# **ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'D'**

June

# SUMMARY OF PREVIOUSLY REPORTED VARIANCES ON THE REVENUE BUDGET

<b>Projected Outturn</b>
31 March 2014
£'000

1.1	April	0	
	May	225	Favourable
	June	349	Favourable

	ITEM (in order of Corporate Priority)	MONTH(S) REPORTED
	People	
1.2	TURNOVER	April
	There are no financial issues this month regarding this priority.	
1.3	TURNOVER	May
	A new payroll system has been installed and staff are being successfully paid. However, the output from the system has yet to be tested for interfacing into the General Ledger (financial system). As a consequence there is no information on budgetary monitoring for April and May.	
1.4	NEW HOMES BONUS GRANT	May
	The Government has released additional New Homes Bonus grant monies. As a consequence East Herts Council has received a windfall sum of £20k.	
1.5	COLLECTION FUND	May

Upon finalising the balance on the Council Tax Collection Fund there is a £55k favourable position.

1.6

**TURNOVER** 

# **ITEM** (in order of Corporate Priority)

A new payroll system has been installed and staff are being successfully paid. However, the output from the system has yet to be tested for interfacing into the General Ledger (financial system). As a consequence there is no information on budgetary monitoring for April to June.

#### **Place**

## 1.7 PLANNING CONTINGENCY

**April** 

The 2013/14 budget includes a planning contingency sum of £600k which allows for unforeseen events to be funded in-year. The changes that were agreed in February 2013 to the current recycling provision in East Herts have now been financially evaluated and a paper is included as **Essential Reference Paper 'F'** that details the latest available financial information. Due to changes in funding available from County, a reduction in the value achievable through sale of the vehicles and reductions in expenditure, £24,606 is required from the planning contingency to allow the scheme to remain affordable

The current assumptions are that the remainder of this budget are also fully utilised in 2013/14 but no further call is made on this budget, then the Council will have an underspend of £575k. Future Healthchecks will consider if there are any further calls on this sum.

## 1.8 PLANNING CONTINGENCY

May

The original 2013/14 budget included a planning contingency sum of £600k which allows for unforeseen events to be funded in-year. In the April corporate healthcheck it was agreed that some of this funding will be used to support the new recycling initiative. This left a balance of £575k which if not required during the year will result in an additional favourable variance from the £225k reported this month.

## 1.9 PLANNING CONTINGENCY

June

# **ITEM (in order of Corporate Priority)**

The original 2013/14 budget included a planning contingency sum of £600k which allows for unforeseen events to be funded in-year. It has been agreed that some of this funding will be used to support further initiatives namely a Housing Needs survey and a Human Resources post. Currently there is a balance of £511k which if not required during the year will result in an additional favourable variance from the £349k reported this month.

#### 1.10 PLANNING CONTINGENCY

June

CMT agreed on 16 July 2013 to vire £40k of the Planning Contingency budget for the Housing Needs Survey. They also agreed to vire a sum for an additional Human Resources admin post for one year on scale 5. It is assumed that the funding required in 2013/14 will be for eight months at circa £16k. This will be result in a cost of circa £8k falling in 2014/15 in respect of the balance of four months.

1.11 CCTV June

There has been a CCTV refund of £8k received from Stevenage Council in respect of previous years running costs.

# 1.12 GREEN WASTE COLLECTION

June

There is a possible underspend on Green Waste collection of £40k (subject to the implementation of the new recycling scheme). This is due to limited opportunities to implement organic waste collection from hard to reach properties and contract design efficiencies.

#### 1.13 RECYCLING BANKS MAINTENANCE

June

There is an expected underspend of at least£5k on the maintenance of recycling banks. Recycling banks have been reduced in recent years to collect textiles and paper only. There is a reduction in the number of sites due to supermarkets making their own arrangements expected. Members chose not to implement cardboard recycling banks as part of the new recycling service.

# **ITEM** (in order of Corporate Priority)

# MONTH(S) REPORTED

# 1.14 CLINICAL WASTE

June

Business in the first quarter suggests additional income of £20k with Clinical Waste.

### 1.15 STREET CLEANSING

June

There is an underspend of £25k in the Street Cleansing service due to contract efficiencies.

## 1.16 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

June

There is a net saving of £13k in the Grounds maintenance contract as Hertford Town Council has taken over the maintenance of the Castle grounds under a service level agreement. This was a Non Key decision report made in September 2012.

# **Prosperity**

# 1.17 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL FEES

April

With income of £125k received from Bishop's Stortford North Development and the underlying income being maintained for the first two months an extra £150k is expected at this point in time.

### 1.18 CAR PARK INCOME

June

There has been a £12k loss of Car Park income (£5k stolen) due to machines being broken into and then out of action (£7K).

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