

Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee

10th September 2013

Report of the Director for Communities and Neighbourhoods, and the Director of City and Environmental Services

Quarter 1 Finance and Performance Update for Environmental Services and Public Protection

Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on financial performance for Environmental Services and Public Protection.

Financial Performance Analysis

Finance - Forecast outturn – Monitor 1

2. The services that relate to Community and Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee cross two Directorates (City and Environmental Services and Communities and Neighbourhoods). Service Plan variations which relate to services within this scrutiny are shown below:

	Net Budget £'000	Outturn £'000	Variance £'000
CES Directorate (Extract)			
Highways, Waste and Fleet	10,484	11,432	+948
CANS Directorate (Extract)			
Smarter York	3,094	3,260	+166
Communities & Equalities	1,225	1,225	0
Parking Services	1,453	1,584	+131
Public Protection	-187	-296	-109
Safer York Partnership	169	169	0
CANS Directorate (Extract)	5,754	5,942	+188

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.

Highways, Waste and Fleet (£+948k)

4. A number of pressures exist across the Highways, Waste & Fleet service plan (£948k). The major reason for the shortfall is due to delays in implementing the savings surrounding Waste Services (£405k). Significant savings relating to round rationalisation, changes to operations at Household Waste sites, changes to garden waste and new charges for replacement bins were agreed in the last budget. These have now either been implemented or in the process of implementation however later in the year than initially required. There also remains a shortfall in Commercial Waste income of £104k despite £100k growth in the 2013-14 budget. This is due to a reducing customer base as the Council is often priced higher than its competition. Savings from previous years (£227k), including those related to agency staff and terms and conditions, continue to cause a budget problem however the position has improved and work is ongoing to mitigate this further.
5. Work is ongoing to deliver these savings, however it is acknowledged that they will not be fully delivered in this financial year and in the meantime compensatory savings are being sought across the directorate. The reported overspend at Monitor 1 across the CES directorate is £523k.

Communities and Neighbourhoods (£+188k)

6. There is currently a forecast overspend of £166k on Smarter York, mainly due to one off redundancy costs and one off overspends on staff costs due to the delay in implementation of the new structure.
7. There is a forecast overspend of £131k within Parking Services due to an £83k shortfall of income from Penalty Charge Notices and £40k one off redundancy costs.
8. The services within public protection are forecast to underspend by £109k. This is primarily due to additional income across the services notably Registrars (£26k) and Bereavement Services (£52k). There is also a projected underspend of £29k within Environmental Health and Trading Standards due to holding staffing vacancies.

Consultation

9. This paper is an information report for Members and therefore no consultation has been undertaken regarding its contents.

Corporate Priorities

10. Reporting on Financial Performance supports the Corporate Theme of 'Core Capabilities.

Implications

- **Financial** - Considered as part of this report
- **Human Resources (HR)** - N/A
- **Equalities** - N/A
- **Legal** - N/A
- **Crime and Disorder** - N/A
- **Information Technology (IT)** - N/A
- **Property** - N/A
- **Risk Management** - N/A

Conclusion

11. This report provides an update on quarter 1 financial performance.

Recommendations

12. The Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the financial position of the portfolio.

Reason: In accordance with budgetary and performance monitoring procedures.

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