167
Integrated Transport	0.293	-	-	-	0.293	0.290	-	-	0.003	0.293
Small Improvement Schemes	1.350	0.500	0.476	-	2.326	2.358	-	-	(0.031)	2.326
Highway Lighting	1.011	1.000	1.000	2.000	5.011	5.011	-	-	-	5.011
Rights of Way	1.250	1.750	1.750	2.459	7.209	7.209	-	-	-	7.209
Car Parks & Parking Services	0.075	0.248	0.162	-	0.485	-	-	0.015	0.470	0.485
M5 Junction 25 Improvements	0.075	1.775	0.025	-	1.875	0.875	-	-	1.000	1.875
Toneway Corridor Capacity Improvements	0.200	2.016	-	-	2.216	0.666	-	-	1.550	2.216
Trenchard Way Residual Works	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Major Road Network	0.350	1.259	0.250	-	1.859	1.659	-	-	0.200	1.859
A38 Chelston Link	0.075	4.433	0.275	-	4.783	4.783	-	-	-	4.783
J23 Dunball Improvements	2.500	2.113	-	-	4.613	2.281	-	-	2.332	4.613
Blue Anchor Coast Protection	0.158	-	-	-	0.158	0.158	-	-	-	0.158
Various Other Schemes	0.307	2.151	-	-	2.458	1.409	-	-	1.049	2.458
Fleet Management	1.135	4.363	0.750	-	6.248	0.077	1.391	0.369	4.410	6.248
Bus Service Improvement Programme	0.550	4.980	2.450	-	7.980	7.980	-	-	-	7.980
Highway & Transport Commissioning	1.110	-	-	-	1.110	1.110	-	-	-	1.110
Coneworks	0.100	19.088	-	-	19.188	19.188	-	-	-	19.188
Green Pits 2020/0158/FUL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Silk Mills Park & Ride Security Measures	0.050	0.075	-	-	0.125	-	-	-	0.125	0.125
Climate & Place - Infrastructure & Transport	46.871	98.413	15.228	19.259	179.771	166.887	1.391	0.384	11.108	179.771
Wellington Library Improvements	0.521	-	-	-	0.521	-	-	-	0.521	0.521
Library Services	0.010	0.663	-	-	0.673	0.195	-	0.021	0.457	0.673
Cultural and Heritage Services	(0.221)	-	-	-	(0.221)	-	-	-	(0.221)	(0.221)
Grants to Registered Social Landlords (RSLs)	0.220	0.655	0.100	-	0.975	0.975	-	-	0.000	0.975
IAC Staffing and Support	0.204	0.102	0.102	-	0.408	0.408	-	-	-	0.408
Energy Efficiency Grants	0.062	0.062	0.062	0.037	0.223	0.223	-	-	-	0.223
Home Maintenance	0.108	0.057	0.057	-	0.222	0.222	-	-	-	0.222
Other Schemes	2.489	1.541	-	-	4.030	1.063	-	0.100	2.867	4.030
Wellington Leisure Centre	2.082	-	-	-	2.082	0.847	-	-	1.235	2.082
Norton Fitzwarren Playing Pitches (S106)	0.078	-	-	-	0.078	0.078	-	-	-	0.078
Octagon Redevelopment	0.250	14.273	-	-	14.523	13.750	-	0.773	-	14.523
Ports & Harbours	0.030	0.100	-	-	0.130	-	-	-	0.130	0.130
Community Services Total	5.833	17.453	0.321	0.037	23.644	17.761	-	0.894	4.990	23.644

Appendix L: General Fund Capital Programme Budget and Funding (continued)

General Fund Capital Programme	Budget					Funding				
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total	Grants & Contributions	Capital Receipts	RCCO & Reserves	Borrowing	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Finance - Capital Programme Contingency	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Corporate ICT Investment	2.901	1.508	-	-	4.409	0.011	-	-	4.398	4.409
Property Services General	2.004	2.369	-	-	4.373	0.106	0.196	0.023	4.048	4.373
Bridgwater Library Improvements	-	1.377	-	-	1.377	-	-	-	1.377	1.377
Building Compliance Health & Safety	0.100	0.298	-	-	0.398	-	-	-	0.398	0.398
Asset Rationalisation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Somerset Council Signage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Office Rationalisation	0.400	0.273	-	-	0.673	-	-	-	0.673	0.673
Building Condition Programme (Non Schools)	0.150	2.270	0.282	-	2.702	0.100	-	-	2.602	2.702
Outdoor Education Centres Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saltlands Solar Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South West Heritage Trust Building Condition	0.050	0.350	-	-	0.400	-	-	-	0.400	0.400
Outdoor Education Centres Building Condition	0.063	1.353	0.652	-	2.068	-	-	-	2.068	2.068
Estate De-carbonisation	0.105	0.274	-	-	0.379	0.066	-	-	0.313	0.379
Capital Works for Investment Properties	0.250	1.333	-	-	1.583	-	-	0.115	1.468	1.583
Smart Metering Technology	0.049	-	-	-	0.049	-	-	-	0.049	0.049
Leisure Centres	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Resources and Corporate Services Total	6.071	11.404	0.934	-	18.409	0.283	0.196	0.138	17.793	18.409
Hinkley CIM Funded SWT Projects	-	0.100	-	-	0.100	0.100	-	-	-	0.100
Various Other Schemes	0.135	0.135	0.136	-	0.406	0.406	-	-	-	0.406
Strategy, Workforce and Localities Total	0.135	0.235	0.136	-	0.506	0.506	-	-	-	0.506
Total General Fund Capital Programme	119.319	204.877	55.321	19.976	399.493	322.389	3.280	2.326	71.497	399.493

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APPENDIX M: 2024/25 Summary Updates for Major Capital Projects

Adults and Health

No change in the forecast position since Quarter 2.

Children's Services

A review of the Special Educational Needs, Schools Basic Need, and Schools Condition programmes have resulted in a revised forecast for 2024/25. The forecasts have slipped by £20.808m from the position reported at Quarter 2. This is mainly due to contractor availability and timing/ planning of works, such as the Schools Condition programme work takes place during the summer holidays when schools are closed. Whilst some smaller schemes will be implemented during the rest of the year.

Climate and Place – Other Services

Flood Prevention schemes for the Taunton area, brought forward from the Somerset West and Taunton capital programme are now likely to commence in the second half of 2024.

North Hill Cliff Stabilisation Works

A contractor has been appointed to complete the design of the North Hill Minehead rock catch fence which is now complete. The rock catch fence will prevent cliff falls causing injury to any persons or property below. The next step is to understand land ownership, biodiversity net gain requirements and submit a planning application for the works.

Climate and Place – Economy and Regeneration

Yeovil Refresh Programme: Public Realm Works

In Quarter 2 works in Triangle continued and this will now be completed in quarter three. Snagging and final elements of work in other areas continued through quarter two. The remaining live section at the Triangle is expected to be complete by the end of quarter two. The Triangle will see the creation of a new public space. A section in Middle Street remains unfinished due to the presence of a dangerous structure at 47 Middle Street preventing work commencing this remains an issue.

Yeovil Refresh Programme: Active Travel – Cycling and Walking

Pre-construction preparation including finalisation of build designs were key activities in Quarter 2. These works will commence in quarter three creating new shared cycling and walking facilities in Hendford, upgraded facilities including crossings in Southwestern Terrace/Middle Street/Central Road, drainage and patching on route to Pen Mill station via Yeovil Country Park route. Works will be completed by the close of the financial year in Quarter 4.

APPENDIX M: 2023/24 Summary Updates for Major Capital Projects (cont)

Yeovil Refresh Programme: Future High Streets Fund Development projects

The Acquisition of Glovers Walk was completed. A demolition contractor was appointed to deliver on the grant requirements for the site. Grant agreements were signed and completed on three development projects with a focus on delivery of residential key worker units with ancillary commercial space. Expenditure occurred in Aug and Sept in Quarter. 2 and will be completed throughout remaining quarters of 2024/25 to ensure compliance with FHSF grant agreement.

Town Deal Programmes

Bridgwater Town Deal

The Bridgwater Town Deal continues to progress the 11 projects into delivery to meet the funding deadline of March 2026.

Within Quarter 2, the programme saw big developments and milestones achieved for the projects, including:

- Celebration Mile Construction started on site in August. Project spend will increase significantly now over the next 12 months while the programme is being delivered.
- The Engine Room completed its construction and held a private event to open the facility. Capital allocation for this project is 95% spent, with only minor snagging to address.
- Carnival went out to market for a main contractor in this time. Once this contractor is appointed, capital spend will increase during 2025 and be delivered before the March 2026 deadline.
- Bridgwater Tidal Barrier secured FBC confirmation from DEFRA, the EA have communicated that now they have received this confirmation, the BTD funding allocation can now be drawn down for mobilisation of works.
- Arts Centre and Town Hall Theatre projects have both been out to market for main contractors. Similar to what has been stated above, project spend will increase in 2025 and be spent/delivered by the March 2026 deadline.
- Dunball – whilst Town Deal allocation of this project was spent in the early phases on this project, the project now has a main contractor and is due to start works in November 2024.

Capital Commitments to these projects are developing, whilst at different paces, the majority of projects will have increased spending in the calendar year of 2025 to deliver the intended outputs that we have agreed with MHCLG.

APPENDIX M: 2023/24 Summary Updates for Major Capital Projects (cont)

Bridgwater Levelling Up Fund

The Levelling Up Fund is progressing at pace. With many cogs turning, designs have been progressing and the design team will now progress designs to RIBA Stage 3 and a submission to the LA for planning permission is due in Jan 2025. From this, procurement on Main Contractor will take place while planning permission is being decided with the Local Authority to ensure in efficiency of time as the project team recognises the tight timescales on this project. Once main contractor is secured, project spend will accelerate significantly with construction works starting on site.

Glastonbury Town Deal

This has been a very busy quarter with project delivery in full swing. The Programme is on target to complete in time and within budget and where needed support is provided to ensure success.

Key developments include:

- Abbey Piazza and Sports & Leisure Hub projects – builds well-underway and these are on target to both be completed this financial year.
- Baily's Buildings and St Dunstan's House projects – build contractors started on-site and good progress is being made.
- Clean Energy Project – rooftop solar arrays installed at St Dunstan's School and Brunel care; other arrays being firmed up and rolled out.
- St Brigid's Chapel & Field – contractor procured to build an eco-roundhouse and wilding plans being finalised.
- Enabling Project – land purchased and pre-planning work underway.
- Robert Richards Initiative – preparing for new and improved path works in 2025.

In August 2024, MHCLG approved a Project Adjustment Request (PAR) to reallocate the Enterprise & Innovation Hub project allocation to other projects in the Programme. As a result, this Programme retains its £23.6m Towns Fund grant in full.

Firepool Development

The development of the site at Firepool is continuing with the Northern Boulevard works well under way and the Southern Boulevard will commence shortly.

Staplegrave Housing Infrastructure Fund

This government funding currently has a spend deadline of March 2025. It is anticipated that at least £9m of this can be achieved, with discussions ongoing with government about possible extensions to the spend deadline. If discussions prove unsuccessful, there is a risk of any unspent funding being clawed back.

APPENDIX M: 2023/24 Summary Updates for Major Capital Projects (cont)

Climate and Place – Infrastructure and Transport

Road Structures

As of April 2024, the Council has begun working with a new set of contractors to deliver its Structural Maintenance Programme (SMP) and is now in the process of developing the capital works programme for the year. This includes finalising design, acquiring road space, diversion routes and works resources for specific schemes.

A key achievement to note is the completion of the surface dressing programme, with over one million square metres of dressing completed. This is the largest surface dressing programme undertaken by the council in six years.

Significant progress has also been made with the surfacing programme, with a full programme in place through to the end of the year. This programme has begun delivering substantial schemes on the A road network with recent work in Bridgwater and Taunton, and major schemes being completed on the C182 (HPC) route and the A38 Bristol Road, Bridgwater.

Bridge Structures

Urgent and Minor Works Schemes and provision of TM/Site Safety measures are currently being progressed by Walters UK Ltd under our Majors Framework Contract. However, scheme delivery has slowed both on inhouse schemes and external consultant schemes due to a number of reasons including resourcing issues.

Traffic Signals

The Traffic Signals Recovery Programme continues to work through the high priority crossing upgrade requirements. The traffic signals at Charlton Crossroads in Shepton Mallett, has been completed ahead of schedule.

Works at upper High Street in Taunton have been completed. The Taunton works are to be funded from the Future High Street Funds which will be vired across from Economy and Planning once the final costs are known.

Future works include Hurdle Way, Taunton (due to commence on 11 November) and design work has begun for signal improvements on the A39 Junction, Street.

Rights of Way

Some minor slippage is reported from the quarter one position (£0.072m into 2025/26). Significant projects are being delivered or have completed in Trull, Pitminster and Mudgley.

A38 Chelston Link

A38 Chelston Link Resurfacing project has progressed through the pre-construction phase. However, the main construction is now not scheduled to commence until the second half of 2024/25. This is due to the tendering process and availability of road space with several Highways England works planned within the local area.

APPENDIX M: 2023/24 Summary Updates for Major Capital Projects (cont)

Blue Anchor Coast Protection

The Blue Anchor Coast Protection scheme has been completed. There is some expenditure expected in 2024/25, with final costs to be settled.

Community Services

Octagon Theatre

The revised Octagon Theatre project was approved by Full Council in May and has been added back into the capital programme. A revised business case is to be submitted to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport in Autumn 2024, with a final business case to be submitted in February 2025, so the majority of spend on this project has been refiled into 2025/26.

Ports and Harbours

Quotes for the Navigation Markers have been obtained and it is hoped that the project will be completed in year.

Resources and Corporate Services

Corporate ICT Investment

Planned expenditure on Device, Mobile and Network Infrastructure refreshes, along with Sheltered Housing ICT Provision is expected to be achieved in year.

Property Services

The Property Services General consists of a number of schemes, which have been reviewed during Quarter 2 resulting in a number of projects that are complete or are brought forward from legacy districts for which no owner can be identified being written off with a net underspend of £1.539m being reported for the quarter. The review of all capital projects will continue through Quarter 3 focussing on the allocation of the total budgets by project.

Strategy, Workforce, and Localities

No change in forecasts to report in this area.

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