

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

| | | |
|----|---------------------|--|
| 1. | Meeting: | Cabinet Member for Safe and Attractive Neighbourhoods |
| 2. | Date: | Monday 14 July 2014 |
| 3. | Title: | Neighbourhoods General Fund Revenue Budget Monitoring 2014/15 |
| 4. | Directorate: | Neighbourhoods and Adult Social Services |

5. Summary

This Budget Monitoring Report provides a financial forecast for Neighbourhoods General Fund within the Neighbourhoods and Adult Services Directorate to the end of March 2015 based on actual income and expenditure for the period ending May 2014.

The forecast for the financial year 2014/15 is an overall forecast under spend of (-£113k) against an approved net revenue budget of £583k.

6. Recommendation

That the Cabinet Member receives and notes the latest financial projection against budget for 2014/15

7. Proposals and Details

The table below shows the summary forecast outturn position against the approved Net Revenue Budgets:-

| SERVICE AREA | Net Budget | Forecast Outturn | Variance from Net Budget Deficit/ (Surplus) | % Variation to Net Budget |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| | £000's | £000's | £000's | % |
| Strategic Housing & Investment | 106 | 116 | 10 | 9.43 |
| Housing Options | -1300 | -1372 | -72 | -5.54 |
| Housing & Communities | 231 | 218 | -13 | -5.63 |
| Central | 314 | 314 | 0 | 0 |
| Business Regulation | 140 | 139 | -1 | -0.71 |
| Safer Neighbourhoods | 1,092 | 1,055 | -37 | -3.39 |
| TOTALS | 583 | 470 | -113 | -19.38 |

The main variations against budget can be summarised as follows:-

7.1 Strategic Housing & Investment Service (SHIS) (+£10k)

The SHIS team budget has a pressure of +£10k mainly as a result of anticipated pressures on staffing budgets as a result of lower than anticipated staff turnover.

7.2 Housing Options (-£72k)

This area is projecting an overall under spend of (-£72k). This includes a (-£25k) projected under spend on the Homelessness budget as a result of reduced costs to Robond as the scheme ends this year.

There is also a projected surplus of (-£5k) within the Private Sector Adaptations Service as a result of an increase in fees and charges plus an anticipated (-£45k) saving on Furnished Homes as a result of higher than anticipated staff turnover.

There is a small anticipated overspend of £3k on Dispersed Units relating to increased utilities costs.

7.3 Housing & Communities (-£13k)

This service area is projecting an overall under spend of (-£13k) consisting of an (-£11k) projected under spend on Community Safety Unit, mainly as a result of some additional funding from the HRA over budget. There is also a small (-£2k) anticipated saving on transport costs on the Area Assemblies Management and Administration cost centre.

7.4 Central (Balanced)

It is anticipated that this area will result in a balanced budget at year end.

7.5 Business Regulation (-£1k)

Overall Business Regulation is projecting a (-£1k) under spend. Pressures on employee costs within Health and Safety, Food and Drugs and Animal Health budgets totalling +£22K are being offset by savings within Trading Standards mainly due to higher than expected staff turnover (-£23k).

7.6 Safer Neighbourhoods (-£37k)

Savings within Community Protection mainly as a result of higher than anticipated staff turnover (-£39k) is slightly reduced by a small projected overspend on Landfill sites of £2k in respect of statutory Health and Safety work.

7.7 Agency & Consultancy

To date there has been no expenditure on Agency or Consultancy.

7.8 Non Contractual Overtime

There has been no expenditure to-date on non-contractual overtime.

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 financial performance to the end of May 2014. The forecast outturn is dependent on delivery of planned management actions being achieved and thus effective and tight financial management practices remain essential including holding monthly budget clinics with the Service Director and senior managers.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The delivery of the Council's Revenue Budget within the limits determined in March 2014 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

- Report to Cabinet 26 February 2014 – Proposed Revenue Budget & Council Tax 2014/15.

The content of this report has been discussed with the Director of Housing and Neighbourhoods and the Director of Finance.

Contact Name:

Mark Scarrott, Financial Services - Finance Manager (Neighbourhoods and Adult Services), Business Partnering, Extn 22007

Email: mark.scarrott@rotherham.gov.uk