

Corporate, Housing and Wellbeing Services Directorate

1. Revenue Summary

	Latest Budget £	Forecast £	Actuals £	Variance - Forecast to Latest Budget £
Customer & Corporate Services	£1,744,753	£1,829,878	£818,920	£85,125
Housing & Wellbeing	£3,541,283	£2,357,585	(592,986)	(1,183,698)
Ict & Shared Services	£1,011,998	£1,090,311	£832,315	£78,313
Total	£6,298,034	£5,277,774	£1,058,249	(1,020,260)

At the end of Quarter 2 an underspend of £1.020m is forecast for the Corporate, Housing and Wellbeing Services Directorate.

2. Revenue Variances

Reported variances are itemised in the table below:

Description	Details of Variances	£
Customer Services Centre	Call handling costs for garden waste and recycling. Income allocation from Recycling Kerbside	(23,350)
ICT Services	Efficiency saving target for 2022/23 will not be met	61,568
Project Resource	Approved funding allocation for sustainable strategy - from budgets in Strategic Finance	37,698
Housing	Anticipated demand on housing following Covid19 has not reached levels as first projected.	(894,300)
Environmental Health Team	Income from costs awarded following successful prosecution of a fatal accident at work.	(475,000)
Commercial Contract Costs	Contract costs income budgets updated with current agreed charges	45,000
Climate Change	Approved funding from Strategic Finance and Sustainability reserve to fund projects and additional resources	119,400
	Revised employee costs as part of the corporate restructure - No additional pressure on budgets due to alignment across other services	61,869
	Other Variances	46,855
	TOTAL	(1,020,260)

The underspend against the housing budget is reported following a full review of expected demand, available grant funding, and contractual commitments. This has identified that additional grant income, received in previous years and carried forward, can be utilised in year which has enabled the service to give up the £0.550m budget carried forward from 2021/22 and base budget. The housing budget is demand led and a risk remains that demand will increase during the year as a result of external factors such as the cost of living crisis. The forecast will be closely monitored as the year progresses.

3. Significant Income Streams

Particular income generating items can fluctuate depending on the economic climate, popularity and affordability. Licencing income has been identified as a significant income stream for this directorate. It is currently forecast to be on target to achieve budgeted income levels for 2022/23.

Service Area	Income Stream	Latest Budget 2022/23 £000	Forecast 2022/23 £000	Forecast Variance £000	Comments
Corporate, Housing & Wellbeing	Licensing	(246)	(251)	(6)	Minor Change in Fees & Charges Income

4. Capital Investment Programme

Budget Responsibility	Services	Latest Budget 2022/23 (Excluding rephasings for approval) £'000	Forecast Outturn £'000	Actual to date £'000	Latest Budget 2023/24 (Excluding rephasings for approval) £'000	Latest Budget 2024/25 (Excluding rephasings for approval) £'000
Associate Director of ICT & Shared Services	ICT Shared Services	304	304	210	45	45
	ICT Client Services	1,110	1,110	0	815	485
Associate Director of Customer & Corporate Services	Town Hall Quarter	17,029	12,720	5,498	12,090	0
Associate Director of Housing & Wellbeing	Environmental Health	1,298	1,040	664	300	300
	Housing	245	87	0	50	50
TOTAL CURRENT CAPITAL PROGRAMME		19,985	15,260	6,372	13,300	880

The budget for the Town Hall Quarter Programme will be reprofiled to reflect the latest project delivery plan.

The scheme detail is provided at Annex A

5. Vacancy Monitoring

A major risk of non-delivery of service is where key staff leave the Council's employ and there is a delay or difficulty in recruiting suitable candidates to fill the vacant post. There are no service impacts to report as a result of current vacancies.

The following table sets out the vacancies on 30 September 2022:

Post	Date Vacant	FTE	Comments
Business Compliance Officer 01	01/11/2021	1	held pending service review in December 2022
Covid Engagement Officer 01	27/06/2022	0.68	
Covid Engagement Officer 03	28/06/2022	1	
Covid Response Officer 01	20/09/2021	1	
Covid Response Officer 05	20/04/2022	1	
Environmental Health Officer 05	22/11/2021	1	
Environmental Health Officer 11	11/09/2021	1	recruitment underway with amended role profile due to failure to recruit previously
Health Inequalities Research Assistant	13/06/2022	0.61	
Housing Caseworker 02	14/08/2021	1	Permanent recruitment underway post review of role
Housing Caseworker 03	22/06/2021	1	
Housing Caseworker 05	21/05/2021	1	
Housing Solutions Officer 01	13/08/2022	1	
Housing Solutions Officer 03	21/06/2022	1	
LLPG and GIS Officer	21/01/2022	1	
Rough Sleepers Co-ordinator	06/09/2022	1	
Senior Covid Response Officer 02	01/10/2022	1	
Senior Project Manager 06	08/02/2022	0.59	
ICT Project Manager	01/01/2022	1	
Total		16.88	

Corporate, Housing and Wellbeing Services Directorate Capital Scheme Detail

Capital Scheme	Latest Budget 2022/23 (Excluding rephasings for approval) £	Forecast Outturn £	Forecast Variance £	Actual 2022/23 £	Scheme Update
ICT Shared Services					
ShS-Migration To The Cloud	156,000	156,000	0	0	
ShS-Hardware Replacement Programme	147,729	147,729	0	177,805	
ICT Client Services					
ICT-Hardware Replacement Programme	603,287	603,287	0	0	
ICT-Business Application Upgrade	386,270	386,270	0	0	
ICT-Project Management Provision	120,000	120,000	0	0	
Town Hall Quarter (Concept)					
Town Hall & Colosseum Projects	4,308,800	0	(4,308,800)	7,665	Service request for rephasing £2.472m into 2023/24 and £1.837m into 2024/25.
Town Hall Quarter Cultural Programme	0	0	0	100	
Town Hall Quarter (Delivery)					
Town Hall Refurbishment	850,000	850,200	200	143,813	Forecast mitigated within existing cost centres.
Colosseum Refurbishment	4,700,000	4,700,000	0	180,925	
Annexe Refurbishment	1,750,000	1,750,000	0	1,571,060	
Thq Programme Delivery	400,000	399,800	(200)	188,153	Forecast mitigated within existing cost centres.
Reimagining Watford	20,000	20,000	0	1,273	
Decarbonisation Project Salix	5,000,000	5,000,000	0	3,380,322	
Environmental Health					
Decent Homes Assistance	813,223	813,223	0	577,257	
Private Sector Housing Renewal	227,240	227,240	0	86,367	
Street Improvement Programme	257,694	0	(257,694)	0	No location identified for 2022/23 and budget not required. Further discussions with portfolio holders planned.
Housing					
Private Sector Stock Condition	16,534	16,534	0	0	
Retained Housing Stock	153,687	50,000	(103,687)	0	Identified capital budget saving.
York House Boiler Replacement	75,000	0	(75,000)	0	Identified capital budget saving.
Housing First - Phase 2	0	20,000	20,000	0	Funding approved from Section 106 receipts.
Total	19,985,464	15,260,283	(4,725,181)	6,371,872	