

## Appendix 2 - Service Variance Narrative

| Service   | Variance Last Month<br>£000 | Variance This Month<br>£000 | Change<br>£000 | Description  |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|--|
| Housing and Communities                         | -123                        | -209                        | -86            | Underspend, and increase this month, due to vacancy management and maximisation of grants.   |
| Education and Children's Service                | 1,909                       | 2,388                       | 479            | See body of report for summary.<br>Overspend in children's social care (£2.441m) mainly due to placements costs, further increasing this month due to two specialised placements. All placements have been costed to realistic timescales, however no allowance has been made for any further placements throughout the year. Underspend in Education services (-£52k) due to pressures in Additional Learning Needs offset by grant maximisation .  |
| Corporate Support: Performance, Digital, Assets | 28                          | -207                        | -235           | Underspend due to in-year savings from vacancy management, grant maximisation and reduced spend on supplies.   |
| Corporate Support: People                       | -112                        | -149                        | -37            | Underspend, and increase this month, due to vacancy management.  |
| Finance and Audit                               | -149                        | -167                        | -18            | Underspend, and increase this month, due to vacancy management   |
| Highways and Environmental Services             | 1,048                       | 919                         | -129           | Overspend due to pressures in highways maintenance, streetscene and waste services offset this month due to increase in fees and reduced spend on supplies.  |
| Planning, Public Protection and Countryside     | -162                        | -138                        | 24             | Underspend due to vacancy management offset this month by reduced Planning and Parking income. Current School Transport contracts are included in the projection, but risks remain as there is no allowance for any further emergency or discretionary transport requirements.   |
| Adult Social Care and Homelessness              | 2,032                       | 1,938                       | -94            | See body of report for summary.<br>The £1.938m overspend is due to an overall pressure in Adult Social Care (£1.095m) and in Homelessness (£0.843m). The pressures in Adult Social Care increased this month (+£92k) with further pressures in mental health services. The pressures in Homelessness reduced this month (£187k) due to a slight reduction in average rate per night in temporary accommodation.  |
| Leisure - Retained Budgets                      | -5                          | -5                          | 0              | Minor variances  |
| Corporate & Miscellaneous                       | -391                        | -391                        | 0              | Release of contingencies held for pay and energy inflation. See body of report for details   |
| Precepts & Levies                               | 0                           | 0                           | 0              | See body of report for details   |
| Capital Financing                               | -750                        | -750                        | 0              | Reduced capital financing costs in-year due to delayed expenditure on some capital projects. The position on capital financing is very much related to progress on capital projects and variances do not fully crystallise until the final outturn is known. Whilst in previous years any underspend on this budget has been carried forward to help support the capital programme, this will not be possible this year due to the level of overspend currently being reported on revenue. |
| <b>Council Services &amp; Corporate Budget</b>  | <b>3,325</b>                | <b>3,229</b>                | <b>-96</b>     |  |