

Financial Position Quarter One 2018/19

1. General Fund Revenue Budget

- 1.1 The Council approved a General Fund Revenue Budget of £13,335,420 on 21 February 2018. The actual position compared to this budget is continuously monitored by managers, EMT and Portfolio Holders in order to detect any significant variances of expenditure or income from the approved amounts contained in the budget.

2. Capital Programme

- 2.1 A Capital Programme totalling £2,549,000 was approved for 2018/19. Of this total £1,502,000 relates to the total cost of new schemes for 2018/19 together with £1,000,000 for schemes funded by external sources (Disabled Facilities Grants) and £47,000 brought forward from the original 2017/18 Capital Programme. In addition £332,630 slippage was incurred in 2017/18, resulting in a total Capital Programme of £2,881,630 for 2018/19.

3. Revenue Budget Position

- 3.1 At this point in the financial year, we would have expected to have spent approximately £4,299,147; we have actually spent £4,295,492. Therefore, as at the end of the first quarter, the general fund budget shows a favourable variance of **£3,655**.

- 3.2 The main reasons for the overall favourable variance to date are:

- a. Employee costs in respect of a number of vacant posts and flexible retirements that have taken place across the Council.
- b. Income from planning application fees is in excess of that expected for the first quarter due to a number of major planning applications.

There are also a number of adverse variances, the main ones being:

- a. Waste Services is operating at a net overspend. This is due predominantly to a shortfall in recycled material income. A review of the service is underway to minimise the shortfall in this area.
- b. Income from car parking is below the amount budgeted for, a review of car parking income is currently being undertaken and the sale of Permits is being promoted with key partners and large businesses in an attempt to improve income levels.

4. Capital Programme Position

- 4.1 The Capital Programme approved by Council in February 2018 has been updated to take account of slippage in 2017/18. Where planned expenditure did not occur last year, this has been added to the budget for 2018/19 (apart from any cases where costs have been reduced or expenditure will no longer be incurred). The revised budget for capital projects in 2018/19 totals £2,881,630.

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4.2 £462,002 of the revised budget was expected to be spent by 30 June; the actual amount spent was £469,057 resulting in an adverse variance at the end of the first quarter of £7,055.

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