

Appendix 9 – Medium Term Financial Plan Savings Monitoring 23/24 Outturn & 24/25 Progress

Delivery of both the 2023/24 and 2024/25 approved savings is vital and where this cannot be achieved, the development of alternative recovery or mitigation measures to address any forecast underachievement of approved savings is required by the relevant service director.

2023-24 MTFP Savings Outturn

The Council's 2023/24 revenue budget included over £40.9m of approved MTFP transformation, savings, and income generation proposals (TSIGP). As the end of the financial year, 78% has been delivered against this target. This has improved from what was reported at quarter 3, where 70% of savings were forecast to be delivered.

Table 1 shows the achievement of TSIGPs against the original approved amounts. Services have been monitoring these monthly based on their achievement to date and the forecast profile for realising the savings over the year. Any over or under achievement is reflected in the outturn position.

Within the overall profile, £32.1m (78%) have been either achieved or over-achieved from the original target.

Table 1: Performance of Agreed Transformation, Savings, and Income generation Proposals as at the end of March 2024 (Outturn)

Service Area	Approved Savings £m	Over-achieved £m	Achieved £m	Unachieved £m
Adults Services	10.5	0.0	6.6	3.9
Children & Family Services	4.6	0.0	3.2	1.4
Public Health	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Communities Services	1.5	0.0	1.1	0.3
Climate & Place	7.9	0.0	7.6	0.3
Strategy, Workforce & Localities	0.6	0.0	0.6	0.0
Resources & Corporate Services	4.7	0.1	2.5	2.2
Non-Service	11.0	0.0	10.3	0.7
Total	40.9	0.1	32.0	8.8

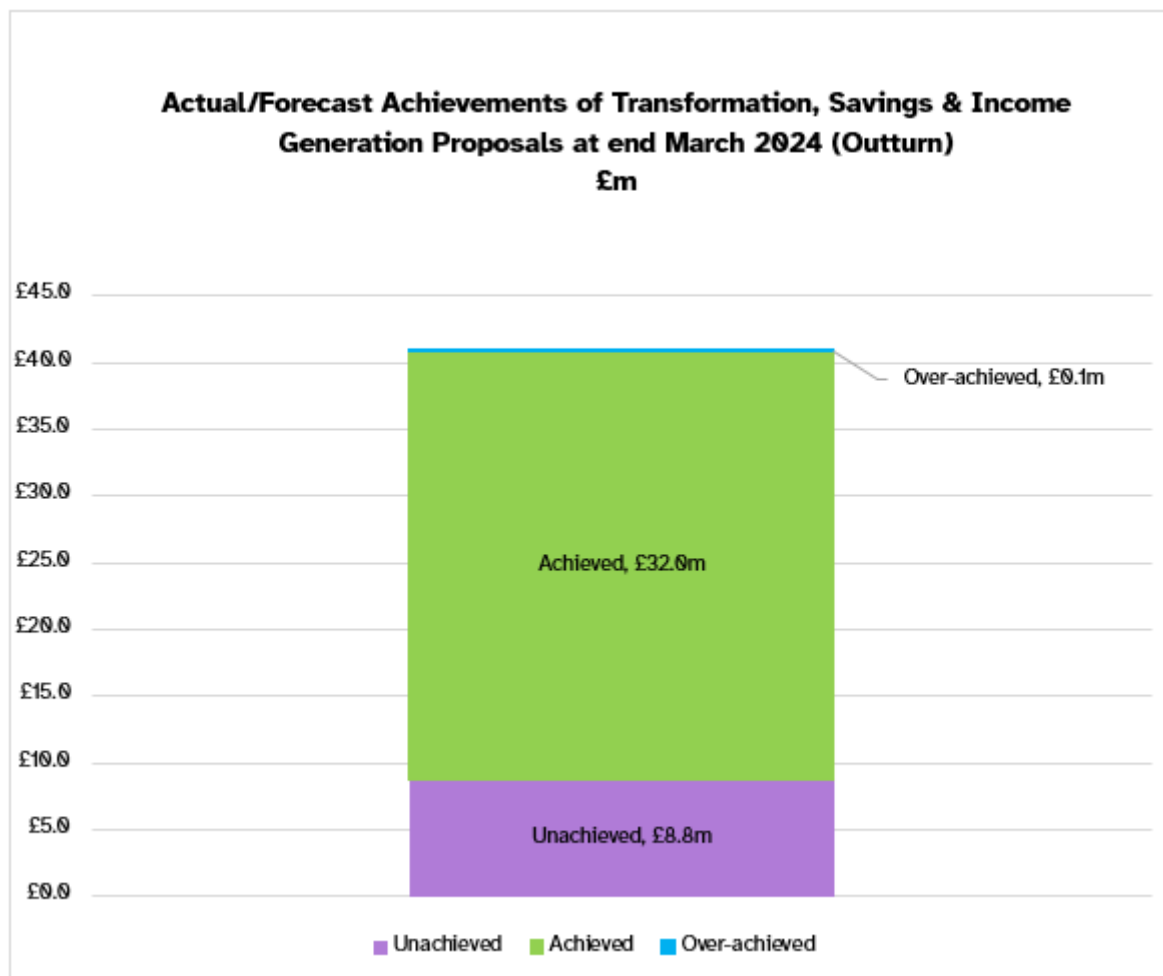
Unachieved savings total £8.8m (30%) and include:

- **Adult Services – Total savings £10.5m, £3.9m (37%) unachieved.**
 - My Life, My Future savings. Longer rollout than originally anticipated. £3.9m of the £5.0m saving will now be achieved in 2024/25.
- **Children & Family Services – Total savings £4.6m, £1.4m (31%) unachieved.**
 - Family Intervention: £0.5m (unachieved) - a review of the original savings assumptions has been undertaken and an alternative delivery model proposed.
 - Homes to Inspire: £0.3m (unachieved) – delays in Homes and Horizons pods and annexes opening.
 - Diagnostic Review of Children’s Services £0.6m (unachieved) – the Impower report identified potential savings including delivery of approximately 6 to 8 step downs from residential to in house fostering over the next 3 years, however these savings will not be delivered in 2023/24. In-house foster placements have increased by two on average for the financial year which would result in a saving of £0.4m if those young people were to have gone into residential care however the overall pressure in residential external placements eliminates any potential savings.
- **Communities Services – Total savings £1.5m**
 - Community Services have achieved all £1.5m MTFP savings in 2023-24, either through the initial savings plan or alternative mitigations within the service.
- **Climate & Place – Total savings £7.9m.**
 - Climate & Place have achieved all £7.9m MTFP savings in 2023-24, either through the initial savings plan or through alternative mitigations within the service.
- **Resources & Corporate Services – Total savings £4.7m, £2.2m (47%) unachieved.**
 - Consolidation of Maintenance & Facilities Management Services: £20k unachievable due to timing of transfer and legacy contract costs being

higher than anticipated means part of the saving not achieved. The service is works towards achieving this saving in 2024/25.

- Northgate Yard – Rental Income: £0.2m (unachieved). Void units and rent-free periods means this income target is unachievable. The service is actively seeking new tenants, however rent-free periods would still apply meaning any income will now fall into 2025/26. This property is being recategorised as an investment for yield property for 2024/25.
 - Mobile Devices. £42k (unachieved) the saving is due to be delivered 2024/25.
 - Consolidation to single Electronic Payment System: £45k (unachieved) to be delivered in 2024/25 (part of second Dynamics phase.)
 - Dividends from Companies: £1.7m (unachieved) Trading of battery storage operations not as good as forecast. This budget pressure will be funded from the investment risk reserve.
 - Data Centre Consolidation: £50k (unachieved) Linked to office rationalisation therefore saving will not be achievable this year.
 - Environmental Health IT: £39k (unachieved) No activity in the programme to realise this saving, it is included on the transition matrix to flag that activity needs to take place.
 - App Rationalisation: £1k (unachieved) Expected target date for delivery November 2024.
 - Housing Benefit Admin Grant (2% increase): The increase in the Government Grant, was less than anticipated resulting in this £28.4k saving being unachievable.
 - Subscriptions: £5k (unachieved) No activity in the programme to realise this saving, it is included on the transition matrix to flag that activity needs to take place.
 - Property Rationalisation and Divestment: £69k (unachieved) Full saving not achieved in 2023/24 due to accounting adjustments required to correct previous recharges. The saving is on track to be delivered going forward as the building is now occupied by SCIL and on a full cost recovery basis.
- **Non-Service – Total savings £11.0m, £0.7m (6%) unachieved.**
 - LGR Staffing savings. Base budget savings of £0.687m and £2.6m has been achieved. Any shortfalls in the savings have been achieved

through staff vacancies and will be achieved through the Workforce programme planned staff reductions.



2024-25 MTFP Savings Progress

The Council's 2024/25 revenue budget included just under £35m of approved MTFP transformation, savings, and income generation proposals (TSIGP). At month 2, 83% is forecast to be delivered against this target and 11% is forecast to be achieved over and above this target.

Table 1 shows the forecast achievement of TSIGPs against the original approved amounts. Services have been monitoring these monthly based on their achievement to date and the forecast profile for realising the savings over the year. Any over or under achievement is reflected in the forecast outturn position.

Within the overall profile, £29.1m (83%) is forecast to either be achieved or over-achieved from the original target.

Service Area	Approved Savings	Over-achieved/ on track to overachieve	Achieved	On-track	At Risk	Unachievable
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adults Services	9.8	3.9	0.9	8.9	0.0	0.0
Children & Family Services	9.6	0.0	0.2	5.3	4.0	0.0
Public Health	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Community Services	2.9	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.1	0.1
Climate & Place	5.6	0.0	0.7	3.5	1.4	0.1
Strategy, Workforce & Localities	0.5	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0
Resources & Corporate Services	2.6	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.1	0.0
Non-Service	4.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	0.0
Total	35.0	3.9	2.2	26.9	5.6	0.2

- **Children & Family Services – Total savings £9.6m, £4.0m at risk.**

 - SEND delivery of Education Health & Care Plans: £0.1m (at risk) - Staff vacancies within the SEND team have meant that additional external resource has been needed to maintain service.
 - New homes for young people: £1.9m (at risk) - Lack of move on to social housing from the Thrive 16+ contract for older young people, which is preventing being able to free up beds to move young people out of spot purchase beds and residential placements into Thrive 16+.
 - Support young people in care who are currently living in residential homes on their journey towards independent living: £1.6m (at risk) - This savings line is linked to the other at-risk savings - lack of move on in the other areas means that supported living accommodation is not available.
 - Reduction in the cost of providing residential placements for Children in Care: £0.4m (at risk) - Delays in Homes & Horizons homes 6,7 and 8 opening, plus delays in completion of the house pods and annexes. This is due to a number of factors, including 3 externally commissioned evaluations of the project's value for money over the last 12 months, during which time implementation was halted, planning complexities and capacity issues in the property team.

- **Community Services – Total savings £2.8m, £0.1m at risk, £0.1m unachievable**

- Taunton Crematorium Fee Increase: £0.1m (at risk) - Will be kept under review due to income in 2023/24 not achieved; fees have been increased; however, the service is not something that can be controlled.
 - Contract rationalisation for grounds maintenance contracts: £0.05m (unachievable) - contract in place with price increases included.
 - Contract rationalisation for street cleansing contracts: £0.05m (unachievable) - contract in place with price increases included.
 - Increased Berrow & Brean Beach Parking fees: £0.012m (unachievable)
- **Climate & Place – Total savings £5.6m, £1.4m at risk, £0.050m unachievable**
 - Planning fees income: £0.3m (at risk) - This is dependent on the number of applications received. The income in 2023/24 was down against budget due to legacy budgets too high plus application numbers down. Planning fees went up from Dec 2024 which will partially negate this however, income will need to be monitored closely.
 - Introduction of a countywide booking/permit scheme for household recycling centres: £0.044m (at risk) - Negotiation started but will require a contract change to implement a booking / permit system
 - Contract rationalisation for street cleansing contracts: £0.05m (unachievable) - contract in place with price increases included.
 - Make savings from the Core Contract for Household Waste Recycling Centres: £0.883m (at risk) - Negotiations started on Recycling site changes
 - Building Control income: £0.100m (at risk) - This is dependent on the number of applications received. The income in 2023/24 was down against budget due to legacy budgets too high plus application numbers down. Fees went up from April 2024 which will partially negate this however, income will need to be monitored closely.
 - Internal order advertising: £0.004m (at risk) - Delays from DEFRA
 - Devolve Yeovil Country Park to Yeovil Town Council: £0.027m (at risk) - The proposal was an SLA - this change from the TC 6 months towards the end through the devolution process to a full devolution from 1st August. This means that there have been 4 months of running costs for the YCP. There will be £53k savings as it will be 8 months transfer but 4 months running costs rather than the full year SLA from the TC.
 - Replacement of Black Recycling Box with a lower cost alternative: £0.050m - Replacement of Recycling Boxes is a capital cost not a revenue cost.

- Resources & Corporate Services – Total savings £2.6m, £0.1m at risk.**
 - Consolidation of Maintenance and Facilities Management Services: £0.050m (at risk) - Timing issue, delay to implementation but will be achieved at a later date and potentially could be covered by other savings in 2024/25.

