

Summary Directorate Variances

Community Wellbeing

The Community Wellbeing Directorate is currently forecast to be overspent by £1.610 million.

Community Wellbeing	2023/24 Revised Budget £ million	2023/24 Year-end Forecast £ million	2023/24 Variance £ million
Communications & Customer Services	1.466	1.293	(0.174)
Community Services	3.999	3.752	(0.246)
Environmental Services	10.565	11.626	1.061
Housing Services	1.900	2.913	1.013
North Downs Housing	0.003	(0.041)	(0.045)
Total Community Wellbeing	17.933	19.542	1.610

The key variances are detailed below.

Service Area	Forecast Variance £ million	Explanation
Communications & Customer Services	(0.174)	Saving is due to an underspend on staffing because of vacant posts.
Community Services	(0.246)	There is an overachievement of income from the help on hand service, from previous periods in addition to a saving on salaries and unbudgeted grant income received.
Environmental Services	1.061	Fleet Management are forecasting to overspend by £0.604 million due to vehicle hire, overtime and material costs. The crematorium has increased costs on asset maintenance due to breakdowns. Both Domestic refuse and recycling and garden waste are forecasting overspends mostly due

		to increased staffing costs. Street Cleaning and Amenity Horticulture are forecasting a favourable variance due to vacant posts from failed recruitment.
Housing Services	1.013	Building Maintenance is forecasting an overspend of £1.225 million due to the rising costs of materials, labour and staffing costs. 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. Within homelessness we are monitoring potential homelessness due to the closing of some venues.

Place Directorate

The Place Directorate is currently forecast to be underspent by £0.088 million

Place	2023/24 Revised Budget £ million	2023/24 Year-end Forecast £ million	2023/24 Variance £ million
Assets and Property	(7.163)	(7.685)	(0.522)
Planning & Development	1.351	2.138	0.787
Regeneration & Planning Policy	1.893	1.622	(0.272)
Regulatory Services	1.618	1.537	(0.081)
Total Place	(2.301)	(2.388)	(0.088)

The key variances are detailed below.

Service Area	Forecast Variance £ million	Explanation
Assets and Property	(0.522)	The asset maintenance forecast is adjusted to show an underspend of

		£784,200 in the service as expenditure is incurred and forecast across other services (total anticipated overspend £396,000). There are salary savings due to vacancies. Valuers' fees were overstated in the previous monitoring report and have now been adjusted to reflect predicted. Woking Road Facilities Management is overspent on equipment, staffing and building maintenance.
Planning & Development	0.787	There is a significant forecasted overspend on consultants and additional agency staff for appeals and planning applications which has been partially offset by vacancies and a transfer from reserves. Planning fees will be under budget by £492,000 in part due to the suspension of pre-application charges but largely due to a significant decrease in planning application fee income. The income from land charges will under achieve due to a downturn in the housing market.
Regeneration & Planning Policy	(0.272)	A favourable forecast due to underspends on major projects, recharges to capital and planned savings and vacancies held to support current financial situation
Regulatory services	(0.081)	Increase income from grant from Air Quality Active Travel Grant.

Transformation & Governance Directorate

The Transformation & Governance Directorate is currently forecasting to be underspent by £1.285 million.

Transformation & Governance	2023/24 Revised Budget £ million	2023/24 Year-end Forecast £ million	2023/24 Variance £ million
Commercial Services	1.667	1.228	(0.440)
Finance	1.540	0.823	(0.718)
Corporate Management	1.964	1.616	(0.347)
Unallocated Costs	3.106	3.354	0.247
Legal & Democratic Services	0.815	0.772	(0.043)
Organisational Development	0.233	0.239	0.015
Total Transformation & Governance	9.316	8.032	(1.285)

The key variances are detailed below.

Service Area	Forecast Variance £ million	Explanation
Commercial Services	(0.440)	Overachievement of car park income due to increased usage and increased PCN income. Building control is forecasting an overspend due to unachieved income targets and additional agency costs. Leisure Management is forecasting an overspend due to reduced income from utilities cost recovery.
Corporate Management	(0.347)	Forecast underspend due to savings on staffing from to vacant posts and consultancy which has been offset by additional costs of external Audit.
Finance	(0.718)	The forecast underspend is due to Housing benefits where grant due to be received is above the budgeted amount in addition to savings on staffing costs.

Unallocated Costs	0.247	Overspend is due to transfer to reserves for items identified within the budget report for 2024/25 offset by the unused inflationary increase.
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