

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 4 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Social Services					
Older People					
Localities	17.078	16.947	-0.131	Residential and Nursing Care reflects a projected overspend of £0.358m due to increased numbers of funded placements following the increase in the capital limit to £40,000. Domiciliary Care reflects a projected underspend of £0.230m based on existing service users, however there are challenges due to capacity of external supply markets which are currently having to be met within Provider services. Other underspends include a projected underspend of £0.038m on day care due to reduced demand, £0.050m in Intake/First contact due to vacancy savings and £0.031m on Minor Adaptations. Locality Teams staffing reflects a projected underspend of £0.136m due to short term vacancy savings for a number of posts. Overall net minor variances amount to a net £0.004m underspend.	Continue to monitor and review.
Community Equipment Contribution	0.478	0.334	-0.144	Following review and implementation of an updated Section 33 partnership agreement for the North East Wales Community Equipment Store (NEWCES), the contribution levels of partners have been updated resulting in a reduced level of contribution from FCC going forward. In the longer term this saving has been earmarked for funding of some of the revenue costs for the new extra care facilities.	These savings have been earmarked for future realignment to meet some of the revenue costs funding requirement for the new Flint Extra Care facility - Llys Raddington.
Resources & Regulated Services	6.531	6.389	-0.142	The main influences on the net projected underspend of £0.142m is within extra care schemes where there is a projected underspend of £0.257m due mainly to the delay to the opening of the new Llys Raddington, Flint extra care facility. This is offset by a projected overspend of £0.094m on Home Care due to the need to cover capacity gaps in purchased Domiciliary Care. There are also other minor projected overspends amounting to £0.021m in Residential Care and Day Centres.	Continue to monitor and review.
Minor Variances	0.826	0.835	0.009		
Disability Services					
Resources & Regulated Services	23.198	23.057	-0.141	The projected underspend of £0.141m is mainly due to demand influences within externally provided Supported Living	
Administrative Support	0.182	0.133	-0.049	The projected underspend is due mainly to short term vacancy savings.	
Transition & Disability Services	0.737	0.698	-0.039	The projected underspend is due mainly to short term vacancy savings.	
Minor Variances	0.606	0.559	-0.046		
Mental Health Services					
Residential Placements	1.184	1.474	0.290	Ongoing pressure due to the numbers of long term residential placements including four new placements, despite maximisation of opportunities to secure joint funding contributions from Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB)	Continue to monitor and review and consider pressure item within 2019/20 budget process
Minor Variances	2.635	2.618	-0.017		
Children's Services					
Family Placement	2.564	2.784	0.221	The projected overspend is due to the number of children in care. There has been an increase in the number of children who are subject to Foster Care/Special Guardianship/Adoption who have moved through the age barriers. Other influences include new adoption and Special Guardianship Order (SGO) payments and new Foster Carers entering the system, foster carers progressing from Level 1, 2, 3 and 4. Travel costs and Christmas and birthday allowances.	
Professional Support	4.907	5.104	0.197	The projected overspend is due mainly to ongoing service pressures particularly within Prevention and Support, and is influenced by the need to support wider regional work on child protection issues	A request is made within this budget monitoring report to Cabinet for an allocation of £0.100m of funding from the contingency reserve in recognition of the specific pressure in the Victim Contact team
Minor Variances	1.692	1.701	0.010		
Development & Resources					
Charging Policy income	-2.469	-2.577	-0.108	The projected underspend is due to surplus income which is mainly caused by changes to disregard rules on financial assessments which came into effect from August 2016	Continue to monitor and review.
Business Support Service	1.170	1.092	-0.078	The projected underspend is due to a number of short term vacancy savings	
Safeguarding Unit	0.920	0.861	-0.059	The projected underspend of £0.059m is influenced by the saving on a post which was deleted following approval of an EVR request, and some non-recurring grant income from Welsh Government in support of DoLS.	
Good Health	0.916	0.855	-0.061	The projected underspend is due to a number of short term vacancy savings	Continue to monitor and review.
Minor Variances	1.571	1.642	0.071		
Total Social Services (excl Out of County)	64.725	64.506	-0.219		
Out of County					
Children's Services	4.191	5.050	0.859	Variance due to the number of Out of County placements	Continue close monitoring arrangements
Education & Youth	3.083	3.801	0.718	Variance relates to Out of County placements. A substantial increase in the number of new educational placements for 2018/19.	Continue close monitoring arrangements.
Total Out of County	7.274	8.851	1.577		

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Education & Youth					
Integrated Youth Provision	1.361	1.355	-0.006	Variance relates to minor variances from across service area.	
School Improvement Systems	1.797	1.745	-0.052	Variance largely relates to a reduction in maintained and non-maintained setting payments as a result of demography and a reduction of the number of settings requiring funding. Includes hourly reductions in established staff.	
Minor Variances	4.749	4.748	-0.001		
Total Education & Youth (excl Out of County)	7.908	7.849	-0.059		
Schools					
	89.806	89.806	0.000		
Streetscene & Transportation					
Ancillary Services & Performance	9.193	9.344	0.151	Delay in the development of the new Rockcliffe HRC site resulting in additional running costs of two existing sites continuing to operate until October totalling £0.050m. Shortfall in Recycling income due to falling plastic, card and paper recycling prices resulting from external market factors £0.185m. Additional income of £0.100m above the original projections following rollout of brown bin charges. Minor variances £0.016m	Keep under review
Highways Network	10.869	11.218	0.350	Additional cost of Vehicle insurance Premiums totalling £0.072m. Following increased car park charges from May 2018, together with charges in Flint being implemented for the first time, initial forecasts have indicated lower than anticipated income levels compared to original projections. In addition, officers have recently been appointed to meet the necessary demands of parking enforcement requirements across the County. The overall variance totals £0.260m. Minor variances £0.018m	Keep under review
Transportation & Logistics	9.150	9.392	0.242	Additional pressure as a result of the provision of additional transport for pupils from the former John Summers High School to Connahs Quay, Buckley and Mold campuses, £0.242m.	Keep under review
Workforce	0.410	0.535	0.125	Increased Agency and Overtime costs as a consequence of current sickness levels (9%) of the workforce operatives.	
Other Minor Variances	0.229	0.252	0.023		
Total Streetscene & Transportation	29.851	30.742	0.891		
Planning, Environment & Economy					
Business	1.528	1.527	-0.001	Minor Variances	Continue to Monitor and Review
Community	0.921	0.982	0.061	Full cost recovery income targets have not been achieved in recent years and are unlikely to be achieved again in 2018/19. The Pest Control Service is customer demand led with competition from external commercial organisations	Monitor Pest Control Fee Income Levels, Service to be reviewed during the second half of the financial year.
Development	0.040	-0.112	-0.152	Higher than expected levels of Planning Fee Income received in the first quarter of the financial year. An award of Legal Fees from a Planning Appeal in FCCs favour.	Continue to monitor Planning Fee Income levels and adjust projection accordingly.
Access	1.322	1.336	0.014	Minor Variances	Continue to Monitor and Review
Regeneration	2.626	2.128	-0.498	Minor Variances.	Monitor and Review.
Management & Strategy	8.676	7.495	-1.181	Minor Variances	Continue to Monitor and Review
Minor Variances	-9.493	-7.730	1.763		
Total Planning & Environment	5.620	5.627	0.006		
People & Resources					
HR & OD	2.386	2.339	-0.047	Minor variances	Continue to monitor & review
Corporate Finance	2.087	2.135	0.048	Minor variances	Continue to monitor & review
Total People & Resources	4.473	4.474	0.001		
Governance					
Legal Services	0.698	0.724	0.026	Minor variances	Continue to monitor & review
Democratic Services	2.016	2.026	0.011	Minor variances	Continue to monitor & review
Internal Audit	0.449	0.427	-0.022	Minor variances	Continue to monitor & review
Procurement	0.320	0.323	0.002	Minor variances	Continue to monitor & review
ICT	4.522	4.550	0.028	Minor variances	Continue to monitor & review
Customer Services	0.380	0.437	0.057	Vacancy savings in respect of Flintshire Connects (£0.011m). Additional registration services income estimated to be in the region of (£0.024m). Prior year efficiency in respect of Contact Centres unlikely to be achieved in 2017/19 £0.100m. Other minor variances (£0.008m).	Monitor and Review.
Revenues	-0.228	-0.466	-0.238	Anticipated surplus on the Council Tax Collection Fund following the conclusion of the Single Persons Discount Review (£0.204m). Vacancy savings of (£0.030m). Other minor variances (£0.004m).	Continue to review on a monthly basis and report on any significant variances or movements.
Total Governance	8.158	8.021	-0.136		
Strategic Programmes					
Public Libraries & Arts, Culture & Events	1.598	1.598	0.000	No major variances.	
Museums	0.068	0.068	0.000	No major variances.	
County Archives	0.290	0.290	0.000	No major variances.	
Leisure	3.209	3.209	0.000	No major variances.	
Community Assets	0.000	0.000	0.000	No major variances.	
Total Strategic Programmes	5.164	5.164	0.000		

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Housing & Assets					
Property Asset And Development	0.435	0.370	-0.065	Underspend resulting from salary savings	
Caretaking & Security	0.274	0.217	-0.057	Underspend resulting from salary savings	
CPM & Design Services	0.588	0.490	-0.098	Additional income over budget target	
Industrial Units	-1.134	-0.916	0.218	Shortfall in rental income and added NNDR costs incurred due to void units	
Benefits	10.653	10.625	-0.028	Projected underspend on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) (£0.053m). Additional cost of IT related expenditure such as software and external printing £0.059m. Other savings from across the service (£0.022m).	Continue to review and report on significant variances on a monthly basis.
Housing Solutions	1.084	1.078	-0.006	Minor variances.	Continue to review and repost on significant variances on a monthly basis.
Housing Programmes	0.113	0.115	0.003	Minor variances.	Continue to review and repost on significant variances on a monthly basis.
Disabled Facilities Grant	-0.029	0.012	0.041	Unachieved framework income for Energy Efficiency projects within 2017/18 £0.050m	Continue to review and repost on significant variances on a monthly basis.
Minor Variances	0.605	0.609	0.004		
Total Housing & Assets	13.213	13.223	0.010		
Chief Executive's	2.961	2.695	-0.266	Variance is due to a number of vacancies due to a number of staff changes within the year.	Keep under review and consider as part of 19-20 budget
Central and Corporate Finance	25.175	20.691	-4.484	£1.400m underspend due to a change in the Minimum Revenue Provision policy. Increased Coroners costs £0.040m. Windfall income an overachievement of £1.975m, £1.940m is due to a VAT rebate and £0.027m due to NDR revaluations. Pension deficit recovery, an underspend of £1.031m, this is due to an increase in contributions, while the repayment figure has remained static. Apprentice Tax Levy, underspend of £0.065m. Auto Enrolment, numbers are less than estimated which gives a favourable variance of £0.273m. An underachievement on the income target of £0.200m. Minor variances £0.020m.	Continue to review all variances alongside the continuing work on the MTFS
Grand Total	264.328	261.649	-2.680		

2018/19 Efficiencies Outturn - Under or Over Achieved

Portfolio	Original Efficiency	Revised Efficiency	(Under)/Over
	2018/19 £(m)	2018/19 £(m)	Achievement 2018/19 £(m)
Central & Corporate Finance			
Theatre C/wyd tax relief	0.075	0.075	0.000
County Hall (NDR Element)	0.060	0.060	0.000
Audit fee reduction	0.127	0.127	0.000
Total Central & Corporate Finance	0.262	0.262	0.000
Governance			
Records management; Reduce records in storage.	0.010	0.010	0.000
ICT - Digital Print	0.048	0.048	0.000
Customer Services; New customer service models	0.050	0.050	0.000
Flintshire Connects; More flexible service in conjunction with potential income	0.056	0.056	0.000
Registration; Chargeable declaration of births	0.012	0.012	0.000
Total Governance	0.176	0.176	0.000
Social Services			
Disability Service; Review current contract with external agency to deliver	0.030	0.030	0.000
Disability Service; Reduction of posts.	0.110	0.110	0.000
Workforce Development; Additional Income from QCF assessors through	0.030	0.030	0.000
Business Support and Management; Rationalisation of rented	0.015	0.015	0.000
Increase in domiciliary care charging.	0.220	0.220	0.000
Integrated Care Fund	0.500	0.500	0.000
Care Fees	0.514	0.514	0.000
Merger of Out of Hours Service	0.020	0.020	0.000
Total Social Services	1.484	1.484	0.000
Education & Youth			
Early Entitlement; Reduce sustainability grant payments and remodel	0.020	0.020	0.000
Business Support; Staff reduction	0.010	0.010	0.000
Nursery Education; Staff reductions	0.040	0.040	0.000
Total Education & Youth	0.070	0.070	0.000
Schools			
Schools Demography	0.288	0.288	0.000
Total Schools	0.288	0.288	0.000
Strategic Programmes			
Leisure, Libraries and Heritage; Continuation of previous years' business plan	0.416	0.416	0.000
Revenues; Increase in collection rates enables adjustment to bad debt provision (one off).	0.094	0.094	0.000
Revenues; Second year windfall for single person discount review (one	0.140	0.140	0.000
Single Person Discount additional efficiency	0.160	0.160	0.000
Total Strategic Programmes	0.810	0.810	0.000
Housing & Assets			
Valuation Service; Property rationalisation through closure and amalgamation of services into other more efficient assets.	0.050	0.050	0.000
Valuation Service; Increase farm income through renewal of grazing licences.	0.021	0.021	0.000
Valuation Service; Community Asset Transfer process, efficiencies through reduced costs.	0.010	0.010	0.000
Valuation Service; Restructure of service as part of move to a commissioning client.	0.020	0.020	0.000
Valuation Service; Remove caretaking/security services at County Offices, Flint.	0.015	0.015	0.000
Corporate Property Maintenance; Restructure of service as part of move to a commissioning client.	0.080	0.080	0.000
Design and Project Management Services; Restructure of service as part of move to a commissioning client.	0.040	0.040	0.000
NEWydd Catering and Cleaning Services; Continuation of previous Business and Marketing plans.	0.050	0.050	0.000
County Hall	0.240	0.240	0.000
New Homes; Return anticipated trading surplus to the Council.	0.030	0.030	0.000
Regional Training courses delivered by GT officer	0.003	0.003	0.000
Welfare Rights; Some activity to be absorbed into single financial assessment team.	0.032	0.032	0.000
Benefits; Adjustment to bad debt provision (one off).	0.050	0.050	0.000
Benefits; Council Tax Reduction Scheme.	0.250	0.250	0.000
Benefits; Remove duplication and provide a single financial assessment service.	0.050	0.050	0.000
Reduction of senior management team	0.050	0.050	0.000
Total Housing & Assets	0.991	0.991	0.000
Streetscene & Transportation			
Waste Strategy; Charges for garden waste	0.800	0.900	0.100
Car Park Charges	0.450	0.250	(0.200)
Total Streetscene & Transportation	1.250	1.150	(0.100)
Planning, Environment & Economy			
Development management; Production of planning statements and to undertake private appeals	0.015	0.015	0.000
Highways Development Control; Introduce further charges. Review current charges. Retain supervisory function of highway works in the Building Control; Review charges. Introduce charges. Increase partnership working. Increase authorised commencements inspections.	0.015	0.015	0.000
Built Environment; Charing for preapplication advice	0.030	0.030	0.000
Flooding and Drainage; Fees for capital project work.	0.010	0.010	0.000
Energy; Fees for energy efficiency assessment.	0.010	0.010	0.000
Minerals and Waste; Maximise regulatory compliance income. Review day rate charging.	0.050	0.050	0.000
Rights of Way; Increase charging and reduce expenditure.	0.020	0.020	0.000
Economic Development; Workforce efficiency if regional service developed.	0.020	0.020	0.000
Total Planning, Environment & Economy	0.180	0.180	0.000
		%	£
Total 2017/18 Budget Efficiencies		100	5.511
Total Projected 2017/18 Budget Efficiencies Underachieved		2	0.100
Total Projected 2017/18 Budget Efficiencies Achieved		98	5.411

Movements on Council Fund Unearmarked Reserves

	£m	£m
Total Reserves as at 1 April 2018	13.697	
Less - Base Level	(5.769)	
Total Reserves above base level available for delegation to Cabinet		7.928
Less – amount committed as part of balancing 2018/19 budget		(1.945)
Less – One off contribution to Schools agreed at Council on 1 March 2018		(0.460)
Less – Contribution to fund shortfall in MEAG funding (M2)		(0.058)
Add – projected outturn underspend		2.680
Total Contingency Reserve as at 31st March 2019		8.145

Budget Monitoring Report
Housing Revenue Account Variances

MONTH 4 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Housing Revenue Account						
Income	(34.381)	(34.255)	0.126	0.218	A pressure of £0.126m is anticipated on income. £0.062 of this pressure related to loss of rental income on void properties. This is due to delays on handover of new properties and more properties being void for longer than anticipated. £0.023m of the pressure relates to loss of income on garages which are not tenanted. £0.036m of the pressure relates to removal of the early payment discount on the Welsh Water contract. The remaining £0.005m relates to minor pressures.	£0.036m will be built into the HRA Business Plan for future years to address the Welsh Water pressure.
Capital Financing - Loan Charges	8.694	8.548	(0.146)		The projected underspend of £0.146m relates to expected borrowing costs for SHARP. £0.051m of the underspend relates to the Minimum Revenue Payment (loan repayment) which is lower than budgeted because borrowing levels weren't as high on the 31st March as expected. The remaining £0.095m relates to interest charges. Batch 3 schemes will now start on site from November and this means expenditure will be spread across financial years. In-year interest charges will therefore be lower than originally anticipated.	
Estate Management	1.617	1.608	(0.010)	(0.032)	Minor Variance	
Landlord Service Costs	1.415	1.426	0.011	0.001	Minor Variance	
Repairs & Maintenance	8.159	8.193	0.034	0.051	A pressure of £0.034m is expected on Repairs and Maintenance. A £0.032m pressure relates to the pay award. The remaining £0.002m relates to minor pressures.	The additional 1% pay award will be built into the HRA Business Plan for future years to address the pressure.
Management & Support Services	2.297	2.219	(0.077)	(0.093)	A saving of £0.077m is anticipated on Management and Support costs. £0.002m relates to vacancy savings. The remaining £0.015m relates to minor pressures elsewhere.	
Capital Expenditure From Revenue (CERA)	12.170	12.163	(0.007)		Minor Variance	
HRA Projects	0.047	0.049	0.002	0.002	Minor Variance	
Contribution To / (From) Reserves	(0.018)	0.049	0.067	(0.147)	The HRA Business Plan anticipated a contribution from reserves of £0.018m when it was approved in February, however, to bring reserve levels in line with the budgeted closing balance for 2018/19, a contribution to reserves of £0.049m is required. This contribution will be funded by underspends elsewhere in the HRA.	
Total Housing Revenue Account	0.000	(0.000)	(0.000)	0.000		