

**Budget Monitoring Report**

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
<b>Social Services</b>							
<b>Older People</b>							
Localities	20.679	20.104	-0.575		-0.543	The commissioned Older People domiciliary and Direct Payment budget is projecting an underspend of £0.903m based on recent activity. There are recruitment and retention challenges within this service which is severely limiting the amount of homecare which can be commissioned, The residential care budget is projecting a £0.339m overspend due to the cost of placements net of income such as Free Nursing Care, Regional Integration Fund contributions and property income. The Localities staffing budget is expected to overspend by £0.009m, There is an underspend on the Day Care budget of £0.033m and an overspend of £0.044m on the Minor Adaptations budget.	
Regional Integration Fund	0.000	0.151	0.151		0.223	The Step Down Regional Integration Fund (RIF) scheme which enables quicker hospital discharges by placing people into short term care before they can return home safely has been spent in full. At this time it seems unlikely that additional funding will be allocated.	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
Minor Variances	10.190	10.195	0.006		0.017		
<b>Adults of Working Age</b>							
Resources & Regulated Services	29.481	29.877	0.396		0.344	The PDSI (Physically Disabled and Sensory Impaired) budget is reporting a £0.142m overspend due to net costs of care packages. The in-house supported living service £0.261m overspent and will likely increase further as recruitment challenges continue and service demand increases. The Learning Disability Daycare and Workscheme budget is £0.079m overspent due in part to recent inflationary pressures. The care package costs for independently provided care for Learning Disability Services is a £0.087m underspend.	
Children to Adult Transition Services	0.951	1.086	0.134		0.150	These are the costs of care for young adults who are transferring to Adult Social Care from Childrens Services within this financial year. Care costs are initially estimated but once services have been confirmed the actual costs may be different.	
Residential Placements	1.956	2.477	0.522		0.481	The overspend is due to the current cost of commissioned care packages to support people with mental ill health.	
Professional Support	0.774	0.831	0.057		0.050	Increased contributions to the Emergency Duty Team have resulted in the majority of the overspend on this budget.	
Minor Variances	3.259	3.059	-0.200		-0.122		

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<b>Children's Services</b>							
Family Placement	2.862	2.742	-0.120		-0.080	The underspend is due to current spend for in-house Foster Placements and Special Guardianship Orders.	
Grants	0.236	0.287	0.051		0.051	There are a number of smaller variances which contribute to the overspend on the integrated working budget. These include a £0.010m additional cost for advocacy and variation to pay forecasts for the Accommodation/Supporting People Team.	
Family Support	0.375	0.503	0.128		0.138	Costs are based upon the current activity levels over the laast few months and projected forward for the rest of the year. Workforce costs, mostly sessional staff are the primary cost driver for this service.	
Legal & Third Party	0.232	0.762	0.530		0.461	Legal costs are overspent by £0.311m due to the number of cases going through the courts and some use of external professionals. One particular significant court case is resulting in costs to date of £0.108m. Direct Payments also continue to increase in demand and are overspending by £0.220m.	
Residential Placements	1.312	0.795	-0.517		-0.479	The in-year opening of in-house Childrens Residential Care settings will mean one off costs savings. There is also one off Welsh Government Grant funding.	
Professional Support	6.173	6.653	0.480		0.459	To support adequate levels of child protection, the established staffing structure needs to be at a sufficient level to meet mandatory safeguarding standards. Vacancies are minimised and additional temporary posts are sometimes required to meet the challenges and demands of Childrens Services. There is an assumption the Welsh Government will allow for some flexible use of grants which would allow for some costs to be offset.	
Minor Variances	0.440	0.442	0.002		0.002		
<b>Safeguarding &amp; Commissioning</b>							
Business Systems & Financial Assessments	0.831	0.904	0.073		0.077	There are additional one off costs for £0.018m for an IT system upgrade. In addition there are additional staff costs due to temporary uplift in hours and additional business suport assistants. These additional posts are being funded using the underspend from the Business Support Service.	
Charging Policy income	-3.104	-3.224	-0.120		-0.120	Increased demands on the Older People Residential Care budget are expected to result in higher income achievement	
Business Support Service	1.195	1.145	-0.050		-0.055	The underspend is due to a decrease in staff costs because of vacancies which are unlikely to be filled this year.	

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Safeguarding Unit	1.291	1.103	-0.187		-0.191	A consultation for updated Liberty Protection Safeguard legislation continues to be undertaken. Due to the delay in implementing the legislation there will be an in year saving.	
Commissioning	0.679	0.623	-0.056		-0.051	Vacancies are not being filled immediately and are resulting in one off savings.	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000		
Minor Variances	-1.843	-1.857	-0.014		-0.015		
<b>Total Social Services (excl Out of County)</b>	<b>77.969</b>	<b>78.658</b>	<b>0.689</b>	<b>-0.000</b>	<b>0.798</b>		
<b>Out of County</b>							
Children's Services	10.097	11.439	1.342		1.380	The projected overspend reflects significant additional demands on the service in the year to date with 36 new placements having been made in the year to date - most of which are high cost residential placements - there is provision for a contingency sum of £0.150m, for net impacts of further new placements and other placement changes, but this may not prove to be enough.	
Education & Youth	5.004	4.631	-0.373		-0.392	The latest underspend reflects projected costs for the current cohort of placements and there have been 25 new placements in the year to date with further new placements also likely to emerge as the year progresses, for which contingency provision of £0.050m has been made.	
<b>Total Out of County</b>	<b>15.101</b>	<b>16.070</b>	<b>0.969</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.988</b>		
<b>Education &amp; Youth</b>							
Inclusion & Progression	5.251	5.132	-0.119		-0.108	The underspend position reflects savings within the Additional Learning Needs service by maximising grants. Staff on long term sick and now left, reducing costs within the ALN service further. Savings have also been captured within the EAL (English as an Additional Language) service by maximising grants against core staff. Further savings have been identified from the Autism post due to a delayed start. Savings in Plas Derwen are as a result of part year vacancies and delays in filling posts.	
Integrated Youth Provision	1.035	0.962	-0.073		-0.061	The projected underspend is mainly due to staffing savings	

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School Improvement Systems	1.889	1.702	-0.187		-0.164	Payments to Non Maintained Settings and Maintained Settings projected similar to those in 21/22. Welsh Government have announced continuation of Top-up funding to £5 per hr, so gives the Early Entitlement budget increasing financial capacity. Alongside this, RRRS (Recruit, Recover and Raise Standards) and Early Years Pupil Development grant increases announced, allow core budget to be released. Savings have also been identified within the School Improvement service by maximising Post 16 and Adult Community Learning grants to offset core staff.	
School Planning & Provision	0.671	0.602	-0.069		-0.096	Projected underspend on insurance liability claims costs and some salary savings	
Minor Variances	1.106	1.035	-0.071		-0.081		
<b>Total Education &amp; Youth</b>	<b>9.953</b>	<b>9.433</b>	<b>-0.520</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>-0.510</b>		
<b>Schools</b>	<b>108.401</b>	<b>108.401</b>	<b>-0.000</b>		<b>-0.000</b>		
<b>Streetscene &amp; Transportation</b>							
Service Delivery	9.277	9.550	0.273		0.266	The service has a recurring revenue pressure of £0.100m for security costs due to vandalism/break-ins at the Household Recycling Centres. Street lighting is also incurring a £0.070m revenue pressure on the community council income budget. The remaining £0.100m is attributable to high sickness levels/agency costs. The service is also expected to cover YTD costs of £0.060m related to the State Funeral and Proclamation Events. The overall overspend is partially offset by additional income achieved through in-house construction work.	
Highways Network	8.096	8.588	0.492		0.492	Highways is incurring a pressure of £0.400m in Fleet services as a result of rising fuel costs. An additional £0.050m is due to an increase in contractor costs for weed spraying following a recommendation from Scrutiny Committee, which cannot be covered from existing budgets.	

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Transportation	10.031	10.487	0.456		0.458	Local bus subsidy is incurring additional overspend of £0.100m due to Park and Ride Service and Service 5 re-procurement. School Transport is incurring a revenue pressure of £0.090m, due to a shortfall in budget for 3 school days driven by Easter timelines in this financial year. Since P5, there has been an additional pressure of £0.200m in School Transport due to additional routes (PRUs/ALN) for 6 routes in total equating to £2,700 extra per day. School transport is also facing an additional revenue pressure of £0.030m in P7 due to capacity issues on a commercial bus service. There may be further cost increases towards the end of this financial year end due to rising transport operator costs (fuel, driver wages, insurance, energy etc.).	
Regulatory Services	11.062	10.977	-0.085		-0.087	The Service is incurring £0.060m pressure due to increased residual waste tonnages, which is creating a risk in achieving WG Recycling targets. The overspend is largely offset by an underspend of £0.053m due to vacancies within the service, increased rebates for the sale of electricity, recycling income and car parking income, which has increased income by £0.064m, including other minor variances with reduction in recycling disposal costs of £0.030m.	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
<b>Total Streetscene &amp; Transportation</b>	<b>38.466</b>	<b>39.602</b>	<b>1.136</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>1.130</b>		
<b>Planning, Environment &amp; Economy</b>							
Community	0.890	0.967	0.077		0.078	Fee income shortfalls in Licensing and Pest Control and historic business planning efficiency £0.024m not realised	
Development	0.146	-0.547	-0.693		-0.574	Favourable variance following receipt of two high value one off Planning Fee each approx £0.300m	
Access	1.446	1.600	0.154		0.085	Adverse variance relates to the projected costs of Ash Die Back to March, 2023, together with historic grant income target not realised	
Regeneration	0.807	0.738	-0.069		-0.047	Review and reduction of commitments; minor variances across the service	
Management & Strategy	1.343	1.412	0.069		0.016	At Month 9 resulting from issues with the new Agile Case Management System requiring a commitment for a potential renewal of the contract with Civica for a further one year use of Flare.	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
Minor Variances	2.166	2.181	0.015		-0.012		
<b>Total Planning &amp; Environment</b>	<b>6.797</b>	<b>6.351</b>	<b>-0.446</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>-0.454</b>		
<b>People &amp; Resources</b>							
HR & OD	2.291	2.289	-0.002		-0.008		

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Corporate Finance	2.041	1.966	-0.075		-0.032	At Month 9, receipt of a 50% Welsh Government Admin Grant for administering the Free School Meals Programme	
<b>Total People &amp; Resources</b>	<b>4.332</b>	<b>4.255</b>	<b>-0.077</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>-0.040</b>		
<b>Governance</b>							
Legal Services	0.884	0.957	0.074		0.065	Additional costs for locum services covering vacant posts	
Democratic Services	2.374	2.297	-0.076		-0.078	Variance as a result of the Members Allowances new rate not being implemented until May, 2022 and lower than anticipated take up of both Broadband and Pension Allowances (£0.108m) ; mitigated by the inception of the new Climate Change Committee Chair person Allowance plus minor variances across Service	
Internal Audit	1.016	0.953	-0.063		-0.049	Vacancy savings together with revised/reduced projected cost for Postage within Central Despatch	
ICT	4.953	4.889	-0.064		-0.067	Vacancy Savings and reduced Contribution to Denbighshire County Council for the Procurement Service	
Customer Services	1.008	0.843	-0.165		-0.164	Registrars Fee Income higher than anticipated and savings from vacant posts	
Revenues	0.201	-0.150	-0.351		-0.338	The variance results from the projected potential surplus on the Council Tax Collection Fund (£0.277m) based on current information; minor variance across the service	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001		
Minor Variances	0.320	0.303	-0.017		-0.017		
<b>Total Governance</b>	<b>10.755</b>	<b>10.092</b>	<b>-0.663</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>-0.645</b>		
<b>Strategic Programmes</b>							
ADM's & CAT's	6.069	6.143	0.074		0.001	Adverse variance as a result of an agreed £0.050m contribution to support the Aura Pay award, £0.024m minor variances.	
<b>Total Strategic Programmes</b>	<b>6.116</b>	<b>6.190</b>	<b>0.074</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.001</b>		
<b>Assets</b>							
Caretaking & Security	0.309	0.229	-0.080		-0.082	Savings on staffing due to vacancies	
Industrial Units	-1.527	-1.585	-0.058		-0.038	Reduced costs of Repair and Maintenance plus some additional rent income	
Minor Variances	2.150	2.192	0.042		0.049		
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>0.932</b>	<b>0.836</b>	<b>-0.096</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>-0.070</b>		
<b>Housing and Community</b>							
Minor Variances	14.662	14.669	0.006		0.125		
<b>Total Housing and Community</b>	<b>14.662</b>	<b>14.669</b>	<b>0.006</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.125</b>		

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<b>Chief Executive's</b>	1.636	1.540	-0.096		-0.087	Variance relates to vacant post and not all staff at top of scale	
<b>Central &amp; Corporate Finance</b>	28.779	27.864	-0.915		-0.924	Over recovery of planned pension contributions recoupement against actuarial projections based on the current level of contributions together with a revised projection on the Central Loans & investment Account (CLIA) reported at Month 6	
Centralised Costs	2.783	2.778	-0.005		-0.005		
Central Loans & Investment Account	0.000	0.060	0.060		0.044	IFRS 9 requires that for soft loans interest is accrued at the Effective Interest Rate (EIR) rather than the Contract Interest Rate. Capital financing regulations require that soft loan accounting doesn't impact on Council Tax levels.	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>326.682</b>	<b>326.799</b>	<b>0.117</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.352</b>		