



## **HOUSING AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – INFORMATION ITEM**

**SUBJECT: BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2020/2021**

**REPORT BY: INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES**

### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform Members of the most recent budget monitoring position for 2020/2021 for Communities Directorate Service Divisions, including Regeneration & Planning Division, Infrastructure Services Division, Public Protection Division and Community & Leisure Services Division.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The report summarises the most recent budget monitoring projections for 2020/2021 based on the latest available financial information.
- 2.2 The attached appendices outline more detailed budget monitoring figures for each of the Council Fund Services outlined in paragraph 1.1 above.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee Members are requested to note the contents of this report and the detailed budget monitoring pages that follow in respect of the Regeneration & Planning Division, which all fall within the remit of this Scrutiny.

### **4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 The Council Budget is based on the achievement of both expenditure and income targets. In order to ensure that these are met, and the Council's financial integrity is maintained Directors are required to review income and expenditure trends.

### **5. THE REPORT**

#### **5.1 INTRODUCTION**

- 5.1.1 The report outlines the revenue budget position for each of the service Divisions that

form part of the Communities Directorate based on the most current financial information available. Projected outturn figures for the financial year are compared with the budget to show the anticipated under/overspends. More detailed budget monitoring figures are shown in the appendices 1a to 1d.

- 5.1.2 It should be noted that the budget report to Council on 20th February 2020 detailed the need to apply further budget efficiency savings in 2020/2021 to meet medium term financial plan (MTFP) targets and achieve budget strategy aims. Communities Directorate services were targeted to achieve new budget efficiency savings of £465k. The savings required and applied to service budgets were significantly lower than the £2.1million of savings originally considered, due to the more favourable financial settlement eventually received from Welsh Government.
- 5.1.3 Some additional operational costs directly linked to Covid 19 continue to be subject to claims and payment from the WG hardship fund. Costs directly funded by WG are not included in the revenue budget monitoring position of services as outlined in this report. Claims are also being submitted to WG for lost income where services have temporarily ceased or have been significantly curtailed. This grant income is included in the revenue accounts of the services and the budget monitoring and greatly assists in reducing the level of projected overspend outlined in this report. The financial projections in this report also include estimates of possible lost income funding for the period January to March 2021.
- 5.1.4 The table 1 below summarises the present budget monitoring position, with an overall Directorate over spend of £217k, but exclusive of ring fenced budgets this over spend is increased to £875k. Appendices 1a to 1d provide more detail on the budget variation projections for each Service Division.

TABLE 1	ORIGINAL ESTIMATE 2020/2021	REVISED ESTIMATE 2020/2021	ANTICIPATED OUTTURN 2020/2021	ANTICIPATED VARIANCE 2020/2021 Under (Over)
	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Regeneration &amp; Planning Division</b>	<b>2,214</b>	<b>2,245</b>	<b>2,156</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Infrastructure Division</b>	<b>19,917</b>	<b>19,969</b>	<b>19,838</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>Public Protection Division</b>	<b>7,450</b>	<b>7,513</b>	<b>7,374</b>	<b>137</b>
<b>Community &amp; Leisure Services Division</b>	<b>21,673</b>	<b>21,823</b>	<b>22,397</b>	<b>(574)</b>
<b>Directorate General</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>NET DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>51,430</b>	<b>51,727</b>	<b>52,134</b>	<b>(217)</b>
<b>Home to School Transport - ring fenced under spend</b>				<b>386</b>
<b>Social Services Transport – ring fenced under spend</b>				<b>171</b>
<b>Cemeteries Task &amp; Finish – ring fenced under spend</b>				<b>101</b>
<b>NET DIRECTORATE over spend (excluding ring fenced budgets)</b>				<b>(875)</b>

## 5.2 REGENERATION & PLANNING DIVISION

- 5.2.1 Overall, the service division presently has a projected underspend of £89k for the 2020-21 financial year, full details are provided in Appendix 1
- 5.2.2 Development Control is reporting overspend of £69k primarily due to a projected shortfall in planning application fees of £112k. At present there is no apparent negative impact of Covid 19 on the number of planning application fees, as the fee income levels although below budget are greater than the previous financial year. Pre-application advice fee income is also projected at £12k below budget. Underachievement in income is partly offset by delayed filling of a vacant post.
- 5.2.3 Building Control is reporting overspend of £69k due to a shortfall in income, there seems to be no apparent impact of Covid 19 as fee levels are similar to the previous year. Building Control fees have also been well below the budget targets for several years.
- 5.2.4 Strategic Planning is presently projected to be £16k underspent due to delayed filling of a vacant post and staff on reduced working hours.
- 5.2.5 Planning administrative, technical are projecting a £37k overspend this is due to the one-off costs to upgrade the IT systems, offset by salary savings due to delays in filling vacant posts.
- 5.2.6 GIS/Land Gazetteer support services is underspent by £25k due to delayed filling of vacant posts.
- 5.2.7 Land charge services are £32k overspent due to a shortfall in search fee income. It is unclear if Covid 19 is having an impact on search fee income as search fees were £26k short of the budget last year.
- 5.2.8 Business Support and Urban Renewal report underspend of £140k, primarily due to additional staff fee income supporting grant funded projects and one-off income to support the business grant lockdown funding, reduced spend on other operational costs but offset by additional cost of NNDR on vacant properties under the teams management.
- 5.2.9 Town Centre Management is projecting underspend of £19k, due in the main to reduced spend on administrative costs, such as publicity and promotion together with reduced postage costs.
- 5.2.10 There is a projected £6k overspend in relation to industrial properties primarily due to shortfall in property rents of £227k linked to units being unoccupied offset in the main to reductions in maintenance and utility costs The industrial and office property portfolio does generate income of £2.1million to the Council. The service is proactively seeking to ensure vacant units are let as quickly as possible by identifying businesses interested in taking up a rental.
- 5.2.11 Overall Tourism Venues are reporting combined overspend of £55k. Covid 19 has had a significant impact on the tourism venues due to closure of the facilities and restricted service provision. Llancaiach Fawr and Cwmcarn VC have seen the most significant impact financially due to restrictions linked to services such as the Manor House, school visits and wedding ceremonies for Llancaiach Fawr and camp site

(including the pods and chalets') for Cwmcarn and also no car park income due to Councils free parking policy. Both venues also have a large element of fixed costs linked to the buildings and staff have continued to be paid. In contrast, although BMI has experienced a significant loss of income from events, shows and the pantomime, this has been offset by greater opportunity to reduce variable costs particularly linked to artist & production fees, publicity & promotion and energy costs. It is difficult at this stage to anticipate what levels of income might be generated and further assessments will be made as the restrictions imposed due to Covid 19 continue to change. However, WG funding has been received in relation to lost net income. The additional grant funding included in these projections significantly reduces the level of projected overspend to £55k. The overspend in Tourism venues is partly offset by underspend of £75k in relation to Arts Development where programmes of work commissioned have been curtailed due to Covid 19.

- 5.2.12 Tourism events in contrast, report net underspend of £59k. There have been no events taking place this year and none are planned for the remainder of the year.
- 5.2.13 Community Regeneration is reporting a £20k underspend primarily due to reduced spend on Community projects and rent income in excess of running costs for the Community hubs.
- 5.2.14 There is an underspend in senior management support of £9k due to staff not paid at the top of the incremental scale.
- 5.2.15 Children and Communities Grant (CCG) and C4W initiatives are both fully funded from grant, the revised estimate and projections reflect approved budget virements to other areas supported by the flexibility funding and additional WG grant funding of £191k.

### 5.3 INFRASTRUCTURE DIVISION

- 5.3.1 Infrastructure overall is reporting an underspend of £130k on a £19.969million revised budget, but after excluding budget variations in relation to Home to School Transport (£385k underspend) and Social Services Transport (£171k under spend) which will be ring fenced and appropriated back to the Service Directorates, there is an over spend of £427k, this includes WG funding for lost income in some service areas.
- 5.3.2 Highway Services is actually reporting underspend of £273k. Highway maintenance is underspending by £312k mainly due to delays in projects and schemes commencing due to Covid 19, There is also overspend in relation to SAB £39k (sustainable drainage) due to reduced workload and resultant income. At present winter maintenance costs are difficult to predict but it is assumed the full budget of £1.1million) will be spent.
- 5.3.3 EPG (Engineering Projects Group) is reporting underspend of £19k with reductions in fee income being more than offset by reduced salary and agency costs.
- 5.3.4 Transportation Engineering overall is projecting an overspend of £504k. This is mainly due to reduced income linked to Covid 19 in relation to car parking (of £612k), Shortfalls in income generated from Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) (of £68k after WG funding for lost income) and a reduction in CPE operational costs. There are also underspends in relation to school crossing patrols of £83k due to vacant posts linked to sites not meeting ROSPA criteria offset by £46k overspend on Road Safety Revenue grant.

- 5.3.5 Public Transport is reporting an under spend of £273k, with underspend in relation to bus subsidies of £96k linked to the 75% retainer initiative during the Covid 19 crisis and reduced service provision partly offset by increased PPE spend. Also, underspend in Passenger Transport Fee Income £23k due to extra management income for Bus Contactless payment scheme and some underspend in staffing £70k. Lost income in relation to bus departure charges is funded by lost income funding from WG.
- 5.3.6 At this stage Network Contracting Services (NCS) is anticipating a deficit of £489k with an underachievement in the income targets primarily linked to a significantly reduced workload due to Covid 19 operational issues. However as noted in paragraph 5.3.2 above there is underspend in the main highway maintenance budgets due to delays in schemes that NCS would normally be undertaking.
- 5.3.7 Home to School Transport is presently projecting underspend of £385k on a £7.2million budget, with £600k underspend in contractor costs linked to the 75% retainer scheme introduced during the height of the Covid 19 pandemic when the school services were not operating (this includes an anticipated increase by 10% from January 2021 on bus contracts of £50k). These underspends are partly offset by estimated additional expenditure of £180k to support bus contractors in relation to PPE, sanitiser and cleaning requirements now school transport services are recommencing.
- 5.3.8 Social Services Transport is projecting an under spend of £171k including £20k on salaries and £161k for service operators offset by additional costs to support agile working. There is a risk of operator failure leading to increased costs in future although this is partly an in-house operator function rather than private contractor.

#### 5.4 PUBLIC PROTECTION

- 5.4.1 Public Protection is presently projecting underspend of £138k on an overall revenue budget of £7.512million revised budget.
- 5.4.2 Environmental Health is currently projecting a net underspend of £224k. The main variances are: -
- Community Safety Wardens is forecasting a £11k underspend mainly due to salary underspends .
  - Enforcement is forecasting an underspend of £72k mainly due to salary underspend from staff on reduced hours and delayed filling of vacant posts and underspend in some other operational costs.
  - Food Team is predicting a small underspend of £4k due to various operational costs
  - Pollution control are predicting an underspend of £156k partly due to vacant posts, but primarily due to £130k grant received from WG to fund staffing costs linked to Hafodyrynys. At this stage it is not known whether this will be required to fund any shortfall in the purchase/compensation Capital grant received from WG to fund the acquisition and payment of compensation for the houses at Hafodyrynys. There is a ring-fenced reserve of £268k for this purpose, but until the final properties are all purchased and associated costs paid the final costs and funding requirement cannot be established. There are also a number of other ongoing issues in respect of air quality, pollution and

contaminated land and these are being closely monitored as any increases in this area would impact on the overall financial position.

- Health Division is predicting an overspend of £14k due in the main to staff cost for additional hours.
- Community Safety Partnership is predicting an overspend of £20k due in the main to a loss of grant income to fund staff.
- Emergency Planning is predicting a £14k underspend due in the main to delays in filling vacant post.

5.4.3 Trading Standards are projecting a £39k underspend due in the main to delays in filling vacant posts and staff not at the top of the incremental scale.

5.4.4 Licensing are projecting a £34k underspend. Licensing income is £23k below budget mainly relating to reductions in numbers of temporary events notices and changes to Premises and Personal licences associated with pubs and clubs and street trading applications

5.4.5 Registrars are projecting a £35k underspend mainly due to reduced running costs that has been offset by the ability to claim loss of income from WG, which is based on 2019-20 comparison.

5.4.6 CCTV services are projecting an underspend of £27k, this is primarily due to staff vacant posts and staff not on the top of incremental scales.

5.4.7 Catering Services are projecting an overspend of £226k on a £3.8million budget This is due in the main to the additional uptake on FSM as a result of Covid. There are ongoing discussions with WG to try and secure additional grant to cover the increased take up and to recover the cost of the meals that were provided when the council decided not to open the school canteens in September to October half term (for health and Safety reasons). If WG provide additional funding for these costs then the position at outturn should look more favourable. The staff restaurant is also closed and is likely to be for the remainder of this financial year.

## 5.5 **COMMUNITY & LEISURE SERVICES**

5.5.1 The Community & Leisure Services Division is presently projecting a net overall overspend of £574k on a budget of £21.823 million . This overspend primarily relates to leisure services as noted below.

5.5.2 Waste Management is presently reporting an overall overspend of £621k on a budget of £10.116 million. There is a possibility that some of the overall increased tonnage costs shown below can be claimed back via WG Hardship fund at year end.

- Residual Waste is projecting an overspend of £1,027k due in the main to increased tonnage costs (£500K), additional vehicles costs and increased staff costs due to redeployments from cleansing and Covid requirements (see 5.5.3 below).
- Organic recycling is projecting a £234k underspend due to salary savings on vacant posts offset by additional agency staff, together with savings on contractor payments for treatment costs.
- CA sites are projecting a £604k underspend due in the main to ongoing proof of residency policies and significant reductions in out of County waste, which has resulting in ongoing reduced treatment cost. The HWRC sites were also closed during the first lockdown period during April/May 2020.

- Waste Transfer Station is projecting a £17k overspend due in the main to increased transport costs
- Dry Recycling is forecasting a £411k overspend due in the main to increased tonnage (£300k) and vehicle costs (£112k) due to damage and vehicle repairs and Covid requirements.
- RCCO (revenue contribution to capital outlay) is forecast to be £151k underspend due to a reduction in anticipated expenditure on vehicle acquisitions, this is being used to support residual waste (as above)
- Bulky Waste is projecting a £35k underspend due in the main to reduced treatment costs £20k and overachieving income. The bulky waste service was also suspended for a period of time during the first lockdown.
- Commercial Waste is projecting a £254k overspend due in the main to underachievement of income. The income budget not realistic and there was also a reduction in services during lockdown.
- Other Waste is projecting a small £2k underspend.
- Trehir Closed landfill is projecting a £11k underspend due to reduced maintenance costs
- Sustainable Waste Management Grant (SWMG) from WG is showing a £38k underspend as a result of revisions to WG allocations.
- HQ staffing costs are predicting an underspend of £12k which is due to a vacant post.

5.5.3 Cleansing Services is overall presently reporting an underspend of £411k on a budget of £4.1million. this is due in the main to a combination of staff vacant posts and staff continuing to be redirected to help cover waste collection rounds due to covid related and general sickness absence combined with reduced vehicle and treatment costs.

5.5.4 An underspend of £193k is projected for Parks & Countryside, Outdoor Facilities and Cemeteries.

- Cemeteries is reporting a £101k under spend due to reductions in cemetery maintenance requirements. Any underspend in relation to cemeteries is ring fenced for future investment in cemetery infrastructure.
- Parks, Allotments and Playgrounds are reporting underspend of £46k due to staff vacant posts part offset by additional agency requirement and reduced material & equipment spend linked to reduced grass cutting and sports pitch maintenance during the early days of the Covid 19 crisis.
- Outdoor facilities are reporting £72K underspend in the main to reduced staff costs which includes pavilion attendants costs and reduced pavilion maintenance costs
- Countryside is reporting an overspend of £24k due in the main to a £60k reduction in country park car park income as a result of the Council decision not to charge for the remainder of the year albeit WG funding of £14k has been received for April to June period partially offset by staff vacant posts .
- HQ is projecting a small overspend of £3k primarily due to maintenance work at Abercarn depot partly offset by reduced plant & equipment repairs.

5.5.5 Leisure Centres are reporting overspend of £255k. The leisure centres have been closed for long periods due to the Covid 19 crisis with no income being generated. This is accentuated by the fact that staffing costs are still being incurred and an element of other operating expenditure is fixed cost in nature and cannot easily be reduced while the centres have been closed. The overspend projection does however include WG funding for net lost income. This overspend is still anticipated because historically over the past few years leisure centres have underachieved

income budget targets. The overspend on Leisure Centres is part offset by a £38k underspend in Leisure HQ, primarily due to vacant posts and reduced spend on marketing and training.

- 5.5.6 Community Centres are at present projecting a breakeven position on a £359k budget due to reductions in operating costs, which they hope to utilise to bring forward maintenance on these buildings.
- 5.5.7 Caerphilly Adventures is reporting a large overspend of £251k. This service has in recent years reported overspends (£121k outturn 2019/2020), as operating costs have not been fully recovered by fee income from courses, albeit revised fee rates for 20/21 have been agreed with Education Directorate and schools, which would have helped to address the income shortfall in previous years. However, this year the financial position has deteriorated due to a significant reduction in income generation linked to Covid 19 and courses not being provided. Lost income funding for April to September of £15.4k has been received and a further £25k for October to December claimed, however, the lost income claims are for external income only, so internal income related to schools including alternative curriculum support, which accounts for most of the income generated is not part of the WG funding support.
- 5.5.8 Sports Development is projecting a break-even position, with any shortfall in external income from summer school and other arranged sports activities being funded via WG lost income claims.
- 5.5.9 Vehicle Maintenance & Fleet Management is currently projecting overspend of £102k, primarily due to a reduction in repair work. The outturn position will be dependent on the value of work through the workshop over the next few months and the ability to finance fixed overheads.
- 5.5.10 Building Cleaning is at present reporting underspend of £52k. Building Cleaning work has been affected by the Covid 19 crisis, with limited or no cleaning for a period being undertaken at Council buildings such as schools, leisure centres, tourism venues and libraries. However, building cleaning have needed to provide enhanced cleaning to school hubs and corporate offices and increased cleaning regimes at schools in preparation for schools reopening for the autumn term and during the autumn term. The decision was also made for all Council internal charges to be levied, so Building Cleaning services are still generating the income needed to cover staffing costs.

## 5.6 **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLANS (MTFP) SAVINGS 2020/2021**

- 5.6.1 The 2020/21 revenue budget for Communities Directorate included targeted MTFP savings of £465k. As noted in paragraph 5.1.3 above the savings required and applied to service budgets were significantly lower than the £2.1million of savings originally considered, due to the more favourable financial settlement eventually received from Welsh Government. The savings applied are summarised in table 2 below. The projected overspends and under spends discussed in the above paragraphs take account of these savings targets.

TABLE 2

<b>Service Division</b>	<b>Approved Savings 2020/2021 £000</b>
<b>Regeneration &amp; Planning Division</b>	<b>211</b>
<b>Infrastructure Services Division</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Public Protection Division</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Community &amp; Leisure Services Division</b>	<b>183</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>465</b>

5.6.2 A number of the MTFP savings applied in 2020/2021 have not been achieved yet, most due to the significant disruption caused by the Covid 19 crisis and an inability to action many of the initiatives. This would include:

- Regeneration, Tourism Venues and events additional income across a number of venues of £32k.
- Catering services additional income from comprehensive schools (£12k) and the restaurant facilities at Ty Penallta (£10k).
- Community & Leisure, Parks operations, deletion of an administrative post £25k, the post was not deleted but other budget headings were reduced to achieve these savings, and closure of Penallta depot £24k.

5.6.3 Most of the unachieved MTFP savings are associated with additional income generation, which as detailed in the body of this report has been significantly reduced across many services due to the Covid 19 crisis. Income generation would under normal circumstances normally have a greater risk of non-achievement, due to the volatility in customer demand for services and factors outside the control of the service that can impact on usage and income levels, but the Covid 19 crisis has accentuated these problems significantly.

## 5.7 CONCLUSION

The Communities Directorate provides a very diverse range of front line services to residents and businesses with a budget totalling £51.43m. The projected net overspend of £0.875m represents 1.7% of the budget in a very turbulent year where service provision and ability to achieve income has been significantly disrupted. As outlined in the report and appendices services face significant ongoing financial pressures due to the requirement to achieve budget savings in support of the Councils medium term financial plan. Financial pressures this year, have been further significantly increased by the impact the Covid 19 crisis has had on service provision, with a number of services not being provided or being significantly curtailed and some services experiencing significant reductions in income generation. The operational managers will endeavour to ensure however that service net expenditure does not exceed the budget available.

As noted in paragraph 5.1.3 the additional financial support received from WG linked to costs directly associated with Covid 19 and the financial support in recognition of

lost income due to Covid 19 has significantly assisted in reducing projected overspends.

## **6. ASSUMPTIONS**

- 6.1 Expenditure and income projection assumptions are included in this report many based on likely future scenario's linked to Covid 19, in particular the length of time that some services may not be provided or continue to be significantly curtailed. The financial position of each service may well vary significantly later in the year if the position regarding Covid 19 changes.
- 6.2 The financial monitoring assumes that all staff of the Authority will continue to be paid their full salary, irrespective of the position regarding the ability of the service to provide services to the general public, this includes staff on casual and relief contracts who continue to receive an average pay.
- 6.3 Finally the financial projections include WG funding to support services who have incurred additional costs associated with Covid 19 and/or have significantly reduced income generation due to the impact Covid 19.
- 6.4 Forecasts have been made following discussions with Managers based on current information available.

## **7. LINKS TO RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES**

- 7.1 The content of the report is in accordance with the budget strategy considered and approved by Council at its meeting of 20th February 2020.
- 7.2 The content of the report is in accordance with the budget strategy considered and approved by Council at its meeting of 20th February 2020.
- 7.3 Budget management itself is in accordance with the corporate theme of Delivering the Strategies.
- 7.4 **Corporate Plan 2018-2023.**

Effective financial planning and financial control contributes towards all the Corporate Well-being Objectives of:

Objective 1 - Improve education opportunities for all

Objective 2 - Enabling employment

Objective 3 - Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes throughout the county borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being

Objective 4 - Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment

Objective 5 - Creating a county borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable Development Principle within the Wellbeing of

## Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Objective 6 - Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being  
The objectives are high level themes and each have several outcomes that sit underneath them, (36 in total) so it may benefit the author to look at the outcomes within the plan to understand the cross-cutting nature of the Council's priorities with regard to any impact the report may have on the Corporate Plan.

### **8. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS**

8.1 Effective financial management is a key element in ensuring that all the Well-being Goals within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 are met.

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language
- A globally responsible Wales

8.2 Effective financial management is also consistent with the five ways of working as defined within the sustainable development principle in the Act.

- Long Term – The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability of future generations to meet their long-term needs
- Prevention - How acting to prevent problems occurring, or getting worse, may help public bodies meet their objectives
- Integration – Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies
- Collaboration – Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives
- Involvement – The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.

### **9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no potential equalities implications of this report and its recommendations on groups or individuals who fall under the categories identified in Section 6 of the Council's Strategic Equality Plan. There is no requirement for an Equalities Impact Assessment Questionnaire to be completed for this report.

### **10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 As noted in the table in paragraph 5.1.4 above some service under/over spends will be appropriated to ring fenced reserves including Social Services Transport (£171k underspend), Home to Schools Transport (£386k underspend) and Cemeteries (£101k underspend). In line with the Council's reserves protocol, general revenue

underspends not subject to specific ring fencing are appropriated to Directorate strategic reserves and Council working balances on a 50/50 basis, however any Directorate over spends will be appropriated to Service Directorate reserves in full and will require funding from previous years reserve balances where they exist or future years revenue budgets.

- 10.2 Based on current projections, combined general revenue overspend for the Directorate of £875k in relation to Regeneration & Planning, Infrastructure, Community & Leisure services and Public Protection would be appropriated to Communities Strategic reserve (this excludes ring fenced under/overspends noted in paragraph 10.1).
- 10.3 As noted in the report the overall outturn position of each Service Division will be affected by Covid 19 and on the impact this has on ongoing service provision and also on decisions made by Welsh Government in terms of additional financial support provided in recognition of additional costs being incurred and/or reduced income generation to the Council.

## **11. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 Members will be aware that when setting the budget, MTFP savings were identified for the Communities Directorate in relation to vacancy management savings, these are reflected in the financial figures reported.

## **12. CONSULTATIONS**

- 12.1 There are no consultation responses, which have not been included in this report.

## **13. STATUTORY POWER**

- 13.1 Local Government Act 1972 and 2000.

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Consultees: Councillor Andrew Whitcombe, Chair Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee  
Councillor Christine Forehead, Vice Chair Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee  
Mark S Williams, Interim Corporate Director of Communities  
Robert Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection, Community & Leisure Services  
Rhian Kyte, Head of Regeneration and Planning  
Marcus Lloyd, Head of Infrastructure  
Steve Harris, Head of Financial Services & Section 151 Officer  
Sue Richards, Head of Education Planning & Strategy  
Jane Southcombe, Education Financial Services Manager  
Paula Beaman, Grants Manager  
Paul Adams, Senior Assistant Accountant  
Mike Jones, Interim Financial Services Manager Social Services

Background Papers:

## Divisional budget monitoring working papers 2020/21

### Appendices:

Appendix 1A Budget Monitoring Report - Regeneration and Planning

Appendix 1B Budget Monitoring Report - Infrastructure Services Division

Appendix 1C Budget Monitoring Report - Public Protection Division

Appendix 1D Budget Monitoring Report - Community and Leisure Services

### Links to other Documents:

Minutes Meeting 20/2/2020: Budget Proposals 2020/21 and Medium- Term Financial Plan Outlook, Agenda Item No. 8. [Click here to view.](#)