

Summary Directorate Variances

Community Wellbeing

The Community Wellbeing Directorate is currently forecast to be underspent by £1.056 million.

Community Wellbeing	2023/24 Revised Budget £ million	2023/24 Year-end Forecast £ million	2023/24 Variance £ million
Communications & Customer Services	1.510	1.055	(0.455)
Community Services	3.981	3.612	(0.369)
Environmental Services	10.562	11.391	0.829
Housing Services	1.947	2.793	0.846
Total Community Wellbeing	18.000	18.851	0.851

The key variances are detailed below.

Service Area	Forecast Variance £ million	Explanation
Communications & Customer Services	(0.455)	Savings due to vacant posts and uncommitted consultancy budgets.
Community Services	(0.369)	Underspend is due to additional income from the help on hands service from previous periods and saving on salaries
Environmental Services	0.829	The overspend is due to a number of issues over the services in addition to the requirement to align asset spend with budget during period 7. The cremator experienced unexpected damage which required unbudgeted additional costs and additional staffing costs in refuse and recycling, fleet management, garden waste. The service also experienced additional operating costs in fleet management.
Housing Services	0.846	The housing service has significant increased costs due to the rising costs of materials,

		labour and staffing costs in Building Management. Homelessness Support is forecasting increased costs due to adverse weather and Woking Road Depot stores are forecasting an overspend due to use of casuals and reduced income. This is offset by an underspend on staff in housing surveying in addition to increased recharges to capital and projects.
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Place Directorate

The Place Directorate is currently forecast to be underspent by £0.761 million

Place	2023/24 Revised Budget £ million	2023/24 Year-end Forecast £ million	2023/24 Variance £ million
Assets and Property	(6.962)	(7.561)	(0.599)
Planning & Development	1.349	1.484	0.135
Regeneration & Planning Policy	1.921	1.690	(0.231)
Regulatory Services	1.597	1.431	(0.166)
Total Place	(2.094)	(2.955)	(0.861)

The key variances are detailed below.

Service Area	Forecast Variance £ million	Explanation
Assets and Property	(0.599)	A favourable forecast due to budgets for assets being held within this service but costs being held elsewhere within the directorates. Work is ongoing to align these.
Planning & Development	0.135	There are considerable additional costs forecast within the service due to appeals and the need for experts and consultants. There will be a transfer

		from reserve once all costs are known of approx. £0.9 million.
Regeneration & Planning Policy	(0.231)	A favourable forecast due to underspends on major projects and planned savings to support current financial situation
Regulatory services	(0.166)	Unbudgeted additional income due to the HMO 4 year renewal in addition to increased grant income from air quality grant. Savings on salaries due to recruitment freeze offset additional costs due to risk management funding and health and safety training.

Transformation & Governance Directorate

The Transformation & Governance Directorate is currently forecasting to be overspent by £0.341 million.

Transformation & Governance	2023/24 Revised Budget £ million	2023/24 Year-end Forecast £ million	2023/24 Variance £ million
Commercial Services	1.432	0.687	(0.745)
Finance	6.551	6.566	0.015
Legal & Democratic Services	0.776	1.101	0.326
North Downs Housing	(0.021)	0.040	(0.020)
Organisational Development	0.294	0.184	(0.110)
Total Transformation & Governance	9.032	8.497	(0.535)

The key variances are detailed below.

Service Area	Forecast Variance £ million	Explanation
Commercial Services	(0.745)	Overachievement of income in car parks due to increased demand has been offset by reduced fee income within Building Control due to reduced demand. There will be a realignment of budgets during period 7 for maintenance off assets to align budgets and current spent which will have a positive effect within the service.
Legal & Democratic	0.326	Overspend due to 4 yearly elections which will be funded from a transfer from reserves and additional costs of member training which will be funded from a transfer of budget from HR during period 7.
Organisational Development	(0.110)	Underspends due to vacant posts within community safety and budget held in HR for training and medical fees which are forecast within services. Virement will be undertaken during month 7 to correct. There in an overspend within HR for unbudgeted Business World (Finance system) costs and the use of consultants.