

Budget Monitoring Position – July 2017

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OVERALL NET POSITION	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Budget (£'000)	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524
Forecast (£'000)	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524	6,524
Variance (£'000)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Key Elements of Budget Variances:



STAFFING	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Budget (£'000)	5,867	5,867	5,867	5,867	5,867	5,867	5,867	5,867	5,867	5,867	5,867	5,867
Forecast (£'000)	5,867	6,072	6,096	6,088	6,088	6,088	6,088	6,088	6,088	6,088	6,088	6,088
Variance (£'000)	0	205	229	221	221	221	221	221	221	221	221	221

DELIVERY OF MTRP SAVINGS	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
MTRP Target (£'000)	180	180	180	180								
Savings Realised cumulative (£'000)	180	180	177	177								
Variance (£'000)	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FIP Reconciliation period	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL								

AREAS OF RISK	Budget	Forecast	Variance	Status	Comment
	£'000	£'000	£'000		
CCTV Income	-213	-163	50	R	Confirmed income for 17/18
Land Charges	-167	-167	0	G	Based on actual income to date
Public Protection Income Overall	-813	-997	-184	G	Income for Licenses, Hackney & Wardens

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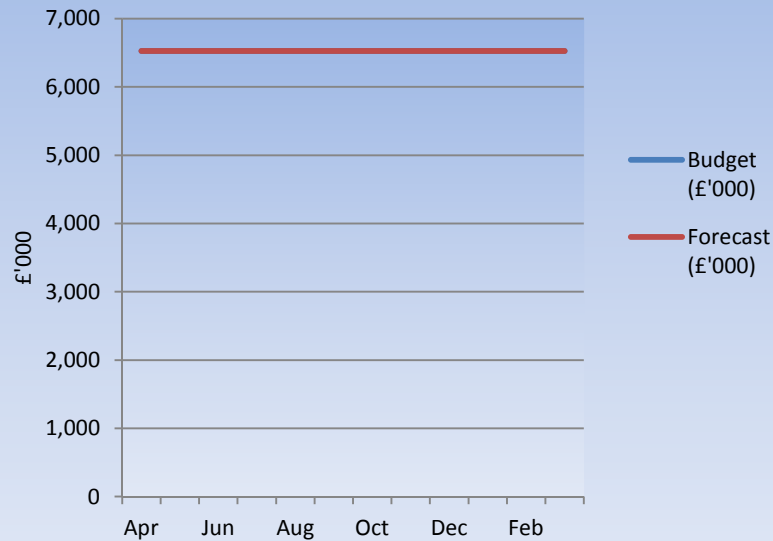
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Changes since last month	Current & Emerging Risks / Opportunities <i>(Including non delivery of MTRP savings)</i>
	<p>CCTV income has been reduced by £50K. This is based on confirmed users for 17/18. The CCTV income was also lower than budget in 16/17 by £90K although this was considered permanently mitigated against in the maintenance contract.</p>
	<p>Licensing income for Houses in Multiple Occupation continue to be a potential risk in 2017/18 due to the fluctuating nature of renewals and new licences which are influenced by the property market and a range of UK Government Policies. In addition, new legislation in Wales requiring the licensing of landlords may deter some from the market. The impact of these issues on the income for the Service Area is unknown.</p> <p>At the current time, staffing for Registrars is expected to be over budget by £49K. In 2016/17 spend on employees was over budget by £61K as predicted during the year. This overspend is expected to continue in 2017/18 as the service needs to cover all posts to allow the public to discharge their legal duty to register therefore overtime costs and the use of casual staff is relatively high. This is being closely monitored by the Registration Services Manager and the structure is currently being reviewed due to the increase in registration activity. This growth has been sustained over recent years and staffing arrangements need to be evaluated to cope with demand.</p>

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2017/18 Forecast History



BMS Submission Data

%

% of cost centres submitted by
budget holder deadline

63

Head of Service Commentary

Management actions to address position:

Key Budget Variances

- There are a number of options being investigated to permanently mitigate against the underachievement of CCTV.
- Staffing for the Registrars is being closely monitored due to the current overspend. The structure is currently being reviewed.

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Head of Service Commentary

Head of Service comments/ summary:

The forecast as at the end of July shows that the overall L&R budget remains on track.

The staffing budget is still showing a predicted overspend of £221k, largely due to on-going costs associated with delayed savings and redundancies related to particular posts, which will be resolved once the posts are eventually deleted. There is a recurring overspend in relation to the staffing costs in the Registration Service, due to the extended use of casual staff to cover for sickness absences and meet statutory deadlines, but the use of temporary cover will be regularised in the longer term as part of a review of the staffing arrangements. However, this overspend on the staffing costs is being managed and off-set by underspends in other areas and additional licensing fee income. There are marginal variations within various budgets since last month, but additional costs are again being off-set and balanced by corresponding savings in other areas.

The other on-going budget pressure is the £50k under-recovery of CCTV income due to the failure to secure contracts with Monmouthshire and Torfaen. However, this is being mitigated through a combination of maintenance and line-rental contract savings, alternative proposals for CCTV monitoring work for other councils and the re-structure of the service. The CCTV and Community Safety Warden services has now been relocated at the Civic Centre, with a combined management structure, which has delivered savings to mitigate the loss of the fee income.

Strategic Director Commentary

Strategic Director comments: