

Report to: Budget Panel
Date of meeting: 8th February 2012
Report of: Head of Strategic Finance
Title: Finance Digest 2011/ 2012: Period 9 (end of December)

1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 This report informs the Budget Panel of the reported budgetary variances as at end of December 2011.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 To consider the Finance Digest as at the end of period 9.

Contact Officer:

For further information on this report please contact Bernard Clarke, Head of Strategic Finance, telephone extension 8189, email bernard.clarke@watford.gov.uk

3.0 INTRODUCTION

3.1 The Finance Digest monitors the Council's expenditure and income throughout the financial year. The position as at Period 9 includes detailed monitoring of all the Council's major income and expenditure cost centres.

4.0 SUMMARY OF REVENUE FORECAST

4.1 The attached Digest includes the latest snapshot of the Council's income and expenditure and indicates that circa £575k will need to be drawn down from the Economic Impact Reserve to mainly cover a shortfall in commercial rent income; additional costs of homelessness; and decisions taken not to implement in full the proposed service prioritisation savings scheduled for 2011/2012. This is an improvement upon the Period 8 Forecast where £706k was anticipated to be drawn down.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 These have been included within the report.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no legal implications arising out of this report.

7.0 POTENTIAL RISKS

| Potential Risk | Likelihood | Impact | Overall Score |
|---|------------|--------|---------------|
| That the Council's Budget is overspent at year end and the use of unplanned reserves is the consequence | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| | | | |

8.0 EQUALITIES

8.1 There are no equality implications arising out of the period 9 Finance Digest.

Appendices

Finance Digest Period 9 (end of December)