

Appendix 2 - Service Variance Narrative

Service	Variance Last Month £000	Variance This Month £000	Change £000	Description
Housing and Communities	-209	-193	16	Underspend due to vacancy management and maximisation of grants offset this month by minor variances.
Education and Children's Service	2,388	2,452	64	See body of report for summary. Overspend in children's social care (£2.490m) mainly due to placements costs, further increasing this month (£49k) due to new independent living and fostering 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 (-£38k) due to grant maximisation offset by further costs this month (£15k) in Additional Learning Needs.
Corporate Support: Performance, Digital, Assets	-207	-327	-120	Underspend due to in-year savings from vacancy management and reduced spend on supplies further increased this month by maximisation of income from grants and fees & charges.
Corporate Support: People	-149	-184	-35	Underspend, and increase this month, due to vacancy management.
Finance and Audit	-167	-162	5	Underspend due to vacancy management and maximisation of grants offset this month by minor variances.
Highways and Environmental Services	919	1,153	234	Overspend due to pressures in highways maintenance, streetscene and waste services increased this month due to new fleet vehicles and costs for winter maintenance.
Planning, Public Protection and Countryside	-138	-136	2	Underspend due to vacancy management. 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	1,938	1,885	-53	See body of report for summary. The £1.885m overspend is due to an overall pressure in Adult Social Care (£1.041m) and in Homelessness (£0.844m). The pressures in Adult Social Care reduced slightly this month (-£54k). The pressures in Homelessness are due to the average length of stay and rate per night in temporary accommodation.
Leisure - Retained Budgets	-5	-5	0	Minor variances
Corporate & Miscellaneous	-391	-893	-502	Release of contingencies; pay and energy inflation and a further £502k for general inflation this month. 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.
Council Services & Corporate Budget	3,229	2,840	-389	