

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO DEPUTY LEADER

1	Meeting:	DEPUTY LEADER
2	Date:	13th January 2015
3	Title:	Revenue Budget Monitoring for the period ending 30th November 2014
4	Directorate:	Resources

5 Summary

This report provides details of progress on the delivery of the 2014/15 Revenue Budget for the Deputy Leader Portfolio based on performance for the first 8 months of this financial year. It is currently forecast that the Portfolio will underspend against its Budget by £243k.

The moratorium on non-essential spend implemented on 2nd September will continue until the end of March. This will assist with maintaining the portfolio forecast underspend.

Recommendations

- **Note the current forecast outturn for the Deputy Leader portfolio.**

7.1 Proposals and Details

This report presents details of spending against budget within the Deputy Leader Portfolio covering the first 8 months of the 2014/15 financial year – April 2014 to November 2014 – and forecast costs and income to 31st March 2015.

7.2 The Overall Position

Service	Annual Budget 2014/15	Projected Outturn 2014/15	Forecast Variance after Actions (over(+)/under(-) spend)	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	%
HR & Payroll	2,201	2,030	-171	-7.8
Legal & Democratic Services	4,257	4,297	+40	+0.9
Revenue, Benefits & Payments	1,727	1,727	0	-
Financial Services	2,595	2,590	-5	-0.2
Performance & Quality	1,600	1,505	-95	-5.9
Commissioning	677	651	-26	-3.8
Procurement	1,077	1,082	+5	+0.5
ICT	3,319	3,319	0	-
Grants	545	545	0	-
Internal Audit, Insurance & Risk Management	409	418	+9	+2.2
TOTAL	18,407	18,164	-243	-1.3

Where services are forecasting an underspend or overspend the key reasons are shown below:

HR & Payroll: Additional income generation principally from schools and academies and reduced staff costs through vacancies.

Legal & Democratic Services: Staff cost pressures (£97k), income pressures relating to printing (£50k) partially offset by savings on Members Allowances (-£48k), savings with Election services from the combined election (-£46k) and savings arising from the moratorium on non-essential spend (-£13k)

Financial Services: Reduced staff costs through vacancies.

Performance & Quality: Reduced staff costs through vacancies.

Commissioning: Reduced staff costs through vacancies.

Procurement: Staff costs in excess of budget due to staff turnover being less than budgeted.

Internal Audit & Risk Management: Staff costs in excess of budget due to staff turnover being less than budgeted.

8. Finance

The financial issues are discussed in section 7 above.

Management actions need to be identified and implemented across all services to bring projected spend in line with Budget limits by the end of March 2015.

9 Risks and Uncertainties

At a time of economic difficulty and tight financial constraints, managing spend in line with the Council's Budget is paramount. Careful scrutiny of expenditure and income across all services and close budget monitoring therefore remain a top priority if the Council is to deliver both its annual and medium term financial plans while sustaining its overall financial resilience.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The delivery of the Council's Revenue Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan within the parameters agreed at the start of the current financial year is essential if the objectives of the Council's Policy agenda are to be achieved. Financial performance is a key element within the assessment of the Council's overall performance framework.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

- Service Directors and Budget Holders

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