

Revenue Outturn 2017/18 - Service Specific Issues

Corporate Services

The Outturn is £43,507 (£3,531,500 - £3,575,007) more than the 2017/18 Revised Estimate. The principal reasons for this are as follows:-

- a) Salaries, Recruitment Costs and Partnership Receipts (CS 2 / CS 7) – Net management savings on the salary bill £172,900.
- b) Council Offices (CS 3) – Building repairs expenditure is £45,243 less than estimated largely due to lower than anticipated expenditure on cyclical and routine servicing, together with deferral of expenditure to 2018/19.
- c) Council Offices (CS 3) – Reversal of prior year impairment of £18,667 following revaluation.
- d) Management and administration recharges are £23,662 less than estimated in part due to management savings on the salary bill.
- e) Depreciation charged to Service Budgets is £50,392 less than estimated largely due to lower than anticipated expenditure on IT infrastructure and renewal of IT equipment.
- f) Recharges to Service Budgets are £511,551 less than estimated.
- g) The balance of £157,180 is spread throughout the remaining Corporate Services budgets.

Chief Executive

The Outturn is £62,615 (£701,950 - £639,335) less than the 2017/18 Revised Estimate. The principal reasons for this are as follows:-

- a) Electoral Registration (CE 3) – Postage costs are £10,401 less than budgeted.
- b) Conduct of Elections (CE 4) – Residual balances in respect of contributions from other bodies net of costs amounting to £10,981 transferred to an earmarked reserve.
- c) Management and administration recharges are £30,539 less than estimated in part due to management savings on the salary bill.
- d) The balance of £10,694 is spread throughout the remaining Chief Executive budgets.

Director of Central Services

The Outturn is £63,876 (£105,050 - £41,174) less than the 2017/18 Revised Estimate. The principal reasons for this are as follows:-

- a) Community Safety (CEN 3) – Contribution to Community Safety Staffing is £17,875 less than estimated following withdrawal of third party funding.
- b) Local Land Charges (CEN 4) – Final instalment of New Burdens Grant of £19,963 following settlement of litigation claim.
- c) Local Land Charges (CEN 4) – Fee income (net) from search fees of £13,212 less than estimated reflecting current demand.
- d) Land Review (CEN 8) – Further work and associated additional expenditure of £13,416 in respect of the review and sale of Council owned assets in Tonbridge. Costs met from an earmarked reserve.
- e) Licences: Fee Paying (CEN 10) – Income from licence fees is £25,891 more than estimated largely due to an increase in the number of taxi and private hire vehicle licences.
- f) Management and administration recharges are £48,143 less than estimated in part due to management savings on the salary bill.
- g) The balance of £14,382 is spread throughout the remaining Director of Central Services budgets.

Director of Finance and Transformation

The outturn is £249,173 (£1,557,200 - £1,308,027) less than the 2017/18 Revised Estimate. The principal reasons for this are as follows:-

- a) Housing Benefits (FT 3) – Reflects actual level of benefit payments, recouplements and contribution to the bad debts provision with an overall decrease of £130,927 when compared with the revised estimate. The decrease in part is due to increased use of temporary accommodation provided by registered social landlords, which attract full subsidy from the DWP.
- b) Local Revenue & NNDR Collection (FT 4) – Summons costs recovered in the year are £12,866 more than estimated.
- c) Treasury Management & Banking Arrangements (FT 6) – Interest on investments and cash flow is £15,722 more than estimated as a result of higher than expected balances available for investment.
- d) Management and administration recharges are £78,505 less than estimated in part due to management savings on the salary bill.

- e) The balance of £11,153 is spread throughout the remaining Director of Finance and Transformation budgets.

Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health

The outturn is £127,482 (£3,181,650 - £3,054,168) less than the 2017/18 Revised Estimate. The principal reasons for this are as follows:-

- a) Development Management (PHEH 2) – Planning application fee income is £34,838 less than estimated reflecting the current volatility of the development environment.
- b) Building Control (PHEH 4) – Building Control Partnership costs are £39,053 more than estimated largely due to the use of agency staff to cover vacancies partly offset by lower staffing costs.
- c) Building Control (PHEH 4) – Building regulations fee income is £16,374 more than estimated due to higher than anticipated demand for building control services.
- d) Preparation of Local Development Framework (PHEH 5) – Expenditure on LDF is £41,464 more than estimated as work on the new Local Plan is progressed. Costs met from an earmarked reserve.
- e) Planning Policy (PHEH 6) – Government grant is £30,485 more than estimated following grants awarded under the New Burdens Doctrine and transferred to an earmarked reserve for future use.
- f) Private Sector Housing Renewal (PHEH 13) – Actual spend net of associated government grant in respect of Disabled Facilities and Housing Assistance Grants, together with repayments of grants by householders, is £24,437 lower than anticipated.
- g) Management and administration recharges are £161,103 less than estimated in part due to management savings on the salary bill.
- h) The balance of £10,438 is spread throughout the remaining Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health budgets.

Director of Street Scene, Leisure and Technical Services

The outturn is £118,571 (£7,469,400 - £7,350,829) less than the 2017/18 Revised Estimate. The principal reasons for this are as follows:-

- a) Refuse Collection (SSLTS 2) – Vale Rise Depot Recharge is £14,713 less than estimated as works to depot access was organised by Veolia.

- b) Refuse Collection and Recycling (SSLTS 2 / 3) – Refuse, Recycling and Green Waste Collection contract payments are £15,369 more than estimated due to higher than anticipated demand for ad hoc work.
- c) Haysden Country Park (SSLTS 16) – Maintenance of grounds is £12,421 more than estimated largely due to works to increase car parking space and path works.
- d) Countryside / Woodland Management (SSLTS 21) – trees health and safety expenditure is £19,676 more than estimated due to urgent health and safety works identified in tree survey.
- e) Cemetery (SSLTS 27) – Income is £11,912 less than estimated due to lower than anticipated demand for services.
- f) Youth & Play Development / Sports Development / Events Development / Leisure Marketing/Promotion (SSLTS 28 to SSLTS 31) – Supplies and services expenditure net of income is £25,478 less than estimated.
- g) Parking (SSLTS 32) – Payments to principals are £27,702 less than estimated believed to reflect growth in home delivery of groceries.
- h) Parking (SSLTS 33 / 35) – Income from short/long stay parking, season tickets, residents parking permits and penalty charge notices is £23,864 less than estimated.
- i) Management and administration recharges are £73,359 less than estimated in part due to management savings on the salary bill.
- j) Building repairs expenditure is £14,942 more than estimated in part due to higher than anticipated cost of works to Angel Centre changing room.
- k) Depreciation and impairment charged to Service Budgets is £30,077 less than estimated in part due to the replacement of fitness equipment at Larkfield Leisure Centre moving to 2018/19.
- l) Revenue Expenditure funded from Capital under Statute is £46,939 less than estimated largely due to underspend on Community Group Funding, Car Park Action Plan and Drainage Improvement Programme Capital Plan provisions.
- m) The balance of £23,965 is spread throughout the remaining Director of Street Scene, Leisure and Technical Services budgets.