



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday 16 July 2019
Report Subject	Revenue Budget Monitoring 2018/19 (Outturn)
Portfolio Holder	Cabinet Member for Finance
Report Author	Corporate Finance Manager
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the outturn revenue budget monitoring position (subject to audit) for 2018/19 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.

The final year end position was as follows;

Council Fund

- An operating surplus of £0.608m (£0.931m at Month 11).
- A Contingency Reserve balance as at 31 March 2019 of £8.252m which, when taking into account the agreed contributions for the 2019/20 budget reduces to £6.031m.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

- Net in year expenditure was £0.067m lower than budget.
- A closing un-earmarked balance as at 31 March 2019 of £1.165m.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are requested to:	
1	Note the overall report and the Council Fund contingency sum as at 31 March 2019.

2	Note the final level of balances on the Housing Revenue Account as at 31 March 2019.
3	Approve the carry forwards requested (paragraph 1.21).

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING POSITION (OUTTURN 2018/19)																																																																
1.01	<p>Council Fund Overall Position</p> <p>The final position for 2018/19 is an operating surplus (subject to audit) of £0.608m which is a decrease of £0.323m on the operating surplus previously reported in month 11.</p>																																																																
1.02	<p>The table below shows the outturn position by portfolio:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>TOTAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME</th> <th>Revised Budget</th> <th>Final Outturn</th> <th>In-Year Over / (Under) spend</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Social Services</td> <td>65.075</td> <td>64.163</td> <td>(0.912)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Out of County</td> <td>7.274</td> <td>9.007</td> <td>1.733</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education & Youth</td> <td>8.254</td> <td>8.073</td> <td>(0.181)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Schools</td> <td>89.706</td> <td>89.706</td> <td>0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Streetscene & Transportation</td> <td>29.879</td> <td>31.423</td> <td>1.544</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning & Environment</td> <td>5.641</td> <td>5.589</td> <td>(0.051)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>People & Resources</td> <td>4.403</td> <td>4.387</td> <td>(0.016)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governance</td> <td>8.134</td> <td>7.963</td> <td>(0.172)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strategic Programmes</td> <td>4.198</td> <td>4.179</td> <td>(0.020)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Housing & Assets</td> <td>14.640</td> <td>14.499</td> <td>(0.140)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chief Executive</td> <td>2.990</td> <td>2.554</td> <td>(0.437)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Central & Corporate Finance</td> <td>24.135</td> <td>22.178</td> <td>(1.958)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>264.328</td> <td>263.721</td> <td>(0.608)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	TOTAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME	Revised Budget	Final Outturn	In-Year Over / (Under) spend		£m	£m	£m	Social Services	65.075	64.163	(0.912)	Out of County	7.274	9.007	1.733	Education & Youth	8.254	8.073	(0.181)	Schools	89.706	89.706	0.000	Streetscene & Transportation	29.879	31.423	1.544	Planning & Environment	5.641	5.589	(0.051)	People & Resources	4.403	4.387	(0.016)	Governance	8.134	7.963	(0.172)	Strategic Programmes	4.198	4.179	(0.020)	Housing & Assets	14.640	14.499	(0.140)	Chief Executive	2.990	2.554	(0.437)	Central & Corporate Finance	24.135	22.178	(1.958)					Total	264.328	263.721	(0.608)
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1.03	The negative movement of £0.323m from the previous month is due to a further increase in Out of County Placements, adjustments to the Council Tax																																																																

	collection account and various other minor changes. The reasons for all changes are summarised in Appendix 1 and the reasons for the projected variances in all portfolio areas are summarised within Appendix 2.
1.04	<p>Achievement of Planned In-Year Efficiencies</p> <p>The 2018/19 budget included £5.511m of specific efficiencies which were closely tracked and monitored. In 2017/18 the level of efficiency achievement was 94% which was an improvement on the 91% achieved during the previous year. The Council aimed to achieve a 95% rate in 2018/19 as reflected in the Medium Term Financial Strategy's key performance indicators.</p> <p>Within the year £5.405m (98%) of planned efficiencies were achieved which is above the target and further details on the achievement of the efficiencies are included in Appendix 3.</p>
1.05	<p>Brief Overview of the Year – Council Fund</p> <p>The Council set its 2018/19 budget on 20 February 2018 and were advised of a number of risks that could impact on the financial position. These related in particular to a potential reduction in the Single Environment Grant and further information awaited from Welsh Government over future funding of the Minor Ethnic and Language Achievement Grant (MEAG). In addition, the outcome of national pay award negotiations had not been included at the budget setting stage and this was highlighted as a significant risk to be dealt with in year which would need to be funded from the Contingency Reserve. A subsequent allocation of just under £1m was transferred to meet the one off impact of this.</p>
1.06	Month 4 was the first detailed Revenue Monitoring Report for 2018/19 and an initial operating deficit of £0.660m was forecast. The actual net in year expenditure forecast was a £2.680m surplus once the positive impact of a £1.400m contribution due to the agreed change to the accounting policy for Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) and receipt of a VAT rebate for £1.940m are included. The Month 4 report recommended that both these amounts be allocated to the Contingency Reserve to support the Medium Term Financial Strategy.
1.07	The Month 4 report detailed a number of positive and negative variances with pressure on the Children's Services budget due in particular to the increased demand on Out of County Placements. Early projections showed an overspend of £1.577m although this was partly mitigated by other underspends within the Social Services portfolio.
1.08	A delay in the development of the new Rockcliffe Household Recycling site and a shortfall in the income gained from recycling contributed to a projected overspend in Streetscene and Transportation, together with a shortfall in car parking income and additional school transport costs.
1.09	Within the Central and Corporate budget a projected underspend in pensions and auto enrolment was reported to be kept under review throughout the year.

1.10	At Month 6 the position improved with the in-year working deficit reduced to £0.222m due in the main to an improvement in a number of areas including demand levels of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme mainly due to a review of single person discounts.
1.11	At Month 8 the Council received additional grant funding of £0.611m from Welsh Government to support costs associated with Supporting Sustainable Social Services which enabled additional costs of Out of County Placements to be mitigated within the month and contributed to a projected surplus of £0.026m.
1.12	At Month 10, the reduction of a number of Out of County Placements together with some additional one off windfall income from non-domestic rates led to an increase projected surplus of £0.743m.
1.13	The final outturn is an operating surplus of £0.608m.
1.14	<p>Reserves and Balances</p> <p><u>Un-earmarked Reserves</u></p> <p>The 2017/18 outturn reported to Cabinet in July showed un-earmarked reserves at 31 March 2017 (above the base level of £5.769m) of £7.928m.</p> <p>As agreed in the 2018/19 budget an amount of £1.945m was approved as part of the strategy to balance the budget and in addition County Council on 1 March approved a one off amount of £0.460m for schools, on a temporary basis. The available Contingency Reserve at the start of the year after taking account of these contributions was therefore £5.523m.</p>
1.15	At Month 4 it was agreed that the financial impact due to a change in accounting policy for the Minimum Revenue Provision of £1.400m and a VAT rebate on some sporting exemptions for £1.940m would be transferred to the Contingency Reserve.
1.16	Taking into account the current projected underspend (subject to audit), and previously agreed allocations, the balance on the Contingency Reserve at 31 March 2019 is £8.252m as detailed in appendix 4.
1.17	<p>As agreed at Council on 18 February 2019, an additional amount of £2.2321m was used from the Contingency Reserve, on a one-off basis to contribute to the 2019/20 budget leaving a total available balance of the Contingency Reserve which can be drawn upon of £6.031m.</p> <p>In addition The Month 11 report recommended allocations from the Contingency Reserve for investment in change and to operate a Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) Approving Body (SAB). These allocations will be transferred in the new financial year and when taken into consideration the available reserve reduces to £4.969m.</p>

1.18	The table below gives a summary of earmarked reserves as at 31 st March 2019. A full analysis of the movement in reserves from 1 st April 2018 to 31 st March 2019 is contained within the Statement of Accounts.																																																																																																
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1.20	<p data-bbox="279 1839 1393 1910">As part of the 2018/19 closedown work it was identified that there was a requirement to set aside earmarked reserves for ongoing legal cases.</p> <p data-bbox="279 1951 1393 2051">The earmarked reserves set aside were to fund two current employment tribunal cases, the amount set aside was £0.150m, and a property claim for £0.045m.</p>																																																																																																

	The funding for the employment tribunal cases was transferred from the Contingency Reserve and the property claim was funded from the service.
1.21	Request for Carry Forward of Funding A number of requests to carry forward revenue funding into 2019/20 are included in Appendix 6 and are recommended for approval.
1.22	Housing Revenue Account (HRA) The 2017/18 Outturn Report to Cabinet on 17 July 2018 showed an un-earmarked closing balance at the end of 2017/18 of £1.116m and a closing balance of earmarked reserves of £0.802m.
1.23	The 2018/19 budget for the HRA is £34.805m which includes a movement of £0.018m from reserves.
1.24	The final outturn for the HRA reports expenditure to be £0.067m lower than budget (subject to audit) meaning £0.049m was transferred into un-earmarked reserves. This gives a closing balance as at 31 March 2019 of £1.165m, which at 3.3% satisfies the prudent approach of ensuring a minimum of 3%. £0.078m was transferred to earmarked reserves for self-insurance during the year and £0.176m of the Solar PV feed in tariff was transferred to earmarked reserves for energy efficiency works bringing the balance on earmarked reserves to £1.056m as at 31 March 2019. The total increase in HRA reserves for 2018/19 was therefore £0.303m.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The Revenue Budget Monitoring Report reflects the planned use of the financial resources of the Council for the current financial year and details the variations in the first four months and the risks as known.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	None Required.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	As we are reporting the final outturn position there are no further risks for 2018/19. Any known risks with an impact on 2019/20 were included within the 2019/20 budget which was approved at Council on 18 February 2019.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1: Council Fund – Movement in Variances from Month 11 Appendix 2: Council Fund – Budget Variances Appendix 3: Council Fund – Programme of Efficiencies Appendix 4: Council Fund – Movement on Un-earmarked Reserves Appendix 5: Housing Revenue Account Variances Appendix 6: Carry Forward Requests

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None required Contact Officer: Sara Dulson Telephone: 01352 702287 E-mail: sara.dulson@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Budget: a statement expressing the Council’s policies and service levels in financial terms for a particular financial year. In its broadest sense it includes both the revenue budget and capital programme and any authorised amendments to them.</p> <p>Council Fund: the fund to which all the Council’s revenue expenditure is charged.</p> <p>Financial Year: the period of twelve months commencing on 1 April.</p> <p>Housing Revenue Account: the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a local authority account showing current income and expenditure on housing services related to its own housing stock. The account is separate from the Council Fund and trading accounts and is funded primarily from rents and government subsidy.</p> <p>Projected Outturn: projection of the expenditure to the end of the financial year, made on the basis of actual expenditure incurred to date.</p> <p>Reserves: these are balances in hand that have accumulated over previous years and are held for defined (earmarked reserves) and general (general reserves) purposes. Councils are required to regularly review the level and purpose of their reserves and to take account of the advice of the Chief Finance Officer.</p> <p>Revenue: a term used to describe the day-to-day costs of running Council services and income deriving from those services. It also includes charges for the repayment of debt, including interest, and may include direct financing of capital expenditure.</p>

<p>Underspend: when referring to expenditure the actual expenditure incurred is less than budget. Shown as a –ve. When referring to income the actual income achieved exceeds the budget. Shown as a –ve.</p> <p>Variance: difference between latest budget and actual income or expenditure. Can be to date if reflecting the current or most up to date position or projected, for example projected to the end of the month or financial year.</p> <p>Virement: the transfer of budget provision from one budget head to another. Virement decisions apply to both revenue and capital expenditure heads, and between expenditure and income, and may include transfers from contingency provisions. Virements may not however be approved between capital and revenue budget heads.</p>
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Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Movement between Periods (£m)	Narrative for Movement between Periods greater than £25k
Social Services		
Older People		
Localities	-0.054	Residential and Nursing Care £0.027m due to reduction in service users, Domiciliary Care £0.026m reduction due to re-categorisation of expenditure previously costed to PDSI.
Minor Variances	-0.006	
Disability Services		
Resources & Regulated Services	-0.028	Reduction in costs of PDSI Residential Care
Disability Services	0.035	Increased costs of Day Care
Minor Variances	0.018	
Mental Health Services		
Residential Placements	-0.049	Additional internal allocation of Supporting People grant £0.035m, plus reduction of Direct payments costs £0.014m.
Minor Variances	-0.044	
Children's Services		
Legal & Third Party	0.065	Additional court costs and legal fees
Residential Placements	0.060	Costs of additional therapeutic services commissioned through Action for Children
Professional Support	0.068	Income previously assumed for Reflect Grant not realised £0.040m, plus Leaving Care £0.047m due to additional expenditure on prepaid cards and historic invoices for Accommodation costs, offset by other favourable movements
Minor Variances	0.028	
Development & Resources		
Minor Variances	-0.006	
Total Social Services (excl Out of County)	0.090	
Out of County		
Children's Services	0.141	Additional costs for 8 new and emerging placements
Education & Youth	-0.011	Minor movement in variance from across service area.
Total Out of County	0.130	
Education & Youth		
Inclusion & Progression	0.006	Minor movement in variance from across service area.
Integrated Youth Provision	-0.015	Minor movement in variance from across service area.
School Improvement Systems	0.004	Minor movement in variance from across service area.
Archives	0.001	Minor movement in variance from across service area.
Minor Variances	-0.000	
Total Education & Youth	-0.005	
Schools	0.000	
Streetscene & Transportation		
Other Minor Variances	0.001	
Total Streetscene & Transportation	0.001	

Planning, Environment & Economy		
Business	-0.015	Minor Variances across the Service
Community	0.014	Minor Variances across the Service
Access	0.057	A number of smaller variances across the Service each less than £0.025m; the largest being £0.024m being additional works carried out at a number Countryside Projects.
Regeneration	-0.022	Minor variances.
Management & Strategy	-0.014	Minor Variances across the Service
Minor Variances	-0.012	
Total Planning & Environment	0.008	
People & Resources		
HR & OD	0.030	Lower than expected physiotherapy recharges £0.008m, agreed movement to reserves for training £0.013m.
Corporate Finance	-0.055	Additional SLA income £0.034m.
Total People & Resources	-0.025	
Governance		
Legal Services	-0.019	Minor variances.
Democratic Services	0.026	Due to software maintenance costs £0.011m, unexpected additional translation costs from Conwy £0.005m and additional IT licenses for Members' Blackberry handsets £0.008m.
Internal Audit	-0.005	Minor variances.
Procurement	-0.003	Minor variances.
ICT	0.020	Minor variances.
Customer Services	-0.012	Minor variances.
Revenues	0.112	Movement on Council Tax Collection Fund due to the increase in the Bad Debt Provision £0.083m. Reduction in projected fines income for 18/19 £0.050m. Minor variances £0.021m reduction.
Total Governance	0.121	
Strategic Programmes		
Minor Variances	-0.009	
Total Strategic Programmes	-0.009	
Housing & Assets		
Property Asset And Development	-0.058	Contractor underspend of £0.050m. Other minor variances £0.008m reduction.
Industrial Units	0.095	£0.144m unachieved rental income offset by a £0.050m contractor underspend.
Housing Programmes	0.027	Transfer of £0.045m to reserves as a provision for the estimated costs of property claims. Minor variances £0.018m underspend.
Disabled Facilities Grant	0.028	Adjustment for Management Fees for 17/18 & 18/19 £0.024m. Minor variances £0.004m.
Minor Variances	-0.031	
Total Housing & Assets	0.062	
Chief Executive's	0.012	Minor variances.
Central and Corporate Finance	-0.062	Central Loans Investment Account reduced variance £0.135m. Windfall Income of £0.065m relating to Non Domestic Rate Revaluations, which related to Education portfolio. Increased Coroners costs £0.024m. Minor variances £0.015m.
Grand Total	0.323	

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Social Services						
Older People						
Localities	16.920	16.540	-0.379	-0.325	Domiciliary Care reflects an underspend of £0.228m 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 £0.065m on Locality team - staffing, £0.042m on day care due to reduced demand, £0.022m on Intake/First Contact due to vacancy savings and £0.012m on Minor Adaptations. Other minor underspends amount to a net £0.010m.	Future budget monitoring will reflect changes in demand for care and market capacity issues
Community Equipment Contribution	0.473	0.326	-0.148	-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 reduced. In the longer term this saving has been earmarked for funding of some of the revenue costs for the new extra care facilities.	This underspend is earmarked for use in 2019/20 and beyond to fund some of the additional budget required for new extra care facilities.
Resources & Regulated Services	6.602	6.461	-0.141	-0.133	The main influence on the net projected underspend of £0.141m is extra care schemes where there is a projected underspend of £0.433m due mostly to the delay to the opening of the new Llys Raddington extra care facility and additional grant income. This is offset by a projected overspend of £0.125m on Home Care due to the need to cover capacity gaps in purchased Domiciliary Care. There are also overspends amounting to a total of £0.166m on Residential Care and Day Centres.	
Minor Variances	0.877	0.837	-0.041	-0.048		
Disability Services						
Resources & Regulated Services	23.078	22.937	-0.141	-0.114	There are underspends of £0.090m on PDSI services, due to a number of service users having passed away, and £0.057m for In-house Supported Living, due to additional income from Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) offset by a net overspend of £0.006m from externally provided Supported Living and LD Work Opportunities/Day Centres.	
Disability Services	0.533	0.410	-0.122	-0.158	The underspend is mainly due to increased levels of contributions from BCUHB for two service users.	
Administrative Support	0.194	0.141	-0.053	-0.066	The underspend is influenced by a combination of vacancy savings and budget provision at the top of grades for staff who are currently paid below the top of grades.	
Minor Variances	0.787	0.753	-0.033	-0.038		
Mental Health Services						
Residential Placements	1.184	1.471	0.286	0.335	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 BCUHB. The overspend is offset by £0.150m additional WG grant income.	
Professional Support	0.774	0.721	-0.053	-0.037	Underspend due to some staff being below the top of grade and additional income from BCUHB	
Minor Variances	1.841	1.788	-0.052	-0.025		

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Children's Services						
Family Placement	2.564	2.702	0.138	0.116	The 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. These costs are offset by £0.150m additional Welsh Government (WG) grant income.	
Family Support	0.364	0.452	0.087	0.074	Staff costs are higher than budget and some of these costs are associated with the carrying out of statutory duties to support looked after children in external placements. We have many strategies to resolve this in the longer term but in the short term we need to fulfil our duties to oversee the care of our younger people.	
Legal & Third Party	0.178	0.364	0.186	0.120	Additional numbers of court cases resulting in increased court costs	
Residential Placements	0.462	0.540	0.078	0.018	Costs of additional therapeutic services commissioned through Action for Children	
Professional Support	4.983	5.192	0.209	0.141	The 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 which has been partly mitigated by an allocation of £0.100m from the contingency reserve.	
Minor Variances	0.668	0.660	-0.009	-0.001		
Development & Resources						
Charging Policy income	-2.469	-2.595	-0.126	-0.132	The 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. The additional budget which arises from this surplus is earmarked for future use in funding some of the revenue costs for the new Holywell extra care facility.	
Business Support Service	1.139	1.032	-0.107	-0.100	The underspend of £0.100m is due to a number of short term vacancy savings and some posts currently occupied by staff who are below top of grade.	
Commissioning	0.631	0.575	-0.056	-0.056	The underspend is mainly due to funding of a post from a grant in the short term, plus some reductions of hours following staff returning from maternity leave.	
Vacancy Management	0.417	0.000	-0.417	-0.426	Short term vacancy savings transferred from across portfolio.	
Minor Variances	2.874	2.856	-0.018	-0.004		
Total Social Services (excl Out of County)	65.075	64.163	-0.912	-1.001		

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Out of County						
Children's Services	4.191	5.161	0.970	0.830	There is an overspend of £0.970m in Social Services Children's Services which is based on current clients and packages and which is likely to be subject to variation during the year. These costs are offset by £0.311m from additional WG grant income.	
Education & Youth	3.083	3.846	0.763	0.774	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	9.007	1.733	1.603		
Education & Youth						
Inclusion & Progression	3.817	3.784	-0.034	-0.040	Variance largely relates to delays in recruitment, includes other minor variances from across service area.	
Integrated Youth Provision	1.251	1.206	-0.045	-0.030	Minor variances from across service area. Variance includes delays in recruitment.	
School Improvement Systems	1.736	1.646	-0.091	-0.095	Variance largely relates to Early Entitlement, 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. Includes other minor variances from across service area.	
Business Change & Support	0.414	0.402	-0.013	-0.013	Minor variances from across service area.	
Minor Variances	1.035	1.036	0.001	0.000		
Total Education & Youth	8.254	8.073	-0.181	-0.177		
Schools	89.706	89.706	0.000	0.000		

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Streetscene & Transportation						
Ancillary Services & Performance	3.908	4.107	0.199	0.196	Delay in the development of the new Rockcliffe HRC site resulting in additional running costs of two existing sites continuing to operate until October, 2018 totalling £0.050m. Shortfall in Recycling Income due to falling plastic, card and paper recycling prices resulting from external market factors £0.210m. Additional income of £0.100m above the original projections following the rollout of brown bin charges. Minor Variances £0.039m.	
Highways Network	8.019	8.351	0.332	0.343	<p>Additional in year cost of known Vehicle Insurance Premiums totalling £0.060m.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Minor variances of less than £0.025m but totalling £0.020m across the service.</p> <p>£0.033m pressure to the service from centralising all utility costs.</p> <p>Rebate for energy overpayments at pumping stations has been taken, with the benefit held centrally so no overall impact to the Council.</p> <p>Underspend on Winter Maintenance of £0.071m, of which £0.035m has been transferred to replenish the Winter Maintenance Reserve to the maximum £0.250m. Requested formal approval for this transfer to reserve.</p>	
Transportation & Logistics	9.374	10.224	0.850	0.846	<p>Additional pressure as a result of the provision of additional school transport for pupils to Connahs Quay, Buckley Elfed and Mold Campus £0.133m. Community Travel pilot schemes of £0.047m commencing January, 2019. Increased transport provision to Social Services £0.074m. Extra School Buses are required due to schools being oversubscribed from September 2018. There is an increase of 95 pupils qualifying for transport resulting in additional pressure of £0.150m. For Special Educational Needs there is an increase of 41 routes for pupils with complex needs requiring solo transport totalling £0.400m.</p>	The additional school transport costs and Special Educational Needs transport will be subject to further review by the Integrated Transport Unit (ITU) to assess all the additional demands and the impact of aligning as many of these costs to existing routes.
Workforce	8.348	8.476	0.128	0.125	Increased Agency and Overtime costs as a consequence of current sickness levels of the workforce operatives.	
Other Minor Variances	0.230	0.264	0.035	0.033		
Total Streetscene & Transportation	29.879	31.423	1.544	1.544		

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Planning, Environment & Economy						
Business	1.550	1.504	-0.046	-0.031	Higher than expected levels of Fee Income together with commitment challenge and vacant post combined to create a favourable variance across the service	
Community	0.940	0.975	0.036	0.021	Full cost recovery income targets have not been achieved in recent years. The Pest Control Service is a customer demand led service with competition from external commercial organisations	
Development	0.060	-0.073	-0.133	-0.130	Higher than expected levels of Planning Fee Income was received during the first three quarters of the financial year. The projection is dependant on the number and value of the applications received, resulting in a changeable outturn to ensure an accurate reflection. An award of Legal Fees from a Planning Appeal in FCCs favour.	
Access	1.328	1.377	0.049	-0.008	Lower than expected Fee income from Footpath Closures £0.006m. Additional works carried out within Conservation £0.010m. Additional contribution to a number of ongoing Countryside Projects £0.024m. Minor Variances £0.016m	
Regeneration	0.435	0.456	0.021	0.043	Energy Efficiency framework unachieved £0.050m. Minor underspends across the service £0.029m.	
Management & Strategy	1.195	1.234	0.039	0.053	Workforce related Business Planning Efficiencies yet to be achieved pending all Service Review outcomes within the Portfolio.	
Minor Variances	0.134	0.117	-0.017	-0.008		
Total Planning & Environment	5.641	5.589	-0.051	-0.059		
People & Resources						
HR & OD	2.433	2.430	-0.003	-0.032	Minor variance	
Corporate Finance	1.970	1.957	-0.013	0.042	Minor variance	
Total People & Resources	4.403	4.387	-0.016	0.009		

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Governance						
Legal Services	0.706	0.713	0.007	0.026	Minor variance	
Democratic Services	2.019	2.026	0.006	-0.020	Minor variance	
Internal Audit	0.454	0.422	-0.032	-0.027	Minor variance	
Procurement	0.320	0.325	0.004	0.007	Minor variance	
ICT	4.471	4.471	-0.000	-0.020	Minor variance	
Customer Services	0.372	0.401	0.029	0.041	Additional registration services income of £0.012m. In year salary saving in Connects including Connects Manager post £0.042m. Prior year efficiency in respect of Contact Centres unachieved in 2018/19 £0.100m. Other minor variances £0.017m underspend.	
Revenues	-0.209	-0.394	-0.186	-0.298	Vacancy savings of £0.138m. Additional income in respect of Enforcement Fees £0.045m. Additional Grant Income relating to New Developments £0.023m. Fines income lower than anticipated by £0.039m. Other minor variances £0.019m underspend.	
Total Governance	8.134	7.963	-0.172	-0.292		
Strategic Programmes						
Public Libraries & Arts, Culture & Events	0.000	-0.000	-0.000	0.000	Minor variance	
Museums	0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	Minor variance	
County Archives	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	Minor variance	
Leisure	4.198	4.179	-0.020	-0.011	Minor variance	
Community Assets	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	Minor variance	
Total Strategic Programmes	4.198	4.179	-0.020	-0.011		

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Housing & Assets						
Administrative Buildings	0.390	0.451	0.061	0.071	Due to delay of demolition works at County Hall.	
Property Asset And Development	0.435	0.368	-0.067	-0.009	£0.042m salary underspend. Other minor variances of 0.024m underspend.	
CPM & Design Services	0.448	0.338	-0.110	-0.090	£0.090m income generated above target. Other minor variances of £0.020m underspend.	
Industrial Units	-1.329	-1.234	0.095	0.000	£0.144m unachieved rental income offset with £0.050m contractor underspend.	
Benefits	10.759	10.651	-0.108	-0.104	Underspend on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) £0.185m. Adjustments in respect of closing Housing Benefit Subsidy and the subsidy debt position £0.146m. Staffing savings of £0.094m. Additional cost of IT related expenditure such as software, external printing and postage £0.102m. Additional New Burdens Funding £0.069m. Other minor variances from across the service £0.008m.	Request to carry forward £0.100m from CTRS budget to facilitate an upcoming project for the CTRS take up campaign.
Housing Solutions	1.083	0.917	-0.166	-0.149	Homeless Accommodation underspend £0.095m. Salary savings as a result of grant maximisation £0.071m. Unachieved efficiency in respect of Senior Management restructure £0.035m. Other minor variances £0.035m.	
Minor Variances	2.853	3.009	0.156	0.079		
Total Housing & Assets	14.640	14.499	-0.140	-0.202		
Chief Executive's	2.990	2.554	-0.437	-0.449		
Central and Corporate Finance	24.135	22.178	-1.958	-1.896	<p>Central Loans Investment Account underspend £.135m</p> <p>Coroners Costs £0.096m.</p> <p>Windfall Income £0.164m relating to Non Domestic Rate Revaluations.</p> <p>Pension Deficit recovery, an underspend of £1,071m, this is due to an increase in contributions, while the repayment figure has remained static.</p> <p>Apprentice Tax Levy, underspend of £0.087m.</p> <p>Auto Enrolment, numbers are less than estimated, which gives a favourable variance of £0.427m.</p> <p>Increased Bank charges £0.028m.</p> <p>Inflationary underspend of £0.418m of which £0.144m has been identified to contribute towards the 2019/20 budget.</p> <p>An underachievement on the income target of £0.214m.</p> <p>Support Services recharge £0.019m less than budgeted.</p> <p>Minor variances £0.012m.</p>	<p>Continue to review all variances alongside the continuing work on the MTFS.</p> <p>Contributing to 2019/20 budget.</p> <p>Contributing to 2019/20 budget.</p> <p>Contributing to 2019/20 budget.</p>
Grand Total	264.328	263.721	-0.608	-0.931		

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
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 off)	0.140	0.140	0.000
Single Person Discount additional efficiency	0.160	0.145	(0.015)
Total Governance	0.570	0.555	(0.015)
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
Total Strategic Programmes	0.416	0.416	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	0.179	(0.061)
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	0.435	0.185
Benefits; Remove duplication and provide a single financial assessment service.	0.050	0.050	0.000
Reduction of senior management team	0.050	0.015	(0.035)
Total Housing & Assets	0.991	1.080	0.089
Streetscene & Transportation			
Waste Strategy; Charges for garden waste	0.800	0.900	0.100
Car Park Charges	0.450	0.210	(0.240)
Total Streetscene & Transportation	1.250	1.110	(0.140)
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 pre-application advice	0.030	0.000	(0.030)
Flooding and Drainage; Fees for capital project work.	0.010	0.000	(0.010)
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	0.140	(0.040)
		%	£
Total 2017/18 Budget Efficiencies		100	5.511
Total Projected 2017/18 Budget Efficiencies Underachieved		2	0.106
Total Projected 2017/18 Budget Efficiencies Achieved		98	5.405

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 – transfer from revenue for amount recovered in-year due to change in accounting policy for the Minimum Revenue Provision		1.400
Add – transfer from revenue for the amount of the VAT rebate received		1.940
Less – allocation to meet additional in-year budget pressure for the agreed pay award above the 1% included in the 2018/19 budget		(0.999)
Less – allocation for ongoing resourcing of the Victim Contact Team		(0.100)
Less – allocation for Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse		(0.005)
Less – allocation to meet historic child abuse claims		(0.039)
Less – allocation from the Contingency Reserve to a ring-fenced reserve to meet the costs of employment tribunals		(0.150)
Add – Amount released from earmarked reserves as agreed by Council as part of 2019/20 budget		0.132

Add – projected outturn underspend		0.608
Total Contingency Reserve as at 31st March 2019		8.252
Less – VAT rebate amount committed as part of balancing 2019/20 budget.		(1.900)
Less – amount committed as part of balancing 2019/20 budget		(0.321)
Less – amount approved to operate a Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) Approving Body (SAB)		(0.062)
Less – amount approved for investment in change		(1.000)
Total Contingency Reserve available for use		4.969

Budget Monitoring Report
Housing Revenue Account Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Housing Revenue Account						
Income	(34.497)	(34.234)	0.264	0.302	The final outturn for Income is a pressure of £0.264m. £0.194m of this pressure relates to loss of rental income on properties being void longer than anticipated and £0.073m due to delays on handover/delays on new build schemes. £0.036m 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. A saving of £0.055m on the BDP calculation. The remaining £0.020m relates to minor variances.	
Capital Financing - Loan Charges	8.694	7.543	(1.151)	(1.191)	The underspend of £1.151m relates to expected borrowing costs for SHARP. £0.052m 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 £1.099m relates to interest charges. Batch 3 schemes started on site later than anticipated and this means expenditure will be spread across financial years. In-year interest charges will therefore be lower than originally anticipated. In addition, borrowing costs have been minimised through efficient treasury management.	
Estate Management	1.617	1.477	(0.140)	(0.110)	The final outturn for Estate Management is an underspend of £0.140m. £0.188m relates to salary savings. A pressure of £0.014m relates to additional costs for cleaning. A pressure of £0.023m relates to Court Costs for Rent Arrears. The remaining £0.011m relates to minor variances.	
Landlord Service Costs	1.415	1.408	(0.007)	0.026	Minor Variance	
Repairs & Maintenance	8.044	7.606	(0.438)	(0.409)	The final outturn for Repairs and Maintenance is an underspend of £0.438m. £0.084m relates to savings on employee costs. £0.214m relates to an underspend on Subcontractors. £0.021m relates to savings on materials. £0.169m relates to a reduction in the Fleet Recharge. The savings above have been offset by a loss of income of £0.071m on Recharges leaving minor underspends of £0.021m	
Management & Support Services	2.297	2.014	(0.283)	(0.254)	The final outturn for Management and Support Services is an underspend of £0.283m. £0.185m relates to staffing costs. £0.058m relates to a reduction on insurance premiums for the HRA. £0.026m relates to software costs. The remaining £0.014m relates to minor pressures elsewhere.	
Capital Expenditure From Revenue (CERA)	12.402	14.137	1.735	1.617	The variance of £1.735m relates to an increase in the contribution from revenue towards capital costs. This increase is possible because of decreased costs elsewhere in the HRA. Contributing towards the capital budget from revenue reduces the requirement to borrow.	
HRA Projects	0.047	(0.000)	(0.048)	(0.047)	Minor Variance	
Contribution To / (From) Reserves	(0.018)	0.049	0.067	0.067	The HRA outturn is an underspend of £0.067m which has the impact of bringing the closing un-earmarked reserves balance to £1.165m.	
Total Housing Revenue Account	0.000	(0.000)	(0.000)	0.000		

Carry Forward Requests 2018/19

Chief Executive's

Dashboard Development (£0.020m) – Work has been commissioned for development of a CAMMS dashboard, it had been anticipated that this work would have been completed during 2018/19 however due to delays this will now be completed in 2019/20. There will also be in year costs for an annual subscription which will commence after the dashboard development has been completed.

Streetscene and Transportation

Winter Maintenance (£0.035m) - to transfer a proportion of the Winter Maintenance revenue budget underspend to the Winter Maintenance reserve. This will increase the current level of winter maintenance reserve to a value of £0.250m.

Education and Youth

All Wales Play Opportunities Grant (0.054m) – this was a late grant allocation that enables the Local Authority to carry forward its budget to fund the Summer Play Scheme.

Period Poverty/Feminine Hygiene (£0.114m) – another late grant allocation the use of which enables the Local Authority to carry forward its budget to fund the project next year.

Housing and Assets

Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) (£0.100m) - A project for CTRS take up campaign is required to be completed, probably during 2019/20, and it is requested that this is funded from a 2018/19 underspend amount which emerged late in the financial year.

Dishwashers (£0.040m) - Funding was identified and orders placed for two dishwashers, one each for Hawarden and Argoed High Schools, in 2018/19. Installation can only take place in the school holidays. The next available opportunity for the installation falls within 2019/20.

CCTV Recorders (£0.027m) – Funding identified an orders placed within 2018/19 but installation is not yet complete. The recorders are required to facilitate the CCTV relocation.