

**Communities and Environment Policy &  
Scrutiny Committee**

15 March 2017

**Report of the Corporate Directors of Economy & Place, Health,  
Housing & Adult Social Care, Customer & Corporate Services and  
Children, Education & Communities**

**2016/17 Finance and Performance Monitor 3 Report**

**Summary**

1. This report provides details of the 2016/17 forecast outturn position for both finance and performance across services within this scrutiny committee's remit.

**Analysis**

Finance – General Fund

2. A summary of the Service Plan variations which relate to services within this scrutiny are shown below:

	Budget £'000	Projected Outturn £'000	Variance £'000
<b>Economy &amp; Place</b>			
Waste	8,861	9,039	+178
Public Realm	2,681	2,766	+85
Public Protection	1,004	999	-5
Licensing	-341	-335	6
<b>Housing, Health &amp; Adult Social Care</b>			
Housing General Fund	1,914	2,044	+130
Community Safety	644	673	+29
<b>Customers &amp; Corporate Services</b>			
Bereavement Services	-1,388	-1,455	-67
Registrars	-258	-258	0
<b>Children, Education &amp; Communities</b>			
Community Centres	71	71	0
Communities and Equalities	1,285	1,285	0

Note: '+' indicates an increase in expenditure or shortfall in income  
'-' indicates a reduction in expenditure or increase in income

3. Details of the main variations by service plan are detailed in the following paragraphs.

#### Economy and Place - Waste (+£178k)

4. The overall Waste Services budget is forecasting an overspend of £178k however there are a large number of variances across the service. In waste collection the main variations, totalling £450k, are additional staffing and transport costs. New rounds have been agreed to be implemented from April 2017 which will significantly reduce this overspend in future years. There are also shortfalls in income at HWRCs from trade waste/customer charges (£164k) and from green waste subscriptions (£56k) and additional cost from co-mingled recyclates of £165k. The position has been mitigated this year due to significantly higher than budgeted income from our recycling rebate (£374k), additional income for landfill gas (£70k) and a saving from Waste procurement costs and Yorwaste Loans Interest (£145k).

#### Economy and Place - Public Realm (+£85k)

5. There have been delays in finalising redundancies across public realm which has led to a forecast overspend of £85k.

#### Health, Housing and Adult Social Care – Housing & Community Safety (+£159k)

6. Overall there is a projected overspend of £159k. The majority of this is an overspend in relation to legal fees within Housing. This relates to a long-standing legal dispute between the council and a housing developer regarding the obligation to pay a commuted sum in lieu of on site affordable housing. There is also a projected overspend on repairs and maintenance at travellers sites.

#### Customer and Corporate Services – Bereavement (-£67k)

7. There is a forecast increase in income from the crematorium.

## Health, Housing and Adult Social Care - Housing Revenue Account

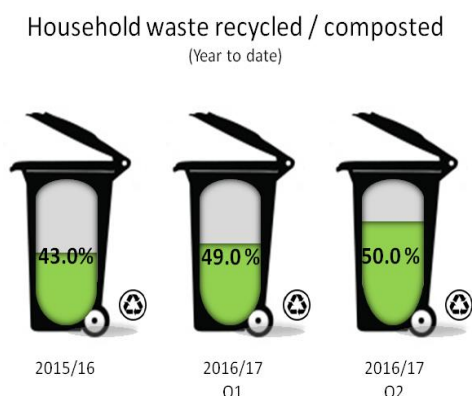
8. The Housing Revenue Account is budgeted to make an in year surplus of £3m. A review of the budgets in the area shows that, overall, a slight reduction of £127k in the overall surplus is forecast. Repairs and maintenance is forecast to overspend by £660k. There has been an initial increase in the productivity of the workforce following the introduction of mobile working and improvements in management controls. The service anticipates being able to use this increased capacity to pick up some of the work currently allocated to subcontractors. This reduction in subcontractor expenditure has yet to come through, the service remains confident that reductions will be made but that the full year saving will not be achieved in this financial year. Therefore the forecast expenditure has been increased by £660k to take this into account.
9. Underspends totalling £96k are anticipated on utilities and repairs in temporary accommodation budgets. Delays in the capital IT and Water Mains programmes will mean that the expected contribution to the capital programme from the revenue budget will be reduced by £436k. In addition, leaseholder charges are forecast to be £63k higher than budget. Dwelling rents are expected to underspend by £215k. The original budget did not reflect the 0.9% rent increase for supported housing as this exemption from the 1% decrease had not been announced at the time of budget setting. In addition, delays to the implementation of the high value sales policy are likely to lead to a small increase in rents recovered.
10. The working balance position at 31 March 2016 was £18.4m. This was higher than forecast in the latest business plan (£16.6m) due to the underspend achieved in 2015/16.
11. The projected outturn position outlined in paragraph 8 means the working balance will increase to £21.5m at 31 March 2017. This compares to the balance forecast within the latest business plan of £20.2m.
12. Detailed information and regulations are still awaited regarding forthcoming changes to HRA legislation including the sale of high value properties. While the full extent of the impact of these changes is not yet known, the HRA will be required to make significant efficiencies in order to mitigate the reduction in income

without reducing the HRA balance below prudent and sustainable levels.

## Performance

13. The 2016/17 scorecard for Communities and Environment is attached at Annex 1. Other key performance information is included in the following paragraphs.

14. The amount of landfill waste, in Q2, increased slightly to 23,890 tonnes (from 23,864 in Q2 2015/16) and the residual waste per household remained constant at 279kg per household (279kg in Q2 2015/16). The recycling rate within the city, in Q2, of 50% is the same as in Q2 2015/16 and higher than at year end but this is, seasonally higher in the first half of the year. 52% of the respondents to the latest Talkabout survey think that the Council and partners are doing well helping to reduce amount of household waste.



15. A report proposing to improve the efficiency of York's household waste collection service was approved on 9<sup>th</sup> January by the Executive Member for Environment. The proposals include a saving of around £400k, reducing the amount of waste going to landfill and enabling the roll out of recycling collections to rural areas of the city that don't currently have them. There will be a change to the day of collection for around a third of all properties in the city. Rubbish (grey bin/black bags) and garden waste (green bin) collections are not affected.
16. For the fourth year running, the British Heart Foundation (BHF) shops teamed up with University of York, York St John's University and the Council to encourage students to responsibly dispose of unwanted items by recycling them or by donating them to the charity. Between October 2015 to September 2016, 7,380 bags were donated which may have raised over £100,000 towards the fight against heart disease.
17. Up to the end of Q3, there have been 1,743 alcohol related ASB incidents which is a significant reduction on the 1,838 reported during the same period in 2015/16. There have been 7,009 NYP

recorded ASB Calls for Service up to December which is in line with the number recorded during the same period in 2015/16. Multi-agency work to tackle alcohol-related violence and disorder in the city centre continues through Operation Erase and AVANTE Task Groups. A new multi-agency group, focussing on Street ASB (begging, street drinking, rough sleeping, nuisance traders and buskers) has recently been established. This has led to the launch of a new campaign #NoNeedToBegYork , encouraging members of the public to give to local charities rather than to those on the street through a 'text to give' facility. The Neighbourhood Enforcement team continue to work in partnership with North Yorkshire Police and the BID Rangers to ensure there is a frontline response to the above issues on a day to day basis in addition to other forms of enviro-crime such as litter, graffiti and fly-posting.

### **Implications**

18. There are no financial, human resources, equalities, legal, crime & disorder, information technology, property or other implications associated with this report.

### **Risk Management**

19. The report provides members with updates on finance and service performance and therefore there are no significant risks in the content of the report.

### **Recommendations**

20. As this report is for information only, there are no recommendations.

Reason: To update the scrutiny committee of the latest finance and performance position.

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**Report**  
**Approved** ✓

**Date:** 6 March 2017

**Annexes**

Annex A – Performance Scorecard