# **ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'E'**

Favourable

Favourable

# SUMMARY OF PREVIOUSLY REPORTED VARIANCES ON THE REVENUE BUDGET

		i rojectea Gattarri	
		31 March 2012	
		£'000	
1.1	April	0	
	May	100	Favourable
	June-July	331	Favourable

ITEM (in order of Corporate Priority)

MONTH(S)

REPORTED

333

538

Projected Outturn

# **People**

August

September

1.2 TURNOVER May

Salary budgets are constantly monitored and <u>Essential</u> <u>Reference Paper 'C'</u> shows the budget is broadly in line with the projected expenditure.

1.3 TURNOVER June-July

Salary budgets are constantly monitored and **Essential Reference Paper 'C'** shows a projected small under spend of £4k.

#### 1.4 REVENUES AND BENEFITS

June-July

At the Joint Revenues and Benefits Committee on 19 July 2012 it was identified that due to the increased workload and to avoid increasing backlogs of work both councils needed to fund an additional £201k each for agency staff to support the service. As a consequence a Supplementary Revenue estimate from the council of £120k requires approval. The greater than allowed for under spend in 2011/12 permits for this funding to be approved from the general reserve.

# MONTH(S) REPORTED

### 1.5 COMMUNITY PLANNING

June-July

Income of £58,800 was received in 2011/12 for Community Planning Resource Mapping, but the final payment of £11,169 was not made until 2012/13.

# 1.6 STANSTED AREA HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

June-July

Stansted Area Housing Partnership – As part of the process for granting planning permission for the expansion of Stansted Airport, the section 106 agreement provided a sum of money for affordable housing in East Hertfordshire. This sum of money amounts to approximately £358,000. At present a site in Sawbridgeworth is being developed, with section 106 agreement providing for affordable homes. The site meets the location criteria of the Stansted S.106.

# 1.7 TURNOVER

August

Salary budgets are constantly monitored and **Essential Reference Paper 'C'** shows a projected small under spend of £34k.

#### 1.8 PEST CONTROL

August

Due to extremely low levels of wasp nest treatments income is anticipated to be down by £16k. This is partly off set by a reduction in external resources, to supplement house resources of £11k. Giving a net £5k projected adverse position.

### 1.9 ANIMAL CONTROL

August

Envirocrime and the Dog Control Officer have been very effective at re-homing stray dogs and keeping kennelling costs to a minimum, despite no reduction in the number of stray dogs. Thus projecting a saving of £6k.

# 1.10 TURNOVER

September

Salary budgets are constantly monitored and **Essential Reference Paper 'C'** shows a projected small under spend of £71k.

#### 1.11 PEST CONTROL

September

Due to extremely low levels of wasp nest treatments income is anticipated to be down by £16k. This is partly off set by a reduction in external resources, to supplement in house resources, of £11k giving a net £5k projected adverse position.

# 1.12 Animal Control

September

The Dog Control Officer has been very effective at rehoming stray dogs and keeping kennelling costs to a minimum, despite no reduction in the number of stray dogs. Thus projecting a saving of £6k.

#### **Place**

## 1.13 WASTE CONTRACT

May

Early indications show that the costs of transition to the new waste contract have to date been lower than expected and an under spend of up to £100k is possible.

# 1.14 RECYCLING INCOME

June-July

An under recovery of £59k of recycling income is expected from the sale of recyclable materials collected at the kerbside believed to be due to the economic downturn and the increasing use of electronic communication (reducing the amount of newspapers and magazines consumed).

#### 1.15 ORGANIC WASTE

June-July

There is a likely under spend in the contracted costs of organic waste collection of £50k

#### 1.16 MATERIALS HANDLING

June-July

An under spend of £7k is expected in the costs of materials handling at the Service Centre.

#### 1.17 ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

June-July

The Environment Agency has withdrawn the funding for the land drainage work East Herts carries out on their behalf. This has repercussions for the cost of any similar work that would have been carried out by East Herts under the same terms. A separate report will be

# MONTH(S) REPORTED

considered by Corporate Management Team.

# 1.18 BULKY WASTE INCOME

June-July

Bulky waste income is forecasting a £6k adverse variance believed to be due to the economic climate.

### 1.19 RECYCLING BANKS

June-July

As there are less recycling banks to maintain there is a forecast under spend of £7k.

# 1.20 CLINICAL WASTE COLLECTION

June-July

Clinical Waste Collection income is forecasting additional income of £6k due to additional business in the first part of the year.

## 1.21 KERBSIDE DRY RECYCLING

August

The kerbside dry collections budget is likely to be overspent by £18k. £11k is due to indexation on fuel being higher than forecasted and £7k is due to property growth, as approximately 1,000 more flats are receiving full recycling services.

## 1.22 ALTERNATIVE FINANCIAL MODEL

August

The latest Altrernative Financial Model (waste reduction) income forecast for 2011/12 is £419,000. £16k below the sum accrued.

## 1.23 TRADE WASTE COLLECTION

August

The Trade Waste Collection service is estimating an additional £20k of income due to an increased level of business. This will be partly off set by additional costs of £12k, giving a net £8k favourable position.

#### 1.24 WASTE CONTRACT

September

The waste contract covers various budgets but there are lower costs of transition to date and an under spend of £200k is anticipated for 2012/13. This may not be transferable into 2013/14 base budgets if recycling collection costs increase with the removal of card from the organic bins. A report will be brought to the Executive in December 2012.

# MONTH(S) REPORTED

# 1.25 PAPER AND TEXTILE BANKS

September

The income and expenditure budgets relating to paper and textile banks are predicting a net £9k favourable variance due to a combination of lower paper usage and additional textile tonnage collected.

#### 1.26 CLINICAL WASTE COLLECTION

September

The clinical waste collection and disposal budgets are currently under spending amounting to circa £7k.

# 1.27 KERBSIDE DRY COLLECTIONS

September

The kerbside dry collections budget is likely to be overspent by £18k. £11k is due to indexation on fuel being higher than forecasted and £7k is due to property growth, as approximately 1,000 more flats are receiving full recycling services.

## 1.28 ALTERNATIVE FINANCIAL MODEL

September

The latest Alternative Financial Model (waste reduction) income forecast for 2011/12 is £419,000. £16k below the sum accrued.

# 1.29 TRADE WASTE COLLECTION

September

The Trade Waste Collection service is estimating an additional £21k of income due to an increased level of business. This will be partly offset by additional costs of £10k, giving a net £11k favourable position.

#### 1.30 TRADE WASTE BINS

September

The delivery of trade waste bins coupled with lower trade waste disposal costs shows a £22k favourable under spend. £2k relates to under spending on bin delivery and £20k relates to lower disposal costs due to businesses producing less weight per capita.

## 1.31 STREET CLEANSING

September

There is £4k additional street cleansing income received and a possible £50k under spend on the street cleansing contract due to lower than expected ad-hoc cleansing work. This may vary according to weather conditions, particularly if there is the need for ad-hoc work in the

# MONTH(S) REPORTED

winter months.

#### 1.32 LAND DRAINAGE

September

The Environment Agency has withdrawn the funding for the land drainage work East Herts carries out on their behalf. This has repercussions for the cost of any similar work that would have been carried out for East Herts under the same terms. In addition, circa £40k of administrative costs will be lost. A separate report will be forwarded to CMT on the subject in due course.

#### 1.33 SAFER STRONGER COMMUNITIES

September

Only £28k was received from Herts County Council for Safer Stronger Communities against a budgeted figure of £55k. A proportion of this was to fund Police Community Support Officers. There is also a requirement from the Home Office to compile a specialised report on a Homicide within the District. This will result in an estimated net adverse position of £21k.

# **Prosperity**

### 1.34 BUILDING CONTROL INCOME

June-July

If the current trend continues the indications are a short fall of circa £150k in Building Control income. Processes being considered to rectify the situation are to possibly increase fees and potential other sources of income.

#### 1.35 CAR PARKING PAY AND DISPLAY

June-July

Car Parking Pay and Display income is predicted to produce a £89,000 favourable variance by year end.

## 1.36 CAR PARKING PENALTY CHARGE NOTICE

June-July

Car Parking Penalty Charge Notice income is under achieving as at the end of July and is likely to show a shortfall of circa £75k. This is due in part to the bedding in of the new enforcement contract and the inability to process Notices to owners due to a new system migration at DVLA.

# 1.37 INVESTMENT INCOME

June-July

Investment funds have been and are continuing to be placed on fixed deposit with U.K. clearing banks to take advantage of the rates being offered. (See report to Council July 2012). Expectations are that the 2012/13 estimated Investment income will be exceeded by circa £350k.

# 1.38 AUDIT FEES

June-July

A reduction in core audit fees of £20k will result in a favourable variance.

#### 1.39 SHARED INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE

August

The Shared Internal Audit Service Board agreed on the 7 December 2011 to increase the daily charge for Audit services from £240/day to £255/day. An increase of 6.25%. The effect of this coupled with a prior year adjustment will have an adverse £17k on the budget.

# 1.40 PARKING ENFOREMENT CONTRACT

September

The Parking Enforcement contract is anticipated to show an under spend of £89k. Two projects (mobile camera enforcement and vehicle removals) will go live next year so operational costs will not be incurred this financial year. There is also a contractor under spend relating to vacancies in management which the Council benefits from.

#### 1.41 PENALTY CHARGE NOTICE INCOME

September

Penalty Charge Notice income remains as an adverse variance currently projected to be £150k due to the failure of contractor equipment and management arrangements.

#### 1.42 INVESTMENT INCOME

September

As a consequence of withdrawing investment income from the Council's fund managers and re-investing in fixed term deposits, fees for managing these funds will reduce by £30k.

#### 1.43 SHARED INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE

September

The Shared Internal Audit Service Board agreed on 7

MONTH(S)
REPORTED

December 2011 to increase the daily charge rate for Audit Services from £240/day to £255/day. An increase of 6.25%. The effect of this will have an adverse £7k on the budget.

# 1.44 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

September

Budgets within Development Control for advertising and postage are estimated to underspend by £25k. Advertising is in line with last year's expenditure and other forms of communication are being used therefore postage costs are falling.

# 1.45 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

September

Commitments to date on the Local Development Framework suggest there will be a saving of £10k.

## 1.46 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL INCOME

September

Development Control income is down by £80k against profile. Some of the shortfall may be recovered depending on when a large application for Bishop's Stortford is received.

G:\Stortford\BSWP\WP\Reports\Summary of previously reported variances-July 2011 healthcheck.doc