

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

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| 1. | Meeting: | Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods |
| 2. | Date: | 19th September 2011 |
| 3. | Title: | Neighbourhoods General Fund Revenue Budget Monitoring to 31st July 2011 |
| 4. | Directorate: | Neighbourhoods and Adult Social Services |

5. Summary

This report details the projected year end outturn position as at 31st July 2011 for the Neighbourhoods department within the Neighbourhoods & Adult Services Directorate compared to the approved Net Revenue Budget. The latest forecast currently shows a projected under spend of (£24k) by the end of March 2012.

6. Recommendations

That the Cabinet Member receives and notes the latest financial projection based on actual income and expenditure to the end of July 2011.

7. Proposals and Details

The table below shows the summary forecast outturn position for the Directorate against the approved Net Revenue Budgets.

| DIRECTORATE/SERVICE | Budget (Net) | Projected Outturn to 31 st March 2012 | Variance from Net Budget Deficit/ (Surplus) | Overall % to Net Budget |
|---|--------------|--|---|-------------------------|
| | £000's | £000's | £000's | % |
| INDEPENDENT LIVING | | | | |
| Asylum | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Housing Access | 353 | 342 | (11) | |
| Housing Choices | 249 | 236 | (13) | |
| | | | | |
| HOUSING & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES | | | | |
| Safer Neighbourhoods | 2,092 | 2,092 | 0 | |
| Business Regulation | 323 | 322 | (1) | |
| Neighbourhood Partnerships | 276 | 277 | 1 | |
| Neighbourhood Investment | 43 | 43 | 0 | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| TOTAL | 3,336 | 3,312 | (24) | (0.72%) |

Most services are projecting balanced or near balanced budgets by the year end, with the exception of the following:

7.1 Independent Living (£24k)

Housing Access (£11k)

There are small projected surplus balances within the Housing Access area; Adaptations Service (£5k) and Housing Management & Admin (£13k) as a result of vacant posts, totalling (£18k). These are partially offset by a small predicted shortfall of £5k on the Medical Mobility and Community Care budget due to the unmet vacancy factor on this small service and a small projected shortfall of £2k on the Housing Mortgage service due to reducing Mortgage Interest.

Housing Choices (£13k)

This Service Area is projecting a surplus within the Homelessness budget as a result of a post that is unlikely to be backfilled during the post holder's secondment to another area within Housing Choices.

7.2 Housing & Neighbourhood Services (£0k)

Business Regulation (£1k)

The overall projection for Business Regulation is a small surplus of (£1k). This takes into account projected surpluses in Health & Safety and Food & Drugs totalling (£46k) as a result of vacant posts, which are mostly offset by projected overspends on Animal Health and Trading Standards mainly due to the unmet vacancy factor.

Neighbourhood Investment –balanced budget

The Registered Social Landlords cost centre is projecting a shortfall of £8k as a result of reduced numbers of landlords for 2011/12 against the budgeted amount. This is being offset by a surplus of (£8k) now being projected within Neighbourhood Investment as a result of a vacant post.

During the budget setting process for 11/12, savings of £790k were identified and given up from Safer Neighbourhoods, Business Regulation and Neighbourhood Partnerships services. These are on target to be achieved.

7.3 Agency & Consultancy

To date there is no spend on either Agency or Consultancy within Neighbourhoods.

7.4 Non-Contractual Overtime

Non-Contractual Overtime spend to date is £194.

8. Finance

The financial implications for each service area have been outlined in section 7 above.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

These forecasts are based on projected financial performance to the end of March 2012. The forecast outturn is dependent on delivery of the planned management actions being achieved and thus effective budget monitoring remains essential. Monthly budget clinics are held with the Service Directors to facilitate this.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The delivery of the Council's Revenue Budget within the limits determined in March 2011 is vital to achieving the Council's Policy agenda. Financial performance is a key element within the assessment of the Council's overall performance.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

- Cabinet February 2011 – Proposed Revenue Budget & Council Tax 2011/12
- The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

The content of this report has been discussed with the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods & Adults) and the Strategic Director of Finance.

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